



# Church Profile



Welcome to the Trinity Church Buxton profile. The church council has prepared this profile with input from the leaders of some of our church ministries. Our prayer is that this document will help you to decide whether God might be calling you to leadership with us.

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## Mission and Vision

### ONE VISION:

**To glorify Christ by equipping His people to grow His church**

### TWO ESSENTIALS:

#### The Bible and prayer

**The Bible...** The Holy Spirit gives us the Bible. The Bible is God's reliable word for today, the supreme authority for our faith and life as individuals and a church. The Bible says all we need for knowing God through trusting and serving Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

**Prayer...** The Holy Spirit enables us to pray to God as our Father. Prayer is central to all we do.

### THREE TASKS:

#### To reach out, build up, send out

**To reach out...** we believe the good news of God's love, shown in the death of His Son, Jesus Christ, is for everyone. So we want those around us to hear and to know God's love in Jesus. So we are a church for those outside the church not ourselves.

**To build up...** in our meetings we encourage one another to understand and live by the Bible so that we can be 'built up' as followers of Jesus Christ. So we commit ourselves to study and teach the Bible so that God's people are built up for their works of service in the power of the Holy Spirit. So we are a church that wants to grow... not just in numbers but in love and knowledge and likeness of Jesus Christ.

**To send out...** We aim to send out and support Christians both in Buxton and in the world so that others may hear and know God's love in Jesus. So we are a church with God's heart for the nations.

The Church of England is in a period of change, however, our desire is to remain orthodox and to continue to seek orthodox episcopal oversight for our minister.





Adults of all ages, families and young people attend the 10:00 service, where our children's groups take place for children aged between 4 and 15

## What is Trinity Church Buxton?

Trinity Church Buxton is a conservative evangelical C of E church committed to proclaiming the orthodox Christian faith in our locality. This faith expounds Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three persons, one God as revealed in His word the Bible. We proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord and seek to make wholehearted and mature followers of Him. We believe that we should always be growing as Christians in love and knowledge of Jesus Christ. This is our joy and delight, and is made possible by the sanctification of our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

### Who are we?

We are a welcoming and friendly group of approximately 100 adults and 25 children and young people. We meet for morning and evening services every Sunday where bible teaching is the core part of our meetings. Details of what takes place on Sundays is on the facing page.

We are committed to discipling one another in a range of mid-week groups and

approximately 65 adults meet regularly in these groups. We are a caring church family, looking after one another practically at times of need, and encouraging one another to keep going in our faith and personal witness. Our mid-week groups are summarised on pages 8 to 10.

We provide mid-week groups for approximately 25 children and young

people in 3 age groups where the focus is having fun, bible teaching and evangelism. We are involved with 3 of our local primary schools and regularly welcome schools into our church buildings. See page 7.

*We proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord and seek to make wholehearted and mature followers of Him.*

We delight to have groups that serve our community including a toddler group, a dementia café, and a monthly coffee morning for adults of all ages. We aim to share the love of Christ and His power to save through all these activities. See pages 10-13.

### Who are we advertising for?

We are seeking a new Minister to lead our small staff team and our much larger team of volunteers. We believe that our Minister should be a pastor-teacher who is able to teach the Bible as God's word to equip God's people for their works of service. Our new minister must be ordained in the Church of England and will be licenced by the Bishop of Derby. A more detailed person specifications can be found on page 18.

### Something of our history

Trinity Church Buxton was established in 1873, and is a Proprietary Chapel within the Church of England in the Diocese of Derby. As a Proprietary Chapel we have a greater amount of freedom than a normal parish church. We are a resolution church under the episcopal oversight of Bishop Rob Munro, the Bishop of Ebbwfleet. A more detailed church structure, governance and doctrinal basis be found on pages 22 to 23.

## Sundays at Trinity

We meet every Sunday at 10:00am and 6:00pm to...

- Thank and praise God in prayer and song
- Listen to God speak to us through His word as it is read and explained
- Seek God's forgiveness and grace afresh
- Encourage each other to trust and serve Jesus as Lord

### Trinity@10

Adults of all ages, families and young people attend the 10:00 service, where our children's groups take place for children from reception to year 9. Young people in year 10 listen to the sermon then leave with Young People's leaders to explore the themes of the sermon. At this service we also have a crèche, which has a growing number of regular attendees.

Our pattern of morning services currently includes...

- Monthly Communion
- Monthly All-age service

Regular Sunday morning services are



usually led by our Minister or Associate minister though we do have a few male members of the church family who occasionally lead the service. The sermon is usually an exposition of a bible passage and we typically work our way through a book of the bible. Very occasionally we have a sermon series on a subject. Our Minister or Associate Minister usually lead and deliver the sermon at our regular Sunday morning services. Occasionally other male members of the church family are asked by the Minister to carry out these duties, two of whom have diocesan Permission to Officiate. (RBG).

We have a volunteer music coordinator who organises our 3 music groups and agrees song selections. The music groups include talented children and adults who lead our sung worship @10.

The coffee time at the end of the service is a lovely opportunity for the church family to catch up, encourage and informally minister to each other. Our worship continues over coffee for as much as an hour and many of the church family stay around for this special time.

Sunday lunches are considered an important time for friendships to be deepened as many members of the church family share hospitality, both prearranged and impromptu.

### Trinity@6

The 6:00pm service has been re-established post Covid. Approximately 20 folk attend this more informal gathering for bible teaching, worship, and open prayer. Several of those attending have also been at the morning service. Once a month we celebrate communion. Three times each term we meet for food and discussion around tables. This is known as Real Food.



# Trinity children's, schools and youth work

*With God's help our ministry to children and young people is growing again after a quieter period. We are grateful for the commitment and involvement of willing church volunteers who teach each week and enjoy seeing young lives changed for the Lord, both now and for the future.*

We are delighted to have recently appointed Luke Walsh as our new Children's schools and youth worker and look forward to seeing how God will use him.

## Luke writes...

I joined the staff team at Trinity in July 2024 and moved to Buxton with my family. We have found everyone at church to be very friendly and have experienced the love of the church in many practical ways which has been a great blessing. My hope is to continue the good work that's been done amongst the young people over many years by serving and strengthening the current teams working amongst the youth inside and outside the church. The conviction that drives me most deeply is the glory of Christ in the gospel, to see broken lives changed by Jesus and real discipleship grow amongst the children and youth. I love how all of scripture is about Jesus and points us to our need of Him, therefore my passion is to see young people engaging with God's word and families growing in their love of the Lord together.

## Sunday morning groups

We start our Sunday services with all ages together in the main church. The children and young people leave for their groups after the first part of the service which often includes a short age appropriate teaching slot.

	Who?	How many?	Volunteers
Crèche	Pre-school	8	7
Trinity kids	FS-Y6	8	7
Pathfinders	Y7-Y9	8	6
Sermon study	Y10-Y13	3	3

The crèche enables parents to stay in the service and listen without distraction. Toddler bible stories are

read if the opportunity arises.

Volunteers work in pairs to deliver each session. There are bible based programmes and resources in place to support the teams and prevent repetition.

As we are located in the beautiful Peak District we are often joined by visiting families. The children and young people are welcomed into the age appropriate teaching groups. We enjoy this aspect of our ministry though we do need to be flexible!

## Weekly children's and youth groups

Groups meet during the week for fun and games, snacks, bible study and activities. These groups offer opportunities for our young people to invite friends.

	Who?	When?	How many?	Volunteers
Heroes	Y3-Y6	Friday 6:00-7:15pm	10	6
Impact	Y7-Y9	Friday 6:00-7:15pm	10	5
Ignite	Y10-y13	Sunday 7:30-9:00pm	10	5

More children attend these groups than are routinely in church on a Sunday morning and it is great to see the commitment of the children and young people. Busy weeks and Sunday homework does not seem to prevent attendance.

## Schools' work

We delight in the well-established relationship we have with our closest school, Buxton Infants. Visits

to our church link to key events in the church calendar as well as broader themes such as baptism and marriage. The children clearly feel comfortable in our building and recognise members of the team who regularly visit the school to lead Collective Worship.

We also enjoy a good relationship with Buxton Junior School and they very happily invite us to lead sessions at the school. For geographical reasons their visits to our church building are

less frequent. They, and other local schools, say they particularly appreciate the 'Moving on' sessions which are shared with Year 6.

## Summer Camps

Many of our children and young people benefit from attending summer camps. While in the past most Trinity young people attended the same camps, more recently a range of camps are accessed.



### Schools said:

“ Thank you so much effort and welcoming to all! Very accessible and engaging. Thank you to Trinity Church for teaching Year 5 about why Christians go to a church and some of the things that Christians do in church. ”



# Mid-week groups for the church family

## Church prayer meeting

We meet at church once a month for our prayer meeting. There are usually 20-25 people present and we pray in small groups.

We begin with a scripture reading which informs a time of thanksgiving. We then pray for the ministry of our church, for our mission partners and for like-minded churches. We ask someone close to a situation to present information to guide our prayers.

## Growth Groups

We have seven Growth Groups which meet fortnightly (mid-week during term time), and typically in someone's home. Bible study is central to these groups but most include a time of fellowship, sharing and a prayer time where we can bring one another's needs to the Lord as well as issues for our church, our nation and the world.

Usually the Growth Groups study the same material. We study a specific book of the



*Growth Groups provide significant opportunities to look out for one another as a church family. We celebrate together in times of joy and support one another as needed.*

bible though occasionally a topic or theme is explored. Growth Group leaders meet once a term to discuss the teaching plan and will be provided with notes to help them in their preparation.

Growth Groups provide significant opportunities to look out for one another as a church family. We celebrate together in times of joy and support one another as needed.

## Thursday Fellowship

**Thursday Fellowship is led by Graham Todd, Maria Todd and Jean Askew.**



**Jean writes:**

Thursday fellowship is a daytime growth group for those who prefer to meet during the day. We meet weekly which can be a particular benefit for those who live on their own and for people who work shifts or evenings. We have always tried to be accessible and so we have volunteers in the group who provide transport. We follow the usual growth groups bible study programme, however, because we meet weekly we also have time to invite outside speakers from other churches and missions. Once a term we invite someone from the church family to find out more about them and pray for them. On the second Thursday of each month, we meet as part of Cake and Company.

The group is made up mainly of people from Trinity although more recently we include people who have come from outside our church family (often invited by members). The group is open to adults of all ages and we usually have around 15 people present.

The blessings of Thursday Fellowship are learning more about Jesus and how to live our Christian lives; the love and fellowship that there is in the group and the support and prayer that goes with it.

The challenges are including people who are more vulnerable e.g. memory problems and mobility issues.



*On Sunday mornings our worship continues over coffee for as much as an hour and many of the church family stay around for this special time.*



# Mid-week groups serving our local community

## Stay and Play:

Stay and Play leader Helen Barnsley writes:



Stay & Play is our baby and toddler group which meets each Tuesday morning in term-time. This ministry started in April 2021 with the aim of creating a space to reach young families with the gospel as well as providing a safe, welcoming and supportive environment for parents/carers and their preschool children. We seek to build strong relationships with the families who attend so that we may have more opportunities to point them to the Lord Jesus. By God's grace, we have seen this group grow from a few socially-distanced, face mask-wearing members to a thriving community with a growing waiting list. Almost all of those who attend are non-church families from Buxton, with some coming from surrounding villages.

*Thank you so much for running the Tuesday morning sessions. J has absolutely loved coming along and he will really miss it as he starts nursery! He often sings the songs to us and mentions stories he's learned about Jesus!" (J's MUM)*

While we are thankful for the relationships of trust that we have made with our Stay & Play families, we are yet to see any parents/carers take the next step of coming to

Sunday services or enquirers' courses. We have previously offered the Wonderfully Made course to the group, but with no takers. Invitations to All Age services have not yet led to families coming. Some mums and grandmas have come to Christmas outreach events and several families have come to Easter events. We would love to develop this side of the work of Stay & Play as we continue to pray that parents/carers would come to faith themselves.

*Every single one of you has been so kind and taken your time to chat and check in each week we have attended and I cannot explain how much it has meant. (R's MUM)*

We don't currently have a mid-week activity for Key Stage 1 children. This means that there is a gap between Stay & Play and Heroes. There are a number of challenges of starting such a group (e.g. leader capacity, tiredness of children when they start school) but this could be an area to develop so that we do not lose contact with families as they move on/up from Stay & Play.

For more of an insight into the group and its vision, listen to Anna (previous Children's, Youth and Schools' Worker) and Helen (current Stay & Play leader) talk about toddler group ministry on [the Faith in Kids podcast](#). You can also see what we get up to on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.





## Mid-week groups serving our local community

### Still Waters Café

AN OASIS FOR PEOPLE COPING WITH DEMENTIA



Still Waters is led by Meg Pritchard and Carol Bullivant.

Carol writes:



Still Waters is a dementia cafe meeting three times a month, twice in the church hall and once for a walk in conjunction with the Peak Park Rangers.

The cafe started 7 years ago when God laid on our hearts the desire to reach out to people in the area who were struggling with the effects of dementia.

With God's help, we are able to create an oasis of peace, acceptance and understanding for those with dementia



and their carers. We provide hot drinks, cake, activities, entertainment and most importantly conversation and time to offer a listening ear.

We have seen God at work in bringing members and a wonderful team of

volunteers, from within and outside the church, who each bring valuable skills.



We have been blessed with opportunities to share our faith and have seen softening of hearts and non-Christians attending church services.

In a busy group of over 40 people, it can be challenging to give everyone enough time and to not only listen, but really hear each person's concerns. We are very aware that carers and spouses need a great deal of support too. We work hard to ensure everyone is safe during the session and outside the building.

Some of our members have said:-

*"There's a sort of peace here. Different to other places."*

*"It feels like coming home."*

*"We can just relax and know that people understand."*

*"This is my family."*

Cake and Company is led by Maria Todd, Anne Tromans and Liz Denno.

Maria writes:



Cake and Company is a monthly coffee morning that takes place instead of Thursday Fellowship.

Post covid, it replaced the Trinity lunch which had been gradually depleting in numbers. The prolonged period of not doing lunches gave us an opportunity to re-evaluate what ministry we were doing and what purpose it served. It was decided to run an open cafe instead which is easier to prepare for and gives greater freedom to spend time with the people who come. It has been a really good opportunity to grow relationships, particularly for those who attend Thursday Fellowship, and is an easy environment in which to bring up spiritual matters and talk about the gospel. The ambition is for it to be intergenerational, open to all in the church family to come and bring friends and so reach into the wider community.

We have a community mental health team worker who often comes along with one or two of their clients and a number of folk from outside of the church family which makes it something of a very easy 'pre-evangelistic' opportunity.

We hope in due course we will see members from a wider section of the Trinity Buxton family coming along to offer good company to older folk and those with health issues who need to know they are supported, loved and cared for.

We have a team who work hard to arrange lifts for people who don't have their own transport and some who have very limited mobility.

### CAKE AND COMPANY





# Building the body and evangelism

We desire to build relationships within the church family and to reach our community with the gospel both locally and on our 'Frontlines' where God has placed us. This results in a wide variety of events and courses.

## Christmas

We focus on evangelism at Christmas. The services we arrange enable us to invite family, friends and other contacts. These are usually well attended and sometimes one or two guests accept an invitation to attend a follow up evangelistic course.

We also host a Christmas Experience and about 400 school children attend an interactive event where they meet various characters from the Christmas story – in costume and on a succession of stages – and learn something of the real meaning of Christmas.

In recent years groups have gone out carol singing and to distribute invitations to our Christmas events. Christmas craft evenings where guests are invited to a creative seasonal event with an evangelistic Christmas talk are well attended.

## Easter

Again, there is an emphasis on evangelism over Easter. Services are publicised and large numbers of children visit Trinity as part of their school curriculum.

We host an Easter Eggstravaganza event attended by children from Trinity Kids groups with their parents, and families from Stay & Play. A range of activities including this year a climax of launching eggs on parachutes from the church tower result in an afternoon of great fun and opportunities to build relationships.

We use these events to clearly explain the significance of Jesus' death and resurrection.

## Christianity Explored

We have faithfully run a termly course such as Christianity Explored, Hope Explored or Life Explored. Although there are sometimes only a few people attending, there are many who would say these courses have played a significant part in their journey of faith.

## January Blues Busters

Members of the church family host simple events to increase hospitality and broaden relationships. Anyone can sign up to attend any event.

## Men's breakfasts

These feature regularly on our church calendar and are attended by between 20 and 30 men who enjoy time together and a really good, cooked breakfast followed by bible teaching, discussion and prayer.

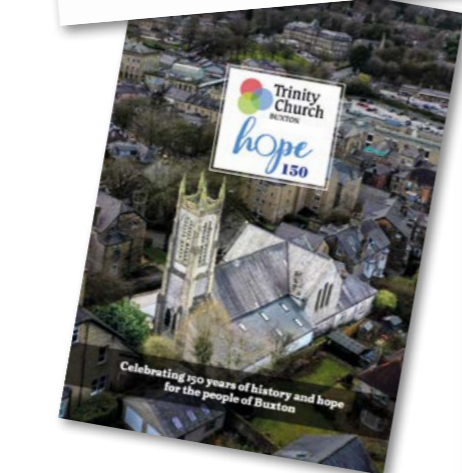
## Hope 150

2023 was Trinity's 150th Anniversary. A celebration booklet was produced and distributed widely, and several evangelistic events took place.

We invested time, prayer and planning during 2022 however not all of the possibilities generated came to fruition and therefore there is a supply of ideas which could be reconsidered in the future.

## Other outreach in the past

For many years we ran a summer holiday club reaching large numbers of children



and providing opportunities for our young people to get stuck into Christian service.

We have organised quiz nights (in church or at a local pub) and apologetics evenings as well as family fun days held in the church or the local park.

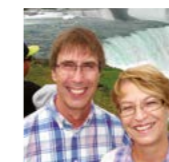


# Mission Partners

Trinity Church Buxton is committed to partnerships with 7 mission agencies as an expression of our belief that the good news of the Christian gospel is a message intended for all the peoples of the world.

- We set aside 15% of our financial income to support these partners
- We make our prayer support of them a priority in our monthly prayer meetings
- An item of prayer information is supplied each week to the person leading our Sunday service intercession
- A compendium of news and prayer information (2 sides of A4) which we call *OutThere* is designed and produced 3 times a year – [Click here to see the latest issue.](#)
- Each Mission Partner has a link person who keeps in touch and shares at the prayer meeting in turn
- We have a comprehensive Mission Partner Policy document which clearly establishes the guidelines for the partnerships and which is agreed and confirmed on a triennial basis
- We have a Mission Representative who oversees much of this activity and liaises with church council

Here is a summary of the seven mission partners we currently support:



## Wycliffe Bible Translators– John and Lois Severn

John and Lois have given the last 20+ years of their lives to complete a translation of the New Testament for a people-group in Indonesia. They are now starting work on books of the Old Testament and teaching the Indonesian church to read, know, love and share the Scriptures.

## Tearfund

Tearfund works alongside local churches and other locally-based organisations to help communities around the world escape the very worst effects of poverty and disaster.



## Crosslinks – Robbie and Lizzie Bellis

Robbie and Lizzie work with Crosslinks in the university town of Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. They started a church 5 years ago which now has 30+ members. A fellow worker is helping the church to reach students from the university.

## Overseas Missionary Fellowship (OMF) – Jason and Tracy Day



Jason and Tracy, with their daughters Ruby and Libby, are living in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Jason deals with the personnel needs of over 400 Christian workers who are serving OMF in various countries across Far East Asia.

## Worldwide Evangelism for Christ (WEC) – Paul and Helen Hutchinson



Paul and Helen lead a ministry called Neighbours Worldwide which works with UK churches to share the gospel in a relevant way with diverse migrant communities from a wide variety of countries.



## London City Mission – Gareth Jones

Gareth works with London City Mission seeking to share the love of God and good news of Jesus Christ with the least-reached in London. He has a particular focus on young people.



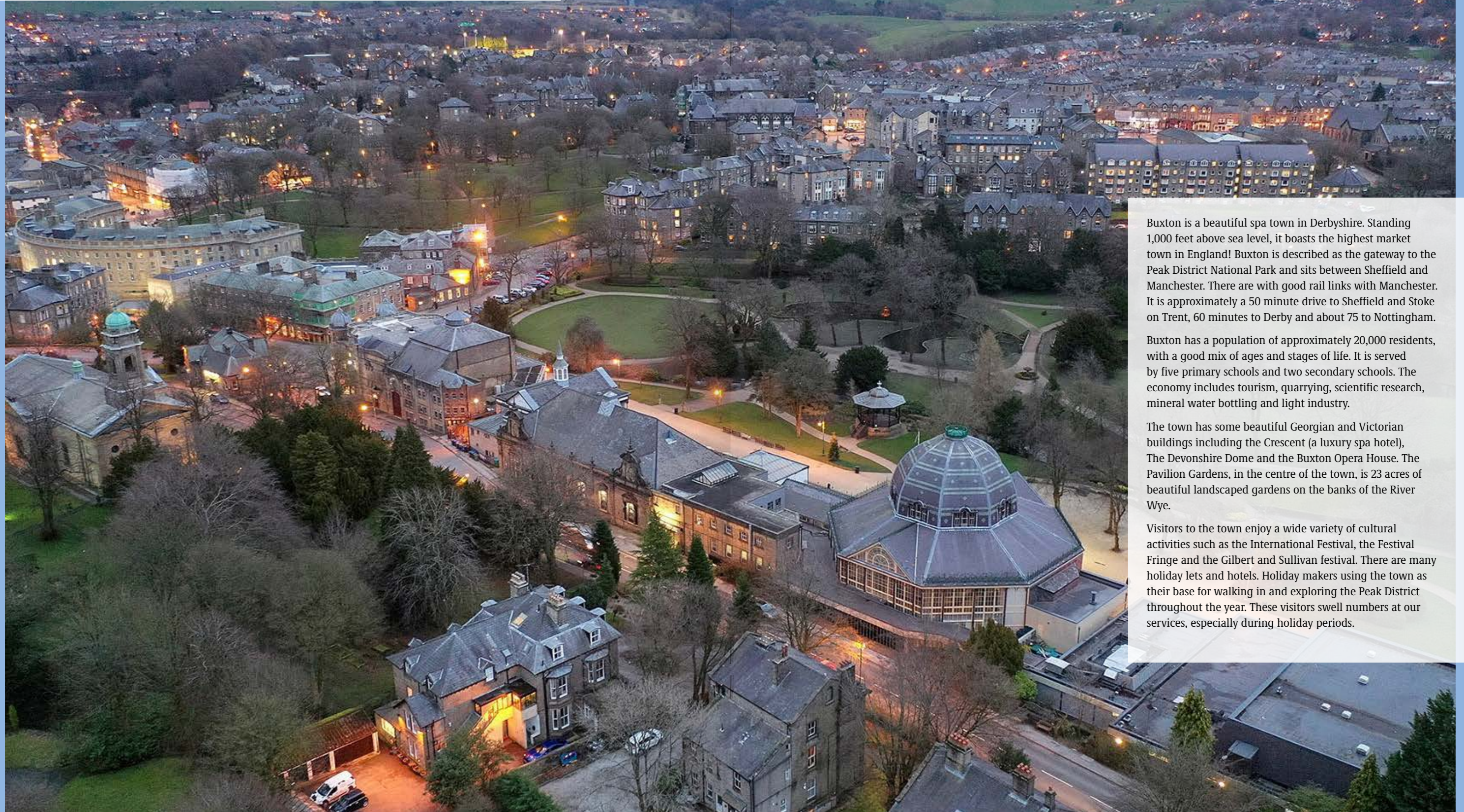
## Middle East Media

Middle East Media use filmmaking, 3D animation, media training, online videos, websites and more to communicate God's love for the individual and society. Creative media is used as a tool to reach people across the Arabic-speaking world.





## About Buxton



Buxton is a beautiful spa town in Derbyshire. Standing 1,000 feet above sea level, it boasts the highest market town in England! Buxton is described as the gateway to the Peak District National Park and sits between Sheffield and Manchester. There are with good rail links with Manchester. It is approximately a 50 minute drive to Sheffield and Stoke on Trent, 60 minutes to Derby and about 75 to Nottingham.

Buxton has a population of approximately 20,000 residents, with a good mix of ages and stages of life. It is served by five primary schools and two secondary schools. The economy includes tourism, quarrying, scientific research, mineral water bottling and light industry.

The town has some beautiful Georgian and Victorian buildings including the Crescent (a luxury spa hotel), The Devonshire Dome and the Buxton Opera House. The Pavilion Gardens, in the centre of the town, is 23 acres of beautiful landscaped gardens on the banks of the River Wye.

Visitors to the town enjoy a wide variety of cultural activities such as the International Festival, the Festival Fringe and the Gilbert and Sullivan festival. There are many holiday lets and hotels. Holiday makers using the town as their base for walking in and exploring the Peak District throughout the year. These visitors swell numbers at our services, especially during holiday periods.



# Minister: Person Specification

*We would like you to reflect on your personal and working life and to consider whether you can demonstrate the attributes below in your life and ministry. Do you genuinely share our priorities and believe that you can shape the future of our church?*

## Character

We are looking for a man of prayer, who strives for personal holiness, with a deep faith and dependence on God, and who exemplifies the truths of the Gospel in his own life and relationships.

This godly character would be demonstrated in gentleness of speech and manner, self-control, and humility. A godly character is not quarrelsome or quick tempered and is considered above reproach in the community. We would expect you to be able to show hospitality, opening up your home to others. All these attributes should be overlaid with a deep love for the gospel and for people.

Our new Minister must be unreservedly committed to our doctrinal statement (page 23).

## Essential Skills

### Bible teaching

- Are you able to teach, preach and expound the Word of God faithfully and regularly. Can you present clear, relevant applications of the bible passages into our daily lives backed up by diligent personal study of God's Word?
- Are you able to do this in a way which is accessible to our church family and which is mindful of social media culture and 21st century communication?
- Will you disciple and encourage our staff and volunteers in their ministry?
- Can you lead groups with diverse viewpoints through complex decision-making?
- Are you good at developing the skills of others, managing performance, receiving feedback and resolving conflict?

### Pastoral Care

- Are you gifted in pastoral care, searching for the lost and bringing back the strays?
- Can you build up the church in love and service of Christ and one another?
- Are you able to motivate the church family to be dependent on God through prayer, individually and corporately?
- Are you able to lead our staff team and volunteers, including delegating teaching and training where this would be beneficial?
- Do you have experience and insight about the need to support people as they serve the church?
- Do you share our priority to explore a range of ministries for women and men in our context?

- Are you able to respond in a godly and timely fashion when people need help in life's challenges?

### Leadership

- Are you able to inspire and unite our church family to work with you collaboratively to further develop our Mission and Vision (page 3)?
- With God's grace, will you help us to refine existing strategies and develop new plans to further spread the gospel in our town, surrounding villages and in our workplaces?
- Are you able to equip, motivate & mentor church members in evangelism on their frontlines?

## World mission

- Will you engage with our mission partners and encourage us to be involved with world mission?

## Self-Care

- Do you take time out to rest and enjoy life, and to build links with the local community?
- Do you have effective strategies to build resilience against our culture?
- Do you give time to your family as they need it?
- Will you engage whole-heartedly with available support from both the church, your peers in ministry, and the diocese as appropriate?

## How we will support you

- The church and church council will pray for you regularly.
- One of the church wardens will meet with you weekly to provide spiritual and practical support.
- We are blessed to employ an experienced full time associate Minister, an experienced children's, schools and youth worker and a part time administrator who will work in ministry alongside you.
- We will encourage you to create a local accountability group of peers.
- We will encourage you to engage positively with diocesan ministers' development reviews.
- We will provide you with a stipend equivalent to your peers and a tied home for your use.

## Message from Dave Barnsley, Associate Minister



Thank you for taking the time to read this Church Profile. This is both an exciting but also a challenging time for us at Trinity. I hope that as you have read this profile you will agree that there is much to celebrate and be thankful for at Trinity.

As given by the Lord Jesus Christ, our ultimate aim is to bring glory to Him by making disciples who are equipped for their works of service in the life of the church and beyond. We strive to keep the gospel at the centre of what we do, as the Bible is faithfully taught, so that it shapes our church life and is held out to the lost.

In the last couple of years, we've seen our toddler group and school's ministry significantly grow and flourish, and we devoted last year to evangelistic efforts as a part of our 150th anniversary. We have a high proportion of people in our midweek growth

groups and wonderful ministries to children, young people and adults, led by devoted and gifted leaders. Yet there is more to do.

Following the appeal of the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, earlier this year we undertook a culture review, which highlighted many of our strengths and what we do well, but which also raised a small number of significant issues on which we are prayerfully reflecting. We desire to grow in godliness and maturity and to improve our leadership practices and processes. Additionally, we long to keep working at engaging people on the fringe of the church in order to open up gospel conversations and opportunities for them to explore faith with us. We have seen a number of people come to faith in the last couple of years and would love to see more people join us through conversion, who are then nurtured and discipled as followers of Jesus.

On a personal note, I particularly value being a part of a warm and supportive church family who have loved and encouraged us in the time we have been here. My prayer is that the Lord would continue His work in and through us, and that we, striving to be faithful servants and ministers of Christ, might be useful in His service.



# Staff and Leadership

## David Barnsley: Acting Minister



Having previously served in churches in Rotherham and Derbyshire, Dave joined us as Associate Minister in the summer of 2020.

He likes the smell of freshly brewed coffee (milk, no sugar if you're asking), enjoys walks in the Peak District and hasn't completely given up following Sheffield Wednesday.

## Luke Walsh: Children's, Schools' and Youth Worker



Luke Walsh joined the Trinity team in June 2024. He is enjoying getting to know the Trinity family, loving to share God's word with children and young people. He,

his wife and 5 children are enjoying their recent move to Buxton.

## Graham Todd Church Warden



Graham and his family have lived in Buxton since 2004 and began his role as Church Warden in June 2018.

Graham is a local GP involved in training, teaching and mentoring other GPs. Graham enjoys badminton, table tennis, hiking and most Marvel Comic films.

## Peter Askew Church Warden



Peter began his role as Church Warden in October 2022.

He has been at Trinity since 1978 and has seen many changes during that time. This is the second time he

has served as Church Warden since joining Trinity (so we obviously didn't put him off the first time!). In his spare time he enjoys baking (he makes the best orange and polenta cake you've ever eaten), walking, history and photography. He has inherited his mother's crazy sense of humour which his wife and cats get to enjoy!

## Matt Townsend



### Administrator

Matt joined the Trinity team in 2023 and works part-time in the office to support the ministry of our church.

## Safeguarding

Our safeguarding lead is Elizabeth Gilmour. She writes:



Safeguarding at Trinity Church Buxton is everyone's responsibility. The Bible regularly commands

Christians to care for one another and to care especially for vulnerable people. This includes children, young people and vulnerable adults. Although the language of safeguarding today is different from the way caring for one another is expressed in the bible, the command to care for vulnerable people is clear.

We follow the framework set out by the Church of England and receive training and advice from Safeguarding at the Diocese of Derby. Our safeguarding team oversees the application of safeguarding policies into practice and we work together to respond to safeguarding concerns as they arise. Safeguarding is a standing item at Church Council meetings.



# Our Buildings

## The church building

Trinity Church was built in 1873 as an additional church in Buxton for evangelical ministry in a central location. Thanks to the generosity of Mr J. W. Taylor, a group of trustees, and subscriptions from individuals, land was bought on Hardwick Mount for £330 and the church built for £1,387.

Over the years various additions have been made. We have a warm welcoming main church room where we hold our Sunday morning services and a lounge, a small catering kitchen for refreshments and toilets complete the main floor. These are all well maintained and in good condition.

Downstairs there is another suite of three rooms; a large meeting room, a smaller group room and a larger catering kitchen. These downstairs rooms are often used for weekly church groups and provide some useful income through hiring out to appropriate external organisations.

We have recently created a mezzanine office space where both our minister and youth worker have desks. There is a small office, on the main floor, which the administrator works from.

Unsurprisingly, a building of this age requires lots of maintenance. Dedicated members of the church family commit significant time to building upgrades as well as working with professional contractors on more complex projects. Our current challenge is the church tower which suffers from severe water ingress which causes problems in within the building. We have embarked on a 4 year programme to make the tower watertight and the area below it usable. Additionally once work on the tower is completed in 2026, there are other areas of the building that will require attention.



## Minister's home

### 37 Temple Road Buxton SK17 9BA

Located in a desirable area of Buxton, the minister's house is a 4 bedroomed detached property set in a good sized, but not unmanageable, plot. There are 4 bedrooms (2 double and 2 single) with an en-suite shower room in the main bedroom. There is also a family bathroom with shower over the bath.

Downstairs there is a large lounge, kitchen diner, utility room, cloakroom and a small snug/family room. The garage has been converted to provide a vestibule area and study for the minister.

It was built in the eighties and has had some regular upkeep through the 25 years of occupancy. The house is now empty and the church council has committed to its refurbishment. This will include a new kitchen and refurbishment of the existing bathrooms and cloakroom, re decoration throughout and new carpets and suitable flooring in the kitchen. It is intended for this work to be completed in time to welcome our new minister and family into their new home. If timing allows there will hopefully be scope for the new minister to influence choices.

Work will also be undertaken to improve the gardens and driveway areas.



## Structure and Governance

### Trinity Church Buxton: the Indenture

The original Trust Deed (the Indenture) for Trinity Church Buxton is dated 1880 and the church first met in 1873. The indenture appoints trustees who own the properties of the church in trust to provide for an evangelical protestant Church of England Church in Buxton. The properties are currently the church building on Hardwick Mount and 37 Temple Road. The trustees are also responsible for the appointment of the minister. The indenture specifies that the minister must be 'a clergyman of the Church of England of blameless life and character and honestly attached to the Protestant Evangelical Standards of the Church of England'. The minister is licenced by the Bishop of Derby.

### The current Trinity Church Buxton Indenture Trustees are:

- Bishop Rob Munro (Chair)
- Rev Neil Barber
- Rev Mark Pickles
- Mr James Rollin
- Mrs Sarah Spears

### Trinity Church Buxton: the Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trinity Church Buxton itself became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in 2016, in accordance with English Charity Law, and has its own constitution. While the CIO is a separate organisation from the original indenture, the two organisations are linked in their aim of providing a Protestant Evangelical Church of England church in Buxton.

**A resolution Parish.** We are a resolution Parish and therefore, with the permission of our Diocesan Bishop we come under the episcopal oversight of Bishop Rob Munro, the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, for

theological and spiritual matters. Bishop Rob is currently also chair of the Trustees of the original indenture of Trinity Church Buxton.

**Not using the Prayers of Love and Faith.** The church council has voted unanimously to support our clergy in not using the new prayers of love and faith made available in the Church of England.

**Minister's Council.** The Minister's Council is responsible for the spiritual, pastoral and evangelistic direction of the church. The Ministers Council includes the Minister and associate Minister, the church wardens and men and women who the Minister has invited to be on the Minister's Council.

**Church Council.** The Church Council is led by the Minister or his appointed deputy and includes the associate Minister, church wardens, treasurer, safeguarding lead and elected representatives from the church membership up to a maximum of 12 in total. The Church Council is responsible for the day to day, practical and financial running of the church, including buildings, our mission partners and all compliance and safeguarding issues. They are regularly asked to review and comment on the pastoral and spiritual provision of the church.

**Finances.** As a proprietary chapel we are financially independent of the



Diocese of Derby. We do not contribute to diocesan or central church funds and we directly pay all our own staff including our minister's stipend from our church funds. By God's grace, our annual income has always been adequate to cover our costs and maintain our giving to mission beyond Buxton. Our finances are audited annually by external auditors and are available on the charity commission website.

**Church Wardens.** Our Church Wardens support the leadership of the Church in all matters relating to the spiritual and pastoral welfare of the Church and its life and ministry. They are elected annually at the annual church meeting and are automatically members of both Minister's Council and Church Council.

**Staff Team.** The Staff Team are our minister and our employees.

### Governance Structures Review

We have recently completed a church culture review which has considered in depth how the structure and governance of Trinity Church Buxton CIO currently functions. Communication with church members, decision making processes and governance are areas for consideration. The church council has begun to develop an action plan to address these concerns and to make improvements in the coming months.

## Doctrinal Basis

Trinity Church Buxton is a Church of England church and as such our doctrine is "grounded in the Holy Scriptures, and in such teachings of the ancient Fathers and Councils of the Church that are agreeable to the said Scriptures. In particular such doctrine is to be found in the 39 Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer and the Ordinal."

Our Minister must be Anglican by conviction and ordained in the Church of England. Within our church all our pastoral leaders must be honestly attached to the protestant evangelical standards outlined here although we do not require everyone involved in leadership (apart from our minister) to publicly subscribe to Anglican polity. For the sake of clarity and integrity in all our work and relationships, the basis of our work and fellowship at Trinity Church is the fundamental truths of Christianity, as revealed in Holy Scripture, including:

1. The existence of one, eternal immutable (unchanging) God, Creator and Lord of the universe, who in the unity of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, both governs all things according to His will and is accomplishing His purposes in the world and in the Church.
2. The Bible, as originally given, is the inspired, inerrant and infallible word of God. Christians must therefore submit to its supreme authority and

sufficiency, both individually and corporately, in every matter of belief and conduct.

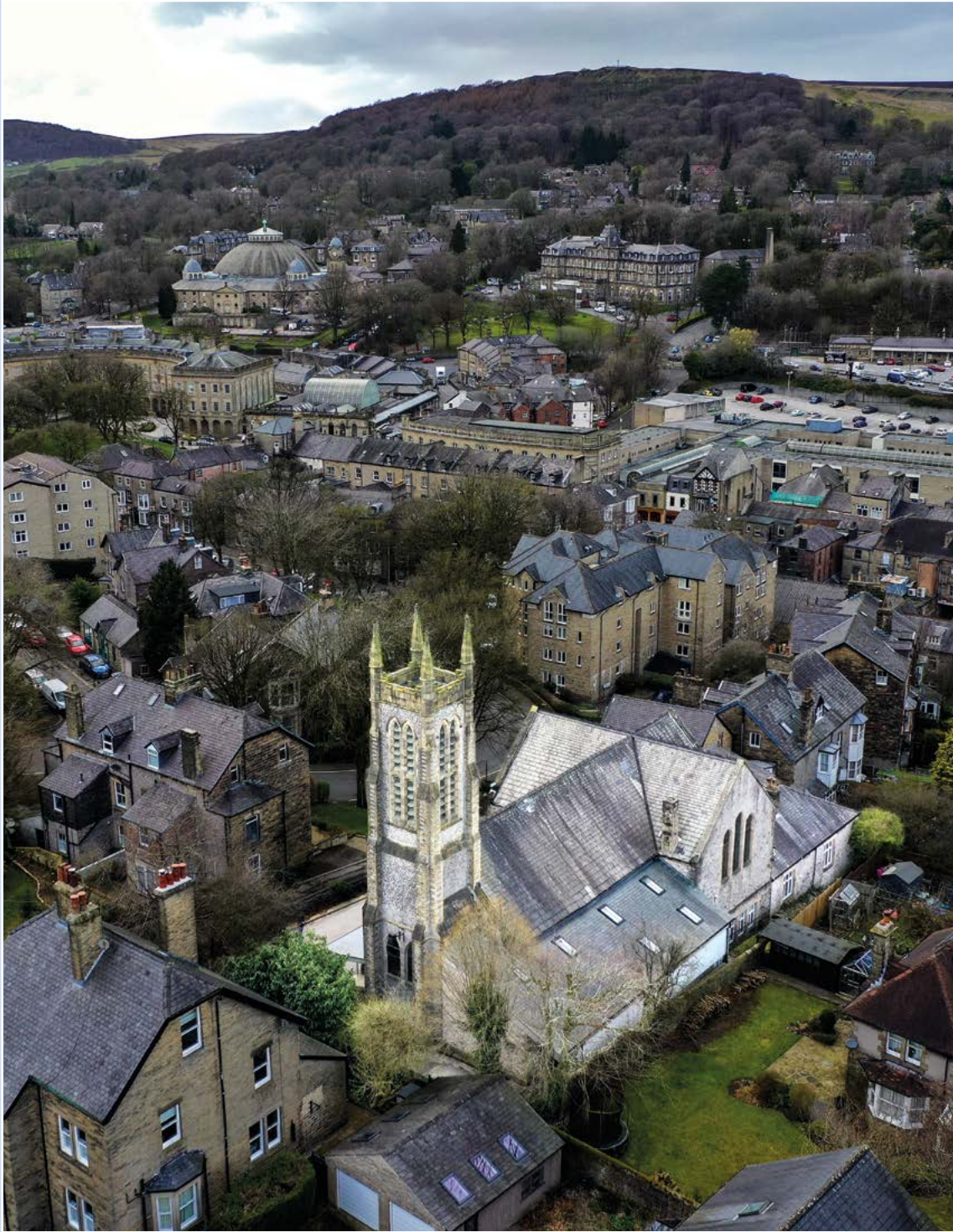
3. The inherent value of all human beings, made by God in His own likeness, and their sinfulness and guilt since the Fall. This has rendered them subject to God's wrath and condemnation, and has resulted in their alienation from His life, suppression of His truth, and hostility to His law.
4. The Lord Jesus Christ, God's incarnate Son, is fully God; he was born of a virgin; His humanity is real and sinless; he died on the cross, was raised bodily from death and is now reigning over heaven and earth.
5. Salvation from guilt, penalty and all other consequences of sin is solely through the work of Jesus Christ – His perfect obedience, penal substitutionary death, bodily resurrection and exaltation as Lord. He alone is truly God and truly man, the only mediator between God and man. There is salvation through no other person, creed, process or power. Those who believe in Christ are pardoned all their sins and accepted in God's sight only because of the righteousness of Christ credited to them. The entirety of a sinner's justification, from beginning to end, is only by His grace alone

appropriated through faith alone.

6. Before the foundation of the world God in His mercy chose a people for Himself out of the human race. He did not choose them on the basis of their foreseen faith or works, but solely on the basis of His perfect desire to glorify Himself in His Son by their redemption.
7. The necessity and sufficiency of the work of the Holy Spirit for the individual's new birth and growth to maturity, and for the Church's constant renewal in truth, wisdom, faith, holiness, love, power and mission.
8. The only holy universal church is the Body of Christ, to which all true believers belong. The Church's calling is to worship and serve God in the world, to proclaim and defend His truth, to exhibit His character and to demonstrate the reality of His new order.
9. The personal and visible return in glory of the Lord Jesus Christ to raise the dead and bring salvation and judgment to final completion. God will fully establish His kingdom when he creates a new heaven and a new earth from which evil and evildoers, suffering and death will be excluded, and in which he will be glorified for ever.







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