

## Church Membership at Trinity Church

This leaflet is for those who have recently become members and for those who are thinking about church membership at Trinity Church, Sutton. We do not claim to be unique, but it is quite possible that you have never belonged to a church quite like this in the past. Whether you are entirely new to church membership or whether you have recently moved from another church, this leaflet is designed to introduce you to our understanding of church membership and to help you feel you belong.

We treasure several distinctive features of our church:

- We describe ourselves as open-minded, inclusive and ecumenical. We also declare that we are united in worship of God as known in Jesus Christ and we seek to serve God in both our words and our witness.
- We are one of three churches that comprise Churches Uniting in Central Sutton (CUCS). The others are Sutton Baptist Church and St Nicholas Parish Church. We are in partnership with each to such an extent that there is mutual recognition of each other's ministers and officers. We meet regularly for prayer, worship and shared activities, seeking never to do separately what we can do together.
- The congregation at Trinity took its present shape for the first time on Easter Day 1973 when a United Reformed Church (URC) and a Methodist Church amalgamated to form the present Trinity Church. This means that, within CUCS, this congregation is ecumenical. Although we are officially Methodist (one of the churches in the Sutton

Circuit) and URC (one of the churches in the Southern Synod), you will find Christians from many backgrounds worshipping God alongside you.

- The URC and Methodists share a common understanding of church membership in that we believe members of the church are called to
  - ◆ **Worship** within the local church, including regularly sharing in Holy Communion and personal prayer
  - ◆ **Learn and care** through sharing in the fellowship of church activities
  - ◆ **Serve** by being good neighbours in the community, challenging injustice and using our resources for the benefit and well being of others
  - ◆ **Live** out our faith in our daily lives.
- Like all Christian churches, we are part of the universal Church, declaring that we believe in, and therefore belong to, one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. We are affiliated to Churches Together in England and Wales and thereby to the World Council of Churches.

Because Trinity is a diverse church, you will find that different aspects of these features are of differing importance to its members. Yet what remains true for all of us is that we feel called to be together and to draw closer together in Christ who shows us God. We want you to share this joyful pilgrimage with us and we look forward to your continuing to be with us week by week.

*What does being a  
church member at  
Trinity mean?*

020 8643 6884

[www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk](http://www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk)

[www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)

[www.urch.org.uk](http://www.urch.org.uk)

