

NEWSLETTER No 16

Summer 2018

CHURCHES TOGETHER
IN CHESHIRE



Welcome!

Welcome to this, the latest of the newsletters from Churches Together in Cheshire. As before I seek to include both news items and notices of ecumenical activities and events that are taking place within Cheshire, and also information relating more widely to the ecumenical scene across the country. .

You will find my contact details at the end of this Newsletter, and if you wish any future edition to include reports of what has been happening in your neck of the woods, or to advertise any forthcoming event I would be pleased to hear from you

Andrew Taylor

Thy Kingdom Come



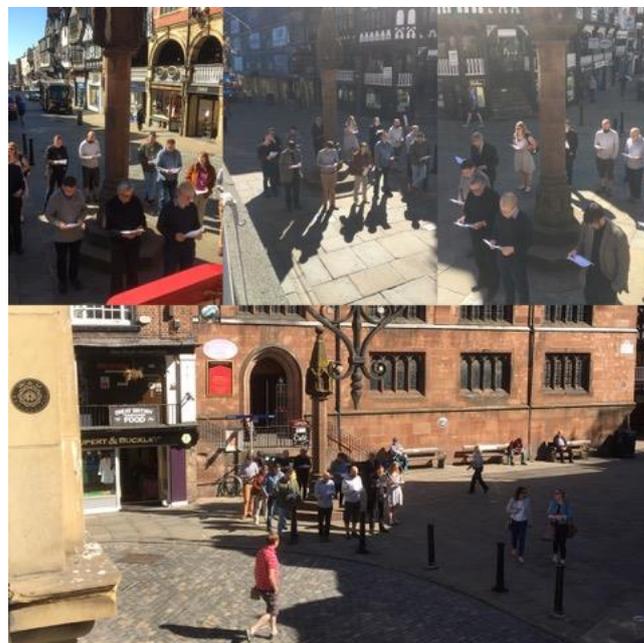
Thy Kingdom Come, a prayer initiative for evangelisation, was held between Ascension and Pentecost, 10th May to 20th May 2018.

This was its third year and it continues to

grow, especially in its ecumenical reach of different churches and denominations involved. Resources were available from the 'Thy Kingdom Come' website and liturgies, prayer suggestions and study materials drawn from a wide range of Church traditions were available.

Across Cheshire a large number of activities and events were organised, of which the following are but a sample.

In Chester a full programme of prayer was organised for each day, including a daily prayer walk of the City walls. Church leaders in Chester came together at The Cross to pray for the City.



Halton Trinity Methodist Church in Runcorn held an afternoon of prayer, offering a variety of interactive prayer stations.

Around Wrenbury the Parish Church and the local Methodist Churches held a series of prayer and worship opportunities, including two prayer walks in the local villages.

Bishop Libby Lane and Archdeacon Ian Bishop held prayer walks in each of the Deaneries in the Archdeaconry.

A Beacon Event was held at Chester Cathedral on the evening of Pentecost. Worship was led by Lou Fellingham, a testimony was given by Warren Furman star of TV's Gladiators, the Calvary Love City Gospel Choir sang, and over 100 young people from House of Dance concluded the service.

Next year 'Thy Kingdom Come' will again be celebrated from 30th May to 9th June.



The Diocese of Chester would like to invite you to the following training events that focus on realising the potential of church buildings. **The events are open to all church denominations in the area (including Cheshire East and West, Wirral, Runcorn and Stockport). All events are free.** There are a limited number of places. Booking is essential

Fundraising for projects- turning frustration into faith-filled fun and fellowship

Monday 1st October 2018, 10.00am-

3.30pm

St John's Centre, Hartford

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dynamic-fundraising-turning-frustration-into-faith-filled-action-tickets-42743431755>

An interactive day exploring different ways and experiences of raising funds for church projects, and how the activity of raising funds can be a great tool for mission in itself. The day will include grants, public appeals, events, donors and in-kind help and collaborations.

Cheshire Constabulary, Cinnamon Network and the local church

Cinnamon Network and the county's police and crime commissioner have launched a new partnership at The Salt Works in Northwich.

More than 70 church representatives, local authority, police and other agencies came together to see how stronger links could be developed and to make the most of opportunities to connect and work together to support the people of Cheshire .



David Keane, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Cheshire has agreed to fund 10 micro-grants through Cinnamon Network to help local churches across the county kick start social action projects in their area.

A high proportion of calls coming to the police nationally are “non-crime” related. This is mirrored across the county and has led to the partnership with Cheshire's police and crime commissioner and Cheshire Constabulary to give the most appropriate support to vulnerable people.

PCC David Keane said: “I am delighted to be working in partnership with Cinnamon Network to support vulnerable people within the community. This new partnership aims to not only to ease the strain on the police service, but also to provide a more effective support to those in need.

"Our faith communities are vital to helping us better protect the most vulnerable in society. Funding these projects gives us the opportunity to further enhance the role of our faith community, enabling us to spread the best practice across the county"

“The micro-grants will help establish a vast array of projects to tackle key issues faced by communities across the county, whilst supporting residents of any faith or no faith at all.”

Alison Linfield, Police Partnership Manager for Cinnamon said: "This is a great opportunity to support locally based faith groups and to work with Cheshire Constabulary. I am excited about the good work that can be started by these new micro-grants and the broader support available. I look forward to hearing about

the projects they instigate and the people whose lives they transform"

Churches can apply for a micro-grant to help them start one of over 30 tried and tested “off the shelf” community based Cinnamon Recognised Projects (CRP). These support four areas of community need.

- creating safe places for children and young people
- supporting safer, stronger families
- building safer, stronger communities
- fighting poverty

10 micro-grants of up to £2,000 are now available; applications will need to be match funded by any church which can be through in-kind contribution as well as cash.

For more information about the 30 Cinnamon Recognised Projects and how to apply go to:

<http://www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk/cinnamon-micro-grants-cheshire/>

Or contact Alison Linfield - alisonlinfield@cinnamonnetwork.co.uk



Alison Linfield with Acting Chief Constable Janette McCormick

Chester Mystery Plays

27th June – 14th July, 2018 in the nave of Chester Cathedral

A rare and treasured part of Britain's cultural heritage, the Chester Mystery Plays are returning to Chester to be performed by a community cast of hundreds. Tales of ambition, intrigue, betrayal and passion drawn from iconic Bible stories are guaranteed to enrapture, astound and delight. For more information, to view the seating plan and to book tickets visit:

chestermysteryplays.com



Bible reading raises thousands for Christian aid

Churches and schools from Chester and surrounding villages took part in 'The Bible in a Day' event at Chester Cathedral, raising £6,553.07 for the work of Christian Aid.

Teams of volunteers from each church and school prepared a section of Canon Trevor Dennis's book, *The Book of Books* to be read in the Cathedral Refectory. In 2003, when he was Vice Dean at Chester Cathedral, Trevor wrote *The Book of Books: The Bible Retold*, described at the time as 'A deceptively simple and brilliantly imaginative retelling of the stories that make up the Bible.' It was subsequently translated into five other languages.

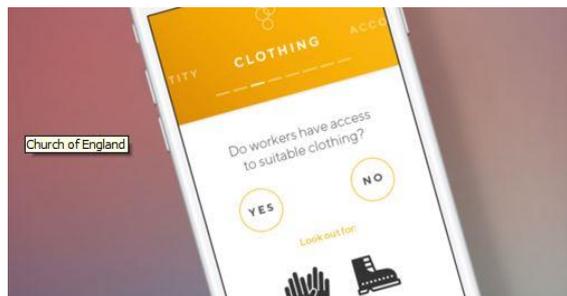
With help at the start from members of the Christian Aid Group and the Cathedral congregation, and Elisabeth Forster, the wife of the Bishop of Chester, pupils from sixteen schools and members of eighteen churches read right through *The Book of Books*, from Genesis to Revelation, beginning at 8.00am and finishing at 8.45pm.

John Griffith, a Christian Aid Teacher says, 'Having visited the schools to talk about the work of Christian Aid before the event, I thought it was great to see them engaging with the stories with such enthusiasm.' Each of the schools and churches made a commitment to raise funds for Christian Aid, and with coffee mornings to Noah's Ark dress-up days they really got into the fundraising.

Canon Trevor Dennis says, 'We were all engaged together in a great task, to convey the spirit, the energy, the humour, pathos, excitement and challenge of some of the finest storytelling and poetry the Bible has to offer, and to raise funds, so desperately needed in this troubled world, for Christian Aid. The day itself was a very moving experience, and the pupils and church members raised more than any of us expected. Thank you so much to all who made it happen.'

If you would like further information please contact Trevor Dennis, Chair of Chester Christian Aid Group – 01244 638 441 or Becky Hurst, Christian Aid Regional Coordinator – Cheshire – 07956 072 188

Churches to help stop car wash modern slavery with app



A report from Premier, by Cara Bentley.
Sun 03 Jun 2018

Anti-slavery charities suspect many victims to be in car wash businesses and support the churches' app.

The National Crime Agency thinks there are tens of thousands of people being exploited in the UK, forced to work long hours, for little or no pay, and under threat of violence. They suspect many of them are working in terrible conditions in car washes as police have unearthed this kind of exploitation in garages throughout the country.

To combat the problem, drivers are being encouraged to join a national information-gathering campaign launched by the Church of England? and the Catholic Church in an app.

The Safe Car Wash app will allow drivers to log where they are washing their car and answer a series of questions which could help identify if the staff have been trafficked.

This could vary from saying whether the workers have suitable protective clothing to any personal indicators such as staff seeming withdrawn.

County Chaplain, St John Ambulance Cheshire.

St. John's Ambulance, Cheshire would like to appoint a County Chaplain and possibly a deputy who could help give chaplaincy cover across the volunteer units of the County. They will succeed Revd Alan Jewell (St Matthew's, Stretton) who has resigned due to increased demands on his time from his parish. The Chaplain will attend the four County Priory Group meetings annually, held at Winsford. The annual Carol service is hosted by the local units in turn. Apart from these commitments it is really up to the individual to make as much of the role as he or she wishes. There is a meeting of North West County Chaplains held annually at Blackburn Cathedral under the wing of Rev Crispin Pailing of St Nicholas, Liverpool

If you think you might be interested then in the first instance please contact Steve Peaurt at steve.peaurt@virgin.net

Appointment of new General Secretary to Churches Together in England

The Board of Churches Together in England are pleased to announce the appointment of the Revd Dr Paul Goodliff as the new General Secretary of CTE. He will succeed Revd. Dr. David Cornick, who retires in September. In the time David has been General Secretary he has seen a significant growth in the number of churches, now 46, who are members of CTE.



Paul Goodliffe is a Baptist minister and theologian. As you will all know, Paul comes to the post at a time of transition in the light of the Theos report as CTE re-focuses on mission. He says:

‘At a time of renewed commitment to the ecumenical process, with a more missional focus to the work as *Churches Together in England*, I am looking forward immensely to participating in this new chapter of the ecumenical life in England. It is a privilege to be able to offer some leadership to this process, as together CTE serves the churches of this land. I hope to prayerfully encourage the whole church of Jesus Christ to ‘move in the Spirit as we are called to transformative discipleship’, to echo the theme of the very recent WCC *Commission for World Mission and Evangelism Conference* held in Arusha, Tanzania, and which I attended as a delegate. As the ecumenical movement in England embraces the mission of God to make Christ known in word and deed, I am certain we will discover more of what that that transformative discipleship means together

than when we do so alone, always trusting in the gracious enabling of the Holy Spirit.’

A new Outlet for Christian books, cards and resources, in Cheshire.

Audlem Christian Books and Cards has opened in the Baptist church in Woore Road. (CW3 0BH) The church is open every Wednesday afternoon from 2.00 p.m. until 4.30 p.m. Why not take a run out one Wednesday, join us for a cup of tea or coffee and see what is available? Our aim is to be a resource for churches in the village and a wide surrounding area.

Local information including opportunities for special opening times available from Judi and Alan Paterson on 01270 811868

On line orders and enquiries on info@wallasey-christian-book.co.uk or 07376 896709. Updates available on the wallasey-christian-books.co.uk website. Please use this email address or phone number for enquiries about conference bookstalls and sale or return arrangements.

If you live on the Wirral, Wallasey Christian Books @ Marlowe Road URC is open on Tuesdays from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. for books, cards and Traidcraft, running alongside the church’s Coffee Pot.

Dementia-friendly Churches

Starting in May a range of activities and events will be promoted by the Alzheimer’s Society and supported by Frodsham Churches Together. These will include:

Side by Side, connecting people with Dementia with trained volunteers to give

them the opportunity to do more of the things they enjoy.

Singing for the Brain, at Main Street Church which brings people together in a friendly, fun and social environment.

In addition there will be a **Live well with Dementia programme**

The Alzheimer's Society provides a range of support services for people with dementia, their carers and families in your area.

Journey of the Magi

Springs, a Christian Dance Company is inviting churches to host a performance of *Journey of the Magi*, which will be available nationally from 24th November to 23rd December 2018.

The show offers a bridge between contemporary life and Jesus's birth, portraying the journey that the wise men took 2000 years ago, whilst drawing hilarious and poignant parallels with our own preparations for Christmas day.

Further information can be found on the Springs Dance Company website page <https://springsdancecompany.org.uk/productions/journey-of-the-magi/>, by emailing touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk or by calling 07876 752 910

Hope for the Future

Laura D'Henin writes: (HftF) is a UK charity, founded from Christian morals, which specialises in supporting people to

effectively engage MPs on climate change. Our charity has been funded by Polden Puckham to offer this support for free to people in particular constituencies. As the Researcher at HftF, I am writing to offer you or anyone within the Churches Together Cheshire network, the opportunity to benefit from our training and support.

This would involve supplying a briefing of your MP's existing campaigns and interests, letter writing, meeting preparation and accompaniment. In the words of the Archbishop of Canterbury, responding to climate change is an essential part of our responsibility to safeguard God's creation, and we would really love to assist as many people as possible to meet with their MP on this issue.

To express interest or if you have any questions, please contact me either at this email address: laura.hopeftf@gmail.com or on 0114 453 6002. I really look forward to hearing from you!

Next Edition

The next issue of the Newsletter will be in September. If you have any items you would like to be included, please send them in by 31st August, 2018.

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