

***Diocese of Ripon and Leeds
Resources for Mission***

September 09 Bulletin

Adrian Alker, Director of Mission Resourcing

Learning Resource Centre

We welcome **Sue Rusholme** to the Diocesan Office as secretary to the Council for Mission and administrator in the Learning Resources Centre in the office. Sue is currently cataloguing new acquisitions for borrowing. Please contact Sue if you have ideas about new books and other resources which you would like to see us stock to be of help to people in parishes. You could also ring Sue if you want to borrow any particular book. We hope next month to publish a complete list of all books, DVD's etc held in the Centre. Sue can be contacted on 0113 2000 547 or email her at SusanR@riponleeds-diocese.org.uk



Annual Conference of the Ministry of Healing Task Group

***Exclusion and Embrace : Becoming Healing
Communities***

You are invited to this conference on **Saturday 31 October 2009**, 10am - 4pm at The Peace Centre, Tadcaster; the cost is £15 (bursaries available) The keynote speaker will be Bishop James Bell and there will be workshops on:

- Mental Health and inclusion (*with Revd Stanley Baxter*)
- Women and inclusion (*with Revd Elizabeth Baxter*)
- Being welcoming communities (*with Dean Keith Jukes*)
- Disability and inclusion (*with Revd Jo Stevens*)
- Inclusive worship and liturgy (*with Revd Canon Adrian Alker*)
- Including people of different cultures (*with Revd Dominic Moghal*)

For more information or to book contact Tom Lusty on 0113 203 3326 or Sue Rusholme (details above)

The Bible Society... has a very good revamped website, full of resources for parishes and groups. Do visit on www.biblesociety.org.uk.

Unemployment and the Churches There will be a regional symposium on the Church's response to unemployment on **Wednesday 30th September** 10am - 4pm at the Leeds Church Institute. Speakers will include Ian Kay (from the Chief Economist' Department of Yorkshire Forward), Prof Alan Deacon (University of Leeds), Rt Revd David Walker (Bishop of Dudley) and Joanne Archer (Together for Regeneration). There will also be a series of workshops to discuss differing approaches to the issue. Places cost £7.50. To book please contact Wendy or Moira at LCI on 01132454700 or moira@leedschurchinstitute.org.

Racial Justice Sunday

If you hope to mark Racial Justice Sunday on 13 September or any Sunday, all the materials are on line and downloadable for use. Go to www.ctbi.org.uk. Congregations which prefer a Racial Justice pack will need to contact Church House, Gt Smith St, London Tel 0207 898 1443.

Peacemaking

On **Sunday Sept 20th** the International Day of Prayer for Peace (WCC) offers an opportunity for churches to include the subject of peacemaking in their liturgies. Sept 21st marks the United Nations International Peace Day. Why not plan now to involve people of all ages in some Peace activities at your church? The World Disarmament Campaign and Clergy against Nuclear Arms both produce resource packs, as do Pax Christi, Christian Aid and many other groups. Just google for their websites. In the Resource Centre we have various prayers and liturgies from Iona and elsewhere to do with peace.



Pilgrimage against Poverty Church Action on Poverty invite churches to mark **Saturday Oct 17th** by organizing walks between churches with worship and campaigning actions taking place. There will be such an event in Leeds and other places around the diocese; more information in the mailing and also www.churchpoverty.org.uk/pilgrimage.

The Climate Justice Fund.. is a web based tool that enables parishes and individuals to calculate their own carbon footprint and pay compensation for anything over their fair share. The money will be used to finance Church based adaptation projects across the Anglican Communion. Bishop James Jones (pictured) says: *"Shrinking the Footprint challenged us to be aware of how our carbon consumption impacts on the lives of others and how we can respond by reducing that impact. The Climate Justice Fund is the logical next step for Christians for whom justice and Climate Change are issues of prayerful and practical concern.*

Further details can be found at www.climatejusticefund.org.uk For full details of the Shrinking the Footprint campaign and challenging ways in which your church can respond, please visit the website :

www.shrinkingthefootprint.cofe.anglican.org



Harvest Resource

USPG have this year produced a resource booklet for your church or school harvest, focused on the Brazilian Amazon rainforest. To order email enquiries@uspg.org.uk, go on line at www.uspg.org.uk or phone 020 7378 5678

Tried Sneaton Castle? Owned by the Order of the Holy Paraclete, Sneaton Castle in Whitby has become popular as a venue for church weekends, conferences etc. For more information telephone 01947 600051 or visit www.sneatoncastle.co.uk Let me know of your experiences of good places to stay so we can build up an information bank.



Mission and Worship

The third in a series of reflections relating the ways we worship and the liturgies we use, to our outreach and evangelism

The Parish Communion - The Word

In Common Worship appears the title 'The Liturgy of the Word' or sometimes this part of the Communion service is known as 'The Unfolding

of the Word', which, for me, gives a better sense of growing in understanding. Whatever the title, this part of the service reminds us of the centrality for Christians of all traditions of the Bible and how the reading, discussing and using the Bible can help us to know more fully the One who is THE Word, Jesus, the Christ of God.

So some basic questions In our worship have we the text of the Bible passages for the day in front of us? Are they on screen? Can we take the text home? Are there Bibles in the pews and helpful page numbers so folk can easily find the passage? All pretty obvious but there are still churches where the Word is only heard and not seen (which hardly helps understanding). There are many ways to reproduce biblical texts, some commercial companies produce pew leaflets, there are CD Rom disks with the lectionary available for copying. The next question is whether or not the reader(s) is well prepared, is the text read well and with understanding? What a difference a good and trained reader can make! And what version of the Bible is used, why and for what reason? Is inclusive language important? When were these matters last discussed by the congregation?

There are some interesting new Bible resources around. The Bible Society has produced *The Poverty and Justice Bible*. Have a look at *Good as New: a Radical Retelling of the Scriptures* for a New Testament version which will surely waken up the congregation! Then there is the *Dramatized Bible*, every book of the bible put into dramatic form.

Consider whether you really want to overload the congregation with all three set passages every Sunday, often without any obvious connection. And why not instead have a non-biblical reading to go with the Gospel? Good resource books here are those compiled by Hannah Ward and Jennifer Wild, called '*Resources for Preaching and Worship*'.

And finally for now instead of the reader saying *This is the Word of the Lord*, why not try saying ***How is this the Word of the Lord for us today?*** It evokes a whole new spirit of enquiry and reflection! More on The Word next time.

This bulletin will also be found on the diocesan website. Let us know of any resources for mission which you have found helpful and which might interest others. **Email: AdrianA@riponleeds-diocese.org.uk**