

Diocese of Ripon and Leeds Resources for Mission

October 09 Bulletin

Adrian Alker, Director of Mission Resourcing

A new Ecumenical Officer

The Revd Dr Colin Cheesman, priest in charge of Roundhay St John will take up the additional work of diocesan ecumenical officer this month. One of the central purposes of this post is to remind us all of the importance of working together across the denominational divides in the service of mission. The **Lund Principle** is an important principle in ecumenical relations between Christian churches. It affirms that churches should act together in all matters except those in which deep differences of conviction compel them to act separately. Colin will be available to help parishes strengthen their ecumenical endeavours. Contact him on 0113 266 9747



The Churches Together in Britain and Ireland website has lots of good downloadable resources – check it out : <http://www.ctbi.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 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)

Refugees and asylum seekers... There will be a public meeting entitled *Welcome the Stranger* at St Edmund's Church Roundhay on Friday 16th October at 7.30 pm. The speakers will be Fabian Hamilton MP and Bishop John. All are welcome.

Pilgrimage against Poverty : a walk of witness

Church Action on Poverty invite churches to mark **Saturday Oct 17th** by organizing walks between churches with worship and campaigning actions taking place. In Leeds there will be a pilgrimage to the city centre from various churches culminating in a service of prayer led by Bishop John in the city centre. Further information from Kathryn Fitzsimons, our Urban Officer.



Rural Vision Day – Saturday 31 October, St James Green Methodist Church in Thirsk

This is a day to find out more about fresh expressions of church in the rural areas. Keynote speakers are Pete Atkins of the national fresh expressions team and leader of a rural cell church in Lincolnshire and Pam Macnaughton, an Anglican priest working in Bishopthorpe in York. For more information contact Leslie Morley : email leslie.morley@virgin.net

Advent and Christmas Resources

Calling all those involved in planning and leading worship at advent and Christmas, the Diocesan Worship Committee are holding this resources morning at Holy Trinity Church Ripon on Saturday 24 October from 9.30 – 12.30 am. There will be workshops on history and symbolism, all age worship, new music for the season and ways of sharing the story. The cost is just £5 per parish/group. Contact Liz Williams in the diocesan office.

Resourcing an Inclusive Church means in part ensuring that people with different disabilities are both welcomed and fully integrated into the worshipping and social life of our churches. Following a working party report Church House Publishing has now produced a handbook and DVD to help parishes in their outreach and care of people with learning disabilities. Our chaplain Bob Brooke will be showing the DVD at deanery

synods and speaking about the report. Do contact Bob (0113 270 2829) if your parish would like to follow this through. On Saturday 17 October from 10 to 4 at Chapel Allerton Methodist Church in Leeds, there will be a day of activities and worship for people with learning disabilities and anyone else who would like to join them. Again please contact Bob for more information or visit the diocesan website.

Preaching Luke's Gospel

A day conference for those interested in learning how to preach on Luke's gospel effectively, at St John's College, Durham in **Saturday November 14th**. Speakers include David Day and David Wilkinson. The cost is £18 for the day including sandwich lunch (£10 for students). More details from s.j.hobson@durham.ac.uk or tel 0191 343895.



Diocesan Lay Conference Playing your Part or Part Playing?

This is a splendid opportunity for lay people from our parishes to come together, without any cost, to work with Bishop John and Judy Hirst, on the big questions of our life and God's purposes for us. Please contact Liz Williams in the diocesan office for more details and to book. The conference is on **Saturday 10 October at King James' School, Knaresborough, 10 am – 4pm.**

Questioning Origins - Questioning Origins is a UK-based teaching resource for RE in year 9 (Key Stage 3). Check it out for use in school or church young peoples work. Go to www.thewonderproject.co.uk

Mission and Worship

The fourth 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

Following the reading of the scriptures and the sermon, the congregation is then asked to affirm the historic faith of the Church through the recital of one of the authorized creeds or affirmations of faith. Much could be said and debated about the worth of such doctrinal statements in the context of

worship but for now consider at least the variety of faith affirmations available, even in Common Worship. Do you find you are saying the Nicene Creed week after week? In fact Common Worship offers a number of rather simpler, scripture based declarations of faith (page 147, 148 of CW). If you really want to be imaginative and more daring(!) you could do far worse than look at the affirmations produced by the Iona Community in its worship. These refreshing words with a modern resonance and a context within our present day society can really stir up a congregation to think about the importance of its faith in the modern world. Here is an example :

O God, the source of our being and the goal of all our longing,
we believe and trust in you.
The whole earth is alive with your glory,
and all that has life is sustained by you.
We commit ourselves to cherish your world,
and to seek your face.

O God, embodied in a human life, we believe and trust in you.
Jesus our brother, born of the woman Mary, you confronted the proud and the powerful, and welcomed as your friends those of no account.
Holy Wisdom of God, firstborn of creation, you emptied yourself of power, and became foolishness for our sake. You laboured upon the cross, and have brought us forth to the hope of resurrection.
We commit ourselves to struggle against evil and to choose life.

O God, life-giving Spirit, Spirit of healing and comfort, of integrity and truth, we believe and trust in you.
Warm-winged Spirit, brooding over creation, rushing wind and Pentecostal fire, we commit ourselves to work with you and renew our world.
(copyright Wild Goose)

Examples of such affirmations are available in the Learning Resources Centre, do come and browse.
Finally, why not ask the congregation to construct their own creedal statements – a fascinating piece of learning and sharing!

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**