



Churches Together
in Cornwall

NOVEMBER 2011



**Dear friends,
Halloween is one of
the fastest growing
festivals in our culture,
and it can be a
challenge to know how
to respond to it
appropriately.**

We are seeking to engage with the festival by providing free resources that help people of all faiths and none think about spiritual issues at this time of year.

The free Video Countdown Calendar, launched today, looks at the true meaning of Halloween in its origins as All Hallows' Eve and challenges people to think about the difference that God, rather than spooks and spells, has made and goes on making in people's lives.

See below for more information on what is available now and more resources coming in the next few weeks. Please check out the resources at www.damaris.org/all Saints and share them as widely as possible.

You might also like to see the [press release](#) about the resources. Let's use the opportunity of Halloween to help others to think about spiritual issues in a positive way.

Remembrance Sunday, 13 November 2011

The generation who remember the World Wars of the twentieth century is passing, but the act of Remembrance remains as significant as ever.

A new generation will remember differently, with more recent conflicts in mind and a great awareness of new terrors and dangers. CTBI has produced a number of resources which can be used for Remembrance Services and Commemorations.

The Order of Service for Remembrance Sunday is published by [Churches Together in Britain and Ireland](#) and prepared with [The Joint Liturgical Group of Great Britain](#) and [The Royal British Legion](#).

A new version was produced in 2005. [Resources available to download >>](#)

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The 2011 Diocesan Roadshows set off at a cracking pace with over 100 delegates at the initial event held in the Shire Hall Suite, Bodmin.

The theme of the roadshows this year is '**Being the Church**'. Each departmental 'market stall' offered a chance to see the range of materials and support services available for use in your parishes and included ideas on training courses, policies, guidance notes, brochures, information on events and fund-raising and so on.

It was also a great opportunity to meet the team from Diocesan House over a cup of tea or a coffee, and to ask questions face-to-face of the people who serve the parishes on a day-to-day basis.

Bishop Tim spoke of the changes occurring in the structure of the Church of England and the nature of its mission and ministry. He said that much as we might wish to, we cannot escape these developments and their consequences for 'being the church' in our local communities in Cornwall.

He flagged up that the role of stipendiary ministry is evolving such that clergy become more 'episcopal' in their approach - enabling and empowering others, supervising, energising and encouraging ministry and mission.

"This does mean that we will also need to reshape and resource differently the local churches and Christian communities," he said. "If we all see ourselves as disciples, as part of the laos, then we will need to understand our role as those who have gifts and a part to play."

The message of discipleship ran through presentations from both Archdeacon Roger Bush (standing in for Archdeacon Audrey for the evening) and stewardship officer, Rebecca Evans.

Delegates were urged to draw on the experiences and example of the two disciples' encounter with Jesus on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24.13-35); and to reflect on the characteristics and action of people who had helped them in their own adult Christian journeys. They were also invited to discover ways in which they might encourage other people to "walk and talk with God".

The next 'Being the Church' roadshow will be at Liskeard School & Community College commencing at 6.45pm on Thursday 13 October. For full details and for the programme and venues of the remaining four roadshows, [click here](#).

On Sunday October 16th, churches around the world will be holding a focus event called Micah 2011 - Fast, Pray, Rebuild. It's a chance to pray and take action about poverty and injustice in your local community that can have a global impact.

Micah 2011 looks at three key ideas in that mighty chapter, Isaiah 58 – pray, fast and rebuild – as a way to affirm God's call for us to live with integrity. Isaiah was calling Israel to be a nation built on godly principles – to care for the poor and to 'loose the chains of injustice.' (Is 58:6) What a relevant message for our time.

Micah 2011 is designed to help you create a service based on these three themes. [You can download prayer and action ideas as well as preaching notes here.](#)

Dear Friends

St Petroc's are currently recruiting volunteers to assist with the cold weather provision for this winter. This year the time periods for volunteers to help has changed and there are two slots for which assistance will be sought, namely:

- In the evening from 8.00 pm – 11.00 pm &
- Early morning from 6.00 am – 8.00 am

Duties will include assisting and supporting the staff, help with teas & coffees, etc.

If you would like to help in this area of work please contact Richard Bryant Richard@stpetrocs.org.uk or tel. 01872 264153.

Studies on Baptism

In 2005 the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Church of England published the report of their conversations under the title ***Pushing at the Boundaries of Unity***. The conversations focused on baptism and mutual recognition and posed a series of questions to each partner.

A set of studies, suitable for use in mixed small groups has now been produced and is based on the report. The studies are available to download free from either the Baptist Union [website](#) or the Church of England [website](#).

NEW FOOD BANKS

Through the recognition of need and the availability of volunteers, Churches Together Groups are turning their focus to further mission. New Food Banks are now, or will soon be opened in Penzance, Hayle and Perranporth.

The sad truth is that they are needed at all, but as the downside of our economy bites, let's be thankful that with Food Banks at the local supermarkets, the generosity of the Cornish public is as strong as ever it was.

Fiji Government bans Methodist meetings

The Fijian government has banned all Methodist Church meetings except for Sunday worship in an unprecedented crackdown on religious freedom. This includes house groups, women's prayer fellowship, choir practice, mid-week communion and youth fellowship, as well as the Church's governance meetings.

Having withdrawn the permit for the Church's annual Conference the evening before the event was due to start, the interim government has now notified the Church in a letter from the Fiji Military Council that all other meetings of the Methodist Church are forbidden.

All Methodist ministers are also forbidden from leaving the country for any meeting. The Church is responding with prayer and fasting. A planned press conference had to be cancelled last week because of the fear of further arrests. The Methodist Church is the largest faith group in Fiji and the only group to receive this treatment by the Government.

"We are gravely concerned about how this situation is developing," said Michael King, World Church Relationships Team Leader for the Methodist Church in Britain. "Our brothers and sisters in Fiji are asking us to keep them in our prayers and to tell the world their story. We are worried for Fiji. We are not only worried about religious freedom, but also about what the loss of other freedoms might mean for all Fijians in this traditionally democratic island nation."

Fiji is the subject of sanctions by Australia, New Zealand, the US and the EU and is also suspended from the Commonwealth and the Pacific Islands Forum because of the Government's failure to meet a deadline for democratic elections. There are signs of unrest in the capital Suva, with attacks on police posts and related graffiti, which is fuelling anxiety about the nation's stability. Speaking out against the Government is deemed treason, and sending criticisms of the regime to or from abroad is now being treated as a criminal act.

Orthodox leaders smooth path to proposed summit meeting

The patriarchs of three ancient Orthodox Christian churches met from 1-2 September in Istanbul to discuss the situation of Christian minorities in the Middle East, and perhaps an even more prickly topic -- the move toward a historic pan-Orthodox council -- removing major stumbling blocks to what would be the first such gathering in centuries. The pan-Orthodox council is regarded with great interest by the world's Orthodox churches, many of which are in unstable regions following revolutions in the Middle East, or in countries facing a third decade of economic and social transition following the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. (ENI)

The meeting adopted a proposal for "an encounter of religious leaders in the region, where a form of Mediterranean Charter would be drafted and proclaimed". The purpose of the charter would be to address environmental concerns and "contribute to the peaceful coexistence and cooperation among religions in this region today".

TRURO HOTS - Healing on The Streets

Dear David

Just to keep you updated, we've been praying out on Pydar Street for just over 2 months now, and prayed for over 100 people in that time.

We did some more training sessions in September, using a training DVD and demonstrating the prayer model we use for Healing on the Streets, which is open to anyone interested in joining us.

It occurs to me that you might also be interested in receiving the Truro HOTStories we send out to people interested in following what we do. HOTStories are testimonies written by team members and their experiences of what is happening out there on Pydar Street when they pray. I've added you to the email list so you should get the HOTStories weekly from now on, but if at any time you no longer wish to receive them, just let me know.

God bless you and thank you so much for all your support.

from Tracey Dockree

If you would like to be part of the email prayer list or wish to learn and be involved in HOTS please contact Tracey Dockree healing@cornwallhealingonthestreets.co.uk

Examples of 'live' HOTstories.

A couple who lost their son 4 years ago were assured of God's love for them, although they, too, declined prayer. They were very appreciative.

A lady suffering with pain in both her hips and in her left knee was prayed for. We prayed for full restoration and for healing of arthritis in both hips. She felt filled with peace and warmth throughout her body.

We prayed for healing of a team member's "lingering cough" (and also gave him water to drink); he seemed more restful following prayer and blessing.

A lady recovering from a recent severe attack of a recurring illness asked for prayer. Often people prayed for will sit for a few minutes enjoying the wonderful peace and presence of God. She sat in God's presence for what seemed a very long time and seemed very peaceful.

I would be grateful to receive any information about what your Churches Together Group is up to regarding activities, programme and services. Do please send to :- David H Smith
Chyreene Warra, Rosehill, Marazion, TR17 0HB.
or send to: ses.dhs@hotmail.co.uk

Your joint activities, services and programmes can then be uploaded onto the Churches Together in Cornwall website - [Cornwall - Home Page - Local Churches Together websites](#)
www.together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/cornwall/

WESTPOINT RETURN FOR 'IDEAL CHURCH SHOW'

THE Christian Resources Exhibition, often dubbed the 'ideal church show', returns to Exeter next year (Westpoint, 25-26 January 2012) by popular demand!



"More than 4,600 attended the last show in 2009 and we're delighted to be back in the south west," said Paul Trott, head of marketing for CRE parent company Bible Society.

"You'll see everything as usual - from communion wine to computers, sound systems to signboards - along with Clergy on the Catwalk, a special feature from Stop The Traffik and much, much more."

Return to Sender will showcase all things relevant for churches helping people cope with bereavement.

CRE, the largest series of Christian exhibitions in Europe, will also run a schedule of seminars and workshops at Westpoint, led by gifted communicators in their field of expertise. Presentations range from how to lead worship to young people and the Bible.

"We encourage anyone involved in the life and work of their local church to come to Exeter and make the most of their day at CRE," said Paul Trott. "It has a unique, friendly atmosphere."

You can browse in the exhibition bookshop, stocked with hundreds of publications, CDs, DVDs and gift ideas. Then relax and meet friends in the CRE café and enjoy special performances in the arts theatre."

"On every layer of this strategic event you will discover something fresh and innovative - at the cutting edge of Christian ministry."

More info: www.creonline.co.uk

** Issued by [Stephen Goddard Associates](#) on behalf of CRE. For more information phone Stephen Goddard 01744 733898 or 07930 198209.

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Three old guys are out walking.
First one says, 'Windy, isn't it?'
Second one says, 'No, it's Thursday!'
Third one says, 'So am I. Let's go get a beer.'

A man was telling his neighbour, 'I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me four thousand pounds, but it's state of the art. It's perfect.'
'Really,' answered the neighbour. 'What kind is it?'
'Twelve thirty.' "