

SEPTEMBER 2013

Christian ecumenical organizations call attention to Egypt.



A release from the World Council of Churches: "Supporting interfaith calls for peace in Egypt"

The World Council of Churches (WCC) Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit has expressed support for the interfaith calls to action for peace and security in Egypt. He encouraged religious leaders to work together to call for protection and to promote the sanctity of human lives and religious places.

Tveit appreciated a recent statement issued by Bayt al-'a'ila al-misriyya (the Egyptian Family Home) which appealed for the "security measures to protect the churches, the mosques, the national and the religious institutions, as well as the sacred places."

The Egyptian Family Home, an initiative of the Christian and Muslim leaders in Egypt, created in 2011, collaborates with WCC member churches in Egypt, including the Coptic Orthodox Church.

"Terrorism does not take into account the sanctity of religion," notes the statement, issued on August 15th 2013.

The Egyptian Family Home also encouraged "efforts exerted by the civilians either Muslims or Christians who are defending the churches in this crucial period, setting a sincere example of the Egyptian patriotism against the sectarian divisions and terrorism." Echoing the concerns raised in the statement, Tveit emphasized that "the future of Egypt with justice and peace is only possible through the commitment of all Egyptians."

"Protection of all human life and sacred sites is a common responsibility of both Christians and Muslims. The WCC supports and stands in solidarity with the call for joint action and efforts for reconciliation and security by the religious leaders in Egypt," he added.

In recent events following the Aug. 14 demonstrations, hundreds of people have been killed, while several churches and mosques were burnt down in Cairo and around.
Statement from the Egyptian Family Home:

www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/other-ecumenical-bodies/the-egyptian-family-home-statement/

WCC invokes prayers for peace in Egypt (WCC news release of Aug. 15): www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/wcc-invokes-prayers-for-peace-in-egypt

Chairman - Revd Steve Wild
Vice Chairman - Bishop Tim Thornton
CTC Missioner - David H Smith
Treasurer - Mike Cullen
Charity No 1053899
www.churchestogetherincornwall



Volunteers with the Rev Maggie Tubbs (centre), outside the premises of the new Churches Together Cornerstone on West Looe Quay, which is open six days a week 10am - 4pm.

NEW PREMISES FOR CHURCH OUTLET

Cornerstone was previously in Princes Square for more than 12 years and during that time raised £65000 for children's charities. Fundraising from the popular outlet will remain the same and as well as offering tea and coffee and homemade cakes made by volunteers, Cornerstone also accepts unwanted gifts for re-sale, but not clothing. There is also a small range of FairTrade items for sale.

The Rev Tubbs reported that the recently opened shop had been an exciting event for the hard working committed volunteers, of which there were 40 from the Looe and District Churches Together and Cornerstone.

MUSIC DAY FOR CORNWALL



The Music Day for Cornwall happening in Truro Cathedral on October 12th this year will be an excellent event for people who are conscious about modern music within our worship. On offer, a whole range of workshops across the styles to encourage and equip local church musicians.

Guest presenters include Graham Kendrick, Geraldine Latty, Christopher Gray, Andrew Nicholson and Andrew Maries. Graham K is doing a Worship Concert in the evening. If you could publicise this for us amongst your Churches Together colleagues, the organisers would be most grateful. More details and booking forms for the day and the concert can be obtained from Truro Cathedral Office: 01872 276782

<http://www.trurocathedral.org.uk/search.html?q=music%20day>

From the Churches Together Tent Committee A BIG THANK YOU!

Without the help and support of so many, many people and organisations, it would be impossible to mount this display of Christian witness and hospitality in the **Churches Together Tent** at the **Royal Cornwall Show**. We cannot begin to mention them all but we would like to highlight just some:



Thank you to **Churches Together in Cornwall** for their generous grant towards the Tent expenses. These expenses are over £9000, and this grant, together with denominational grants, provided a base from which we could safely plan expenditure.

Thank you to the **RCAA** for reserving Site 1 for us, for including the Churches Tent on the main signposts, and for joining with us in organising the Eve of Show Service. We do value that support.



Thank you to all those who attended the **Eve of Show Service** and then came to the Tent for the Pasty Reception. This year's attendance was perhaps the best ever and we estimate that we fed pasties to over 300 people! (Sorry we had to start by serving half pasties, but at least that ensured everyone had some, given the large numbers!) Thank you that you battled through the pre-Show traffic to join us in showing support for Cornwall's agricultural industry.

Thank you to all the churches who provided pictures and information that could be included on this year's **'Footprint Wall'**. To read the accounts is to be encouraged by God's leading, in very varied ways, as the churches bear Christian witness to the people of our county.

Finally, thank you to the volunteers who helped in the Tent in differing ways. We mention particularly those who helped in serving the **tea, coffee and mocktails**. Over 40 people came along just for this task, most of whom were this year doing it for the first time. This display of Christian care and hospitality is, we know, so much appreciated by so many.



CORNWALL ECUMENICAL SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AT ST PETROC'S BODMIN WITH ARCHBISHOP JUSTIN



An historic Ecumenical Service will take place at St Petroc's Church Bodmin on Sunday 17th November starting at 3pm, when the document encapsulating the "Declaration of Intent" will be signed by Church Leaders on behalf of five Christian denominations -

Anglican Church - Rt. Rev'd. Tim Thornton Bishop of Truro and the Isles of Scilly

Methodist Church - Chairman Rev'd. Steve Wild

United Reformed Church - Rev'd. Ruth Whitehead Moderator, South West of Cornwall Synod

South West Baptist Association - Rev'd Jeremy Brown, Senior Regional Minister

Salvation Army - Major Ian Harris, South West Division Commander

alongside a letter of companionship and support being signed by the remaining four denominations.

Roman Catholic Church - Bishop Christopher Budd Bishop of Plymouth, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) - Mrs Lesley Chandler Clerk to the Meeting

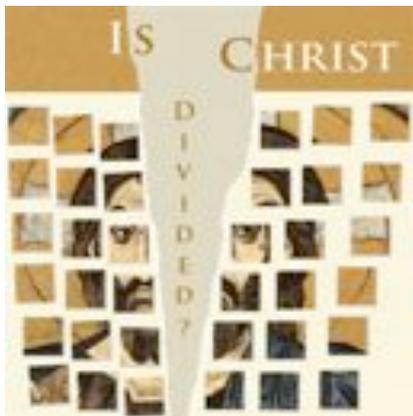
Greek Orthodox Church - The Rev'd. Oeconómos Nikitas Lantsbery, Community of Archangel Michael and St. Piran

Russian Orthodox Church - Very Rev'd. Archpriest Benedict Ramsden Community of St Anthony & St Elias

All this to happen and be witnessed in the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, who will be giving the address and other national Church Leaders.

It will be wonderful celebration of the Christian Church in Unity and will be a very special historic occasion for those Churches Together Groups in Cornwall who over many years work tirelessly to fulfil their Christian mission by praying and working in partnership together in support of the communities they serve.

Whether a member of the robed clergy or a member of a Christian congregation you won't want to miss this service of unity and celebration.



Is Christ divided?

Is Christian disunity a scandal before God? Or is it something we have grown accustomed to, as though it were a creaky door that we never seem to get around to fixing? St Paul's words challenge us as we reflect upon this question. To suggest that disunity is something acceptable is declaring that Christ himself is divided - and that really is a scandal!

2013 was the year in which churches from all inhabited continents of the world gathered in Korea for the 10th General Assembly of the World Council of Churches. We gathered for no other reason than to declare to the world that our disunity is a scandal and that we will go on praying for and working for that unity which is God's gift to the church and to the world.

The Churches of French Canada have chosen for us a key biblical text of the ecumenical movement and have invited us to think about what our divisions say to the world and to each other about the Christian faith. They have also suggested that we use the Millennium Goals as a focus for our prayers for the world.

Dates

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from the 18th to the 25th January - the octave of St. Peter and St. Paul. However, some areas observe it at Pentecost or some other time. To allow for local decision making, the material has only the year on it and the days are denoted by the numbers one to eight, so you can use it at any time of year.

Christian Aid

This year we are again continuing our partnership with Christian Aid which has provided *Go and Do* action points for each of the daily reflections - linking into the important work of Christian Aid in the relief of poverty and advocacy of justice.

Resources

The resources for 2014 are available as downloads from our [resources page](#). There is also an order form to purchase the material in a published format should you wish to do that.

10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ROCHE 9TH JUNE 2013



On this happy day of celebration - 10 years of the Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP), Rev Steve Wild gave the address in St Gomonda's Anglican Church and Bishop Chris Goldsmith, Bishop of St Germans, preached in Roche Methodist Church. The ministers of those churches, Rev Derek Balsdon and Rev Ruth Murfitt read the local covenant agreement binding them together.



The procession down the main street in Roche led by the newly formed Roche Brass Band was a real joy with local people coming out of their homes to enjoy the music and watch the parade

