

# Pilgrim Post

Churches Together in Dorset Newsletter

September, 2021



## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND

The pandemic has had an impact on many “Churches Together groups. Whilst the fruit of unity has been expressed in so many ways, many traditional activities have been put on hold.

A new [resource on re-imagining Churches Together groups](#) has been put together by three County Ecumenical Officers to help groups as they come together and re-focus after the pandemic. Read it [here](#)

The broadest ecumenical gathering of Christians in England, the **CTE 2022 Forum, ‘Reconciling Hope – a Broken Church for a Broken World’**, inspired by Corinthians 5:19, takes place on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> - **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March** at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, bringing together over three hundred representatives of Member Churches, Intermediate Bodies, Co-ordinating Groups and Bodies in Association.

The Forum is a delegate conference and therefore not open to all. Find out more about the event and how you might be able to attend [here](#)

**Education Sunday 2021** will take place on **Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> September**. It is a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone in the world of education, the theme devised by an ecumenical steering group representing different Christian denominations and organisations. Resources are available [here](#)

More than 3,500 Christians took part in the huge prayer event, **South West Awake** on **Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2021**, to pray ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ for the region.

It extended across 650 miles of the Coast Path, from Minehead in Somerset to Poole Harbour in Dorset. Read more [here](#).

Sign up to the monthly mailing of **CTe-News** [here](#)



## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DORSET

The **2021 CTD AGM** took place on **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021** at **St Catherine’s RC Church, 4 Lewens Lane, Wimborne BH21 1LE**.

## YOUNG CHRISTIANS’ RELAY TO COP26

*“We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat.”*

A group of young Christians from several Member Churches are walking in relay from the G7 in Cornwall to the international climate negotiations, COP26, being held in Glasgow

They wish to pressure the UK government to prepare for COP26 in a number of ways.

A boat is accompanying them, with sails made from material from around the world - acknowledging that we are all in the same storm but not the same boat - when it comes to the impact of climate change.

Read more [here](#)

Sign up for the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland CTBI Newsletter, *Witnessing Together*, [here](#)



## Climate Sunday Churches Together in Britain and Ireland

It was **Climate Sunday** on 5<sup>th</sup> **September**. Local churches were encouraged to hold a climate-focused service. Free [resources](#) were available to suit every tradition and style of worship.

### NEWS FROM THE DORSET CHURCHES

**Churches Together in Poole, Boscombe, Verwood and Winton, Charminster and Moordown** are meeting together in person. Verwood Methodist Church held a **Healing and Renewal Service** on 5<sup>th</sup> September and 12<sup>th</sup> September sees the launch of St Michael's in Verwood's **Together@6** evening service. St Mary's Church in Weymouth has continued to offer **live daily prayer** on Facebook and St John's, Weymouth held an **Open Air Praise** event on 25<sup>th</sup> July. Simon Barrett from Rosebery Park Baptist Church, Boscombe recently ran a course on the environment called '**Christian in Creation**' which was well-attended and Churches Together in Boscombe are planning an **outdoor harvest festival service** on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, to be confirmed.

**Immanuel Church** in Southbourne has collected 394 boxes of supplies for Afghan refugees, the churches in Weymouth and Portland more than 500. On 23<sup>rd</sup> June, **Moordown Memory Lane** was launched at Bournemouth Community Church - a weekly reminiscence group in partnership with **PramaLife**, which is open to all but is particularly aimed at anyone living with memory loss or dementia. Anyone interested in attending or helping can call Tona on **07999 4021560** - or Tess on **07912 272077**, if you cannot take part on a Wednesday.

**Holy Trinity Church** in Weymouth has offered premises to a new support business, the **Weyshare 'Library of Things'** project, which encourages people to reduce waste and save money by loaning and borrowing items. People can take part by signing up to the project's website or Facebook page. The church is also intending to reorder part of the church as a **hub** for debt advice, welcome and support for businesses who are struggling.

Working with local organisations, **SMILE** ( for lone parent families ), which is supported by Faithworks, arranged an **action-packed programme to get young people out and about during the summer months**. Activities included a swimming day at Greenhouse Christian Centre ; activities, a picnic and games at Urban Heath ; a beach day ; a retreat at Longmead Community Farm. They are continuing their **yellow Cook Bags** in partnership with the Friendly Food Club, providing fresh ingredients and a recipe for a healthy family meal. Read more [here](#)

Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August was the **Final Service** at Wyke Regis Methodist Church. The church has been part of the community since 1903.

The **Lansdowne Church** in Bournemouth has reopened after several years of rebuilding.

**Bournemouth Local Community Meals** : a full list of inside and outside meals offered at a number of Bournemouth churches and car parks can be found [here](#)

### NEWBOLD COLLEGE DIVERSITY CENTRE LECTURES (ZOOM)

Autumn Semester 2021. Theme: **Urban Religious Diversity**. **Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at**

### Young and Gifted, The Essential Youth – Webinar

**28<sup>th</sup> September 2021, 7.30 - 9pm via Zoom**

The Church is missing the voice of young people. Join a group of young people from across the UK as they share their views on contemporary issues. Hosted by Synergy Network: Churches and Communities Taking a Stand. Read more [here](#)

### Fresh Expressions Webinars

From the Church of England's Evangelism and Discipleship Team, a series of free webinars offering practical ideas for church leaders at local level in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond. Find out more [here](#)

### Churches Count on Nature Webinars

A special series of webinars on different aspects of land and nature, run in partnership with Caring for God's Acre, A Rocha UK, the Church of England Environment Programme and the Church in Wales. Read more [here](#)

### Life on the Breadline and Church at the Margins and Poverty in the UK Webinars (Recorded)

Part of a research project by the Methodist Church, webinars analysing the nature, scope and impact of Christian engagement with urban poverty in the UK, and a conversation between justice campaigners and the wider church on the impact of poverty. Read more [here](#)

**The Recovery Course**, a free Christian programme focusing on any addiction or habit, starts in September in Poole and Ringwood (read more [here](#)). **Weymouth Street Pastors** (partnering with the multi-agency initiative [Safe Space](#)) and **Poole Town Pastors** have both been busy over the summer months.

## EVENTS



### AN ECCLESIAL AND ECUMENICAL READING OF SCRIPTURE

**Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021, 7.30-9pm** on Zoom, a webinar organized by the **Society for Ecumenical Studies**, asking if listening to our **varying interpretations of Scripture** across the different Christian traditions can draw us **closer to each other and equip us better to share God's work in God's world**. Find out more [here](#).

## OPPORTUNITIES

### FREE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

**Stir to Action** and **Power to Change** - who exist to help communities revive local assets, protect the services people rely on and address local needs through community business - are offering 80 free places on their **2021/2022 training programme, New Economy**, to minoritised ethnic groups, young adults between 18-35 and those living in areas of deprivation (IMD 1-3). Find out more [here](#)

### Prayer Week : Faith in Later Life and Pilgrims' Friend Society

You are invited to pray for older people from 12-18<sup>th</sup> September. Find out more [here](#)

**7.30** -Online conversations with millennials about faith – learnings from a lockdown summer; **Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021** - Exploring faith and community through Christian-Muslim dialogue; **Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7.30** – Getting on the wrong side of Jesus: exploring the edges of mission. Read more [here](#)

### REAL LIVES EVENT

A weekend to think about life and faith with **Glen Scrivener, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2021** at St John's Church, Upper Parkstone. For more details tel: 01202 740235 [www.stjohnspoole.com](http://www.stjohnspoole.com)

### STIR TO ACTION REPORT LAUNCH

**Technographic to Democratic: Bringing Together Democratic Business and Policy**, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021, 2-3.30pm. Find out more [here](#)

### AS ONE' VISION

How can the church at large best respond to the unique moment we are in, and to everything our communities have experienced recently, from trauma and hardship on the one hand, to a rebirth of community spirit on the other? How are we to help bring closure to the negative and longevity to the positive?

Gaining traction in many parts of the country is the 'As One' vision, based on Birmingham's 2018-20 'Permission to Smile' campaign, which, though bold and large-scale, finds its best expression through the neighbourhood church. Weymouth and BCP are two areas where interest is being shown. Events would typically include public banners,

## ACTION ON POVERTY IN A PANDEMIC WEBINAR SERIES

Free webinars exploring how **Quaker Social Action (QSA)** has been adapting in response to the pandemic. Find out more [here](#)

### THE BOURNEMOUTH WILLIAM TEMPLE ASSOCIATION

Do you want to hear a thought-provoking talk about the Christian faith or other faiths and their application to contemporary issues? Then why not come to one of the **William Temple meetings**.

The meetings take place at the Marsham Court Hotel, Bournemouth. There is an optional meal and the talk starts after coffee/tea at 8pm.

For further information, contact **John Newbold**, tel: 01202 761 749 email: [jjnewbold@btinternet.com](mailto:jjnewbold@btinternet.com) A full list of upcoming talks can be found [here](#)

**An Ecclesial and Ecumenical Reading of Scripture** : Society for Ecumenical Studies webinar, Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> September on zoom, 7.30-9. Read more [here](#)

**Christianity, Climate & Race: What is God saying to the Church?** From the Evangelical Alliance, Tearfund and Christian Aid, 7 October, 7.30pm. [Book now](#)

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Ecumenical Witness for Justice and Peace** – World Council of Churches Webinar, 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2-3.30. Read more [here](#)

**Prayer Week - Prisons Week** : A week of prayer for the needs of all those affected by prisons - 10 to 16 October. [Read more](#)

**Nominate** : Join the nationwide search for **#OneStepGreener Ambassadors**. Deadline 3 October [Read more](#)

## RESOURCES

**'Hospitality and Sanctuary for All'** by Inderjit Bhogal, published by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland : how churches should be welcoming places of safety for all. The CTBI Church of Sanctuary webinar which took place on 24<sup>th</sup> march is available [here](#)

Information on the **Quaker Asylum Relief Network (QARN)** including the Annual report for the AGM on July 2021 can be found [here](#)

outdoor Community Memorial services, a 'Back Together' celebration; there is also the hope of Street Associations continuing long-term.

It would be good to have more churches on board for 'As One', including in BCP where there is already much support.

For further information or to arrange a Zoom meeting, please contact Martin Graham, by [email](#) or tel: 0121 459 8400; 07931 282716. Read more [here](#) and [here](#)

**Tools for Change - Equipping Local Ecumenists** : Transformation Cornwall's **'Tools for Change'** toolkit, taking readers through the key stages of making impactful change in areas such as anti-slavery, racism or climate care, can be found [here](#) You can read more [here](#)

**Annual Sam Sharpe lecture 'Setting The Captives Free – forging the paths to freedom'**, delivered by Amanda Khozi Mukwashi, CEO of Christian Aid. A Baptist Union webinar, 21st October, 7pm. [Book now](#)

**Urban Saints** are launching a series called **'Have you got ID?'** which aims to help young people explore who they are in the context of the Bible and to discover how their true identity is defined by God in Christ.

Sessions for 7-10s in the **Act Justly** series help children and young people to explore how they can partner with God to make a more just world. [Subscribe here](#)



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