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Focus on Young People

CTMR Young Adults 18+ gatherings

Following a meeting of Youth Leaders from several denominations within the Merseyside Region in February 2018 CTMR Young Adults 18+ now gather monthly at the Quaker Meeting House. They are a very lively group of young adults who extend an invitation to all young adults to participate in their amazing experience of meeting other young Christians. The Young Adults are the protagonists of those gatherings as they take it in turn to chair them.



Photo shows young adults at their second meeting in March 2019

Get Involved!!

5 of the young adults set to work to prepare future meetings and produced the flipchart pictured here. If you would like to be part of those gatherings, contact Veronica at ctmr.admin@gmail.com or call Elisabeth on 0151 709 0125



Photo: Small group in April 2019 with Veronica McDonnell CTMR 18+ team member

Spreading the news

A report of this initiative was presented at the Northern Denominational Officers meeting. Churches Together in Lancashire are hosting a day for young adults on Saturday 12 October 2019 in Preston. If this is easier for Young Adults especially from the Northern areas of Merseyside, information about this event can be obtained at office@ctmr.org.uk or phone 0151 709 0125

News from CTE



One in Christ Jesus, engaged in God's mission, empowered by the Spirit

The 2019 CTE tri-fold leaflet

is a very useful resource which includes staff details, a list of our member churches, an overview of 2018 and planned projects for 2019. It is available by copying and pasting the following link

<https://cte.org.uk/Publisher/File.aspx?id=202099>



CTE Review 2018

is available on the CTE website

<http://www.ctdevon.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/2018-review-of-the-year-with-hyperlinks.pdf>



CTE New General Secretary

Welcome to Rev Dr Paul Goodliff who started as CTE General Secretary in September 2018.

Paul was formerly co-minister of Abingdon Baptist Church, having served previously as General Superintendent of the Baptist Union's Central Area, and then as the Baptist Union's Head of Ministry. He is well known as a lecturer and is the author of books on pastoral care, the theology and psychology of shame, and most recently, a study of ministerial formation and virtue ethics, [Shaped for Service](#) (2017). Widely experienced ecumenically, Paul has been a member of the WCC-Pentecostal Joint Consultative Group since 2000. [Link to](#)



News from CTE continued

One in Christ Jesus, engaged in God's mission,
empowered by the Spirit



Embracing the Other

A course for Receptive Ecumenism

.... with notes for a facilitator. It uses various forms of media, different kinds of exercises, and prayer at the end.

No theological training needed, but members of any group can learn from one another.



It is very flexible, 5 session course or one stand alone day session.

The Receptive Ecumenism Course can be found at: https://www.cte.org.uk/Groups/306183/Home/Resources/Theology/Receptive_Ecumenism/Resources/Embracing_the_Other.aspx

Stand-alone Session

The Stand-alone Session gives an introduction to Receptive Ecumenism and an opportunity to practise it. There are activities, discussion and prayer elements and it may be run as a day, or half-day conference. Alternatively, the course can be spread over five sessions detailed as below. Material is provided for both options.

Five-Session course

Session 1: 'Presenting Receptive Ecumenism' is an introduction that includes a welcome, 'getting to know you', setting the scene and some imag-

Session 2: 'Giving an account of the hope that is in us' includes prayer, reading, a video and discussion about the hope we have as Christians and churches in the quest for unity.

Session 3: 'Learning to Listen' helps us to hear one another deeply. It includes a video about when we are not listened to well, a discussion, readings, another video about times when Christians have been listened to well, an exercise and prayer.

Session 4: 'Listening to Learn' offers a chance to use our listening skills to understand each other's traditions and experiences. It includes prayer, sharing, a video, reading and discussion groups.

Session 5: 'Being the Branches of the Vine' concludes the course. It is a multimedia approach and looks to how we can use the insights gained by Receptive Ecumenism in the future.

'A New Framework'

Please remember that '*A Guide for Understanding A New Framework for Local Unity in Mission*' is available here: [https://](https://www.cte.org.uk/Articles/516911/Home/News/Latest_news_articles/A_guide.aspx)

[www.cte.org.uk/Articles/516911/Home/News/Latest_news_articles/ A_guide.aspx](https://www.cte.org.uk/Articles/516911/Home/News/Latest_news_articles/A_guide.aspx)

CTE Resources

A link to the many CTE resources available can be found here: <https://www.cte.org.uk/>

CTE Website

The CTE website is a wonderful resource and is being used extensively and updated constantly. <https://www.cte.org.uk/>



News from Merseyside

From the CTMR Presidents' group

Congratulations New Divisional Commander

Congratulations to Major Roger Batt the new Divisional Commander of the Salvation Army for North West England and North Wales since July 2018.



Image courtesy of The Salvation Army

Welcome New Bishop of Warrington



Welcome also to Rt Rev Beverly Mason, our new Bishop of Warrington. She was consecrated as a Bishop on 18 October 2018 and was officially welcomed into the diocese during a service at Liverpool Cathedral on 17 November 2018.

Image courtesy of The Diocese of Liverpool

CTMR Church Leaders & denominations...

.... continue to give ecumenical support to each other during events like the RC Eucharistic Congress in September 2018 and the visit of the Northern Bishops of the Anglican Province to the Diocese of Liverpool in April 2019. This is a great common witness to Christians on Merseyside and beyond.

Image: Ecumenical gathering at St Nick's Church during the Eucharistic Congress



The CTMR Presidents' group

meets quarterly to determine the overall strategy of CTMR and maintain co-ordinating oversight of its main activities. In addition they gather annually for a retreat for mutual support and take it in turns to lead it.

CTMR Presidents invite local MPs & Civic Leaders

Local MPs came to lunch with the Church Leaders in April this year. They had a very good and open discussion which was appreciated by all.



CTMR Presidents also host a Civic Re-

ception for Mayors and Leaders of the Councils in the Merseyside Re-

gion. Last year Professor Hilary Russell and Monsignor John Devine OBE received a tribute and a gift for their outstanding contributions to Merseyside.



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Merseyside Denominational Officers

contributed to the networking of colleagues involved in Ecumenism across the North of England. With colleagues from the Northern Counties they facilitated an event for Northern Denominational Officers which created greater cohesion and addressed common matters of interest. There were 5 representatives from Merseyside: Rev Janet Calderley URC; Rev Andrew Edwards, Diocese of Liverpool; Elisabeth Hachmoeller, Ecumenical Co-ordinator and Rev Dr Christine Jones, Methodist. A big thank you to Rev Jacky Embry, who represented CTMR Church Leaders.

Events on Merseyside

Walk of Witness

Churches Together in Bootle and Litherland



Around 120 people took part in our very successful Good Friday walk. This year our speaker was Archdeacon Pete Spiers of Sefton and Knowsley area.

ASDA Bootle very kindly once again donated a gross of Hot-



cross buns to give out afterwards.

By Patsy Shaw

'Thy Kingdom Come' Join the Global Wave of Prayer

Ascension Thursday 30th May until Pentecost Sunday 9th June 2019



All Christians are called to join in prayer between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ.

'Light up the World' online at

www.thykingdomcome.global/lightuptheworld.

Put simply – when you register an event or pledge to pray your local area will light up.

Go to <https://gochattervideos.com/thy-kingdom-come/> to produce their own video specific to their city, town, or village. Find out more and order resources here: www.cpo.org.uk/thykingdomcome Please click here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>

Pentecost Celebrations in Liverpool in 2019

Journeying together in hope

Sunday 9th June, 3:00pm—5:00pm

Since the mid 80s, the biennial Two Cathedrals Service has provided an opportunity for the Christians of Merseyside to be ‘Together in One Place’, celebrating both the faith that we share, and the growing unity we feel with our brothers and sisters from other traditions, whilst seeking the Holy Spirit. Since 2016 it has become a yearly occurrence to celebrate Pentecost together.



We would like to invite everyone in Merseyside to join in with this year's ecumenical Pentecost celebrations in Liverpool on 9th June starting at 3:00pm and finishing around 5:00pm.

Celebrations will start at the Metropolitan Cathedral with a service at 3pm. From there people are invited to make their own pilgrimage to Liverpool Cathedral while Church Leaders will also be available for a chat after the service on the plaza at the Met. At Liverpool Cathedral there will be an informal Taizé style service beginning at 4:30pm.

As people make their own way to Liverpool Cathedral, they are invited to pray in various places along the way.



We would like to encourage everyone to attend and pray together that through God's Spirit we may bring hope and blessing to our city and region. For more details as we get closer to Pentecost please visit:

Merseyside Council of Faiths

Still building Bridges, but differently

The attendance at the Merseyside Council of Faiths meetings had fallen and while the number of places of worship of Faiths other than Christianity had increased only the Christians and the Jews had pan-Merseyside structures to appoint representatives. Thus it was decided in November 2018 to dissolve the Council.



There continues to be numerous local Interfaith links as well as the high priority given to Interfaith dialogue by Hope University, the work of Faiths for Change on environmental issues. Liverpool Community Spir- its work notably on youth engagement, faith awareness training and religious education. There is an active Council of Christians and Jews and a new Faith leaders gathering under the auspices of the Bishop of Liver- pool.

By Ultan Russell

CTMR Social Justice Group

have taken ahead the work on the Hope Charter. This is a Church-led initiative on Merseyside in response to the increasing funding crises in the City Region.

There is a regular meeting between Free Church, Anglican and Roman Catholic social responsibility organisers with a view to co-ordinating and stimulating work in this area. Conversations this year have particularly focussed on the detention of refugees and asylum seekers through an in- formal partnership with “These Walls must fall”.

Liverpool Cologne Church

Partnership

Dating back to 1908 the flourishing partnership between Liverpool and Cologne blossomed in the 1990's and has gone from strength to strength since then.

The Liverpool Cologne Group continues to meet regularly. The focus for 2018 was planning for the events to commemorate the end of World War One. This comprised two major events in November. First a Conference planned in partnership with Hope University's Tutu Centre on

Women, the Church and Peace and a Service at the Metropolitan Cathedral with both Cathedral choirs engaged. A delegation from Cologne including the Dean of Cologne Cathedral attended.

A Merseyside delegation will attend a consultation on *Evangelisation Today* in June 2019 in Cologne.



The Liverpool Cologne Secretary, Canon Val Jackson was awarded an MBE in the 2019 New Years' Honours List and named *2018 Josephine Butler Women of the Year* - her work on the Köln link being significant aspects of her receiving both these awards.

Image courtesy of the Diocese of Liverpool

By Ultan Russell

Support for Asylum Seekers (SAS)

The Support for Asylum Seekers programme continues to fulfil its mandate of humanitarian support by relieving destitution and distress among people who have sought asylum in Merseyside and then been failed by the system. They raise money from individuals, churches and other organisations which is used to pay for rent and basic food, clothes and toiletries through the Destitution Project which administers these services on behalf of SAS.

SAS has responded to requests from partner agencies including the following:

Faiths4Change

Communities Together in Skelmersdale (Food +) – these activities have developed and been delivered mainly on the Tan House estate to enable people from the settled and newly arrived communities to get to know each other.

Developing Roots is our long standing partnership health and wellbeing project at the ALM allotments in Childwall, funded

by both the Allen Lane Foundation and SAS.

Refugee Women Connect [formerly MRANG]

Service users at risk of domestic violence are exceptionally vulnerable to exploitation and gender-based violence. The SAS destitution fund provides money for food for service users to help bridge the gap between potential support they may receive via Section 4 benefits. Service users who are refused and become street homeless are continuing to struggle to gain sustainable funding. Once again, the SAS destitution fund allows a window to work with these service users to attempt to secure funding.



Asylum Link Merseyside

Apart from the usual destitution support to ALM, SAS contributed to the food for the Refugee Week Celebrations, the Christmas meal for asylum seekers and refugees, the fruit project and towards the cost of interpreters for the Family Reunion project.

Probation Service

SAS has provided funds for bus fares and lunch for asylum seekers out on licence to complete their community work projects, while out on licence.

By Neil Cunningham

CTMR Safeguarding

CTMR also continues to bring together representatives from the various denominations for safeguarding purposes.

Liverpool Seafarers Centre

celebrates landmark 10th anniversary. It is a proud moment for the ecumenical charity which is driven by one central mission - to deliver 'world-class care' to the 'silent army' of seafarers imports and exports. There will



be a specific call on Sea Sunday for more volunteers to help at the port in Liverpool. **Sea Sunday 2019** will fall on 14 July. The Liverpool Seafarers Centre will be working with parishes across the North West to raise awareness of seafarers tireless work. To find out

more about Liverpool Seafarers Centre please visit their website:

www.liverpoolseafarerscentre.org

BBC Radio Merseyside



‘News from the Pews’ is broadcast around 7:30am every Sunday morning. It is the ‘what’s on’ feature for the Daybreak programme on BBC Radio Merseyside. Get in touch with presenter Helen Jones to publicise your ecumenical events giving plenty of notice. By email: helen.jones@bbc.co.uk or by post - Helen Jones, Daybreak, BBC Radio Merseyside, P.O. Box 95.8, Liverpool, L69 1ZJ.

Other Events & Services



Festive



Festive are ministry partners of Scripture Union and Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF) and are currently the only Christian organisation working specifically to support students and chaplaincy in Sixth Form and Further Education.

They wish to inspire students in those institutions to live for Jesus and to equip them as they share their faith through their words and actions. Why not explore their work at <https://www.festive.org.uk/about-us>

Want to know when Christian films come to Liverpool?

If you would like to know if a Christian film is coming to Liverpool,

Debt Advice

Wirral Debt Advice has been set up and run by Wirral churches since May 2018. WDA is a response by local Wirral churches to

highlight needs at the height of the crisis with payday loan companies charging exorbitant rates. WDA is part of the Diocese of Chester and is working in partnership with Wirral Foodbank; advisors are present at the Foodbank sessions at Christ Church Moreton Friday afternoon and St Chads Leasowe Tuesday morning with two debt advisors working alongside the foodbank volunteers. WDA are looking to train more volunteers so please get in touch with them if any of your church members would be interested in volunteering. Also WDA are encouraging other churches (or groups of churches) to set up a third WDA centre on the Wirral which they and CMA will support. You can contact Steve Burrows to discuss this further at WirralDebtAdvice@gmail.com



Saltmine Theatre

Saltmine theatre and the story of AMAZING GRACE. This celebration of the transformative power of Grace makes an ideal creative outreach event to which non-Christian friends can be invited. Might churches work together to book and promote this as an outreach performance? Please contact Joanna Bell on **01384 454807** or on creative@saltmine.org to book your date (touring May and June 2019).



Micha Lecture 2019

Populism and the Politics of Jesus

In this year's Micah Lecture Rev Canon Dr Angus Richie, Director of the Ecumenical Centre for Theology and Community in East London will speak about populism and the politics of Jesus.

[Book your place now for 10th June, 7 pm at Liverpool Cathedral.](#)

Liverpool Hope University events

What are the challenges for students at Bethlehem University?

8th June 2019

The Friends of Bethlehem University are hosting an awareness raising talk about this Christian institution at Liverpool Hope University, Senate Room, Hope Park, Taggart Avenue, Liverpool L16 9JD, 8th June 2019 at 2.15pm. The Vice Chancellor, Br Peter Bray, will give a presentation about Bethlehem University in the Palestine/Israel context.

The purpose of the talk is to raise awareness of the University and of some of the challenges it faces educating young people in Palestine. Br Peter shares the stories of some of the students and the challenges they face on a day to day basis. He is only giving 3 talks in the UK this summer, in London, Glasgow and Liverpool. Please contact FOBU GB for further information. Email: fobu2018@gmail.com



Theological Conference

8—11th July 2019

The British and Irish Association for Practical Theology will hold their annual conference at Liverpool Hope University this July (8th -11th). BIAPT is an association for all those who want to think theologically about what they do in practice. They are an ecumenical organisation and include delegates from many different backgrounds, including various ministry and denominational roles, theological colleges and centres, and those based in university theology departments. This year is their 25th anniversary conference, so it is something of a celebration of practical theology in Britain and Ireland. People can come as day delegates for one or more days, or stay as residential delegates. Online details are at <https://www.biapt.org/events/conference-2019/>



The Great Get Together

21st – 23rd June 2019



In June 2017 and June 2018 communities up and down the country came together on the anniversary of Jo Cox's murder to celebrate everything we have in common, by holding street parties and other community events. There was an overwhelming desire to get together again. So the next Great Get Together will take

place from 21st – 23rd June 2019.

Get together with neighbours, friends or community to have fun, share food and celebrate all that we have in common. It could be a street party or a shared barbecue, a picnic or a bake off. What matters is that we have fun and bring our communities closer together.

For more information please visit: <https://www.greatgettogether.org/how-to/>

Action for Children

Wednesday 5 June 2019

11:30 am—2:00pm

Croxteth Hall, Liverpool

Action for Children is a Body in Association of Churches Together in England and they invite member Churches to a celebration event on 5 June at Croxteth Hall in Liverpool.

Action for Children was founded by Methodist minister Revd Thomas Bowman Stephenson as The Children's Home in 1869. 150 years later, Action for Children is still tackling problems that affect children across the UK – modern day problems that are more complex and varied ranging from family breakdown, disability to youth unemployment. At this event, they hope to share what they as an organisation are doing to ensure that children have a safe and stable home, the best start in life and have a chance to thrive. Register for the event online at actionforchildren.org.uk/CelebrationDay



Counselling Service in St Helens

An inter-denominational team of Christian counsellors who have undertaken recognised training to Diploma level offers professional counselling.



They offer counselling and counsellor training to the local community.

For further information please visit: www.philippitrust.com

The Crossing Point



An inter- denominational service in Liverpool for those who suffer domestic abuse.

The Crossing Point is a free confidential Domestic Abuse Service, for women, men and young people who are or who have suffered from domestic abuse.

They offer :

- crisis intervention by identifying and assessing your risks
- help with safety planning and looking at any issues you are facing
- 1-1 emotional support, face to face or telephone, also home visits / outreach to safe homes or venues by arrangement.

They also run our own 12 week Crossover recovery programme which brings a greater understanding and recognition of abuse which will help equip you for the future. For more information please contact:

T: 0151 378 9517 ; W: <http://thecrossingpoint.co.uk/>

Christians against Poverty



Christians against poverty offer debt help.

For further information.

E: wesnorris@capcapuk.org

W: <https://capuk.org/> T: 01274 760 580

The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM)

WCCM introduces, supports and nurtures people in the simple, peaceful practice of Christian Meditation and the community that it creates, not only by the regular Christian Meditation group meeting, but also by presenting “Quiet Days” and events.

To communicate and nurture meditation practices as passed on through the teaching of John mainly in the Christian tradition, by equipping community players, namely clergy and lay Christian leaders, for contemplative ministry.



Where: at Nazareth House, Ashton Rd, Lancaster LA1 5AQ

Dates: June 6, July 4, Aug 1st (10.30am-3pm). Please bring a packed lunch - hot drinks provided.

Free parking available. For WCCM events in Lancashire please visit the website: christianmeditationlancashire.co.uk.

‘Pentecostals and Charismatics in Britain’

Book Launch on Wednesday 26 June 2019, 7pm

CTE are delighted to offer publicity material from the Student Christian Movement (SCM) Press of the anthology *‘Pentecostals and Charismatics in Britain’*. It is [available to purchase](#) now. Two out of three very successful launches have been held in Birmingham and London. The third launch is to take place in Manchester on Wednesday 26 June from 7pm at [Luther King House](#), Chapel Suite, Brighton Grove, Manchester M14 5JP with representatives from the publishers, CTE and authors expected to be present. The book launch is free to attend but you must secure your place by registering at www.cte.org.uk/BOOK_LAUNCH_pcb

CTMR Website www.ctmr.org.uk

Please notify us of any events open to all denominations in Merseyside planned by two or more Churches. There are many ecumenical initiatives /actions supported by different Churches all over Merseyside: services, food banks, walks of witness, passion plays, lectures, cantatas, fraternals. We would love to hear how Churches are working together in this region.

Unsubscribe

Please let us know if you wish to unsubscribe. You can send us a note by post or an email at the address below with the subject title ‘unsubscribe’.

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