



DIOCESE OF TRURO
DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM
GROWING THE CHURCH

OUR NEWS

JULY 2015



GOOD PROGRESS ON MMF

There has been a great start in terms of the Mission and Ministry Fund (MMF) and thanks must go to you all for the hard work that is clearly being undertaken.

**BISHOP TIM
MIKE TODD, ACTING CHAIR, TDBF**

The MMF shows our discipleship is bearing fruit. We can see a very real uplift in the amount of money coming in and I am confident we will continue to do all we can to ensure we meet the target we set ourselves.

Our giving is a response to the generosity which is overflowing that we receive from God. My very grateful thanks go to every parish and individual who has contributed so generously so far, and by doing so helped us on our way to discover God's kingdom and grow the church.

Out of 223 parishes, seven have already paid their 2015 contribution in full. A further 44 PCCs that pay by direct debit are also on target to give the full amount for this year, including the 28% increase.

We know from previous years that many parishes do not give at a uniform rate. The amount given fluctuates from one month to the next so it is difficult to predict with a great deal of accuracy how the

year will end but we are most definitely heading in the right direction, although the momentum appears to have slowed a little during June. It is so important that we stay on top of this if we are to finish the year where we had hoped to be.

So far the MMF contributions for the year are nearly 20% up on the amount collected for the same period last year.

So, thank you again to everybody who has contributed in this way and by doing so helped to secure the future of our church.

For PCCs that would like some support and help in increasing its MMF giving ability, the diocese has appointed Julian Briscoe as its Head of Church Growth Development*. This was a cost-neutral change of role for Julian, designed to facilitate and encourage parishes to develop an outward-looking and optimistic mission.

Julian can be contacted on 01872 360035 or email julian.briscoe@truro.anglican.org

* See Church House Changes

CHURCH HOUSE CHANGES

You may be aware we have made some significant changes at Church House during the last year to ensure the Parish Support team's structure reflects the needs of the diocese.

There has not only been technological advances which have changed the ways we all do our jobs, but there has also been a change in terms of focusing our efforts on our core activities to allow us to continue to respond to the ever-changing needs out in the wider diocese.

More information:

<http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/2015/07/church-house-changes-to-better-support-diocese/>

GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS

Would you consider standing in the forthcoming election for the General Synod? The Diocese of Truro is entitled to three lay members and three clergy.

Elections take place every five years. Anybody who is on their church (or cathedral) electoral roll and aged 18 or above is eligible to stand for the House of Laity – candidates do not have to be on Deanery or Diocesan Synods.

More information:

www.trurodiocese.org.uk/about-us/about-the-diocese/2015-general-synod-elections/

ARCHDEACON'S LETTER

“Up, up and awaaay” went the Nimble advert – promoting bread that apparently wouldn't put any weight on you. Do you remember it?



AUDREY ELKINGTON
ARCHDEACON

In 2015 across the diocese we are thinking about 'UP' in a different way – in terms of our journey up with God. Through prayer and worship and sacrificial giving, we celebrate and deepen our relationship of love with God.

Over 60 people attended a Waymark event at St Petroc's Church in Bodmin last month aimed at helping participants on their journey to a peaceful way of life (photo on right).

The event, which was organised by the diocese, was entitled Unfurling: Shaping a peaceful way of life and was led by creative and challenging author, poet, photographer, artist, speaker and Anglican priest, Ian Adams.

Together we were encouraged to think about using our bodies and our minds, outdoors and indoors, in poetry and in prayer, in stillness and in silence, as we seek to journey further with God.

The poetry lan performed enhanced and highlighted what was being discussed and for some it was particularly moving. As was the experience of 'Terra Divina', a spiritual practice that encourages people to consider that the natural world comes full of gift, offering wisdom and insight.

I highly recommend any of Ian's books. The 'Simple Guides' to prayer, worship and giving have been well-used around the diocese. Copies for your church can be collected from Church House or at the autumn roadshows.

I write this as General Synod is taking place in York. It is the last session of this Synod, and new representatives will be elected this autumn.

Would you stand for election?

"Your Voice Counts" <https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/structure/general-synod/synod-elections-2015.aspx>



SAVE THE DATE

The diocese's autumn roadshows will take place throughout September and October at venues around the county. This year the theme is Walking the Walk and it will be a chance to hear how the diocese vision is unfolding, talks by parish representatives and much more. So come and Walk the Walk with us at your nearest roadshow which take place in Launceston, Falmouth, Penzance, Liskeard, Bodmin and Trispen. The roadshows will start with refreshments from 6.30pm.

More information: Page 4 Events Diary

COPYRIGHT IN CHURCH

If you make your own song sheets, service sheets or project words using an overhead projector or computer projection system, then by law you MUST have direct permission from the owner, or the cover of a licence. If your congregation only uses hymnbooks during worship, then the fee for copyright permission was included in the purchase price of each book. However, this doesn't include the right to reproduce or photocopy from it.

More Information: churches.ccli.co.uk/ccli

AMD: FINAL COLLEGE

The second group of priests to embark on Accompanied Ministry Development have met for their final Clergy College in St Ives. Now the focus shifts more fully onto the parishes from whence they come, as together they seek God's vision for their churches and communities.

Margot Davies, Menheniot Cluster of Churches: "This has been an unexpectedly good experience for me. We have already seen signs that God's Spirit is moving in our community; people are being drawn into the church family and bringing the gifts and talents we need to develop our work and witness. I am really excited about the possibilities!"

John Hereward, Wadebridge Churches: "I have found AMD a valuable experience; especially meeting my colleagues from across the diocese and sharing ideas."

MISSION CASE STUDY

LITTLE CHANGES CAN MAKE BIG DIFFERENCES



With financial matters looming large, one man has tackled the issue head on and in just 18 months has turned around the fortunes of his parish.

Alistair McLeod took over as treasurer on Crowan Parochial Church Council just over a year and a half ago and in that time has managed to take a church that was £42,000 in debt and get it on track to be debt free by the end of 2015.

"When I took over the finances it was in a bit of a state. There was this great despondency but with common sense approach, some help from the diocese and fundraising, we've paid our MMF, got our debts down and its revitalised people who can now see there is a light at the end of the tunnel."

Alistair says you don't have to be a brilliant accountant to do what he did. "I'm not an accountant but what I found surprising is that you don't have to be a super-efficient accountant to do this. Really it is about looking at the finances of the church as if they were your own personal finances. When I came in, I just sat down and looked at it with a common sense approach.

"I looked at the electric bill. I didn't pay that much at home so why was the church? We got involved in Parish Buying and got the bill reduced. Then I looked at our insurance policies. We were paying

thousands a year to insure an unused hall which turned out to be worth four times less than we'd insured it for so we were able to get the insurance premiums greatly reduced. I then discovered that Gift Aid had not been applied for correctly so we addressed that problem as well."

Alistair says he questions the expenditure on everything and while it has led some in the church to joke that they'll need helmet lights soon, his actions have made everyone more conscious of costs. "I think you do have to be straight with people. You don't need every light on in the church an hour before the service starts. Why put the under seat heating for every pew on when you know no one ever sits in the first four rows? Yes, things will always need mending or replacing and if you use your reserve funds, you have to replace them somehow. It is not a bottomless pit and while fundraising events are a good thing, they must be financially viable."

To help get the money flowing in, Alistair set about getting the congregation to start giving differently. "I managed to get almost everyone to start giving electronically. I simply explained that it was easier for them and me and now we even have people who don't come to church making a contribution."

Alistair's advice is simple. "You don't have to be a qualified accountant to do it. You just have to keep on top of your expenses and educate others, try and generate as much income as you can and claim back whatever is owed to you. Focus on small things and achievable things. We started from what I felt was a hopeless situation but we have turned it around. Not by big miracles but by looking at the little things. What we must all remember is that while income is in the hands of God, expenditure is in our own hands."

LEGACIES WORKSHOP

Anglican parishes receive legacies worth £49 million each year. Encouraging Legacy Giving In Your Parish Workshop, to be held in Truro, is open to all and led by Eleanor Gill who heads up the national legacy initiative. Taking place on Tuesday, September 15, from 9.45am – 1pm it will include refreshments and a pasty lunch.

To book: <https://v1.bookwhen.com/8a7eg/201509150945/2t7>

E: rose.sanders@transformation-cornwall.org.uk T. 01872 274351.

More information:

<http://www.parishresources.org.uk/legacies/>
<http://www.churchlegacy.org.uk/>

SCHOOL GOVERNOR TRAINING

What is more valuable than Ofsted? Richer than SATs? If you are school governor then this is your question. On Wednesday, September 9 a governor training day based on Values in Schools will take place at the Pavilions, Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge. The Right Revd Chris Goldsmith, Bishop of St Germans will be the main speaker accompanied by diocese Director of Education Simon Cade and Irene Pooley, Church School Development Co-ordinator. Starting at 9am until 4pm, teas and coffees will be provided but please bring your own packed lunch. Tickets cost £60.

To book:

irene.pooley@truro.anglican.org

CTC CONFERENCE

Churches Together groups are welcome to attend their local area conferences which take place on Saturday, September 19 in Shire Hall, Bodmin and Thursday, September 24 in Truro Methodist Church. Both days start at 10am. A pasty lunch will be provided. The conferences aim to bring together representatives from all the CT groups in Cornwall, to support their work, build their capacity in terms of governance and support their social action and outreach.

To book:

lois.wild@transformation-cornwall.org.uk

FROM THE CANON THEOLOGIAN

The agonised postcard on the massacre beach in Tunisia screamed, 'Why?' The same question was asked that day about the mass murders in the Kuwait mosque and the beheaded factory manager in France.

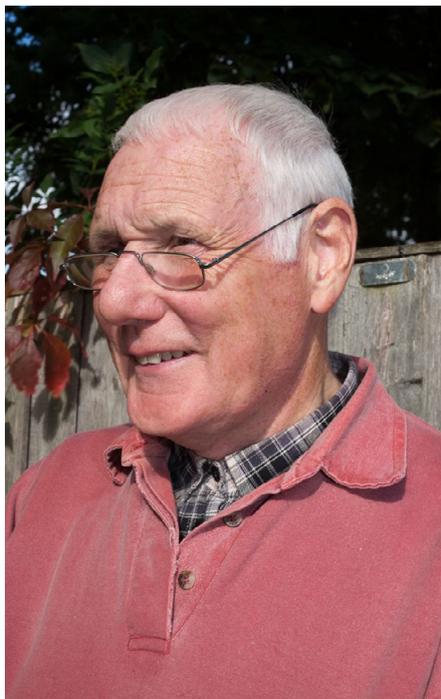
STEPHEN DAWES CANON THEOLOGIAN

The simple answer is that this is what happens when fanatics pursue evil visions. Always has been. These are extreme examples but the fact is that human beings are free to dream their dreams and try to make them happen. It's also the freedom to help or hurt, to improve or spoil, to choose good or evil. And when people make bad choices, others often suffer. When that happens, God weeps.

Religions are part of all this. They give us hopes, dreams and visions. They encourage peace, compassion and community. They promote integrity, commitment, self-sacrifice and love. But because human beings are involved, they can go wrong. They can be hi-jacked, perverted and abused. When that happens, God weeps.

But the questions go deeper. Why doesn't God do something about it? Why did God create it like this? Is this freedom really worth the price when we foul things up?

A few theologians think that everything that happens is planned by God and he is in total control. Most do not believe in that sort of divine micro-managing. Most, but not all, do accept that God is ultimately responsible for a universe in which these



awful things can happen. Some think that God can, and sometimes does, intervene. Others, like me, think he can't and doesn't. There are no agreed answers to these huge questions.

I believe that God feels our pain and weeps when we weep; that in Jesus God calls us to the way of love and peace, and that when 'stuff happens', as it does, his eternal kindness does not let us go.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST

1/2 Ladock Church Flower Festival

10am - 5pm (1st), 12-5.30pm (2nd)

2 Summertime Brickmaking Tea Party

Dor Kemmyn Field, Penmount, 2pm

2 Concert, Ladock Church, 7.30pm, £5

5/6 Master class: Painting Icons on glass

To book 01209 217499

To August 7 St Endellion Summer Festival

St Endellion www.endellionfestivals.org.uk

10 Taize services

St Endellion at 6pm;

15 Music for a Summer's Day

King Charles Church, Falmouth, 12pm

17 Falmouth Filling Station

7:30pm, Penmorvah Manor Hotel, Budock Water

29-31 Liskeard Flower & Music Festival

St Martin's Church, Liskeard, 10.30 - 4.30, £3

29 Concert

St Martin's Church, Liskeard, 7pm, donations

30 Choir/ Classic Concert

St Martin's Church Liskeard, 7pm, £8

SEPTEMBER

23 Diocesan Roadshow Launceston Town Hall

26 Diocesan Synod

29 Diocesan Roadshow Falmouth School

OCTOBER

6 Diocesan Roadshow Penwith College, Penzance

8 Diocesan Roadshow Liskeard Public Hall

12 Diocesan Roadshow Bodmin Town Council

13 Diocesan Roadshow St Erme Community Centre

GET IN TOUCH

If you have a news story or a diary date to share, please get in touch: 01872 360037 comms@truro.anglican.org before the 17th of each month.

OTHER LINKS

Dor Kemmyn Newsletter

<http://dorkemmyn.org.uk/newsletters>

DotCandy newsletter

<http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/dotcandy-July-2015.pdf>

EcoChurch SouthWest

<http://ecochurchsouthwest.org.uk>

Ecclesiastical Insurance Made Simple

Guides www.ecclesiastical.com/churchmatters/churchinsurance/church-insurance-made-simple/index.aspx

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