

CTC Review

11 Winter
2022

GOOD NEWS FROM CORNISH CHURCHES

#JoinOurTeam #CornwallLightsUpOrange #ThankYouForTheRain
#ModernSlavery #LoveChristmas #NativityTrail #ChurchOnTheMove
#WorkingInUnityInTruro #TwinLambsBornDuringService
#ArchbishopVisitsCornwall #WPCU22 #CreationCareNetwork
#SocialPrescribing&MentalHealth #RacialJustice
#FirstCoastguardChaplain #Re-imaginingChurchesTogether



**CHURCHES
TOGETHER
CORNWALL**

inspiring unity

sharing our gifts

Cornubia : Land of the Saints
Used with kind permission from the Estate of John Miller

Join our Team

Over the past three years, Churches Together in Cornwall has been moving towards a team management structure, developing a new Steering Group and associated but independent Liaison Groups to strengthen our ability to support the growing number of faith-based initiatives around our county, documented in our infoHub and Social Action Mapping projects.

Roger Mills completes his three-year term of office in the role of CTC Missioner at the CTC AGM on 4 May 22. From that date the role will change to the new position of Team Coordinator, working alongside the Steering Group to share the load and ensure sustainability as we develop our vision of inspiring unity and sharing our gifts.

The role of Team Coordinator is now open for applications - see the advertisement below. Alongside this, we are looking for a team of 'content editors' to develop our infoHub and ensure more comprehensive coverage of news and events around our county. Please email ctcmisioner@gmail.com if you'd like to help!



**CHURCHES
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*inspiring unity
sharing our gifts*

An exciting opportunity for a **Team Coordinator** as we pioneer new ways of pursuing our mission on a team basis.

This voluntary position (with expenses) is available to anyone, lay or ordained, with a passion for Christian unity.

Visit ctcinfohub.org/coordinator for details. Closing date: Fri 18 March 2022

Bereavement

Cornwall lights up orange

St Petroc's Church in Bodmin, Heartlands in Redruth, and Kimberley Park in Falmouth, were all floodlit in orange in memoriam to those who have been affected by bereavement this year, as part of National Grief Awareness Week from 2-8 December 2021.

The week closed with a special event at Heartlands Good Grief Café on 8th December including a minute's silence at 6pm.



The event was hosted by The Good Grief Trust and supported by many other bereavement organisations across Cornwall, including Cornwall Bereavement Network, Widowed and Young, and Penhaligon's Friends.

Charmaine George, Cornwall's representative for The Good Grief Trust says; "We offer help and hope to those grieving and reconnect communities who may feel isolated and alone in their grief. 2021 has seen far too many families affected by grief across the county and this event aims to unite people in their grief and signpost them to organisations that may be able to offer bereavement support."



More information on bereavement services in your area can be found via www.cornwallbereavementnetwork.org or www.thegoodgrieftrust.org

Good Grief Pop Up Cafés run monthly. Contact charmaine@thegoodgrieftrust.org for more information.

read more at <https://bit.ly/review-orange>

Thank You for the Rain

From Nov 21-Jan 22, Christian Aid South West arranged screenings and discussion across Cornwall of the film *Thank You for the Rain*, a powerful documentary featuring the story of Kisilu Musya, a smallholder farmer in Kenya who has used his camera to capture the life of his family, and the human costs of climate change.

The film is a call to action to all who care about God's creation and justice for all people. Film screenings are a great way for us to build power in our church and community. They bring people together for a shared experience, which can catalyse collective commitment to act. They are also a great way to connect with people who aren't yet engaged or active on the climate crisis.

Bishop Hugh Nelson attended the screening in Falmouth and said: "It is really good - powerful, challenging and inspiring. I encourage you to consider running a watch party in your church or group."

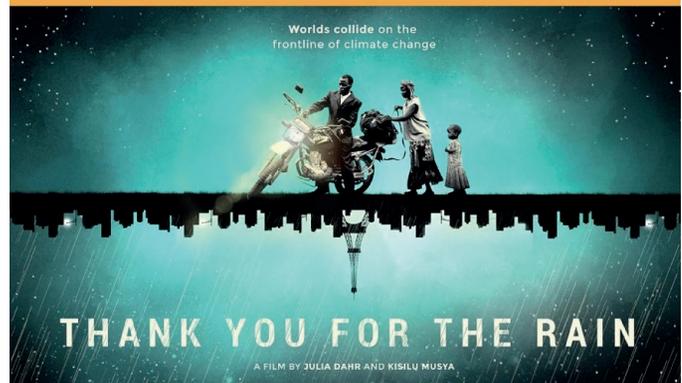
Film screening

Followed by open discussion

Thursday 20 January // 7pm

Moresk Centre // Kemp Cl. // Truro // TR1 1EF

Thank You for the Rain tells the story of Kisilu, a smallholder farmer in Kenya who has used his camera to capture the life of his family, and the human costs of climate change.



Email for more info

kmusgrave@christian-aid.org

MODERN SLAVERY IN CORNWALL

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

More than 200 years after the abolition of slavery there are still an estimated 40.3 million men, women and children trapped in modern slavery, with 136,000 victims in the UK alone.

Modern Slavery: contact cards

with numbers to call if you suspect

something's not right. Available

free from

[ctcmisioner@](mailto:ctcmisioner@gmail.com)

[gmail.com](mailto:ctcmisioner@gmail.com)

If you suspect someone is a victim of modern slavery in Cornwall, please call one of the following numbers:

Gangmasters Labour Abuse Authority
0800 4320 804

Salvation Army confidential referral helpline
0800 808 3733

Modern Slavery Helpline
08000 121 700

Crimestoppers (anonymous)
0800 555 111

Local police 101

Emergency 999

Or visit crimestoppers-uk.org

REPORT IT! IF NOT YOU, WHO? IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

Serving Love Christmas

Winter can put the pressure on families financially and many of us find it tricky to cover the rising costs that the Christmas season brings.

So the team at Love Falmouth got together with New Street Church to host the 2021 Winter Coat Pop-up shop in the Huddle cafe in Falmouth.

Via local schools and Family Workers, families were invited to visit the shop (where everything was free) between Monday-Saturday, stocking up on coats, hats, gloves, scarves and hoodies. We had a great selection from baby through to adult sizes. All were

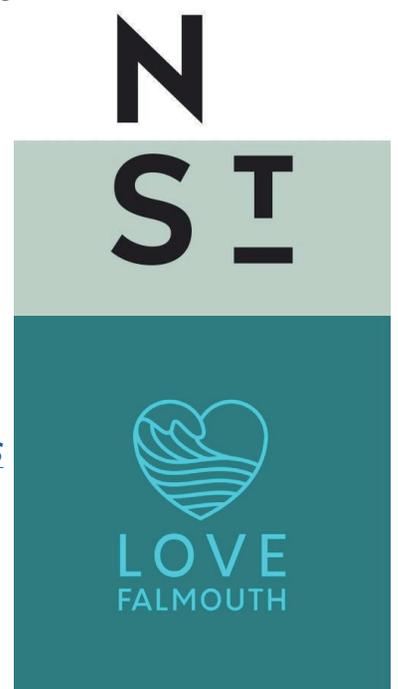
beautifully wrapped in gold tissue paper and accompanied by #bagsofkindness containing Christmas holiday activities and brand new books and gifts. And of course there were complimentary drinks and cakes.

Huge thanks to everyone who donated coats, cakes, and other items to the pop-up and to those that gave financially to make it all happen.

Also, a massive shout out to the amazing volunteers from New Street and Falmouth Light & Life Church who gave their time to help host the space. And to the lovely families who came in and made it such a busy and enjoyable week - we look forward to doing it all again next year!



read more at
<https://bit.ly/review-coats>



On the Trail of the Nativity

Falmouth Christmas Trail

There are 9 posters featuring a different part of the story of Christmas in windows in our town from Dec 4th until Christmas, can you find them all?



(A map showing each location can be found on our website and face book page)

Falmouth + Penryn Churches Together
working together to share the love of God

As Covid restrictions once again prevented the traditional Falmouth Live Nativity from taking place, local businesses stepped up for a second time to allow the display of posters depicting scenes from the Nativity story in their windows, thus offering a 'treasure trail' for children to follow round the town - a nice variation on an Advent calendar!

There were 9 pictures in the windows of local shops, restaurants and churches. Each picture told part of the Christmas story plus something to think about or do in response.

This year a map was also available, following complaints that the pictures were too hard to find last time!

read more at <https://bit.ly/review-nativity>

Throughout the lock-downs the FPCT Care Home Ministry Team have produced a monthly video, which is sent to the 10 care homes in the area. No. 23, the Christmas video has just been released and can be viewed on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/9eUammMHyfM>. Activity organisers in the homes have commented how much they have been appreciated by residents. A monthly short written sheet of Christian news, "the Link" has also been distributed. The Care Home team of 25 people from 11 different churches has continued to meet monthly to pray for Care Homes staff and residents.

read more at <https://bit.ly/review-care>



Unity

From Church on The Moor to Church on the Move!

Faced with a bill of £1.5million to weatherproof and refurbish their iconic building on Falmouth Moor, Falmouth Methodist Church last year took the heart-rending decision to sell up and seek an alternative property.

The final services were held on Sunday 16th January, concluding at 4.00pm with a service for all from the Circuit and the community to



celebrate the part that this building, and its predecessors on the site, have played in the life of the town, and to thank God for all the goodness that has been received over more

than 228 years.

view the final service on YouTube <https://bit.ly/review-FMCfinal>



By kind invitation of the Parish Church of King Charles the Martyr, from Sunday 23rd January the Methodist congregation is worshipping in New Street Hall, in New Street, behind the Parish Church, while new premises are sought. The two churches both hold their main Sunday services at 10.30am, and then share refreshments afterwards - already proving very popular as new friendships are made and old ones deepened. A new midweek communion service is alternating between the Anglican and Methodist traditions and sharing ministers - a great practical example of ecumenism in action!

read more at <https://bit.ly/review-FMCclosure>

Working in unity in Truro

For many years leaders of churches in Truro have been talking about coming together in unity to serve and bless the city. On Thursday, November 18, 2021 in Truro Cathedral at 7:30pm that journey finally began for the Church of England churches in Truro as the Bishop of Truro introduced and launched his Mission Order for the city. The Mission Order is the Bishop's encouragement and blessing of this act of unity.



BISHOP'S MISSION ORDER

Launch Service
Thursday 18th November
7:30-8:30pm
Truro Cathedral

Join us as we launch a new future
for the Church of England churches in Truro.

The road ahead will include a more intentional sharing of resources across the churches. It will enable the churches to more effectively pray for and support one another. It will help them work

creatively to renew and refresh the life of the Church of England churches. It will help them find new way to pioneer new ministries together. It will help them act together to be a blessing to the city.

Bishop Philip said: “I’m so delighted that the Anglican churches of Truro are coming together in this way so they can be more effective in serving the people and communities of a ‘our great little city’ and I’m looking forward very much to praying God’s blessing on them all in our cathedral service.”

Archdeacon Paul Bryer added: “What an opportunity! A new chapter beckons for the cathedral and the churches in and around our city of Truro as Bishop Philip’s ‘Mission Order’ is launched. The ‘Bishop’s Mission Order’ – BMO – is a renewed call to come together in Mission and Ministry; an invitation to share vision and resources; and a commission to be good news to Truro.”

read more at <https://bit.ly/review-BMO>

Twin lambs born during lambing service

A service of thanksgiving for the birth of new lambs in Trelawny Benefice proved more eventful than expected on Sunday when twin lambs were born during the actual service.

Over 40 children and 80 adults gathered at Frogmore Farm near Polruan to take part in the service led by Revd Richard Allen and have the chance to meet the animals.

It was the first time Revd Richard and the benefice had attempted such a service and it proved a huge success.

Revd Richard said: “We had a crowd gathered in the lambing shed to give thanks for the birth of new lambs and to celebrate all that is good about Cornish farming. During the service we had the privilege of actually watching the birth of twin lambs! It was fascinating for the congregation and we got to meet other new born lambs and their mums as well as the opportunity to visit the ‘hospital’ where those who need a helping hand stay including the mum of triplets!”

read more at <https://bit.ly/review-lambing>

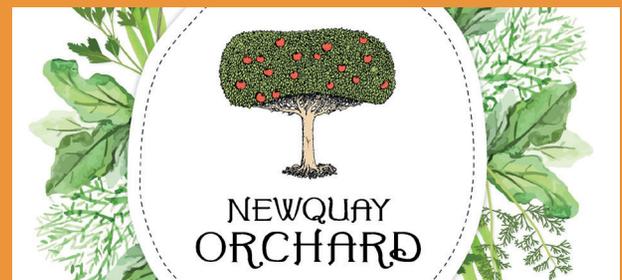


photo: Truro Diocese

Archbishop visits Cornwall

Archbishop Justin Welby visited Cornwall on 27 January, hosted by the Bishop of Truro. The day started with a visit by the Welbys and Mounstephens to the Duchy of Cornwall development at Nansledan to hear more about the sustainable community being developed there and its commitment to be Netzero by 2030, a pledge the Church of England has also made.

This was followed by a stop at



Newquay Orchard, a seven-acre community space in the centre of the town created to provide environmental education, mental health services, community events and employability services and training. Following a lunch at Trewollack Farmhouse at Nansledan and a tour of Pras Trewolek, farmland now managed for biodiversity and public amenity, the visit continued at The Bishops’ Learning Academy in Newquay.

read more at

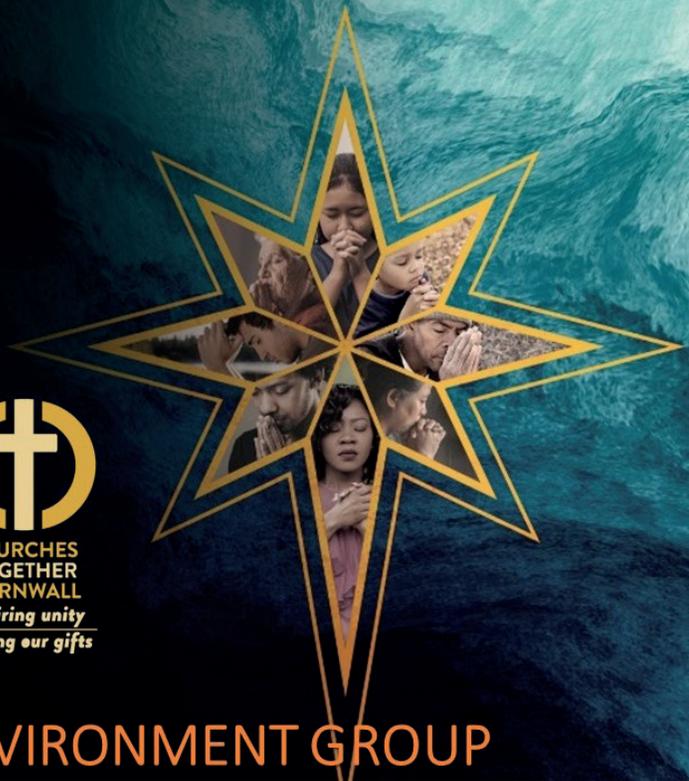
<https://bit.ly/review-Archbishop>

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022

ONE WORLD ONE CHURCH

*Praying together for
the environment
during the*

*Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity 2022*



CORNWALL CHURCHES ENVIRONMENT GROUP

The Cornwall Churches Environment Group compiled a special online service of prayer for the environment on the theme 'One World, One Church' for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The service can be viewed on YouTube at <https://bit.ly/review-CCEG>.

Daily services of prayer and reflection at Noon on Zoom with leaders from different denominations across Cornwall attracted over 500 views on Facebook and YouTube. All are still available at <https://www.ctcinfohub.org/WPCU22>

*We Saw His Star
in the East...*

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022



DAILY SERVICES AT NOON ON ZOOM

18-25 JANUARY 2022

All welcome to join us for a half-hour of prayer and reflection on Zoom or Facebook Live – or catch up later on Facebook or YouTube

All links on www.ctcinfohub.org/WPCU22

ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer

Environment

Creation Care Network



A new monthly Creation Care Network live ZOOM gathering is taking place on the 1st Thursday of the month between 10.00 – 12.00, from February 2022.

There will be a mix of introductions, training, news, updates, and time to share our own experiences of Creation Care, as well as practical support with Kernow Green Church Award and Eco Church.

We hope to invite guest speakers and Creation Care specialists to equip and encourage us in our essential mission to Cherish Creation, Cut Carbon, Speak Up. We will keep these mornings engaging, informal and fun, with a tea break / leg stretch at around 10.45 /11.00.

In the week after these Zoom gatherings, we will circulate an email update with links to relevant events and resources to equip each of us in our local context. To enable as much access and engagement as possible in the Creation Care Network, we will look to offer some evening versions of this event and a regular video update.

We hope and pray that in time we will be able to arrange some in person gatherings / social events to help this new network flourish. Thank you for your commitment to Cherish Creation, Cut Carbon and Speak Up.

Revd Ben Lillie – Diocesan Environment Officer

read more at <https://bit.ly/review-creation>

Social Prescribing & Mental Health

The January 22 meeting of the Faith & Mental Health Network focussed on ‘Social Prescribing & Mental Health’, with Linda Whittaker, Digital Co-ordinator at Age UK Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly, and Ian Penhaligon, Community Prescribing Development Lead.

Ian explained how social prescribing works and its benefits. Social prescribing involves helping patients to improve their health, well-being and social welfare by connecting them to community services which might be run by the council, local charities or churches. Age UK Cornwall and IoS currently supports 12 social prescribers based in GP surgeries around the county, who accept referrals from GPs and after an initial conversation with the patient will provide a tailored programme over 4-6 months to address the issues identified, of which mental health problems are the most common.

Linda manages Cornwall Link, the central online database of services, activities, events and volunteering opportunities in Cornwall, which helps social prescribers identify projects which can provide ongoing support. Churches Together in Cornwall’s Social Action Mapping (SAM) project information on faith-based projects for the Cornwall Link database - [read more at https://bit.ly/review-SAM](https://bit.ly/review-SAM).



FAITH & MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK

The network welcomes pastoral visitors, clergy, chaplains, mental health practitioners, community volunteers, in fact, anyone who is supporting people who are

struggling with mental health issues. The network is a mutually supportive group of people and offers a safe space to explore issues, share information, resources and best practice; relating faith to mental health and offering insights to help us help those we are standing alongside.

read more at <https://bit.ly/review-FMH>

Justice & Peace

A Prayer for Racial Justice

God of all people, you used a palette of colours to create all things.
We see you in fields of purple and skies of blue.
You made oceans, green horizons and majestic mountains of dazzling hues.

God, you created all people to be different, but we look like you.
We are red, yellow, brown, and colours of every hue.
No more is your word only seen as black or white
because it helps us walk in paths of radiant light.

The death of the innocents affirmed that black lives matter.
We wept to see life stolen by their attackers.
We are no longer doubtful as to whom we belong,
no chains or bonds can silence your liberating songs.

*P.J. Jackson, presbyter and Racial Justice Advisor, Bristol District,
from the Methodist Prayer Handbook 2021-22 pp38-39.*



The toolkit contains prayers, hymns, reflections, and sermon ideas to help Churches and faith groups in Cornwall take action in their communities. Although compiled for use on Racial Justice Sunday (13 Feb) the resources can be used at any time of the year.

Download here <https://bit.ly/review-racial>

HM Coastguard appoints first Chaplain

Revd Tom Ebbens has just been appointed as full-time chaplain to Her Majesty's Coastguard. A role so unique, Tom is the first person to take it on in its 200-year history.

Tom volunteered and then worked at an operational level for HM Coastguard since 2010, and this is a vision fulfilled. Having answered the call to ministry in 2017, Tom felt the pull of chaplaincy and set about trying to make it happen.

Tom has a unique skill-set that makes him very well suited to this new role. He's worked in the Coastguard's operations room, answered the 999 calls, spoken to ships calling in Maydays and been involved in rescues. He's also an ordained, self-supporting curate, based in Constantine. It's easier to have empathy and understanding of what someone is going through if you've also walked in their shoes. "I see my role as being a companion, on whatever road someone is travelling, wherever it takes them. People have fears and concerns, worries and challenges. Sometimes, in those dark moments, they need someone to listen, share the hurt and support them through that difficult time."

read the fully story by Jac Smith at <https://bit.ly/review-coastguard>



photo: Truro Diocese

Communities

Re-imagining Churches Together groups

Churches Together groups up and down the country face a big challenge in getting up and running again following the pandemic. In recognition of this, Churches Together in England has set up a working group to gather information about new ways of working together being tried in different areas. They have published a leaflet, downloadable from <https://bit.ly/review-local>, giving three examples of different scenarios that might be helpful as groups consider ‘where next’. Churches Together in Cornwall is keen to help any local groups that find themselves struggling - do contact ctcmisioner@gmail.com at any time and we’ll put our heads together!

Re-imagining Churches Together groups



Help! What do we do with our local Churches Together group?

The pandemic has inevitably affected every area of our lives, and we're also aware of the impact on many Churches Together groups. Whilst the fruit of our unity has been expressed in so many ways, by supporting local communities through food banks, debt relief and so forth, many of our traditional activities have been put on hold.

If “starting again” or “re-imagining” seems daunting, it also provides opportunities for our working together to be even more fruitful. And remember, you are not alone! This process is happening all over the country.

To help your local Churches Together group, we've included here three brief stories of what some local groups are doing, which we hope you will find encouraging. We've also provided some questions that you might find helpful as your group meets up again, perhaps for the first time.

We are also aware that timing is everything. In your context, now may not be the right time to introduce any changes, but we would encourage groups to begin thinking, talking, praying and preparing for the future.

Minor changes in a rural setting bring a clearer focus

A Churches Together group in a rural setting worried that the structure they had would not enable them, during Covid, to keep going with the work they had been doing. It became apparent that their activities – many of which were about combating loneliness – would have to stop during the pandemic, their traditional Churches Together events could not take place, and the committee would find it difficult to meet in person. Members of the group recognised the importance of keeping connections with people and so adapted how they did things; delivering meals and activities, reaching out for additional volunteers, phoning people and holding meetings and prayers online. There were no radical changes in their structure, but with a few tweaks and by listening to their community, the group has strengthened.

Restructuring around mission, prayer and relationships in a market town

One Churches Together group in a market town was aware that their traditional structure was no longer fit for purpose. Over the years, a base of strong relationships between the churches had been formed and united activities were happening, but the agenda-led Executive and open meetings didn't have much life in them. After much discussion, prayer and consultation, they are looking to move to three open meetings a year, plus a very short AGM. They will gather to hear short reports (less than five minutes each) about a missional activity in the host church, a local ecumenical missional project and a proposed future united activity, all interspersed with prayer. At the heart of the meetings will be a break for quality cake and puddings, with time for folk to mingle and talk. These events will be organised by a much smaller Executive, meeting three times a year with local church leaders.





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SEND US YOUR GOOD NEWS!

ctcinfohub@gmail.com

CELEBRATE GOD'S WORK IN CORNWALL

follow us on Facebook: @ChurchesTogetherinCornwall

and Twitter: @CtcMissioner

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