

# Pilgrim Post

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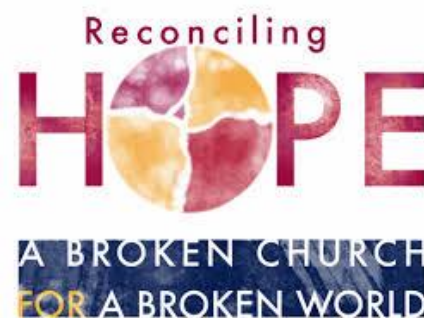
*'Reconciling Hope –  
A Broken Church  
For A Broken  
World'*

## Churches Together in England

**Pentecostal Bishop, Mike Royal**, has been called as the next General Secretary of Churches Together in England (CTE).

Bishop Mike has a wealth of ecumenical experience at local, regional and national level. He said : "I am both honoured and humbled to accept the role of General Secretary of Churches Together in England, as the church journeys together to fulfil the mandate of Jesus – 'that they all may be one, as we are one' (John 17.22).

I pray, as our country and the church navigate together through challenging and difficult issues, that we will all find a deeper commitment to God and to one another, as we travel together on this vital ecumenical journey". Read more [here](#)



**The CTE Forum 2022, 'Reconciling Hope – A Broken Church For A Broken World'**, will take place 14-16 March at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick DE55 1AU. It is the broadest Ecumenical gathering of Christians in England. It will address the theme of Reconciliation

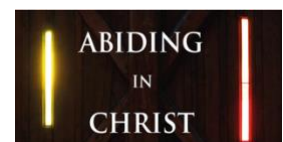
in a post-Covid world, including reconciling communities by being good news in fractured communities and society; reconciling people with God by bringing the Good News to a disbelieving world ; reconciliation with the earth by being good news to a world in climate emergency. Read more [here](#)

## Churches Together in Britain and Ireland

*'Abide in my love  
and you shall bear  
much fruit'*

Materials for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022 ( 18-25 January) have been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp, Switzerland. The theme, 'Abide in my love and you shall bear

much fruit', is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses the community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family. Resources are available to download [here](#)



*Nourishing the Roots - a Chance to Refresh Our Ecumenical Vision'*

## Churches Together in Dorset

CTD's County Ecumenical Officer, Katja Babei, was pleased to be able to attend **'Nourishing the Roots - a Chance to Refresh Our Ecumenical Vision'**, the Churches Together in England Conference for Ecumenical Officers in Swanwick, 28-30<sup>th</sup> September, along with CTD's Chair, Major Katrina

Greetham and the Methodist and URC representatives Dudley Coates and Peter Clark. It provided a space for open conversation, reflecting the diversity of tradition. The many challenges during Covid were discussed with possibilities for the future including being more distinctly outward-facing and aligned with mission and witness, nimble structures,

being attentive to and focussed on the local level and being fuelled by strong personal relationships.

A key text discussed was Pope Francis' book, *Let Us Dream - The Path To A Better Future* and its theme of synodality.

*CTD : Welcome and Thanks*

**Churches Together in Dorset** welcomes Rev Ben Lucas and Michael Webb as the incoming Baptist and Quaker representatives.

Ben is a pioneer minister and Missional Listener living in Dorset ; Michael serves as an Elder and also lives in Dorset.

Many thanks to Colin Norris and Chris Webb, our outgoing Baptist and Quaker representatives, for all they have given to CTD.

Many thanks also to Ruth Jenkins, CTD Treasurer (who is stepping down from her role) for all her hard work.

CTD is still seeking a new Treasurer. If you think you might suit this role, please do get in contact *Tel : 07789952472*  
*Email : katjactd@gmail.com*



*Christmas Across the Churches*

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## News from across the Dorset churches

Christmas was marked in a number of ways by Dorset churches. Christmas Services took place with some live-streamed ; Swanage United Reformed Church posted Advent Verses and Art on Facebook, and the Bournemouth Community Church online Lessons and Carols ; Poole and North Deanery put together a

booklet, '2021 Advent Reflections'.

Christian Aid (Wimborne Area) had to cancel their Christmas Eve lunch, but a collection for the Christmas Appeal took place on the Minster Green, its theme 'Impossible Choice' focusing on mothers on the frontline of the climate crisis.

A Nativity Trail was organised by Refresh churches and Weymouth BID, with carols in Hope Square. Sherborne churches' Christmas Day lunch was cancelled, but those who expressed an interest in the lunch were offered a delivered meal, courtesy of Sherborne Community Kitchen.

## News from across Dorset churches

On Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> January at 11am, a Celebration of the Baptism of Christ will take place at the Orthodox Church of Christ the Saviour, Winton and a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service will take place at St Francis of Assisi Church, Winton. A working group is being set up by Churches Together in Winton, Moordown and Charminster to consider how to support

families in food poverty, some ideas being practical pilot projects around the theme of cooking and healthy eating and giving items away to those in need.

Churches Together in Poole is asking local churches to contribute passages to form a Lent booklet, as in Advent. Refresh Praise, the monthly worship service, has taken place at St Aldhelm's Church, Weymouth and on Zoom. Refresh and the Lantern's

night shelter, Safe Sleep 2022, begins on 3rd January.

St Aldhelm in Purbeck has implemented an initiative to renew Hope through rural ministry and mission, helping young adults explore God's call to ordained ministry in a rural setting. ['Walking Church'](#) invites people to join an hour's walk from one of the churches in the Benefice, engaging in biblical reflection.

## Other News

Faithworks and St Michael's Church, Bournemouth teamed up to provide a **'Night to Remember'** for those loved and lost in the last year ; St John's in Broadstone also held a service reflecting on the different types of loss experienced throughout COVID.

**BCP's first Poverty Truth Commission (PTC)** is due to launch in Spring 2022,

enabling those with lived experience of poverty to have a voice in the decisions which concern them. It will bring together those who are experts through experience with local leaders. Learn more [here](#)

Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has publicised an unprecedented statement from the **Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem about the future of**

**Christians in the Holy Land.** Read it [here](#)

What are Christian groups saying about **COP26**? Find out [here](#)

The Rt Revd John Perumbalath, Bishop of Bradwell and Chair of the Churches' Refugee Network, issued a [statement](#) on the **English Channel boat crossing tragedy.**

*Responses to COP26*

## Events

**Dorset Community Action's AGM** takes place on 20th January at 2pm on Zoom. There will be a chance to listen and ask questions of the two guest speakers: Cllr Laura Miller, Cabinet Member for Customer & Community Services, Dorset Council and David Emerson, Chair for ACRE Action with Communities in Rural England. More information can be found [here](#)

**The Christian Resources Exhibition (South West)** takes place at Westpoint, Exeter on 23-24 Feb 2022. Its agenda is to look at the ways that churches can come out of the pandemic positively and grow beyond it. [Find out more](#) An introductory [video](#) to CRE SW is available.

**Stir to Action's Playground for the New Economy**

**Festival** is back for its fourth annual summer gathering, 12-14 July 2022. Read more [here](#)

**CTBI Climate Sunday Webinar**, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 7-8.30pm. Register [here](#)

**Reparations and Economics: What Do I Get? Webinar**, 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 7.30-9pm Register [here](#)

*'Europe's Leading Exhibition of Church Resources'*

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We're on the Web!  
[www.ctdorset.org.uk](http://www.ctdorset.org.uk)

## Opportunities

**Dorset Council Adult Social Care** are looking to identify local community and faith groups who would be happy to organise the preparation and delivery of a **hot meal** to someone in their local area. Contact Katie Lowe, Strategic Commissioning Lead, Dorset Council, Tel : 01305 225001 [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Share your prayers for 2022 by adding a leaf to the **Pandemic Prayer Tree** on **The Bible Society** website. Find out more [here](#)

**Linking Lives UK** works to help churches consider, set up and run projects to address social isolation and loneliness, particularly among older people. They work with churches on a local level to enable home visiting befriending schemes to be established. Training is available. Find out more [here](#)

**BCP's Poverty Truth Commission** are currently in the process of recruiting Community Commissioners - local people with lived experience of poverty - to set the process in motion of publicly launching the Commission. Local Leaders are also invited to join the commission as Civic & Business Commissioners. Find out more [here](#)

Get involved in **The Children's Society Well-being Campaign**. Find out more [here](#)

## Resources

Sign up for **CTe-news** [here](#)

A CTBI resource for Christian churches and communities to help mark **Holocaust Memorial Day** on 27th January is now available to [download](#)

From 1<sup>st</sup> January, the **Methodist Church** are posting a simple challenge everyday that resonates with what it means to live a Methodist way of life. [Read more](#)

**The Joint Public Issues Team** have issued a response to COP26. Find it [here](#)

**IBEX South Coast - Churches Working With The Economy Newsletter** Subscribe [here](#)

**Faithworks Wessex Newsletter** Subscribe [here](#)

**Skills Sunday'** A pack encouraging churches to support their congregation to find their God given skills and use them to serve - whether that be in the church, workplace or in the mission field. Download it [here](#)

The Salvation Army has a range of [prayer resources](#) available