

News from around the Diocese of Ely

WHAT'S ON

Saturday 5th November
Celebration of Healing and Wholeness 9.30.
 Ely Methodist Church

Saturday 5th November
"Is God calling you to be a volunteer workplace chaplain" (Chaplaincy to People at Work) 10am.
 St Andrew's, Histon

Tuesday 8th November
"Be an effective and satisfied parent" (Mothers' Union) 7.30pm. Venue to be confirmed in Burwell

Tuesday 15th November
Faith and Stronger Communities. Hosted by East of England Faiths Council (Board for Church in Society) from 4pm.
 Bailey Rooms, Shire Hall.

Saturday 19 November
Come and Sing! Brahms Requiem from 1.45pm.
 St Mary the Great Church, Cambridge

www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/events.html for details of all events.
 DIOCESAN & CHURCH OF ENGLAND NEWS For all news go to www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/

More Mission Action

Mission Action Planning has been at the heart of our life as a diocese for over three years now. Parishes from Terrington to Tadlow and Keyston to Kennett have been coming up with simple statements of what they believe they are called to do next and how they are going to go about it. "Simple, as the meerkat said.

When Bishop Stephen joined us he was presented with Mission Updates so that he could get on board with the Action, and add his own prayers and presence to them. Now he has launched the latest in his YouTube video series, calling on us to refresh and relaunch our Mission Action Plans. This timely call reminds us that we have committed ourselves to stay with this way of doing things, and not chop and change or sink under a tsunami of new initiatives. "Mission Action Planning never stops. "Joining in God's Mission is for the long haul, even if it is good to look for short term outcomes that we can achieve and celebrate too.

Bishop Stephen has framed our commitment to mission in the Diocese of Ely in the "Five Marks of Mission", a wonderful world-wide Anglican approach to mission in all its fullness. To make them easy to remember he has called them "The Five T's":

| The Five T's -- The Five Marks of Mission | |
|---|--|
| Tell | To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom |
| Teach | To teach, baptise and nurture new believers |
| Tend | To respond to human need by loving service |
| Transform | To seek to transform unjust structures of society |
| Treasure | To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth |

In order to strengthen us to work on these marks of mission together, a new Council for Mission is being formed, and a Director of Mission will be appointed in 2012. (This new post was agreed as part of our restructuring two years ago and is funded by savings we are making elsewhere.)

For now, though, I urge you to take Bishop Stephen's call to heart and re-engage with **your** local mission agenda. Some practical steps might be these:

- Get out your local MAP and look at it again at your PCC, if you haven't done so recently.
- Look at afresh it in the light of your present situation, of the Five T's, and what you are hearing God say to you now. "Now's the time to listen for what God is doing, so we can join in."
- Challenge yourself if necessary to pay extra attention to possible Actions in those of the Five T's that you are least engaged with. "Tell" is often the one we avoid, and there is a lot more we can do to "Teach" as well!
- Keep listening and praying during Lent in particular, when members of the Bishop's Staff will also be making it a priority come and listen and pray with you.
- Plan to present your refreshed MAP at your Annual Meeting, and then bring it to the Archdeacon's Visitation services as an offering in prayer.
- Consider how perhaps next autumn each deanery can celebrate the Mission Actions of its parishes at an event with a Senior Staff member present.

The Five T's video can be accessed from YouTube via the diocesan website, and we will shortly be making it available in DVD format too along with Bishop Stephen's other films.

+ David

In this issue

- More Mission Action
- Church Schools' 200th Anniversary Quilt
- Meaningful Christmas Decorations

Church Schools 200th Anniversary Quilt



In 1811 the National Society was founded and provided the impetus for the creation of church schools across England. This was effectively the beginning of mass education, although it took another half century before the state began to create schools to fill the gap in the Church's provision! To mark this special year the church schools of the Diocese have created a beautiful quilt which is in essence a snapshot of Ely Diocese in the year 2011. Thousands of hours have gone into its

construction, and special thanks must go to the team of six seamstresses who voluntarily put together what eventually became a quilt triptych.

After a month on show in the cathedral, the quilt will be moving to the Diocesan Office, however, it is available for loan on special occasions such as flower festivals or significant church celebrations. Contact the Diocesan Education Team if you are interested.

Meaningful Christmas Tree Decorations



Letter sent to the Bishop of Ely:

Following the success of the Real Easter Egg, we wanted to let you know about our latest product which communicates the Christmas story in an engaging way which includes an invitation to go to church in the box.

We estimate that most of the UK's 20 million Christmas trees don't have anything religious hung on them and with surveys telling us that only 12% of adults know the Christmas story in detail (just 7% amongst 18-24 year olds), we have come up with the Meaningful Chocolate Tree Decorations.

Each box of decorations contains a limited edition Christmas card, a sticker set and six hand wrapped, Fairtrade chocolate decorations.

The Christmas story, which can be found on the card, enables adults or children to read the story while placing character stickers on the decorations. Once completed, the decorations can be hung on the tree as a reminder of the real meaning of Christmas. The card also includes an invitation for people to go to church to hear the Christmas story. So, not only is it educational, it's also a piece of evangelism.

The decorations will appeal to parents, grandparents and godparents and are the UK's first ever interactive set of chocolate tree decorations, based on the characters of the Nativity story.

The Meaningful Christmas Tree Decorations cost £3.95. Orders can be made through www.MeaningfulChristmas.co.uk They will not be available in the supermarkets this year, but probably next. Orders should be made by mid November 2011 as supplies are limited.

In addition to paying the sugar and chocolate growers a Fairtrade premium for their ingredients, 15 pence from the sale of every Meaningful Chocolate Tree decoration pack will be donated to the charity, Traidcraft Exchange.

Money donated to the Traidcraft charity, from the sale of these decorations, will help small-scale farmers and producers in the developing world gain the knowledge and confidence they need to trade their way out of poverty.

Yours sincerely,
David Marshall (on behalf of the Real Easter Egg team).

David@meaningfulchocolate.co.uk

Office: 0845 122 2882

www.meaningfulchristmas.co.uk

www.realeasteregg.co.uk

www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk

COMINGS AND GOINGS

The Revd Canon Peter Baxandall will retire as Rector of March St Wendreda and Priest in Charge of March St John on 31st December. His last Sunday in the parishes will be 27th November 2011

17 new Honorary Canons of Ely Cathedral to be licensed and installed on 4th December at 4pm:

Mr John Harrison, Cathedral Administrator; Mrs Janet Perrett, Chair House of Laity; Mrs Sue Freestone, Head King's School, Ely; Mr Graham Shorter, Diocesan Secretary; Mrs Kate Aylmer, Senior Vocations Adviser; Prof David Ford, Regius Professor of Divinity; The Revd David Evans, Rector Hilgay with Ten Mile Bank and Southery; The Revd Paul Hills, Regional Minister for the Central Sector and Team Leader Baptist Church; The Revd Philipa King, Team Rector of Cambridge The Ascension; The Revd Professor Sarah Coakley, Norris-Hulse Professor of Divinity.

and on Saturday 28th January at 5.30pm:

The Revd Matt Bradbury, Vicar Wisbech St Mary, Gorefield & Southea with Murrow & Rural Dean of Wisbech Lynn Marshland; The Revd Professor David Thompson, Diocesan Ecumenical Office; The Revd Fiona Windsor, Team Rector Papworth Team; Mr Hugh Duberly, Lord Lieutenant; The Revd Nick Moir, Vicar Chesterton St Andrew & Rural Dean Cambridge North; The Revd Tim Alban Jones Vicar of Soham and Wicken & Rural Dean of Fordham and Quy; The Revd Andrew Norman, Principal Ridley Hall

For more details see
www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/media/announcements/