

NOTEPAD

August 2009

www.ctal.org.uk

The CTAL news sheet is circulated to our email contacts and by post to all Local Ecumenical Partnerships, Churches Together Groups, and other key denominational representatives.

Please pass on anything you find interesting through your local church publications etc.

The CTAL team are currently discussing the future development of Notepad, deciding what its focus will be, a new layout and the subject areas that should be included. We would really like to know what you think of Notepad and for you to tell us what information you would like to see included in future publications. We also want to hear from you about any good news stories in your area, fresh expressions or pioneering ministries established across the County or events that you organising. Simon Dean, Facilitator

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This month's Notepad....

- Editorial
- From the Presidents
- News and resources: inc Churches Together Insurance, Christian Aid and much more
- Christians Against Poverty....and interview with Simon Hoare, Lincoln CAP Centre
- Book Review – Rowan's Rule from Terry Oakley
- Mission Projects – Street Pastors
- Climate – Earth Our Home 3 and Hope for Planet Earth
- Prayer page
- Prayer Diary
- Grapevine Celebration, Rural Mission Days and 999 Conference
- Events taking place and diary

Back to Church

It is the summer holidays already and I don't know about you but this year seems to be disappearing quickly. I have been in post as Facilitator for CTAL for nearly 5 months and I don't know where the time has gone. At a recent meeting I was asked to share what I had been doing since I started my role and the answer was "lots". I have met lots of different people from across Lincolnshire and further afield involved in working ecumenically in some way. I have attended a number of meetings and seem to have spent lots of time sat on my computer producing Notepad and the new CTAL website, which is now up and running. Please take time to have a look and familiarise yourself with what CTAL is doing. It would be good to hear your comments about it.

On the 27th September many churches, not just in Lincolnshire, but across the UK will be holding "Back to Church" services. This really is a great way to do mission, and so simple, as well as taking us back to our roots. Inviting people we know to come with us to church is one of the oldest ways in which people have come to church and also seems to be one of the most logical. There seems to be a real excitement about this day and I think it provides us the opportunity to go back to basics. We need to remember how important it is to welcome people and make them feel comfortable and wanted. Jesus was very open to welcoming new and lost people to himself, and in the same way we should do the same. It's also a real opportunity to show how relevant the Church is in today's society. It would be great to hear about what you have planned for 'Back to Church' Sunday and what seeds it sows or fruit it bears later in the year.

In the Events section of this edition of Notepad, I have talked about Grapevine and the 999 Conference. The Grapevine Celebration takes place at the end of August and is an opportunity for people to be re-energised and refreshed before the start of a new academic year with great worship and teaching. I stumbled across the 999 conference purely by accident, but I'm glad I did. In September we will see the date 09.09.09 and this got me thinking of how we as the church can answer people's emergency calls. There are many people in our communities who don't know about Jesus but need help and are looking for it. I wonder if the churches in Lincolnshire can do something to answer these emergency calls for help?

I hope that you all have a good August and that it is a time of refreshment and fun (for those of you who go away). Have a good summer.

Simon

PS. Remember



BacktoChurchSunday

www.backtochurch.co.uk

From the Presidents

This section of Notepad is going to be produced by one of the Presidents of CTAL each month. They will share a bit about mission focus in their denomination, tell stories and share their views, thoughts and hopes about mission.

This month's comes from Right Rev'd Dr John Saxbee , Bishop of Lincoln.

One Voice or Forked Tongue?

To be more effective in Mission, we must do Mission ecumenically. Why? Because the commission Jesus gave us to proclaim the Gospel to all nations transcends all our denominations.

But surely we have to be clear about what we are proclaiming, and different denominations see the Gospel differently. So agreeing about our message must come before uniting to get the message across.

Yes and No!

Of course, the message matters, and it would be pointless to pretend that giving mixed messages can enable us to speak with one voice. To that extent, we must go on working away at prayerful discussion and dialogue together so that we achieve a common mind consistent with the mind of Christ.

Yet there is a sense in which effectiveness in proclaiming our message depends on the manner of our proclamation, just as much as it depends on the content of our message. A message of joy proclaimed in a joyless way will win few adherents, and a Gospel of grace will fall on deaf ears if it is characterised by judgementalism rather than generosity of spirit.

Likewise, the good news of reconciliation and mutual affection carries little weight if the Preachers are so wedded to their differences that they fail to live out that message.

When we are united in Mission we signal to a spiritually hungry and hurting world that we see our differences as less important than our prior commitment to love our neighbour and bring our neighbour to know that God loves them too.

That is why, for example, the Fresh Expressions Group across Lincolnshire is an ecumenical venture helping Churches of different traditions to find new ways of working together for the good of the Gospel. And it is also why we want to see greater co-operation between our various denominational mission planning and action groups.

Never forget the reason why Jesus prayed that we might be one. It was so that the world may believe.

+ John Lincoln

We need your help

We want to hear from you about mission projects that you are involved in and fresh expressions of church taking place across Lincolnshire.

We also want to hear 'good news' stories that are happening in the area where you are that we can share in Notepad and on the website.

Please send these to Simon Dean at the CTAL office



Through the hard work of local churches the current total for Christian Aid Week 2009 in Lincolnshire stands at **£89, 712.16** that is just a 3% decrease in what we had at this point last year and we still have more funds to come in! Given the current economic climate this is an excellent achievement. On behalf of Christian Aid I would like to say a great big **thank you** to all those who helped with Christian Aid Week this year, especially our hardworking organisers, church reps and of course the collectors. Well done! We couldn't do it without you! Your money will help transform the lives of people like Nadia in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Nadia was featured in this year's Christian Aid week resources and with the help of Christian Aid's Partner Humanite Nouvelle she has been saved from the brink of working on the street and is now on her way to start a successful tailoring business. *Ruth Beverley, Christian Aid*

Churches Together Insurance

It is important that Churches Together Groups and any other groups of churches that work together get separate Insurance from their Church Insurance. Running an ecumenical event is not covered by your Church Insurance, even if the event is taking place at a specific church. Below are details of current Churches Together Insurance available.

Methodist Insurance plc www.methodistinsurance.co.uk

For £65 per annum plus Insurance Premium Tax you will be given an annual Public Liability policy with a limit of indemnity of £5m which will provide cover in respect of the following activities:

Usual regular management meetings of Churches Together Groups

Up to six annual events with a maximum attendance of 250 people at each event including Walk of witness at Easter, Pentecost parade, Carol Singing at Christmas, Village fete and family picnic days.

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group plc www.ecclesiastical.com

Ecclesiastical recommend that you contact them so that they can tailor a policy to your specific requirements. However they can offer £2 million public liability insurance for £157.50 inc IPT or £5 million public liability insurance including IPT at £183.75.

More than Gold

Has your church started to think about the Olympics in 2012? More than Gold is a national co-ordinating Christian group sponsored by the Bible Society, Christians in Sport and the Salvation Army. MTG is a catalyst to cast vision, connect and co-ordinate Christians in the delivery of programs and events leading up to, during and beyond the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games. Visit the website for more information. www.morethangold.org.uk



Faith in Affordable Housing

Using church land and property for affordable housing – a practical guide

This is a free web-based resource, which gives practical and technical information to assist churches in providing affordable housing. The guide presents nine case studies from different denominations and from urban and rural areas. Recently-retired Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor said "As people of faith we are called to address injustice in all its forms. This is a practical resource for those considering a preferential option for the poor in their mission to the wider community". It's all on the website www.fiah.org.uk

General Synod news

Although Synod spent a lot of time discussing legislation and finance, they also spoke about some topics that the whole church can look at.

“Being adult about childhood”, a consideration of the Good Childhood Enquiry.

Many children in this country are deeply unhappy, are lacking in good parenting, are fearful and suffer from financial, emotional and spiritual deprivation. So found the Children’s Society in a major report based on what children told them. The Church can help them. *What can your church do to nurture children? Can your church get a group of parents together and run a parenting course? Can your church run a course looking at the balance of work and family life?*

“Opening the Doors” Ministry with people with learning disabilities and people on the Autistic Spectrum.

Highlighting the challenges facing people with learning disabilities, this report commended best practice guidelines for including people with learning disabilities in the life and work of the church. *Does your church work with those with learning disabilities including autism? If not, why not? They are there in every community. Many churches are making a difference in these people’s lives. Can you?*

Lincolnshire shines in latest *expressions* newspaper.

In the latest edition of the Fresh Expressions newspaper there are 3 stories from Lincolnshire. The first is an article about T-Time Church, a fresh expression taking place at St Georges Church in Lincoln. Then there’s an article from CTAL Chairman Pete Atkins on Fresh Expressions Area Strategy Teams (FEASTS), and finally an article about *mission shaped ministry*. If you would like a copy of the newspaper to read about fresh expressions across the County visit www.freshexpressions.org.uk/expressions.

Useful tools from Alpha International



The Marriage Course is held over eight sessions and offers any married couple the tools to build a strong and healthy relationship that lasts a lifetime. During each evening couples talk about important issues that can get swept under the carpet in the rush of daily life. While the course is based on Christian principles it is designed for couples with or without a church background.

Literature available includes The Marriage Book, The marriage preparation course, introduction for leaders, the marriage course leader’s guide, leader’s toolkit, The Marriage Course DVD, promotional material and guest manuals.



The Parenting Book has been endorsed by many people including Bear Grylls, Rowan Williams, Natasha Kaplinsky and many more. Nicky and Sila Lee, writers of The Marriage Book have drawn from their own experiences bringing up four children, and have spoken to many other parents through parenting courses. They provide fresh insights and time-tested values to the task of parenting. The book is full of valuable advice and practical tips.

Article

At this time of great financial difficulty how can the church help those in need? I met up with Simon Hoare, who works for Christians Against Poverty in Lincoln to ask him about the work they are doing and what impact they are having at this difficult time.

Who is Christians Against Poverty?

CAP is an award winning debt counselling charity, based in Bradford with a growing network of centres around the UK. Thousands of families have already been released from the pressure of debt through a combination of advice, financial education, budgeting and insolvency services. Without this help many families may face being broken up and sadly some people may have even considered suicide. CAP has finished 1st place in the Financial Times Awards for 'Best Small Company to Work For' and is endorsed by Martin Lewis, the money saving expert. The best thing is that CAP is free for these people.

Tell me a bit about what's happening at the Lincoln Centre.

The Lincoln Centre, based at New Life Centre, will have been open for 3 years in September and has helped around 100 families – managing approximately ¼ million pounds of debt. The Lincoln Centre currently receives twice as many calls enquiring about the work of CAP than they can actually help so they are currently in the process of working to double their capacity. The Lincoln Centre is building relationships with many other organisations including Age Concern, the Credit Union, local community centres and housing associations. The families using CAP are from a wide range of backgrounds and cultures, including both Christians and non-Christians.

How do you help people in trouble?

There's a system that we follow once someone has contacted CAP. We do home visits with people to make the process more personal. Visiting someone's house helps the family as they don't have to worry about child care or bringing all their paperwork to us, we can go to them and see them in their environment and this helps us to see if there are any deeper issues to the problem of debt.

Once we have met and have gone through all of their finances we can then help to set a budget for them and set up a CAP Account. We then work closely with them until the day they are debt free. You tend to find that there is a massive change in them after the first two hours, when they have shared their problems. We also pray for them, and this is really important too. This is an opportunity for them to see what God is doing in their lives and his love for them - God wants them to be free from captivity!

What is a CAP Account?

The client pays a lump sum into their CAP account each month totalling all of their bills. From here the money is used to pay their bills and debts. This way people don't have to worry about paying twenty bills in a month, they just make one simple payment.

The other advantage of a CAP Account is that people can use it to save money, this may be for Christmas or put towards their car tax. It saves people worrying where they will get the money for these types of things.

Are there symptoms that people get when they are in debt?

Yes, a lot of people can feel stress, can't sleep, suffer from anxiety and even have time off work because of this. People's relationships may suffer and there can be a lot of arguing. People can become or feel isolated and insular. Some may not want to leave their homes, keep their curtains drawn and can feel ashamed they are in this situation. You can also find unopened mail and that they won't answer the phone or the door in case it's a creditor. The sad thing is that this can happen to anyone and people don't always talk about it because finances can be quite a private thing to many. The main thing is that there is always a solution and people can get help. It's all down to the individuals to ask for help.

So how can the Church help?

There are two ways really. The first is to consider setting up a CAP Centre in your area. To do this you would need to contact CAP's head office in Bradford where you would be told about Church Leaders Days where more information would be given to you. From there the CAP team would help you through setting up the Centre.

Secondly, your church could run a 'CAP Money Course'. This course is designed to help people to look at managing their money. For more information on these, people can again contact CAP's head office or visit the website www.capuk.org.

Some Debt Statistics (June figures)....

- 1 in 33 people currently in work are expected to become unemployed in 2009
- That's 3310 people per day
- The average household debt including mortgage is £58,360
- The average household debt excluding mortgage is £21,640
- The total UK personal debt at the end of May 2009 was £1,459 billion.
- If the total personal debt of the UK was split between every adult, each person would be £30,480 in debt (including mortgages)
- Every 10 minutes a property is repossessed
- Every 4.5 minutes someone is declared bankrupt or in insolvent.

In the half hour Simon and I met, 3 houses were repossessed and 6 people were declared bankrupt or insolvent.

CAP's free enquiries hotline for people seeking financial advice is 0800 328 0006

To speak with one of the CAP team, call 01274 760 720



Book Review

Rowan's Rule – a Review

'Rowan's Rule – The Biography of the Archbishop' by Rupert Shortt, published by Hodder & Stoughton £20. ISBN 978-0-340-95425-6

This is an impressive book. Not just because of its subject – Rowan Williams, but because of the way it brings out the person who is the Archbishop – his childhood in Wales, his poetry, his love life, his theology and his struggles within the Anglican Communion. This is not all about theology; it is meant to be accessible to the thinking Christian in a local church. There are two chapters about Rowan's ideas and they are stimulating. Nor is this a history of the struggles and stresses of the Anglican Communion recently. In the introduction the author describes differing judgments on Rowan's performance over the last six years. But he maintains that Rowan is a complex character and more comfortable than most of us with facing contradictions and mysteries, and more open than most of us to dialogue with those who have different views. This is a story of the life of the person Rowan and I found it captivating.

Rupert Shortt is the Religious Editor of the 'Times Literary Supplement' and has written two other books about Rowan Williams already. He knows Rowan's theology and can put it in ways that we can grasp. He understands the man and presents him as someone we can love and respect.

What I found very interesting was the story of Rowan's childhood in Wales, his development in university and academic studies, his personal relationships and his poetry. These all help to illustrate how the Archbishop behaves in his role. Having listened to Rowan several times now, it is true that he tackles difficult subjects of the Christian faith and complex issues facing society. But he can express himself very clearly and very simply. It is not true that he is inscrutable and beyond comprehension. He has a fascination with the way we speak about God and our knowledge of the world. He can hold his own with philosophers as well as with theologians from any Christian tradition – Reformed, Catholic or Orthodox.

Through the telling of his life story it becomes clear that Rowan has had his share of pain and joys, of hurts and loves, of disappointments and fulfillments. It is also confirmed that he is gracious, humble, incredibly intelligent but also a good companion to talk with. He can talk about profound issues for as long as you would let him. But he is also a listener. He writes, prepares speeches, gives talks, preaches, and writes poetry and has a family life as well.

In some ways there is a parallel between Rowan and Jesus. Both have faced the hostility of the religious and political leaders, appear to be a pawn and victim, and yet... the underlying conviction is that both Jesus and Rowan remain true to themselves and know the 'truth' about God. As we said at the birth of the United Reformed Church in Westminster Abbey in 1972 about Michael Ramsey – 'He is our Archbishop too.' So I would be happy to say Rowan is my Archbishop and I pray God's blessing on his ministry to us all.

Terry Oakley, Moderator, East Midlands Synod United Reformed Church

Mission Projects

LINCOLN STREET PASTORS

Street Pastors is a national initiative which comes under the covering of the Ascension Trust, established in 2003. Its desire is to see Christians working effectively together to see their communities impacted and changed by the love of God. Street Pastors is an interdenominational church response to neighbourhood problems: engaging with people on the streets and in night-time venues to care, listen, and dialogue and offer practical help.

Lincoln Street Pastors has now been in operation for 21 months. Teams go into the city centre on Friday and Saturday evenings from approximately 10pm until 4 am to take the love of Jesus onto the streets in a practical way. While Street Pastors are out, a Prayer Team meets at Bailgate Methodist Church to pray for them and to pray into any requests that the Street Pastors communicate to them.

Statistics for that period include:

NUMBERS OF STREET PASTORS TRAINED:	48
NUMBER OF NIGHTS PASTORS OUT:	173
HOURS ON STREET:	3226
HOURS OF PRAYER TEAM:	2355
HOURS OF TRAINING:	1179

Over the time we have been involved in a variety of situations, from helping youngsters who have become separated from their friends, escorting females to the taxi ranks, attending to youngsters who are drifting in and out of consciousness because of the quantity of alcohol they have consumed, providing a listening ear for those who are hurting, giving hot drinks and food to the homeless, joking and chatting with the revellers and having many, many conversations about God!

We are generally very well-received by revellers, door staff and police. Many youngsters comment that they feel safer when Street Pastors are around. Several venues offer us drinks and a place to warm up, and we are now very much regarded as part of the fabric of Lincoln city night time economy. West Lindsey District Council, Lincolnshire Police and Lincoln BIG support us, both financially and practically and have been hugely encouraging of Street Pastors. Please pray for God's continued blessing on this initiative and that more and more youngsters come to realise that each of them is made in the image of God and that He loves them passionately.

If you would like to become involved with Lincoln Street Pastors, either as a Prayer Pastor or as a Street Pastor, now is the perfect time as we are in the process of recruiting our next cohort! To be a Street Pastor you have to be a Christian, over 18 and have been in regular fellowship for over 12 months. Your church leader will be asked to give you a reference and you will have to have a CRB check.

Further information and application forms are available from the Co-coordinator Joy Liddle.

Contact details: M: 07504511119 or email: lincoln@streetpastors.org.uk

If you would like to be involved in praying for Street Pastors please contact the Prayer Co-coordinator Edwin Prockter. Contact details: M: 07806783808 or email: streetpastorsprayer@hotmail.co.uk

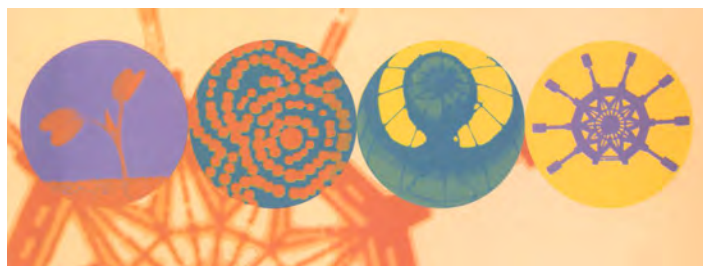
EARTH OUR HOME 3

Earth Our Home will take place at Lincoln Cathedral on Friday October 2nd. It is the third in the series of these big environmental events. This one, like its predecessors will fill the cathedral with activities and workshops, exhibitions and events. EOH 3 also has two special themes - climate change, because we are looking towards Copenhagen and the UN Conference in December on Climate Change, and St Francis - as this day fortuitously falls close to St Francis' Day on October 4th. St Francis is of course now known for his ecological concern and quite rightly is seen as a guide to Earth Care for Christians - treading lightly on the Earth with real awareness for our fellow creatures, and for the non-animate world as well, on which we all depend.

This day is divided into two, from 10 till 2.00 for schools (already full), and from 2.30 till 7.30 it is open to all. There will be a chance to learn more about climate change and what actions we can take, there is a chance to learn about the importance of the bugs and small creatures, and again practical ways of caring for them, we can explore our Christian spirituality and the environment, and there are activities such as the great labyrinth and creative arts, and North Kesteven School is performing dance and drama. There are over 30 activities, exhibitions and events. Then at Evensong at 5.30 the Revd Dave Bookless, author of 'Planetwise - Dare to Care for God's World' and the Director of the Christian environmental organisation A Rocha UK, will speak in a service celebrating St Francis and Creation. After, there will be light refreshments and a chance to meet Dave and talk further about the issues of climate change and environmental action.

We do hope you will join us for what promises to be an exciting day, and an important one that will inspire us and spur us on to action. The day is free but booking is necessary. Simply let us know you are coming. For booking and more information contact Terry Miller on 01522 504072 or email:

terry.miller@lincoln.anglican.org Leaflets and posters are available from Terry and available on the website www.ctal.org.uk/environment



Hope for Planet Earth

This DVD looks at the topic of climate change from both a scientific and a Christian perspective. There are interviews with specialists in the field of the environment including Sir John Houghton. Andy Frost, Director of Share Jesus International, also shares a Christian perspective focussing on how we are not looking after the world God created for us and how we need to do something before it's too late. The DVD also has other material and resources included when placed into a computer. To find out more and to buy the DVD visit the Hope for Planet Earth website.

Red Route Prayer Diary August 2009

Wednesday	1 A158	Thursday	16 A1073
Thursday	2 A607	Friday	17 B1188
Friday	3 A631	Saturday	18 A15
Saturday	4 A1073	Sunday	19 A16
Sunday	5 B1188	Monday	20 A17
Monday	6 A15	Tuesday	21 A46
Tuesday	7 A16	Wednesday	22 A52
Wednesday	8 A17	Thursday	23 A151
Thursday	9 A46	Friday	24 A153
Friday	10 A52	Saturday	25 A158
Saturday	11 A151	Sunday	26 A607
Sunday	12 A153	Monday	27 A631
Monday	13 A158	Tuesday	28 A1073
Tuesday	14 A607	Wednesday	29 B1188
Wednesday	15 A631	Thursday	30 A15
		Friday	31 A16

Churches working together at Newtoft

It started with the then Mission Shaped Leadership (now *mission shaped ministry*) course in 2006 – Rev. Charles Patrick and Miss Cynthia Bunch, lay reader, both from the Middle Rasen group of parishes, and Colin Hare and Peter Atkinson of the Market Rasen and Caistor Methodist Circuit, were encouraged on the very first day to think of ways they could work together, and by the next meeting they felt that God was calling them to do just that at Newtoft. For the uninitiated, that is the old married quarters area at the former R.A.F. Faldingworth.

Three years down the line, things are really happening. Rev. Chris Harrington, the curate in the group of parishes, is spending time with the young folk and teaching them to play the guitar; Colin Hare is working on a ‘Holiday at Home’ for the older residents which will take place on 28th, 29th and 30th October at Faldingworth Primary School. Why there? Because at present Newtoft is lacking the facilities needed for the event and by hiring the school at Faldingworth the older residents there can join in the fun and games.

We have discovered that we are not the only people wanting to help at Newtoft – we are working in partnership now with West Lindsey District Council and Community Lincs, two bodies which feel that Newtoft needs help to overcome its relative isolation and get better facilities. This is very exciting in its own right, because we have been feeling for some time that much blessing can come from churches working in partnership not only with each other, but with individuals, groups, organisations and public bodies which share our concerns.

Colin regularly attends the Parish Council meetings and those of a steering group tasked with a major project to replace the existing social club building with a new one which can meet the wider needs of the community. Through the work of Chris and Colin, we are building up relationships with residents at Newtoft, and in the longer term we hope that we can use the new building to provide a ‘café church’ and worship centre.

Returning to the subject of ‘Holiday at Home’ this is very much a pioneering activity for our churches, and there are many tasks to be undertaken to have everything ready in time. Colin and his committee would greatly value prayers around Lincolnshire for wisdom and guidance, inspiration and energy, and that God would bless the initiative and the people of the Newtoft and Faldingworth area.

As part of the development of prayer ministry across the County we are setting up a prayer network for anyone in the County to join.

There will be regular e-prayers and information sent to you for prayer. The hope is to get people across the County praying for one another, praying for churches, partnerships, events, mission projects and fresh expressions of church all over the County.

If you would like to be part of the prayer network please email Simon on simon@ctal.org.uk

Prayer Diary >> August 2009

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		1 Street Pastors Lincolnshire Chaplaincy Services Pray for Lincolnshire	2 Pray for the Good News to be communicated clearly	3 Pray for the Energize team working with young people in Moorlands	4 Pray for the East Midlands Synod of the United Reformed Church and in particular Rev Terry Oakley	5 Pray for the Road Hog bus project being set up in Boston
6 Pray for the Diocese of Lincoln and in particular Bishop John	7 Church 2 You Project	8 Street Pastors Pray for Churches Together in All Lincolnshire	9 Prayer for increased vision amongst God's people	10 Pray for the work of Christians Against Poverty both nationally and locally	11 Pray for the Religious Society of Friends in Lincolnshire	12 Pray for Lincoln Youth For Christ
13 Pray for the Diocese of Nottingham and in particular Bishop Malcolm	14 Lincoln Food Bank & other food banks across the County	15 Street Pastors Pray for the free and orthodox churches in Lincolnshire	16 Pray for increased prayer levels amongst Christians	17 Pray for the Energize team working with young people in Birchwood	18 Pray for Ground Level Network and in particular Stuart Bell	19 Pray for Christian Aid and their work. Pray particularly for Ruth Beverley who looks after Lincolnshire
20 Pray for the Lincoln & Grimsby Methodist District and in particular Rev Dr David Perry	21 Pray for fresh expressions across Lincolnshire	22 Street Pastors Pray for your town or village and the churches in your area	23 Pray for the Christian message to be clearly portrayed	24 Pray for the Energize team working with young people in St Giles	25 Pray for East Midlands Division of the Salvation Army and in particular Major Jonathan Roberts	26 Pray for the Diocese of Trinelveli, India
27 Pray for the East Midlands Baptist Association and David Rogers as he takes on his new post	28 Pray for Grapevine Celebration starting today at Lincolnshire Show ground	29 Street Pastors Pray for children and young people in your area as they prepare for a new school year.	30 Pray for increasing numbers of people to come to faith	31 Christians in Sport		

Events

Grapevine Celebration

The 28th Grapevine Celebration takes place from Friday 28th August until Tuesday 1st September 2009 at the Lincolnshire Showground. The theme for this year is INFLUENCE.

There is worship for all ages during the celebration and a number of seminars and workshops led by guest speakers. This year's Big Top speakers include Stuart Bell, Jeff Lucas, Duane White and many others.

This year the Celtic/progressive rock band IONA will be at Grapevine on Monday afternoon and Tim Hughes will be playing on Saturday afternoon.

For more information about Grapevine and to find out how to book, visit www.grapevinecelebration.org.uk

09.09.09

www.999conference.org

We believe the presence of God is available on 09.09.09 to achieve a lot in the life of the people that will believe and reach for Him.

Churches can organise their events to reflect any of the following theme:

- 1. 9 stands for birthing**, so it can be a time of teaching and 'travailing' in prayers and ministering to people in the area of what they want to give birth to.
- 2. 9 is the end of the single digit** after which you enter the double, so the meeting can be designed to minister to people who needed some things to end in their lives. *God's presence is available to end things!* Also an entering into a better life [the double].
- 3.** Again on point 2, 9 signifies the end of the single, so the meeting can be targeted to singles preparing for marriage [the double]. Also a time to believe for 'overdue' partners.
- 4.** Finally on the birthing theme, this can be a time of faith for babies. A time of teaching, ministering, faith and rejoicing for people trusting God for a child.

Can your church organize an emergency event on this day to help those in need? God is the answer to someone's emergency. Tell the Good News.

Calendar of events

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- 27.
28. Grapevine Celebration
29. Grapevine Celebration
30. Grapevine Celebration
31. Grapevine Celebration

Rural Mission Days

These days are for anyone, clergy or lay, who is interested in Rural Mission. Why not consider bringing a group from your church?



The Rural Mission Days will be part of the Lincolnshire 2009/2010 *mission shaped ministry* course and are open to everyone in the County. Each day will consist of presentations, case studies, ideas for practical application and key note addresses from:

- The Rt Rev Dr John Saxbee - Bishop of Lincoln
- Rev Dr David Perry - Chair of Lincoln and Grimsby Methodist District
- Stuart Bell - Ground Level Network

Main speakers on the days will be:

- Rev Sally Gaze - Author of *Mission-shaped and Rural: growing churches in the countryside*
- Rev David Emison - Main contributor to *Presence: the Methodist workbook on rural church*
- Dr Pete Atkins - Chairman of Churches Together in all Lincolnshire

Those interested can attend for 1, 2 or all of the days.

Cost £10 per day or £25 for all 3 days.

(Please make cheques payable to 'Churches Together in all Lincolnshire')

To book your place on the Rural Mission Days contact Simon Dean on 01522 504071 or email simon@ctal.org.uk

