

# NOTEPAD

December 2009

[www.ctal.org.uk](http://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 are organising. Simon Dean, Facilitator



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## This month's Notepad....

- Editorial
- From the Presidents – Stuart Bell, Ground Level Network
- News and resources including useful websites, God Loves the NHS, Changing the Landscapes Event, New resources from fresh expressions, Nativity – the film,
- Climate – 350 Rings and Copenhagen
- Prayer page
- Prayer Diary
- Events diary and events for 2010

## 2010 - What's in store?

So we are coming to the end of 2009 – how time flies when you're busy and having fun. I find that December is a good time for reflection but also for hope. I wonder as you look back over the year what you think about. In reflection what have been the highs and lows of 2009? And what are your hopes for this coming year. I thought I would share with you mine!

I have had an interesting year. I changed jobs, become the Chairman of Lincoln Street Pastors, continued my work at Church and have bought my first house. This weekend (28<sup>th</sup> November) I also went to see Delirious? (a Christian band) in Leeds on the penultimate night of their farewell tour after more than 17 years of touring around the world. It was quite a sad day, but at the same time I had a brilliant evening. They have written and performed so many amazing songs. One song they sang is 'Paint the town red'

You know I feel there's something 'bout to break now,  
You know I feel there's a city here to take now.  
And it's not so tough for these ordinary hands,  
When we trust someone with extraordinary plans.

You know I feel this heart's about to break now,  
Cos I can see what the devil's trying to take now.  
We've got this leather backed book and a freedom cry,  
And we're an army of God who are ready to die.

You give us hope where hope is gone,  
You fill the streets with a holy song,  
We're gonna paint this big old town red.

Oh, Here we come, here we come  
Oh, Here we come, here we come

You know I feel this sky's about to break now.  
You know I feel our city's gonna shake now.  
And we hear you call every woman and man,  
"Ring the mission bell" and storm the gates of hell.

Miracles run from street to street,  
Rise up Church for a holy meet,  
We're gonna paint this big old town red  
We're gonna paint this big old town red  
With the blood of Jesus!

When I was singing along to this song I really felt this was what I should put in this editorial and share with the County. This is my hope for 2010 and beyond, that we can paint the town red with the name of Jesus. I hope and pray you have a wonderful time of Advent, Christmas and start of the New Year.

Merry Christmas and God Bless

*Simon*

## From the Presidents

For almost 30 years we have been actively involved in networking and church planting within Lincolnshire. During this time we have seen encouraging signs of growth and development. Some time ago we captured our vision in an often repeated phrase which was to see 'A cell in every village, a congregation in every town and a celebration (large gathering) in every city between the Humber and the Wash.' Our desire has been to see communities of faith reaching out into our region with good news of Christ. By regularly creating forums for leadership to gather for friendship development and leadership training step by step we have seen things change for the better. It is an encouragement to know that our home grown church planting course has now formed the basis for a 'fresh expressions' initiative which has been rolled out into over 40 centres across the U.K. We have also seen the emergence of 'Grapevine' which is an annual Christian gathering reaching over 10,000 people. However we are conscious that we are only scratching the surface of what could be possible in terms of Christian mission in the years ahead.

The following comments try to outline the things we feel need to be pursued for greater effectiveness.

### Maintenance to Mission

We have realized that our vision and focus must continually be looking outwards. The 'Great Commission' points us beyond our own structures and relationship towards a world that desperately needs Christ.

### Partnership without Ownership

We are learning that we will never get the job done unless we work alongside all churches and partner for the sake of the gospel. No one church or network will ever do it alone. When the disciples witnessed a miraculous catch of fish they had to call in their 'partners' to help as the boats began to sink. We must never operate with a competitive attitude. We should always be happy when others succeed.

### Cultural Shift

In our complex world today churches need to be flexible enough to reshape their thinking in order that the good news becomes accessible to people who have no or limited knowledge of what the Christian church stands for. Outmoded methods and religious jargon are often preventing ordinary people from understanding who we are and what we represent.

### Social Engagement

Our churches need to not only teach good news but be good news. Our message should be both in word and deed. The whole gospel should be for the whole person and our Christianity should increasingly be influential in all walks of life.

### Prayer commitment

Prayer can become a launching pad for God working in our world. It is recognition that when we have done all that we can do it is God ultimately that causes it to come to pass. We have a long way to go but God is with us on our journey together.

Stuart Bell - Ground Level Network





The 'God Loves the NHS' conference took place on 7 November in Lincoln. Prof Chris Summerton gave a keynote address concerning the birth of the NHS, reflecting on the role of key Christians who shaped this national provision of healthcare in view of the common good and the care of the most vulnerable.

The seminars and panel discussions focussed on the opportunities and challenges of working within the NHS and healthcare

Organiser Beth Hutton, says; "God's heart is to heal and care for the patients but also to heal and care for the people working for the NHS".

The day was attended by about 100 NHS workers who were from a range of backgrounds including General Practice, Psychiatry, Administration, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Nursing. The day was very well received and further plans are being made for another conference of its kind next year.

For information, contact Beth Hutton on: [beth.hutton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:beth.hutton@hotmail.co.uk)

### Changing the landscape: fresh expressions and the long term

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, is to be the keynote speaker at a national event in Lincoln which will focus on the long-term development of fresh expressions of church.

The event - hosted by Fresh Expressions at the Epic Centre, Lincolnshire Showground - will take place on 5 March 2010. The Archbishop will be looking at growth to spiritual maturity, while the day will also help those leading new congregations to find out more about such key issues as finance, accountability and sustainability.

The day aims to examine the theme of local shared ecumenical support and ownership, and how this is developed through FEASTs (Fresh Expressions Area Strategy Teams).

Bishop Graham Cray, Archbishops' Missioner and leader of the Fresh Expressions team, said that Lincoln was a particularly appropriate venue because of the successful work being done across the county in establishing pioneering forms of church.

"Some people have said fresh expressions of church are just the latest fad," he added, "but the Lincoln experience proves otherwise. There are good signs of church growth there, and it was the first area of the UK to develop a county-wide ecumenical FEAST. The rest of us have much to learn from the work in Lincolnshire."

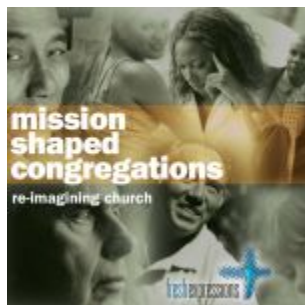
The conference is open to anyone interested in reaching those normally well off the Church's radar with a regional, inter-denominational and co-ordinated approach to mission and evangelism. Tickets are £25 and can be booked via the fresh expressions website.

[www.freshexpressions.org.uk/training/lincoln](http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk/training/lincoln)

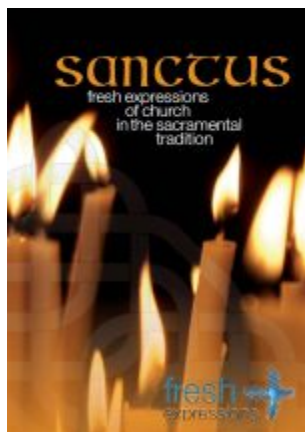
This day coincides with the Archbishop's visit to Lincoln to honour the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Bishop Edward King from the 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010. More information will be available next month.

## News & Resources

### New Resources from Fresh Expressions



Fresh Expressions has released two new resources for churches. An interactive DVD-ROM to help you plan a mission-shaped Sunday worship service called 'mission shaped congregations' and 'Sanctus' a DVD featuring stories of fresh expressions in the sacramental tradition alongside a keynote address by the Archbishop of Canterbury from 2008's national day of pilgrimage to Coventry Cathedral..



The interactive DVD-ROM includes sermon notes, prayers, reflections, hymn and song suggestions, activities, a children's talk and a short video sequence to enable you to put together a worship service introducing fresh expressions of church and mission-shaped thinking. Materials can be mixed and matched from four different 'streams' and also included are a PowerPoint presentation and discussion notes for use in midweek meetings, house groups, church councils or PCC meetings.

*Sanctus* features seven stories from Visions (York), Moot (London), Critical Mass (Peterborough), Glorious (London), Contemplative Fire (Nationwide), feig (Gloucester) and Blessed (Gosport). It also features a sermon preached by the Archbishop of Canterbury in Coventry Cathedral on 8th December

2008 discussing fresh expressions of church in the sacramental tradition.

To buy these resources visit the fresh expressions website. [www.freshexpressions.org.uk](http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk)

### Useful Websites

(Please note CTAL cannot accept any responsibility for the content on any external websites)

[www.urbanexpression.org.uk](http://www.urbanexpression.org.uk) - is an urban mission agency that recruits, equips, deploys and networks self-financing teams pioneering creative and relevant expressions of the Christian church in under-churched areas of the inner city

<http://togetherinmission.co.uk> - exists to work with denominations, networks and local churches to encourage the planting of missional communities

[www.run.org.uk](http://www.run.org.uk) - encourages emerging forms of church to communicate Christ to contemporary cultures.

<http://www.purposedriven.co.uk> - is a church health model that provides a pastoral team with a unique, biblically-based approach to establishing and growing congregations

## News & Resources

<http://www.proost.co.uk> - is a creative company producing inspiring worship resources: books, albums and movies, most of which have come from alternative worship in fresh expressions of church. You can buy individual products or take out an annual subscription which gives access to the whole back catalogue of downloadable content plus a year's new content.

<http://www.theinterface.org.uk> - is a Methodist website that explores contemporary issues (news, film, ongoing debate) from a faith-based perspective

<http://www.imagebank.org.uk> - is a free resource for churches seeking to explore how images can help in fresh expressions of worship.

<http://www.emergingchurch.info> - has stories, reflections and discussion on the emerging church.

<http://www.cinha.net> - is a site of Churches Together in England addressing the issues around fresh expressions and church planting on new housing estates.

<http://www.alternativeworship.org> - contains information about and links to worldwide alternative worship sites and resources.

<http://www.whychristmas.com/> - James Cooper who attends Minehead Baptist has set up a website which answers questions about the Christmas story and how Christmas is celebrated around the world



*Nativity!* (UK release: 27th November, certificate U), will make you both laugh and cry, all in the context of telling the Christmas story and illustrating its

significance for today.

Downloadable resources from *Damaris* are completely free of charge, and with the co-operation of *E1 Entertainment* we are able to make available downloadable clips from the film.

Please tell others about these resources and organize. <http://www.damaris.org/nativity>

### An addition to November Notepad

In last months edition we produced an article about the volunteer centre in Lincoln. Since this edition was published it has been brought to the editor's attention that there are also two other Volunteer Centres across all Lincolnshire.

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire [VANL] & Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire [VANEL].

[www.vanl.org](http://www.vanl.org)

[www.vanel.org](http://www.vanel.org)

## Web sites with a Christmas Theme or a Christmas application –

In no particular order:

<http://www.churcharmy.org.uk/pub/support/Parish/Posada/Posada.asp> An activity for involving the whole community in the exploration of the meaning of Christmas as the Holy Family travel to a different house every night to be entertained and retell the Christmas story to invited guests.

[http://www.churcharmy.org.uk/web/FILES/Public\\_Fundraising/Posada\\_Nativity\\_Figures.pdf](http://www.churcharmy.org.uk/web/FILES/Public_Fundraising/Posada_Nativity_Figures.pdf)

[www.youngpeoplesunday.org.uk](http://www.youngpeoplesunday.org.uk) This is a great website from the Frontier Youth Trust, encouraging churches to have a Sunday during the year when they focus on young people. There are dramas, activities, talk ideas etc. As you visit the site you will notice a topic called “Christmas”.

[www.liquidleadership.tv/LIQUID/Its\\_A\\_Wrap\\_Christmas\\_Preview.html](http://www.liquidleadership.tv/LIQUID/Its_A_Wrap_Christmas_Preview.html). This is from Craig Jutlia, a great kids worker from America. Click on the link and it will take you to his Christmas Resource, “It’s a wrap”.

[www.paperlesschristmas.org.uk](http://www.paperlesschristmas.org.uk). If you are looking for something *completely* different, this creative take on the Christmas story, in the form of a Road Movie needs to be seen . . . tells the story in nine entertaining and informative episodes. The videos, produced in a collaboration between Jerusalem Productions and BRF, - the videos will work well in churches where this ‘nativity with a modern twist’ will prompt children and adults think afresh about the story.

[www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what\\_you\\_can\\_do/fundraising\\_appeals/christingle/1369.html](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what_you_can_do/fundraising_appeals/christingle/1369.html). There are shed loads of resources on the “Christingle” pages of the Children’s Society website. Children’s and youth resources, school material and for general church use.

[www.givinginrace.org/preaching/children\\_P6.html](http://www.givinginrace.org/preaching/children_P6.html). Although not especially about Christmas, the “Giving in Grace” website, from the Diocese of Liverpool has some great ideas about how to encourage children to give and think of others – what better time to look at that than Christmas?

[www.simplyyouthministry.com/freebies-images.html](http://www.simplyyouthministry.com/freebies-images.html). Simply Youth Ministry has, for years, produced quality bible based resources, which - with a little translation - work well. They are also *amazing* at offering free resources via their website – everything from full sermon transcripts to video clips. For Advent or Christmas presentations using PowerPoint, they have a number of free background image downloads which will life your presentation from drab to dramatic in a moment. Follow the link above, and take a while to browse their huge catalogue of free stuff. A tip, if you look back through the various zip files with images in them – when a file has a “beginning of December” date, it is often a Christmas or Advent themed series of images.

[www.sgmlifewords.com/christmas/?page\\_id=6](http://www.sgmlifewords.com/christmas/?page_id=6). The guys at “Scripture Gift Mission”, now called “Life Words” always produce Christmas Resources – for not very much money you can buy the things they have produced and make them your own – the link takes you to their dedicated Christmas pages.

[www.authenticmedia.co.uk/AuthenticSite/product/311459.htm](http://www.authenticmedia.co.uk/AuthenticSite/product/311459.htm). The Veggie Tales newest Christmas movie is all about 'Saint Nicholas - A Story of Joyful Giving'. This is the story of the man who has become known as Santa Claus and teaches giving. Laura Carrot's Christmas stocking might be empty this year because her dad is in danger of losing his job. While Larry thinks a letter to the North Pole should fix the problem, Bob knows what will really help... and tells the story of a little boy, named Nicholas who made a discovery in Bethlehem that changed Christmas forever. However, what did Nick learn and how can it possibly help Laura and her family? Find out as the Veggies discover the true joy of giving to others - at

Christmas time and throughout the year! “Authentic Media” are the UK distributor for Veggie Tales, so you can be assured that you buy the right format DVD for your viewing pleasure! Follow the link above.

[www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/ten\\_ages\\_gallery.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/ten_ages_gallery.shtml). Depending on your group or church, a journey through the “Ten ages of Christmas” will illustrate how things have changed, you could use this as the basis of your Christmas day message – much changes around us, even how we approach Christmas in this country has changed . . . but what has not changed is that God sent his son to be the Saviour of the world. As there are ten ages you might want to pick a couple of distinctive ones – or be extremely snappy in your presentation style!

[www.spikyheaded.com/category/xmas](http://www.spikyheaded.com/category/xmas). Beef Frankland has been involved in youth work for over 20 years, and has a website dedicated to sharing free resources . . . the link here is to his Christmas selection of ideas.

[www.familyministry.co.uk/Shop/Sections/Section.aspx?section\\_id=7292](http://www.familyministry.co.uk/Shop/Sections/Section.aspx?section_id=7292). And, finally, here is the Christmas selection of titles from “Family Ministry”. You have to buy these titles – but some good stuff on there – my personal recommendations would be: “Bethlehem Carols Unpacked”, and “A Children’s Christmas”.

[www.scriptureunion.org.uk/resource/OutlineArchive/2003/Christmas/3206.id](http://www.scriptureunion.org.uk/resource/OutlineArchive/2003/Christmas/3206.id). This link takes you directly to Scripture Union’s free, downloadable resources, the “Behold I stand” is a powerful poem which would work brilliantly for a “9 Lessons and Carols” or a “Family Nativity” as a thought provoking reflection on where we will place Jesus Christ at Christmas.

If you think that Christmas is a time to keep it simple and straight, - some more ideas

1. The three gifts from the wise men, give you three natural points on which to reflect. Myrrh, for sacrifice; Frankincense, for priest; Gold, for King. Reflecting on those three aspects of Jesus’ calling – to be our priest (the high priest as he is called in Hebrews chapter 5), Jesus’ calling – to be our sacrifice (the shadow of the cross over the crib and prophesied in Isaiah chapter 53), Jesus’ calling to be our King (you could link all three of these by looking at Philippians 2 to finish, and at the end of the passage on Christ’s attitude He is given the name above every name . . . our King, but also everybody’s King. What will our response be this Christmas time?

2. The “Three Trees” works brilliantly as a parable for Easter or Christmas, depending where you place the emphasis. Again three points can be made (read the story on the link here [www.word4life.com/threetrees.html](http://www.word4life.com/threetrees.html) if you don’t know it): They revolve around “us” and what we want out of life, or maybe what we want at Christmas – firstly, the tree made into a crib (rather than a treasure chest), has an amazing treasure placed in it – namely Jesus – question, “what will we treasure most this Christmas?” secondly, the tree made into a fishing boat (rather than a huge ocean going liner), has the most important person in it – when just on the sea of Galilee - rather than having many rich and famous people, is Christmas going to be “all about us?” Finally, the third tree just wanted to point, straight and true, up to God – he wanted his life to be about pointing others to Jesus, he was turned into the Cross. At Christmas, where are we pointing people to as they look at our lives, our attitudes, the way we celebrate – will they see Jesus?

# Climate

## CHURCHES TO RING THE ALARM ON CLIMATE CHANGE

**As nations are spelling out their bargaining positions for the negotiations on a new international climate deal to take place in Copenhagen this month, churches around the world are trying to ring home the message that climate protection is an ethical and spiritual issue.**

The 7-18 December United Nations summit in the Danish capital Copenhagen will set the agenda for the next stage of the fight against climate change. "This is the last chance the world has to keep global temperature increases below 2 degrees Celsius," says Alexi Barnett, campaign officer for Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund, explaining the importance of churches' support for a successful outcome in Copenhagen.

That is why her organization has teamed up with Christian Aid and the [Presbyterian] Church of Scotland to get congregations in the northern part of the United Kingdom to heed a call by the World Council of Churches (WCC) and ring their bells on Sunday, 13 December.

On that Sunday, midway through the UN summit, the WCC invites churches around the world to use their bells, drums, gongs or whatever their tradition offers to call people to prayer and action in the face of climate change.

By sounding their bells or other instruments 350 times, participating churches will symbolize the 350 parts per million that mark the safe upper limit for CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere according to many scientists.

Groups ranging from the Open Sanctuary at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Tilba Tilba, Australia, to the Lutheran congregation in Sibiu, Romania, have already pledged their participation. Some link the climate action with their traditional advent celebrations, such as the Evangelical Lutheran Epiphany Church in Hamburg, Germany, that will invite children to draw stars of hope while the bells will be rung and 350 drum beats will be sounded ahead of the congregation's advent concert.

As each group starts their own observation of the 13 December event at 3 p.m. local time, a chain of chimes and prayers will be stretching in a time-line from the South Pacific – where the day first begins and where the effects of climate change are already felt today – to Denmark and across the globe.

### ***The politics of bells: controversy on the role of church in society***

Even before the bells have started ringing, they have managed to stir a debate about the special perspective Christians bring to the climate debate. "In some countries, the question has been raised whether churches have the right to use their bells for what may be considered to be a political campaign," says Dr Guillermo Kerber, WCC programme executive on climate change.

"Those who support the campaign see the care of creation and of people's lives and livelihoods threatened by climate change more as an ethical and spiritual issue that, of course, has political implications, not in a partisan sense but referring to the common good," Kerber adds.

"We pray that decision makers everywhere take seriously the responsibility implicit in God giving humankind dominion over His creatures upon the earth," says Dr Mogens Lemvig Hansen, explaining why the Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver, B.C., Canada, of which he is president, will ring its bells.

"Churches have a special role to play – and church bells have a role to play" in this debate, says Bill McKibben, a well-known writer and a Sunday school teacher in the United Methodist Church, in a [video message on youtube](#).

"Where I live, in the United States, before we had radio when somebody's house caught on fire we rang the church bells so that everybody would know and come out to do something about it. Well, something's on fire now", adds McKibben, whose book *The End of Nature* was one of the first to explain global warming to a mainstream audience when it came out in 1989.

The Conference of European Churches (CEC) and the Council of European Bishops' Conferences (CCEE) have endorsed the campaign in a [joint letter](#) to the churches in Europe.

Also on 13 December, participants at the UN conference are invited to pray alongside the Danish Queen and church leaders from around the world in an ecumenical celebration at Copenhagen's Lutheran Cathedral.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, spiritual leader of the Anglican Communion comprising some 80 million Christians worldwide, will preach the sermon. The celebration will be broadcast live on Danish television and on the website of the [Danish Broadcasting Corporation](#).

**More information on the bell ringing campaign:**

<http://www.bellringing350.org>

**WCC activities ahead of the Copenhagen summit:**

<http://www.oikoumene.org/climatechange>

**UN Climate Change Conference:**

<http://en.cop15.dk/>

**ADVENT and go-slow lifestyle changes**

Ready Steady Slow this Advent at [www.whywearewaiting.com](http://www.whywearewaiting.com) with go-slow lifestyle challenges and stories for all along with daily videos and podcasts from around the Church of England - and beyond. The online calendar opens on Advent Sunday November 29 with a special video message going live on Thursday November 26. The website will also have daily Bible passages and prayers.

**THE AGE OF STUPID** "I defy anyone to come out and not feel like they've got to make a difference"  
Caroline Lucas, Leader of the Green Party

The climate blockbuster is screening at Horncastle College on Friday 13th November at 19.30.  
Entry is Free <http://transitionhorncastle.org> [www.ageofstupid.net](http://www.ageofstupid.net)

## Prayer

# Red Route Prayer Diary December 2009

Tuesday	<b>1</b> A16	Wednesday	<b>16</b> A52
Wednesday	<b>2</b> A17	Thursday	<b>17</b> A151
Thursday	<b>3</b> A46	Friday	<b>18</b> A153
Friday	<b>4</b> A52	Saturday	<b>19</b> A158
Saturday	<b>5</b> A151	Sunday	<b>20</b> A607
Sunday	<b>6</b> A153	Monday	<b>21</b> A631
Monday	<b>7</b> A158	Tuesday	<b>22</b> B1073
Tuesday	<b>8</b> A607	Wednesday	<b>23</b> B1188
Wednesday	<b>9</b> A631	Thursday	<b>24</b> A15
Thursday	<b>10</b> B1073	Friday	<b>25</b> A16
Friday	<b>11</b> B1188	Saturday	<b>26</b> A17
Saturday	<b>12</b> A15	Sunday	<b>27</b> A46
Sunday	<b>13</b> A16	Monday	<b>28</b> A52
Sunday	<b>14</b> A17	Tuesday	<b>29</b> A151
Monday	<b>15</b> A46	Wednesday	<b>30</b> A153
		Thursday	<b>31</b> A158

# Please pray for...

Please pray for the charity IBS-STL. They are a large supplier of Christian Resources across the UK that are facing severe financial difficulties. They employ 450 people, who have an uncertain future.

Please pray for the

Kings Café in Stamford – Simon Kaye

Monks Road congregation Lincoln – Carl and Sarah Belcher

The U2charist and Beatitude Projects – Liz Jackson

New Life Grantham - Jonas Eales

Keelby Methodist Church/The Edge Project – Pat Papps

Gainsborough Projects – Rev Liz Child

Witham Saint Hughs – Simon and Ann Baker

Threshold – Peter and Kath Atkins

St Peter's in the Pub – Rev Nick Alexander

T-Time Church – Simon Dean

Messy Church - Rev Jane Campbell

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](mailto:simon@ctal.org.uk)

# Prayer Diary >> December 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Mission Shaped Ministry - Sleatford CTAL Presidents Meeting	2 Please pray for all those who work at the gritter depots, who help to make the roads of Lincolnshire safe over the winter months	3 Pray that Christmas will be begin with Christ for many people this year	4 Street Pastors (For Grantham as they set up, Boston as they are train- ing, Lincoln and Scunthorpe)	5 Street Pastors Pray for the Wave march in London
6 Pray for new levels of faith and com- mitment	7 Pray for the talks taking place in Copenhagen	8 Pray for the Chaplains working at the Counties Prisons	9 Pray for the Churches Together Group in your area	10 Pray for the Fresh Expressions across the County.	11 Street Pastors The Bridge	12 Street Pastors
13 Pray for the work amongst children and young people in our churches	14 Pray for the street or road that you live on.	15 Pray for Lincolnshire Chaplaincy Services	16 Pray for the work of Churches To- gether in All Lincolnshire	17 Pray for the link with Tirunelveli	18 Street Pastors God Pod	19 Street Pastors
20 Pray for new outreach initiatives	21 Pray for God to be the light in places of darkness across the County.	22 Pray for chaplains working at the Counties Hospitals	23 Pray for the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership	24 Pray for those people who find Christmas a difficult time to celebrate for a number of reasons	25 Street Pastors <b>All Christian Ministries</b> <b>Praise God for sending his son.</b>	26 Street Pastors
27 Pray for 'Spiritual breakthroughs'	28 Pray for the work of Christian Aid and for Ruth Beverley	29 Pray for all Chaplains working in various roles across the County	30 Thank God for everything that has happened in 2009	31 Street Pastors Pray into the new year sharing your hopes and aspirations		

# Events

Sunday January 31<sup>st</sup> @ 6pm in

The Cathedral, Lincoln

A service to get us thinking about homelessness



doorstep

Churches Together in Lincoln and District are organising this event on Homelessness Sunday. All are welcome. If you would like to be involved contact Liz Jackson at [liz.jack@ntlworld.com](mailto:liz.jack@ntlworld.com)



[The Big Swap](#) (22 February - 7 March) will build on an incredible four hundred and seventy thousand and one

people Going Bananas during Fairtrade Fortnight 2009 with a target of one million and one swaps - everyone's normal, everyday choices swapped for Fairtrade choices. From cotton to chocolate, bananas to brazil nuts every swap counts, especially the country's favourite cuppa! So let's make Britain a Fairtrade tea drinking nation this Fairtrade Fortnight. Find out more, register for updates and get ready - [the Big Swap](#) is coming!

[www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

Have you planned what your church will be doing for the 2010 week of prayer for Christian Unity. If not visit [www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer) for ideas.

Visit [www.actionweek.org.uk](http://www.actionweek.org.uk) for more information and download resources

**poverty &  
homelessness  
action week**



## Calendar of events

1. Mission Shaped Ministry - Sleaford
2. Gritter blessings
- 3.
- 4.
5. The Wave
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
13. Age of Stupid - Horncastle College  
350 Bell Ringing for Copenhagen
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.
- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
25. Christmas Day
- 26.
- 27.
- 28.
- 29.
- 30.
- 31.

## 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

