



CT-eNews

November 2020

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Reflection of the Month: Remembrance Sunday – two perspectives

Many churches celebrate Remembrance Sunday together. This year there will be restrictions due to coronavirus, but we still want to remember.

This month we offer two perspectives, one from an ex-serviceman now Baptist Pastor, and another from a Quaker.

A Minister at Cannon Street Memorial Baptist Church since 2002, Rev Bryan Scott, who served in the Royal Air Force for 24 years writes...

Our National day of Remembrance allows us to take a moment to ponder the different ways wars have impacted our lives. For many this is our annual opportunity to declare public thanks for the sacrifice so many made for us, so that as citizens of this country we can enjoy peace and freedom.

The week coming into Remembrance Day is always a difficult one for me, the writing of my sermon is heartfelt. My somewhat emotive preaching on this Sunday is underpinned by 24 years in the Royal Air Force. The most difficult thing that gets me every time is not just that they (my comrades and those who served before them) died, but also the way they died. These are memories that will never leave me. Still, I continue to seek God's grace when I remember the many conflicts that our armed forces have endured and how those conflicts have shaped, taken and touched the lives of countless people in this world.



Christians have always played an important role in the armed forces, whether it is praying for our country or being leaders on the battlefield. But what is really worth the cost of a single life lost in war?

Every soldier knows the battlefield is a nasty place, yet that very same soldier hopes their sacrifice will help to make a difference, they hope their sacrifice will make this world a better place!

On this day when we think of the names of those who died so that we could have peace and freedom, we acknowledge those that are still suffering as a result of past wars.

I am thankful for the work of the British Legion, who work tirelessly to alleviate suffering among ex-service men and women and their families.

As Christians who continue to build the Kingdom, we must include all those who have suffered the consequences of war. November 11 is specifically focused on the memory of servicemen and women, but as Christians as we give thanks for the sacrifice of others who gave their life, we intercede for the suffering of all on behalf of this nation.

Thinking of the sacrifice of others we think too about the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made for us all to bring us back to God. St. John put it well when he said: "Greater love has no one than this that one lays down his life for his friends." This

reconciliation is a gift that we can receive simply by asking Christ to come into our lives. As the apostle John put it: "But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name." (John 1:12)

Jesus instructs us 'take up your cross and follow me' to do this we must continue our work towards peace and justice this is the way we honour those who gave their life, this is the way we really remember.

As we stand in silence, pausing for a moment as a community of faith, let us continue to be Christians who can learn from the painful loss and destruction of war.

Amen.

Rev Bryan Scott is Senior Pastor at the Cannon Street Memorial Baptist Church in Birmingham. He joined the RAF at 16 years of age and went on to be an aircraft engineer on fast jets, a training instructor and a recruitment officer. After 24 years he left the service and trained for the ministry. Bryan's passion today is being an ambassador in the world for the Christian faith and helping people to discover and fulfil their God given ministries while working across cultural and denominational boundaries for Christian unity.

Marigold Bentley serves as Head of Peace Programmes and Faith Relations for Quakers in Britain. She writes...

Every year in November, Quakers across Britain are challenged by the tone of the national commemoration of Remembrance. The pain and sadness of the futility of war can be diminished alongside what appears to be the glorification and commercialisation of the act of remembrance. As an historic peace church, the challenge has many layers. How do we annually honour that promise made to millions in 1918 that it was the war to end all wars? Dare we remind everyone at this time that war is failure? How do we engage, at this time of intense reflection, without offending? Should our voices be raised alongside those who use the opportunity to glorify war or should we sit quietly to one side and whisper the hope that wars will end? How can we frame our longing for peace and no war alongside respecting those who have given their lives in service? How do we commemorate those who made the sacrifice of service of another kind – that of the conscientious objectors?



Quakers in their local meetings make locally based decisions about whether to participate in wreath laying and readings at religious services. Quakers everywhere are a part of our local communities. We are keen to take part in important events in the life of the community, especially when this brings people of different faiths together. Yet at the same time we need to be true to our peace testimony. Consequently, the commemorative activities take many forms.

The [white poppy, sold and promoted by the Peace Pledge Union](#), is a public reminder of the need for peace. Many Quakers wear both a red and white poppy to acknowledge

everyone at this sensitive time of year. Others wear a white poppy only, to give a direct message that they are positively for peace. Some Quakers make a white poppy wreath and deliver it alongside other wreaths to the local war memorials. They may do this during the morning service on Remembrance Sunday or at another times. Others simply wear their white poppies as a witness.

For those Quakers who are serving on their local council or within the Local Churches Together groupings, decisions have to be made about the choice of readings and prayers. Careful judgement has to be made about what can be said that fits with the Quaker vision alongside the other views and opinions held. I have had the sad experience of a Quaker mayor using the reading from Isaiah 2.4 "they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" and a number of the military personnel present walked out of the service. A number of relationships had to be restored following that experience, and bridges built.

The stories of conscientious objectors are vital to encourage an alternative narrative to the one which claims that war is inevitable. The lives of those who held true to the understanding that killing others is wrong and that there has to be another way of dealing with difference need to be told and marked – perhaps even celebrated. Their motivation, often from a deep Christian faith, must be understood, alongside those who also felt it was right to serve in another way. For Quakers, we feel we owe it to the next generation to tell of how change can come about and differences dealt with which don't involve bloodshed. Our hope and our commitment is to work towards an end to all war. How we mark Remembrance in our varying ways is part of our vision and part of our story.

Marigold Bentley is the Head of Peace Programmes and Faith Relations for Quakers in Britain. She has also worked for Quakers at the United Nations in New York, on peace education in Northern Ireland and in Former Yugoslavia and on community peacebuilding.

Church gatherings to be suspended from 5 November

Subject to the approval of Parliament on Wednesday 4 November, a new national coronavirus lockdown will come into force on Thursday 5 November. Most significantly for churches, this will re-introduce the prohibition on congregations gathering for public worship, as well as the conducting of weddings.

These restrictions will remain in force until the relaxing of this regulation, which at the moment is scheduled for the first week in December.



If any further variations are announced, [our website will be updated. Read the full story...](#)

CTE Member Churches and Presidents call for government action on child poverty

CTE's Member Churches, Presidents and General Secretary have joined a diverse group of faith leaders writing to the Prime Minister to call for the urgent establishment of a Cross-Party Commission to tackle child poverty across England.

The faith leaders highlight the growing concern among many communities over poverty and hunger affecting children.

They praise footballer Marcus Rashford's campaign to extend free school meals, as well as welcoming government efforts to support those on low incomes.

Signatories include leaders of many of CTE's [Member Churches](#), alongside CTE General Secretary Rev Dr Paul Goodliff and [CTE Presidents](#):



- Archbishop Justin Welby, The Archbishop of Canterbury
- Cardinal Vincent Nichols, The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster
- Rev Dr Hugh Osgood, The Free Churches Moderator
- His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos, Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London and CTE President for the Orthodox Churches
- Pastor Agu Irukwu, head of Redeemed Christian Church of God UK and CTE Pentecostal President.

Leaders representing other faith communities, including Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists and Sikhs, were also signatories to the letter.

[Read the leaders' full statement on the short, medium and long-term goals needed to tackle child poverty...](#)

CTE's Orthodox President calls for prayer for Armenian Orthodox Church

Archbishop Angaelos, Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London and Orthodox President for Churches Together in England (CTE), invited the Member Churches of CTE to pray for the brothers and sisters of fellow Member Church the Armenian Orthodox Church, as the conflict in the Caucasus deepened.

[Read the full story on our website...](#)

CTE's Pentecostal President calls for prayer for Nigeria

Pastor Agu Irukwu, Pentecostal President for Churches Together in England (CTE), invited the Member Churches of CTE to pray for the brothers and sisters in Nigeria as serious violence breaks out against young demonstrators, and called for the international community and the Church to stand with young Nigerians peacefully protesting against police brutality in Nigeria.

[Read the full story on our website...](#)

CTE Enabling Group - 'What an adventure playground is my life!'

CTE held its second [Enabling Group](#) of 2020 on 22 and 23 October. This gathering was not only the AGM, but also an opportunity for delegates from our Member Churches, National and County Ecumenical Officers and Bodies in Association to hear about CTE's key areas of work. The focus this time was on racial justice, intermediate ecumenism and a draft CTE Strategic Plan.



CTE's Chair of Trustees, Rowena Loverance, reports on the two days...

There was no missing the 'quote of the day' from Churches Together in England's Enabling Group, meeting online for the first time; 'What an adventure playground is my life' being how ecumenical officer Robert Mountford describes the opportunities of ecumenical work.

The Enabling Group is CTE's twice-yearly 'members meeting' of representatives of [Member Churches](#), [Bodies in Association](#) and [intermediate ecumenism](#), to which staff and trustees are accountable. The autumn meeting also serves as the AGM, receiving the annual report and accounts and making any necessary appointments.

Any worries that holding Enabling Group (EG) on zoom would detract from the ecumenical fellowship built up over many years soon vanished, as participants swapped catch up stories and tips on adjusting screens and lighting so that we could see one another better.

The EG welcomed three new trustees; Maddy Thomson from Pioneer, Nephon Tsimalis from the Greek Orthodox archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain and Victoria Turner from the United Reformed Church, as well as a new deputy convenor, Lurliene Miller from JCCAN (Joint Council of Churches for All Nations). Outgoing trustees Richard Bradbury and William Gabb were thanked for their service.

In the chair's report, I highlighted CTE's new draft Strategic Plan, drawn largely from recommendations made by the churches in [the 2017 Theos report](#), 'That they all may

[be one'](#). This will be a major item on the EG agenda next March, once our Member Churches have had the opportunity to feed in their comments.

The treasurer, James Laing, reported on a successful outcome to 2019 and presented what he described as a 'cautious' budget for 2020. General Secretary, Paul Goodliff, reporting on six months of hectic online activity by staff, reassured us that despite this time of change, the God whom we serve – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – changes not. "Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

In the main sessions, the EG tackled two topics key to our joint church life; racial justice and intermediate ecumenism (unity at the county or city level).

Racial justice

The first topic explored was racial justice, and especially working to encourage and enable black-majority churches to play their full part in UK church life. This has long been central to CTE's and CTBI's work. The heartfelt appreciation offered by the EG to Joe Aldred, CTE's long-serving staff member for Pentecostal, Charismatic and Multi-cultural Relations, on [his retirement](#) at the end of October, was testimony to this. (see articles below)

Intermediate ecumenism

The second major topic was how the essential work of intermediate ecumenism – churches working together at county or city level – can be sustained and reinvented.

A new [Toolkit for A Flexible Framework for Local Unity in Mission](#) was launched (see next article)

This was followed by a three-way conversation of voices from Surrey, Hertfordshire and the Black Country, which as well as generating the 'quote of the day' ('What an adventure playground is my life!' from ecumenical officer Robert Mountford), also challenged intermediate church leaders to ensure their groups mirror the full diversity of CTE's Member Churches. It also encouraged CEOs and other ecumenical workers to prioritise work together which actually makes a difference in people's lives. CTE stands ready to help to find new staffing and funding mechanisms to resource this work, and hopes to facilitate regional meetings over the next few months.

And last but of course not least, there was time for shared prayer and bible study – a kaleidoscope of passages from Isaiah and the Psalms, the gospel of John and Paul's letter to the Romans helped to offer comfort in exile and light in dark times. 'For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God' (Romans 18:19).

[*Read this story on our website...*](#)

New Toolkit helps local churches collaborate with confidence

The new [Toolkit for A Flexible Framework for Local Unity in Mission](#) provides an easy-to-use framework helping local churches to collaborate with confidence and flexibility, developing the right agreement for their joint venture – such as a holiday club, mission event, messy church, homeless shelter or community café.

The Toolkit guides readers step by step, explaining a variety of different agreements you could use, and helping you decide which will work best for your group. Guiding you through the key questions to ask and the practical steps to follow, 'A Flexible Framework' will help your group to collaborate with confidence, prudence and flexibility.

The content was produced by the Baptist, Church of England, Methodist and United Reformed Church (URC) National Ecumenical Officers, working with a volunteer group of County Ecumenical Officers and CTE staff. The toolkit document was designed by the URC Communications Department.



Praise for the toolkit

Andrew Edwards, Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) Co-ordinator for Churches Together in the Merseyside Region is delighted: "What an attractive, clear, useable Toolkit has emerged through the different stages of this careful process. I'm already thinking of conversations it could be introduced into round here."

Access the toolkit

[Find all the resources for 'A Flexible Framework for Local Unity in Mission' on our website.](#)

Resources include:

- A practical toolkit for your local group to work through
- Further information on A Flexible Framework and how it can help you
- A PowerPoint to explain the basics to others

[Read the full story on our website...](#)

CTE Member Churches discuss action on racial justice

The session on racial justice at the Enabling Group began with [a video, sharing a series of heartfelt personal reflections on racism](#). These reflections were shared by representatives of CTE's 50 Member Churches, including Pentecostal, Salvation Army, Church of England, Quaker and Orthodox traditions.

Time for action

The Enabling Group heard how the [churches concern for racial justice](#) is being carried



forward at different levels, including [by CTE's Presidents in their public statements](#) and ongoing conversations, following a [period of listening](#) to black young people, senior church leaders and community practitioners.

The Enabling Group also heard about the new Racial Justice Working Group which CTE trustees are in process of setting up. This will bring together racial justice representatives from across the churches, along with CTE trustees, a representative from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI), and others with specialist skills and knowledge. The aims of the group include supporting churches in their work in racial justice – including tackling racial injustice within their own structures – and enabling national initiatives and policies to be embraced by churches together at intermediate and local levels.

County Ecumenical Officers (CEOs) also shared how they have begun discussing the issue of racial justice together, including [a first awareness-raising session](#), due to be followed up with a second discussion about possible future actions.

[Read the full story on our website...](#)

Church leaders launch petition on racial inequality

Church leaders have launched a petition calling for the government to implement the recommendations of a number of reviews into the treatment of people of colour in our nation. The group of black Christian leaders represents many church denominations, and was brought together by Rev Yinka Oyekan, the President of CTE Member Church the Baptist Union.

"Many individuals, as well as denominations, want to make a practical difference. We believe this will give all people of God, from every denomination, the opportunity to do just that."

The church leaders have [put together a video](#) encouraging churches to get behind the petition

[Sign the petition here.](#)

[Read the full story on our website...](#)

"We need to move beyond statements to actions"

On 20 October, 19 church leaders from across the town of Luton gathered to reflect on the racism that exists in our society and within our churches. It was called by [Churches Together in Luton](#) and led by Pastor Vincent Cox, supported by Pastor Tony Thompson.

Here Pastors Vincent and Tony reflect on the beginning of a journey...

Black pastors shared about their experiences of racism. Of being asked to leave churches without explanation, of being unwanted in the civil service due to the colour of their skin. They shared how they took the experience of George Floyd personally.



They talked about the importance of relationships between church leaders from different backgrounds, but these friendships need to go very deep if we are to explore the roots of what separates us, our differing experiences and the residual issues of the slave trade.

The breadth and seriousness of racism was spoken of. Feelings of superiority and inferiority are a sickness that destroys God's creation.

White pastors responded, agreeing with what was shared by their black colleagues and admitting their role in racism as individuals and as denominations. They talked about actions already taken, but the need for more to be done to eliminate prejudice in all its forms.

It was agreed by all that we need to move beyond statements to actions. To be partners on a journey dreaming of what the future might look like. To meet as individuals to build friendships and grow together, the next gathering being early December.

To look at ways we can help each other build more culturally mixed churches, a survey has been developed to help us in this.

Other practical suggestions were made; bringing youth together from our churches to explore relationships, exploring the possibility of the transfer of unused church buildings to Black majority churches, working together and with the powerful in our town to eliminate inequalities in education and other areas.

This was an important foundational meeting that we hope to build on in the months and years to come. We invite other church leaders to join us on the journey.

[Read this story on our website...](#)

“Don't keep Jesus for yourself – give him away”

The organiser of the CTE Churches Group for Evangelisation, Rev Dr Ben Aldous, reflects on an inspiring day at The Greek Orthodox Community of St. Panteleimon in Harrow...

It's not often you get the chance to spend the day gathered with colleagues from the Catholic Church, Evangelical Alliance, ForMission College, the Quakers, the Baptists, HOPE and others to hear an Archbishop's vision for his Archdiocese and his passion for evangelism...especially not in this 'time of Covid19'

In the era of stay at home messaging, it was so encouraging to be together at the [Greek Orthodox Community of St. Panteleimon](#) and have a chance to meet, and hear from, [Archbishop Nikitas](#).



We enjoyed divine service together known as the first hour together led by Fr Nephon followed by a Greek meal (and great Greek desserts.)

Archbishop Nikitas has been in post since the middle of last year and graciously gave his time to eat with us and share his vision. I was particularly struck by the simplicity of his message which centred around the idea of, 'not keeping Jesus to ourselves but giving him away to others.'

His Eminence said "we as Christians, we as families, as churches have failed. We have failed society because Christ told us to go and preach and teach and baptise. The Christian churches today have really forgotten the idea of evangelising.

The church has failed to fill that emptiness in the hearts people. We are losing the opportunity now especially in this crisis period because people are looking for the answer now...In our communities we have to forgive people, we have to love them and be a good example to them. Then we can lead them to Christ. We mustn't keep Jesus to ourselves we need to share him with the world."

[Read more about the CTE Churches Group for Evangelisation](#)

[Read the full story on our website...](#)

Church leaders across England mark Bishop Joe Aldred's retirement

More than 200 leaders, family and friends from across the churches gathered on 28 October 2020 to celebrate Bishop Joe Aldred's retirement, paying tribute to his "tremendous contributions to the kingdom of God".

With the celebrations forced online due to Covid 19 restrictions, video messages and live tributes were shared via zoom. Leaders representing many of CTE's 50 national Member Churches expressed their deep appreciation for Joe's 18 years at Churches Together, noting his significant role in "transforming the ecumenical landscape."

Heartfelt tributes were shared from leaders including Archbishop Doye Agama, Bishop Wilton Powell, Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Rev Dr Paul Goodliff.

[Watch a series of video tributes to Bishop Joe](#)

[Read the full story on our website...](#)



Lincolnshire Remembers

Churches Together in All Lincolnshire's John D Rose shares how they have been helping people in their area affected by the coronavirus...

How can we speak to those affected by Covid? How can we offer compassion and hope to those who have lost relatives, or who are confused, fearful or anxious? How can we stand with them?

These were questions asked by our Lincolnshire Presidents in May in the growing impact of Covid. A four-fold response emerged.

First was a Presidents' Statement, released to churches, media and public bodies. It was picked up and re-circulated by local radio, local newspapers and a national daily.

Second came a Presidents' Prayer specially written, and of all the Presidents saying it.

The third element, by far the most ambitious, was an online service of remembrance – "[Lincolnshire Remembers Covid, grief and hope](#)" which went live on September 20. It was premiered on a large local church's website, and subsequently on our website, and on various YouTube and Vimeo channels. A month later, new people are still watching it. Around 1500 people have now watched all or part of it.



On the first evening, 87 people participated in the LiveChat function and nine contacted us asking for prayer.

We included interviews with those directly affected in different ways; three specially commissioned musical items; readings and two talks, and a series of prayers for different aspects of Lincolnshire's people and situation. All our member-denominations contributed a part. We also involved the community – an MP, a senior policeman, and member of the aristocracy – plus a hospital chaplain, an ambulance paramedic, a schoolgirl, the retired and of course many church leaders.

Putting a video production like this together was new to us, and an immense effort. But we did it! Two days before the live presentation that didn't look likely!

At 85 minutes it was far too long – 45 minutes would have been much better – we started too late and ran out of editing time. But we have learned from that. It was extremely difficult to capture telling interviews with the right people who wanted to share their experience.

It was immensely worthwhile and the response indicates it was a comfort and many were encouraged to see the churches acting together.

Still to come - as this is written – [a webinar on November 19 called "New Earth"](#) looking to the post-Covid future. Our speakers will be UNESCO's [Professor Ted Fuller](#), award-winning author [Caroline Custis James](#) and [Rabbi Jonathan Wittenberg](#) – not to be missed!

[Read this story on our website...](#)

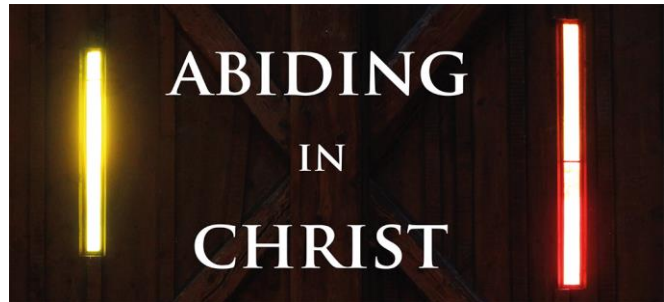
Abiding in Christ: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021

The theme of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) for 2021 has been announced as 'Abiding in Christ'.

WPCU is traditionally celebrated between January 18 and January 25 - the octave of St. Peter and St. Paul.

The materials for the week have been prepared by the [ecumenical Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland](#) which has fifty sisters, women from different generations, Church traditions, countries and continents. The theme is based on John 15:1-17 "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit" and expresses the Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family.

[Find more information about WCPU on the Churches Together in Britain & Ireland website...](#)



Fill your street with friendliness

A bright spot in this difficult year has been the resurgence of community spirit during the lockdown...

The As One campaign has been set up to help churches, in a wider partnership, recapture this, embed it for the long term and at the same time invest in new and fruitful links with their immediate neighbourhood.

Pre-Lockdown, a Birmingham initiative led by Christians captured the imagination of the UK's second city. 158 organisations joined the campaign to bring greater friendliness; then churches invited local streets to a tea party to boost friendliness 'right here'. It worked, and church members were then part of starting Street Associations on the streets where they lived, creating ongoing links, generating real community, real friendships and a way of 'loving your neighbour' in practice.



CTE President, Rev Dr Hugh Osgood has offered his support to As One in [a video message](#).

As One is now planning to bring this tried-and-tested approach to other parts of the UK. Martin Graham, the organiser, says "As One is ready to help groups of churches approach the local authority, provide the banners, plus other key materials, suggested

talks, mentoring, advice and written guides on how to do all this, with national profile – all supported by a paid local coordinator to take much of the strain."

[Email Martin Graham for more details and campaign costs](#)

[Read this story on our website...](#)

Save the date for Europe's biggest Christian gathering in May 2021



The 3rd Ecumenical Kirchentag in Frankfurt/Main will take place from **12 to 16 May 2021**. Christians from all over Germany and beyond will (Covid-19 permitting) experience and celebrate what is possible in terms of common worship, Bible studies, lectures, and discussions, many of them in English. The last Ecumenical Kirchentag attracted more than 160,000 attendees.

[Read a full introduction to the Ecumenical Kirchentag from Canon Tony Dickinson, an Anglican Chaplain in Genoa on our website...](#)

Mayflower Fest

The Congregational Federation, one of our Member Churches, has produced a collection of short films to mark the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower, which took place in September 1620 from Plymouth in Devon across the Atlantic to the New World. This event is significant in their tradition as the Pilgrims were congregationalists, and many congregational churches were formed in America after they had settled.

Explore [Mayflower Fest online](#)



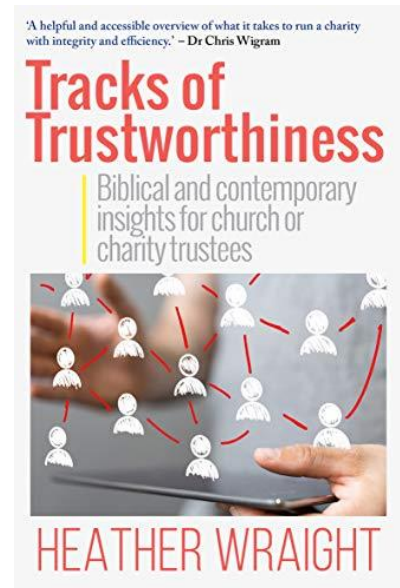
[Read the full story on our website...](#)

Library corner

Tracks of Trustworthiness - Biblical and contemporary insights for church and charity trustees by Heather Wraight

Heather Wraight's book *Tracks of Trustworthiness* is a reflection on the role of Christian Trustees. The Charity Commission provides some very helpful leaflets about Trustees responsibilities, but *Tracks of Trustworthiness* takes us much deeper, working through the various aspects of being a trustee generally and also helping us reflect on the Christian nature of our calling.

[Read the full book review from Churches Together in England's Company Secretary and Trustee, Rev David Lavender, on our website...](#)



Job Opportunity

Churches Together in Essex & East London is seeking to appoint two part-time Ecumenical Leads

- Flexible working arrangements
- Two vacancies: one in Essex, one in East London
- £9,800 for 12 hours per week

These part-time jobs involve working with senior church leaders, and churches together groups to promote Christian unity and mission opportunities between denominations and other traditions of the Christian church.

We are interested to hear from people who are:

- enthusiastic about Christians partnering in mission
- confident communicators and users of social media
- passionate organisers of community events
- excellent administrators who can manage priorities
- actively involved in a Christian church For full details view this job advert on our website...

Applications close Tuesday 10 November.

[Read the full details of this job opportunity on our website...](#)

And finally...

Interfaith Week – 8 to 15 November

The aims of this week are to:

- increase awareness of faith communities in the UK, celebrating and building on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society
- increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs

[Visit the Interfaith Week website](#)



Virtual Christmas Carols from Sports Chaplaincy UK

With the current challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, this year Sports Chaplaincy UK, in partnership with HOPE Together, are offering Virtual Christmas Carols.

On Tuesday 15 December at 7.30pm and Sunday 20 December at 6.00pm, they will be offering a full Virtual carol service online and on social media, led by Warren Evans, CEO of Sports Chaplaincy UK and Broadcaster, Jay Lusted.



To find out more, [visit the Virtual Christmas Carols website](#)

Calling all Editors!

Would you like some extra content, advice and inspiration for your church magazine plus the possibility of meeting up with other editors to exchange ideas and discuss problems? The [Association for Church Editors](#) can provide those things - they are a not for profit organisation aiming to help church editors of all denominations improve their magazines. Why not take a look at [their website](#) for some free help and find out what membership can offer you and your team for only £10 a year?

One Good Friday update

In October's CTe-News we featured [Wintershall's offer to help communities put on their own passion play](#) at Easter 2021. Due to the new Covid restrictions they have now decided to relaunch One Good Friday in 2022.

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