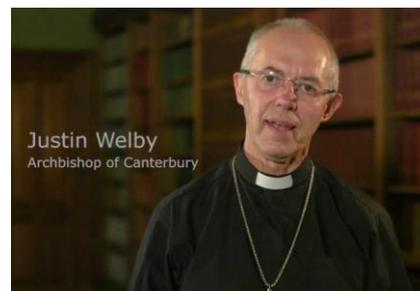


Reflection of the Month:

What does it mean to pray 'Thy Kingdom Come'?



The Archbishop of Canterbury has reflected on this question and invited other national church and network leaders to reflect on it too. In preparation for the 10 days of prayer *Thy Kingdom Come* 10th - 20th May 2018, a series of videos have been produced exploring the question from different perspectives and traditions.

For this month's CTE Reflection of the Month we share the videos produced so far, for you to watch and reflect on the same question: 'What does it mean to pray "Thy Kingdom Come"?'

[Revd Dr Kate Coleman, Founder/Co-Director Next Leadership](#)

[In conversation with Pete Gregg from the 24-7 Prayer International](#)

[In conversation with Archbishop Angaelos, Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London](#)

[Rev Lynn Green, General Secretary Baptist Union](#)

[In conversation with Reverend Gareth Powell, Secretary of the Methodist Conference](#)

[Shane Claiborne, Author and Speaker](#)

More videos will be available soon.

Links

[Archbishop Justin Welby reflects onTKC 2017](#)

[TKC and the Catholic Bishops Conference for England and Wales](#)

[TKC and the Methodist Church](#)

[TKC and Baptists Together](#)

[2017 Presidents of Churches Together in England TKC video](#)

Main TKC resource website and #PledgeToPray: www.thykingdomecome.global

New CTE General Secretary appointed



Press Release 20th March 2018 for general distribution:

The Revd Dr Paul Goodliff has been appointed as the new General Secretary of Churches Together in England.

Speaking of his appointment, Paul says, 'At a time of renewed commitment to the ecumenical process, with a more missional focus to the work as Churches Together in England, I am looking forward immensely to participating in this new chapter of the ecumenical life in England. It is a privilege to be able to offer some leadership to this process, as together CTE serves the churches of this land. I hope to prayerfully encourage the whole church of Jesus Christ to 'move in the Spirit as we are called to transformative discipleship', to echo the theme of the very recent WCC Commission for World Mission and Evangelism Conference held in Arusha, Tanzania, and which I attended as a delegate.'

Paul continued, 'As the ecumenical movement in England embraces the mission of God to make Christ known in word and deed, I am certain we discover more of what that transformative discipleship means together than when we do so alone, always trusting in the gracious enabling of the Holy Spirit'.

The Convenor of CTE's Board of Trustees, the Revd Ruth Bottoms, said 'I am delighted that we have been able to appoint someone who has a breadth of ecumenical experience. Paul is an able communicator and has a passion for enabling the churches to engage together as they seek to bear witness to Christ in our nation. I look forward to working alongside him'.

Dr Goodliff will take up his appointment in September. This follows the retirement of the present General Secretary, the Revd Dr David Cornick, who says, 'It is very good news indeed that the leadership of CTE will be in such capable hands as the churches of England build on their excellent relationships and reflect on ways in which they can collaborate in mission together.'

Notes

Paul is presently co-minister of Abingdon Baptist Church, having served previously as General Superintendent of the Baptist Union's Central Area, and then as the Baptist Union's Head of Ministry. He is well known as a lecturer and is the author of books on pastoral care, the theology and psychology of shame, and most recently, a study of ministerial formation and virtue ethics, *Shaped for Service* (2017). Widely experienced ecumenically, Paul has been a member of the WCC-Pentecostal Joint Consultative Group since 2000.

[Link to Paul's full biography](#)

A Pentecostal/Charismatic contribution to the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation

Diane Thompson-Bowen writes:

The 24th March 2018, found a group people gathered from many parts of the UK to contemplate the connection between the Protestant Reformation and the Pentecostal and Charismatic movement. The venue was Renewal Christian Centre, Solihull, West Midlands. It was to be a response to last year's 500th Anniversary of the publication of Martin Luther's 95 theses, which had been commemorated by many protestant churches throughout Europe. Pleasantly, though perhaps unusually, the conference started at 12 noon with registration and a fellowship meal. Apart from the sharing of bread it was an opportunity to meet and greet old friends and make new ones. As well as this social aspect to the conference we had the opportunity to peruse a bookstand ably staffed by a member of the CLC team.



After lunch we gathered to chew on meatier matters. The session was chaired in a timely manner by Dionne Gravesande. We began with prayer, requesting of the Lord that we may become 'kingdom people in a kingdom world'. Dionne then introduced our first presenter, Roger Forster, founder and leader of Ichthus Christian Fellowship International. His paper was entitled 'Anabaptism: the often overlooked fundamental contribution to the Reformation'. He provided us with many historical insights. He helped us to understand who the Anabaptists were, and more importantly how they were pivotal to the Reformation movement. Early in his presentation, Roger stated that, based on his understanding, we should not be working for unity, as we have it already, but that we need to embrace it. Yet, it was quite clear from this account of Anabaptist history that the Church did not exist in unity during a period when the Anabaptists endured intense persecutions, including at the hands of other Christians.

The Anabaptists were radical reformers, considering adult baptism key to spiritual growth. They believed in the priesthood of the saints. They would consider the scripture together, coming to a consensus on doctrine, with the understanding that they could only interpret scripture with the help of the Holy Spirit. Roger Forster equated this movement to 'restoration churches', i.e. those churches which were salt and light in the world, examples of which occurred in every century of Church history. He concluded his presentation by comparing the Pentecostal and Charismatic movement with that of the Anabaptists during the Reformation. There were clear links and in many ways the 'mainstream' church responded in a similar way to both movements. For a more in-depth and fuller explanation you are encouraged to download this paper.

The response to this paper was given by Reverend Bev Thomas. She felt the necessity to respond by bringing to the fore those women who were part of the Anabaptist movement. Pointing out that women had an equal standing with men, especially as

they were forced to undergo the same persecution as their male peers. The Reverend Thomas did this as she felt that the previous presentation, through no fault of the presenter, had omitted this very important aspect of 'Anabaptist radical reform'.

The next paper was given by Professor Allan H. Anderson. It was entitled 'What does the European Protestant Reformation have to do with Global Pentecostalism?' In this presentation the Professor gave a theological and historical outline of how as a by-product of the European Reformation the Gospel spread throughout the Americas, Africa and Asia. He spoke of how the 'Great Awakening' triggered a heart for mission and how Evangelicals (and Pentecostals) moved through these areas. He made a clear statement about the complex relationship between mission and colonialism, in which they often re-enforced each other. However, it is clearly understood that it was native workers who spread Pentecostalism globally.

The response to this paper was given by Professor Robert Beckford. Using the lens of Black Liberation Theology, the Professor's response was controversial, insightful and extremely thought provoking. This is why this writer offers her apologies for not being able to expand more fully on this response. At the time of writing, I am still thinking over Professor Beckford's words, which I believe was his aim. The Professor did focus in on the relationship between mission and colonialism referring to the 'mysterium tremendum' of colonial evangelism. He spoke of the struggle to overcome the colonial effects on European mission and theology, and the requirement of theology to set all free.

The papers submitted at this symposium are required reading, in particular for those in the teaching ministry of the Church. They will need further consideration from those who were in attendance. A special thanks to the organiser of this event Bishop Dr Joe Aldred, Richard Bradbury and Phyllis Thompson.

Minister Diane Thompson-Bowen, Church of God of Prophecy, Reading
Note: The papers will be available from a link [here](#) soon.

Europe Day Service 2018 **Wednesday 9 May**



This year's service focusing on Europe Day will be the Mass at St George's Roman Catholic Cathedral Southwark at 12.30 on Wednesday 9 May, coordinated by Faith in Europe in collaboration with the Cathedral. The celebrant and preacher will be the Right Reverend Patrick Lynch, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Southwark, and there will be bidding prayers in several European languages.

The Cathedral is in Lambeth Road, opposite the Imperial War Museum. It is very near Waterloo and Lambeth North underground stations. The Mass is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

Faith in Europe, The Churches' European Relations Network is a [Body in Association](#)

Churches Together in South London Forum

Claire Crowley writes:

The CTSL Triennial Forum took place on Thursday 22nd March 2018, generously hosted at Livability's state-of-the-art HQ in North Greenwich.

The event had a fantastic buzz and there was a great range of discussion, sharing, presenting, networking, knowledge-exchange, reflection and prayer.

The speakers and delegates were equal contributors, and the breadth of experience and diverse perspectives created a richness and authenticity to a Forum for South London.



From senior church leaders to laity, NGOs to medical students, we gathered to resource one another and build relationships across denominations. Organisations represented include Christian Aid, the Bible Society, Churches Together in England, Oxygen, Third Space, Roehampton University, Citizens UK, to name a few. We made full use of the flexible space, and the stunning views over the Thames through floor-to-ceiling windows afforded a great perspective as we celebrated and developed churches working together in South London.

CTSL Chair Rev Michaela Youngson opened the day with a reflection on what it means to develop well being as churches witnessing and acting together.

From there we had a series of sessions including three choices of resourcing tracks from XLP, StreetDoctors, Ascension Trust's Synergy Network and our hosts Livability's Happiness Course.



Four regions of South London raised and reviewed ecumenical activity in their boroughs and fed back a visual plenary onto wipeable walls, photographed for tweets and keeps! CTSL Vice Chair Bishop Karwei Dorgu closed in encouragement, gratitude and prayer.

If you'd like to see the day in pictures and soundbites, please have a look at our [twitter feed](#), and for follow-up resources, check out our [facebook page](#).

Invitation to pray with CTE Presidents at Thy Kingdom Come in WCH

Westminster Central Hall on the evening of Pentecost Sunday 20th May 2018, will be the venue for an ecumenical Beacon event of [Thy Kingdom Come](#).

The host for the service will be the Revd Loraine Mellor, President of the Methodist Conference, and speaking will be the Revd Gareth Powell, Secretary of the Methodist Conference and the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is one of the six Presidents of Churches Together in England, and one of the Archbishops calling the churches in England to pray 'Thy Kingdom Come', and 'Come Holy Spirit' between Ascension on Thursday 10th May and Pentecost Sunday 20th May.

Joining the Archbishop of Canterbury is another co-President of CTE, Pastor Agu of Jesus House, who is the Pentecostal President. Pastor Agu will lead the prayers. Jesus House will also be bringing a Choir for the evening service of prayer and worship, led by Pete James, that gathers from 6.30 and starts 7.00pm.

All are welcome to join with the Presidents as they pray together at this free event. [Download a publicity flyer](#)

More information inc travel: <https://pentecostbeacon.eventbrite.co.uk>

Ecumenical Facilitator Greater Manchester Churches Together are seeking a Facilitator

The main purpose of the Churches Together Facilitator role is to facilitate and support the churches of Greater Manchester in their relationships with one another and in their wider mission in the world, by encouraging and developing the principles and practices of Christian unity throughout the City Region.

In particular, s/he will:

- Work in partnership alongside other colleagues within Greater Manchester Churches Together.
- Work closely with the Church Leaders, supporting, challenging and facilitating their strategic collaboration and fellowship to enhance the ecumenical life and mission of the Church in Greater Manchester.



- Facilitate, encourage and work with the team of Denominational Ecumenical Officers to encourage and support local unity creatively and proactively through Churches Together Groups, Local Ecumenical Partnerships and in other ways, in their mission to the communities they serve.
- Facilitate the development of collaborative relationships for unity and mission within the whole Christian community in Greater Manchester.

£15,743 pa plus 5% pension contribution. Home based, 17.5 hours per week.
For further information, including the application process, visit <http://www.gmct.net>.
Closing date for applications: 9.00 am on Thursday 23 April 2018

Research Intern - Council for Christian Unity

The Research Intern for Theology and Ecumenical Relations contributes to theological work being undertaken by the Faith and Order Commission (FAOC) and provides administrative support for its meetings and associated projects.

The FAOC is a commission of the General Synod and advises the Church of England on theological matters, including those arising from ecumenical engagement.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The Research Intern also has responsibility for taking forward research projects informing policy on ecumenical relations for the Council for Christian Unity (CCU). The CCU is an advisory committee of the General Synod and reports to the Synod through the Archbishops' Council, which oversees the ecumenical relations of the Church of England.

This is an exceptional opportunity to gain experience and skills in a range of research contexts by contributing to on-going work within the Council for Christian Unity (CCU) staff team in theology and ecumenical relations and to gain experience and skills in general administration through assisting the Secretary for Theology and Ecumenical Relations in related administration.

This post is offered on an 11-month fixed term contract and your normal working hours will be 35 per week, with some overnight residential meetings.

Closing Date for applications: Sunday 29th April 2018
Interview Date: Thursday 17th May 2018

Full details: <https://pathways.churchofengland.org/jobs/job/Research-Intern/557>

Digital Evangelist (0.5 post) **The Christian Enquiry Agency is seeking a part-time Digital Evangelist**



www.christianity.org.uk

Are you passionate about engaging with people asking the important questions of life, love, death and everything? Could you increase our reach beyond the 15,000 contacts per month on our website? Can you offer strategic thinking and creative flair in a world of social media developments?

Would you enjoy responding to the various enquirers in email conversations?

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic, evangelistic, creative and strategic person. This is an exciting opportunity for the right candidate, with ideas for taking us into the next stage of our online developments. You will be of strong and broad theological background, able to respond to enquirers pastorally and with biblical competency.

You will need to write and present a range of information about Christianity to keep updating the website, and be technologically competent on a range of online platforms. You will need to network with UK churches and agencies to increase use of our website.

For Job Description: <https://christianenquiryagency.org.uk/vacancy/>

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 11 April 2018

Interviews: 3 May 2018 (London)

This post was first advertised in January. Previous applicants may re-apply.

Peter Hammond, remembered

David Cornick writes:

Peter was CTE's Treasurer from 2003-2018. An accountant with wide experience of the charitable sector, we came to rely on his skill and wisdom. He gave of both with gentleness and generosity, and became a friend to many in the ecumenical world.



We learnt that he died on 26th March at St John's Hospice Moggerhanger, at peace, and surrounded by his family after a short illness. A faithful and committed Salvationist, Peter lent his support to many charities which sought to advance the kingdom of Christ. He will be sorely missed. Our prayers and thoughts are with Sue and his family. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

A celebration of Peter's life will be held at 3pm on Thursday 3 May at [The Salvation Army Bedford Congress Hall, Commercial Road, MK40 1NY](#) for anyone that wishes to attend. Donations received will be shared between a school in Zimbabwe, in which Peter was actively involved, and the SA support team involved with Grenfell Tower. Anyone wishing to donate should make a cheque payable to 'The Salvation Army' and can either post to Lorraine Shannon at the [CTE office](#) or give directly on the day.

Church Leaders invite Young People to Big Hope 2 Liverpool Hope University, 13-20 June 2018



Big Hope 2 comes 10 years after the original event and fulfils the promise made to welcome young people from around the world to Liverpool, as the city celebrates a decade since being European Capital of Culture. The Big Hope 2 Young Leaders Congress is based around four major themes affecting the world today, freedom, conflict, equality and change. Young people aged between 16-35 from all over the world are invited to the Big Hope 2 to explore these topics, discuss how they are affecting their lives and society, and what they can do to make a difference.

The Presidents of Churches Together in the Merseyside Region are encouraging an ecumenical group of young people to attend this congress. Denominational youth leaders met earlier this year in view of attending the Big Hope 2 and of future working together. The youth leaders, including 2 chaplains from the local universities, shared some of their precious experiences of youth work. It became clear that each denomination has a characteristic way of working with young people and that there is a great variety in approach, which was refreshing and enriching.

The CTMR Presidents who are inviting the ecumenical group to take part in the congress are: The Most Rev'd Malcolm McMahon, Archbishop of Liverpool; The Right Rev'd Paul Bayes, Bishop of Liverpool; The Rev'd Dr Sheryl Anderson, Chair of the Liverpool Methodist District; The Rev'd Jacky Embrey, Moderator of the Mersey Synod of the United Reformed Church; The Rev'd Phil Jump, Regional Minister, North West Baptist Association and Major Drew McCombe, Divisional Commander – North West England and North Wales, Salvation Army.



There is an excellent and exciting programme for the Big Hope 2 with many inspirational keynote speakers confirmed. It will be a packed week of learning, debate, creativity and fun. There will be keynotes, discussion forums, learning tracks, reflection sessions as well as time for social interaction. The Opening & Closing Ceremony will be at the Anglican and Catholic Cathedrals.

For further information, please email bighope@hope.ac.uk and for regular updates please visit the Big Hope website www.thebighope.info.

Rev Hugh G Cross MBE 1930-2017

Allan Cross writes:

Hugh Cross, the first appointed Ecumenical Moderator of Milton Keynes Christian Council, has died aged 87. Hugh took up his pioneering role in Milton Keynes in 1990 during the final fitting out of the newly built Church of Christ the Cornerstone. His five-year tenure ended with his retirement in 1995.

The son of a missionary parents, Hugh was born in Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) where his father, Arthur Cross, played a pioneering role in the field of Christian Unity and industrial mission. He came to the UK in 1951 and attended Bristol Baptist College, where he trained for the ministry. During his time there, he met and later married his wife Doreen, a trainee nurse.



In 1969, Hugh joined an embryonic Local Ecumenical Project at Grove Hill, a newly built housing estate on the edge of Hemel Hempstead. Sunday worship was held in a builders' hut, while the streets, houses and eventually, an ecumenical church, were built around it. It was a successful experiment which brought the different denominations of the Christian church under one roof. Hugh learnt much through this experience, and in 1979 took up a post with the British Council of Churches becoming Ecumenical Officer for England, a consultative role supporting emerging ecumenical projects around the country. Hugh held this post for ten years before taking up his post in Milton Keynes.

Hugh and Doreen moved to Ottery St Mary in Devon following Hugh's retirement. Doreen died in 2010 and Hugh is survived by his four children Janet, Graham, Allan and Kathleen and there will be a Thanksgiving Service on Saturday 21 April 2018 at 3.30pm at St Mary's Church, Ottery St Mary, Devon EX11 1DQ and afterwards at The Tumbling Weir Hotel, Canaan Way, Ottery St Mary, Devon EX11 1AQ

If wishing to attend, for catering purposes, please could you [email Allan Cross](mailto:allan@cte.org.uk).

Extra items ... (not on the CTE website)

1000 at the Conference on World Mission and Evangelism

For a long weekend in March, more than 1,000 people gathered in Tanzania for the World Council of Churches Conference on World Mission and Evangelism (CWME), including as a delegate, the new General Secretary of CTE, Revd Dr Paul Goodliff, and several other colleagues from England. <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/mission2018>

Steve Clifford writes about the Evangelical Alliance and Unity in IDEA

God desires His family to live together in unity, to demonstrate the love to one another that comes from God; to make visible what is invisible. Then we can come together to make Christ known, and observe the radical transformation that takes place when Christ is honoured and hope is established in a person's heart. To see the coming kingdom is our hope. Link to the whole article: http://www.eauk.org/idea/the-coming-kingdom-is-our-hope.cfm?mc_cid=84e127136f&mc_eid=949733270d

General Secretary of ACTS to join WCC staff

The Rev Matthew Ross, General Secretary of Action for Churches Together in Scotland since April 2014, will be leaving ACTS this summer. He has been appointed as Programme Executive for Diakonia and Capacity Building with the World Council of Churches, based in Geneva. His new role will entail co-operation with Church-related development agencies (such as Christian Aid), Church-related social care agencies and work on the Church's response to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2015-2030.

.....

This mailing is from Churches Together in England and is sent once a month

Subscribe and see the archive: www.cte.org.uk/news

To unsubscribe or to submit items for consideration, email: website@cte.org.uk

A Word version is available to cut and paste articles for further distribution: www.cte.org.uk/news