



*Hello. If you would like to send me any information for the September 2023 newsletter, please send it by 25<sup>th</sup> August. Thank you!*

**The Food Bank in Leominster** are looking for volunteers to join the team. They are particularly looking for people to fulfil volunteer management roles which would mean being able to commit half a day per week or more and be physically strong enough to manage regular lifting of supermarket food crates. There are other roles available including supermarket food collections and also food deliveries to client's homes at 9-9.45pm in the evenings which would best suit a couple due to the nature of the role. Leominster Food Bank are also looking for people to train as money mentors and to join the team of trustees. If you are interested in finding out more or applying to volunteer, then please email them

at [leominsterfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:leominsterfoodbank@gmail.com) or call them on 07715410575. If you would like to donate any food to the Food Bank, please go to <https://www.leominsterfoodbank.org/> to find out which items are needed or sign up to the free app [www.bankthefood.org](http://www.bankthefood.org)



## Royal School of Church Music

The RSMC are looking at new ways of attracting children and young people into church choirs, including giving advice on flexible repertoire. This event is taking place on 10th July, 2023, at Holy Trinity Church, Hereford HR4 ODH. 7-9pm. Donations welcome. Refreshments available.

Please contact Sallie Peacock to confirm attendance, or for further information.

email: [meggy.brimfield@gmail.com](mailto:meggy.brimfield@gmail.com)

Part 1: Short presentations from musicians and priests from a variety of settings describing how they have had success in recruiting/involving children and young people into church choirs or other related activities.

Mark Sanderson - Director of Music, St Mary's Ross-on-Wye - linking with Messy Church.

Revd Lois Beynon - West Hereford Team Ministry - and Elly Bosworth (Choir Leader) - Choir Church (in schools).

Hilary Norris - Director of Music, Leominster Priory - working with schools and uniformed organisations.

Stuart and Di Brain - Organists at Eardisley and Almeley churches - involving children on special occasions in small rural churches.

Brendon Quinn - Director of Music, Much Wenlock - motivating children using RSCM awards and training materials.

Interval with refreshments.

Part 2: Suggestions of flexible repertoire that works well with children/mixed choir, useful teaching techniques and time for questions.

### New President for CTE

Dr Anna Krauss is the incoming President for the Fourth Presidency Group.

Churches Together in England is pleased to announce the appointment of a new President, to represent our Fourth Presidency Group.

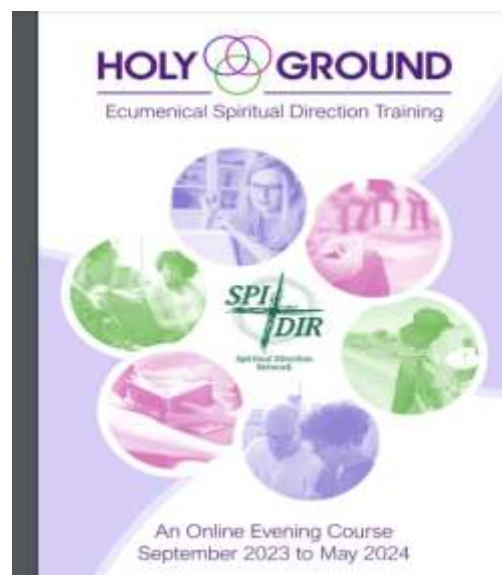
**Dr Anna Krauss, General Secretary of the Council of Lutheran Churches in Great Britain, was nominated by the Group's members.** Her term of office began at the start of May 2023 for four years. To read more, visit the CTE website: <https://cte.org.uk/new-cte-president-krauss/>



[Join the global wave of prayer](#) calling all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ. There are lots of new resources available to use in church services, small groups or individually.



One in Christ Jesus,  
engaged in God's mission,  
empowered by the Spirit



### COURSE PURPOSE

Holy Ground is an ecumenical spiritual direction training course for Christians who find themselves accompanying others on their spiritual journey. This may be in a formal capacity as a minister, pastoral assistant or mentor, or perhaps you have noticed that others turn to you as a listening ear. This foundation course is ideal for all those who would like to train in the ministry of spiritual direction whether ordained or lay.

**The course aims to:**

- Equip the relationship of spiritual direction in the light of our own life-experiences and of the experience of being alongside others
- Develop skills, understanding and resources for accompanying and encouraging personal growth and fulfilment
- Nurture a growing competence and awareness of our own sense of vocation in relation to the Christian tradition of spiritual direction

### COURSE CONTENT

The course will run over three terms, consisting of 22 online evening sessions (Thursday 8.30-9.30pm), and 3 in-person day sessions (Saturdays, 10am-4pm). In-person days will take place at St Francis Church, Hereford Road, High Wycombe HP12 5AD, which has plenty of parking and is accessible by public transport. Under certain circumstances these days may be delivered online. A dedicated Zoom link, and a secure online Student Portal for course resources and materials will also be provided.

**The course will include:**

- Theoretical sessions, in which the background and practice of spiritual direction will be explored, including:
  - Biblical and theological perspectives
  - Themes within Christian spirituality and spiritual direction
  - Issues concerned with human personality, psychology, and growth
- Experiences of different forms of spirituality and prayer relating to the spiritual journey
- Experiential sessions, in which an aspect of spiritual direction will be explored, including:
  - Reflecting on our own experiences
  - The use of role-play
  - Directing and being directed in small working groups
- Regular written and reflective assignments and tutor feedback
- Monitoring of progress and student appraisals

### COURSE DATES

Term 1 (2023): Sep 28, Oct 9, 12, 19, Nov 9, 10, 23, 26, 30  
 Term 2 (2024): Jan 13, 18, 20, Feb 1, 8, 22, 26, Mar 7, 14, 16, 21  
 Term 3 (2024): Apr 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16

Clothes are a basic human right.

## HELP THOSE SEEKING ASYLUM TODAY


Donate to support our campaign today and give someone the dignity of choice.

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

Diocese of Hereford

As part of Refugee Week 2023, The Diocese of Hereford has partnered with Mothers' Union Hereford to launch a clothing appeal, asking people to donate towards buying new clothes for those seeking asylum who are currently being hosted in the county.

### An Invitation to ...



**West Hereford team**

### Get Away for A Quiet Day

in the beautiful peace of St Michael's Church, Breinton.

We are offering three days. Each will run from 10am to 4.30pm and have a different leader and theme, and will end with a short Communion service. The church has parking (B94 7PG), level access and a toilet.

<https://westherefordteam.org.uk>

<h4>PROGRAMME</h4> <p><b>May 12th</b> Praying with Pictures led by Bishop David Thomas Bring your camera, sketchbook, a favourite picture ... We take time to look and listen, using clay and our art and photographs to help our prayers. Light lunch provided</p> <p><b>June 17th</b> Praying as we Walk led by Reverend Ray Gaskin A gentle pilgrimage walk along the river, enjoying God's good creation and companionship with fellow travellers on the way. We will pause for lunch at the Church. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. Light lunch provided</p> <p><b>July 15th</b> Exploring Creation with Creative Craft led by Revd Jo Chandler Reflecting on our place in creation through prayer, craft activities and a lunchtime walk to a local picnic spot. Craft materials provided as well as tea, coffee and cake at lunch time. Please bring your own picnic lunch (but use if you can make that plan friendly to you too)</p> <p>There will be a charge of £15 per day to cover refreshments (including a light lunch on the first two days), materials and other costs. Any surplus will go to support Breinton Church.</p> <p>Booking needed to place an Order. Please use the form opposite.</p> <p>Contact David Thomas: <a href="mailto:ds@westherefordteam.org.uk">ds@westherefordteam.org.uk</a> 07771 964333</p>	<h4>BREINTON CHURCH QUIET DAYS</h4> <h5>BOOKING FORM</h5> <p>Your name: _____</p> <p>Contact email (or address if not on email): _____</p> <p>Tick the day(s) you would like to book for:</p> <p>Sat 12th May <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sat 17th June <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sat 15th July <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Please note any dietary or other needs here: _____</p> <p>On receipt of this form we will reserve a place for you if one is still available and then contact you to ask you to confirm the booking by sending payment by either BACS or cheque.</p> <p>Please send this form to Bishop David Thomas, 31 Apple Green, Hereford SP4 6SA or email to <a href="mailto:ds@westherefordteam.org.uk">ds@westherefordteam.org.uk</a></p>
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Funds from the appeal will be used to provide vouchers for the Asylum Seekers, enabling them to purchase essential items of clothing. Most of the individuals housed in the Three Counties Hotel arrived with no more than the clothes they were wearing.

The Bishop of Hereford, the Right Revd Richard Jackson, said. "I have always felt it is important to welcome our friends and neighbours and I have been overwhelmed by



the generosity of our local community in supporting those fleeing their homes due to persecution and war, including countries such as Afghanistan, Syria, and Ukraine.

“That is why I am asking people to extend this welcome to all seeking refuge in our area, and to show compassion by supporting this campaign. I encourage people to give whatever they can afford. It will make a huge difference to these people who have travelled from conflict areas with nothing more than the clothes on their backs and fear in their hearts.”

Sunday 19 June marked the start of Refugee Week which ran until Sunday 25 June. It is an annual event, the world’s largest arts & culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Founded in 1998 in the UK and held every year around the World. This year, Refugee Week celebrates its 25th anniversary and people are invited to celebrate what compassion looks like in action. Please click this link if you would like to donate online:

<https://hereford.anglican.org/clothing-appeal-refugee-week-2023.php>



### **Reducing Parental Conflict**

Vennture are creating a Families Programme, this is an additional project to support families to reduce the impact of parental conflict. Vennture will work with schools, developing a model to address parental conflict in dispersed rural populations. Rural families who are dealing with parental conflict are hidden, disconnected, and unable to access timely and meaningful support.

Vennture has an opportunity for a **Specialist Senior Link Worker** who will work with the Programme Manager to develop the programme and help lead a team.

There are also opportunities for **Specialist Link Workers**. They will work collaboratively with small rural schools and come alongside families who are finding things tough and need support to overcome the barriers they are facing to reach their full potential.

Full details of the vacancies are available on our website and all our social media sites.

<https://www.vennture.org.uk/work-for-vennture/>

Any enquiries can be directed to [Richard.griffiths@vennture.org.uk](mailto:Richard.griffiths@vennture.org.uk)

The Redditch Carmelite Spirituality Group meets on the third Saturday of the month from 11am to 2pm at the Bridge Centre, Evesham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch B97 4JX. Carmelite Spirituality groups are ecumenical groups. We meet together to share aspects of Carmelite Spirituality, based around a contemplative approach. Our meetings include input about some aspect of Carmelite spirituality (for example, approaches to prayer and contemplation, or writings of Carmelites such as Teresa of Avila or St John of the Cross), Lectio Divina (praying with Scripture) and a shared lunch. Our next meeting is on 16th September. We will be discussing a chapter about St Simon Stock from the book ‘To Live is to Pray’. Meetings for the remainder of 2023 are on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 18<sup>th</sup> November and 16<sup>th</sup> December. If you are

interested in attending any of our meetings or would like more information, please contact Dr Susan Porter (group convener), email [ingeva@btinternet.com](mailto:ingeva@btinternet.com) or phone 07789741900.



Here at the [National Parenting Initiative](https://www.thenpi.org.uk), we will shortly be running a free online event aimed at all those with a passion for seeing families flourish in their church and wider community. Join us from 12-1pm on the 12<sup>th</sup> July and hear from [Who Let The Dads Out?](#), [Kids Matter](#), [Connected Lives](#) and [Parenting for Faith](#) about ways to support and empower families in your community. The event promises to be full of encouragement and all are welcome. With the NPI soon to close, don't miss this opportunity to be inspired with fresh ideas for supporting families in your community. Free registration is here:

[https://www.thenpi.org.uk/Groups/402424/UK\\_Wide\\_Online.aspx](https://www.thenpi.org.uk/Groups/402424/UK_Wide_Online.aspx)

Or for more information email [kayte@thenpi.org.uk](mailto:kayte@thenpi.org.uk)



## A Time to Mourn, A Time to Dance

A live dance event for your church to host.

Bring your community together to watch two exceptional new dance works performed by a company of five outstanding dancers.

Based on *Ecclesiastes 3: There is a Time for Everything*, the performance is an uplifting dance show that explores the tension between loss and joy. The double-bill sensitively embodies a kaleidoscope of grief and joy through open-hearted professional dance.

***"...it is one of the strengths of the performance that it does not offer easy answers or a simplistic message, but relates to universal emotional experiences. That makes it incredibly powerful and accessible to people from any background. Thank you and well done - it was beautiful!"*** - Andrea Weigert, audience member 2022

Springs Dance Company is inviting churches and cathedrals to book now to host a performance of **A Time to Mourn, A Time to Dance** in October 2023.

For more information about this project please get in touch by emailing [touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk](mailto:touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk) or by calling 07775 628442.

Further information and videos can also be found on the Springs Dance Company website page <https://springsdancecompany.org.uk/productions/a-time-to-mourn-a-time-to-dance/>



**Journey of the Magi** – a festive, light-hearted, joyful event with a moving and profound message.

Share the joy and wonder of Christmas with your church and local community through this exhilarating, critically acclaimed performance. The show offers a bridge between contemporary life and Jesus's birth, comparing our own personal journey to Christmas day with the journey that the wise men took. With sparkle and songs to keep the children entertained and bags of good humour for the grown-ups, **Journey of the Magi** delights audiences of all ages and offers a chance to reflect and refocus.

Springs is inviting churches to host a performance of **Journey of the Magi**, which will be available nationally during Advent 2023.

Further information can be found on the Springs Dance Company website. Further information can be found on the Springs Dance Company website page <https://springsdancecompany.org.uk/productions/journey-of-the-magi/>, by emailing [touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk](mailto:touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk) or by calling 07775 628442.



## Churches Together in Ewyas Harold

Taize Prayer will be taking place at Dore Abbey at 6:30 pm on Sunday 30 July.

The Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) UK is looking to recruit! They are looking for those who are interested in applying for the roles of Administrative Assistant, Digital Marketing Co-ordinator and Junior Digital Marketing Assistant. If you would like to find out more, please click on the link:

<https://www.cbneurope.com/job-opportunities/>



THE CHRISTIAN BROADCASTING NETWORK

## The Struggle for Racial Justice – Recalling the past and discerning the future.

### A CARJ series of webinars.

The aim of these webinars from the Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ) is to reflect on the history of the past 75 years and attempt to discern the best ways forward for society and for the Church in the effort to bring about a more just, more equal and more cooperative society.

- The Churches role in combatting racism over the past 75 years - Thu 6 July 2023, 7-8.30pm.
- Combatting Racism – An Agenda for the Future of Britain - Sat 29 July, 10-11.30am.
- The Church's role in the struggle for Racial Justice in the future - Thu 3 August 2023, 7-8.30pm.
- These webinars are a preparation for CARJ's 40th anniversary in 2024.

- Each webinar will feature two speakers, with ample time for discussion, and be chaired by Yogi Sutton.
- Registration
- The webinars are free. To register or for more information, please [contact the CARJ Administrator](#).



## TOTALLY PSALMIC - THE 2023 COMPETITION

A Psalms  
competition with a  
£600 prize  
pot (Judges may split  
this prize between  
joint winners).

The competition hopes to develop ways of presenting the Bible's Psalms (Songs) to a modern audience who may not have intimate knowledge of the Bible text. If you would like to find out who wins, the event will be held on the evening of Saturday 15th July 2023 at Ludlow Methodist Church Broad Street Ludlow SY8 1NH.

### UCB Prayerline Needs More Volunteers!

There is an exciting opportunity for anyone called to prayer to have the enablement to serve a **Nation** from the comfort of his or her own home; offering just **2hrs** per week fully trained and supported by UCB!

Prayerline is a ministry/service hosted by volunteers either ...

- Over the Phone
- By Email
- By Post (snail mail)
  - o **We are not a counselling or advice service we are primarily a prayer Ministry!**

The official website is [www.ucb.co.uk/pray](http://www.ucb.co.uk/pray)

The website explains in more detail, the role of a prayerline operator and how to get in touch.

To contact the prayerline service by phone the number is 01782 363000.

The telephone lines are open Monday to Friday 9am to 10pm and Saturday's 10am to 6pm.

Outside of these hours or whilst staffed by an operator, a caller can leave a **voicemail prayer request** or via the UCB website using the email functionality **24/7**.

The Prayerline Ministry/Service as mentioned earlier, is not a 'Counselling or Advice' service but is wholeheartedly a Prayerline ministry where our motto states, we are here to be **'Praying with you, Praying for you'** comes into play.

Calls continue to rise in the Prayerline ministry with an average of 400+ calls per day (often many more) overseen by just 126 faithful volunteers who provide us with 2 regular hours per week. The sheer nature of the calls have dramatically changed over the past couple of years meaning more time is being spent on individual calls. So, to support the expansion and the demand of the calls we are looking for volunteers who would be interested in this role. Do you have anyone you know who may be



interested? Someone who may be looking for a new and fresh way to serve the Lord?

If you are interested in this role, please contact me on [herefordshireceo@gmail.com](mailto:herefordshireceo@gmail.com), so can email you more information. Thanks!