



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

#### **Are You Thinking of Becoming an Eco Church?**

This webinar will tell you everything you need to know to get started. If you've heard of Eco Church but haven't started yet and want to know a little more before you take the plunge, this webinar will be extremely helpful. The webinar will answer question like: "What is Eco Church? Why take part? How does the award scheme work? What does it cost? Where should we start?"

It will be filled with practical examples of churches around the country who have made changes, using Eco Church as a framework.

The speaker will be Helen Stephens is the Church Relations Manager at A Rocha UK, and absolutely central to the running of the Eco Church programme across the country. Helen has supported thousands of churches to get started in their Eco Church journey, and has a wealth of practical advice to offer. People from all churches are welcome to attend. This webinar is taking place **Thursday 14 September 12-1pm**.

Please click on this link if you would to register:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_FNWmYf8KQkutHW4P8QTb0w?mc\\_cid=075a7f8b26&mc\\_eid=6b3c138d29#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FNWmYf8KQkutHW4P8QTb0w?mc_cid=075a7f8b26&mc_eid=6b3c138d29#/registration)

**Faith in Art: Local Christian Creatives** starts on 16<sup>th</sup> September! If you are a creative person and you would like to get involved, contact [faithart@gmail.com](mailto:faithart@gmail.com) or [office@westherefordteam.org.uk](mailto:office@westherefordteam.org.uk)



#### **Celebrate God's Gifts on Disability Awareness Sunday, 17 September 2023**

Christian disability inclusion charity 'Through the Roof' is offering free resources for Disability Awareness Sunday on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (or a day of your choice). All churches are invited to celebrate the unique gifts God gives to each one of us – including disabled people. Follow this link to request a free resource pack:

<https://throughtheroof.org/forchurches/disability-awareness-sunday/>

**You can use Disability Awareness Sunday as a positive message to disabled people.**

We invite each church congregation to celebrate disabled people and to use the free resources we have produced to hold a 2023 Disability Awareness Sunday service or event.

Join us in raising awareness by holding a Disability Awareness Sunday service or event this year,

recognising and valuing the gifts and talents God gives to disabled people.

**Access the free resources [here](#)**, including free Disability Awareness postcards to order for your event.

**Through the Roof can help your church or ministry to welcome and value disabled people more fully. We offer:**

- A FREE 2 hour Zoom Disability Awareness workshop for churches who appoint a disability champion or 'Roofbreaker.'
- Access to a free downloadable 'Church Toolkit' and 'Removing Barriers' church accessibility audit, available to all Roofbreaker disability champions.
- A 50% discount on Through the Roof resources to all church Roofbreaker champions.
- Advice and support from one of three Regional Roofbreaker Co-ordinators covering the whole of the UK, to encourage disability inclusion in all churches.
- Support through monthly emails, events, Facebook and Roofbreaker Networks.

### Need help with disability inclusion?

Katie Mobbs would love to help you along the journey of disability inclusion. Katie is from the church disability charity, Through the Roof, and she is the Roofbreaker Co-ordinator in Wales.

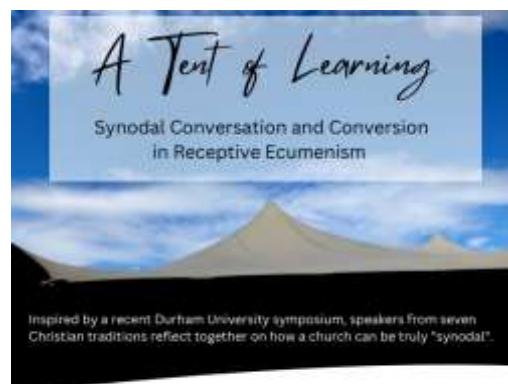
Katie works with volunteer disability champions or 'Roofbreakers' in local churches, equipping them with resources and providing training on disability awareness to the whole church family. The aim is to ensure disabled people are

welcomed, enabled to fully participate and to truly feel they belong in the life of the church.

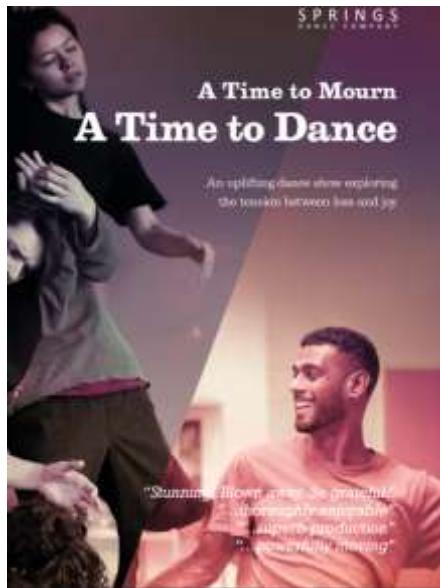
The names 'Through the Roof' and 'Roofbreakers' come from the account in Luke's Gospel Chapter 5 when a disabled man was lowered through the roof to meet Jesus and amazing things happened – everyone benefitted, and God was glorified.

Find out how your church can be blessed by the full involvement of disabled people at: <https://throughtheroof.org/forchurches/>

**Contact:** Katie Mobbs to find out more information: [katie@throughtheroof.org](mailto:katie@throughtheroof.org)



**Registration is now open!**



## A Time to Mourn, A Time to Dance

A live dance event for your church to host.

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.

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. They can also perform on weekdays as well as weekends.

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.

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 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.

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

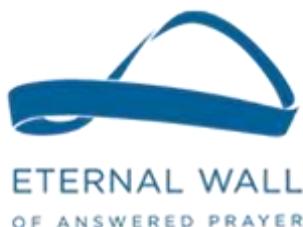
link: <https://www.cbneurope.com/job-opportunities/>



### Light up a Life in the Community

Late every year, Herefordshire's hospice, St Michael's, hosts two Light up a Life events: one at the cathedral and one at the hospice itself. These events enable people to take part in an act of remembrance (which includes the lighting of a candle) for loved ones who have died. The hospice also invites community groups, especially churches, to take part in the initiative by hosting events in their own neighbourhoods. By doing so, together we can reach and support the greatest number of people who are facing the loss of a loved one. The hospice can supply orders of service as well as other supporting materials, as required. We hope that the county's Churches Together groups will be interested in taking part and, subject to availability, we can offer someone from the hospice to speak at these ecumenical services; if this would be of value. There is no set date for these events but, bearing in mind the busyness of the Christmas season, it may be that a late November or early December service would be appropriate. Thank you for your interest in supporting this initiative. Beverley Ramsden, Spiritual Care team, St Michael's Hospice, Hereford.

For more information, you can email [bramsden@smhospicehereford.org](mailto:bramsden@smhospicehereford.org)



Make Hope Visible

Eternal Wall has an amazing opportunity to unearth answered prayers from some significant online archives! We're celebrating the work of heroes of the faith throughout history - people like George Müller, George and Stephen Jeffreys, William & Catherine Booth, John Bunyan and UK missionaries to South America.

Could you be part of our heritage researchers volunteer team, ensuring answered prayers from history are celebrated today and for generations to come? Training and support are provided, and this project is inspiring and faith-building. You could help us by researching online, or visit an archive near you. For more information contact: [volunteer@eternalwall.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@eternalwall.org.uk)

**Superbook Academy:** Engage, educate, and inspire young hearts with Superbook Academy! Join us in impacting children's lives through timeless Bible stories and fulfilling our mission to help every child everywhere hear the Gospel in their own language.

Superbook Academy offers an interactive online curriculum with animated videos, engaging activities, and fun quizzes. Become a valued Church Partner and access exclusive benefits: full curriculum access, tailored content for different age groups, customisable plans, multiple craft resources and dedicated support.

Revolutionise your children's ministry and make the Bible exciting! Visit [uk.superbookacademy.com](http://uk.superbookacademy.com) to find out how you can become a Church Partner and inspire the next generation.

## Herefordshire Vennture – Street Pastors



Our dedicated Street Pastors team works on the streets of Hereford to provide a safe and caring presence in our community's night-time economy. We partner with CCTV, door staff and emergency services to keep people safe on the streets, whether they are on a night out or in other situations where they may require help.

In teams of three, we walk through the city and respond to many different situations that those in our city at night-time may encounter, from hailing a taxi for someone to reconnecting them with loved ones or dealing with safeguarding issues. We are always willing to lend a listening ear to anyone who may need support. We also regularly give out items that those on a night out may find helpful, such as flip-flops, water bottles and blankets.

Our mission is to help Hereford get home safely. We take this mission very seriously and provide intensive training to our volunteers so that we can be prepared for a wide range of situations in which we may need to offer support. Our volunteers come from diverse backgrounds, working together as a team to support and encourage each other. We are committed to our community and seek to bring practical meaning to the 'power of Jesus' love.'

### Volunteers

We're keen to recruit considerate, caring, trustworthy volunteers who are good decision makers, can stay calm under pressure and work well in a team.

If you fit the bill, are 18 years or over and can commit to volunteer for at least a year, we'd love to hear from you. No previous experience is necessary, all our volunteers are given full training by professional teams.

For more information, visit <https://www.vennture.org.uk/what-we-do/street-pastors/>



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.

### A quiet morning at Dore Abbey on Thursday

21<sup>st</sup> September

10:30am -12:30pm

A warm hearted, simple welcome to all as we offer the opportunity for contemplation, the practice of silence, stillness, meditation and prayer and the deepening of our relationship with the natural world.

Refreshments will be provided.

Please email [sarah@quietgarden.org](mailto:sarah@quietgarden.org) or call 01494 569057 if you would like further information and to book a place.

