



*Hello, if you would like to send me any information or Churches Together group news for the January 2024 newsletter, please send it by **22nd December**. Thank you!*

The CTE Presidents met, prayed together and shared their overwhelming grief at events in the Middle East. They urged their Christian brothers and sisters to gather together and join them in prayer:

“We appeal to churches to meet together and to pray for peace in the Middle East.”

The Presidents of Churches Together in England:
Archbishop Justin Welby, The Archbishop of Canterbury

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster

Rev Canon Helen Cameron, The Free Churches Moderator

Dr Anna Krauss, General Secretary of the Council for Lutheran Churches in Great Britain and CTE Fourth Presidency Group

Bishop Tedroy Powell, National Overseer of the Church of God of Prophecy UK and CTE Pentecostal and Charismatic President

His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas, Archbishop of the Oecumenical Patriarchate (Diocese of Thyateira and Great Britain) and CTE President for the Orthodox Churches



Photo credit: Sarah Ball

Here are some ideas about ecumenical activities that your Church/Churches Together group could do - Thy Kingdom Come 23 resources:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/sites/default/files/2023-01/TKC%2023%20Ideas.pdf>



There is a monthly prayer meeting at 8am at the HQ of Herefordshire Council, Plough Lane, on the second Tuesday of every month. This is open to anyone who is interested in coming along for prayer and fellowship.

Here is the video link to the Open Meeting that took place last November. Tony Hodder from LEAF gave a really insightful talk about the work that the ecumenical charity carries out and the nurturing impact it has on the people of Ledbury:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2CgQGFYbF4>



Calling All Church Leaders,

Are you interested in harnessing the power of inclusivity for both groups and individuals? We are thrilled to inform you that we are now able to provide a complimentary Intercultural course as a result of our collaboration with Refugees and their Hosts.

This course is concise and aims to enhance your comprehension of Diversity and how to embrace it, focusing on uncovering opportunities rather than challenges. It is designed for any teams that interact with a diverse range of people and will contribute to the improvement of your interactions with them, fostering personal and collective growth.

If you wish to reserve a spot for this session, please don't hesitate to contact me on geri@spsj.org.uk



The course is open to anyone who is interested. Geri Miller from SPSJ can travel anyway to lead the course.



Christians Together in Hereford



For various reasons we weren't able to approve the accounts or appoint officers at the recent AGM so there will be an EGM in the new year. The suggested date is Tuesday 20th Feb at the Challenge Church, 7 for 7.30pm. Further details will be sent out nearer the time but please put the date in your diaries, it is vitally important that all churches are represented.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 18th – 25th January. We have offers of meetings/services for Thursday 18th (Friends) and Sunday 21st (St. John's Methodist). If your church might offer an event for any of the other days please let me know as soon as possible. This might perhaps mean widening an existing event to show others what you're already doing, or you might like to use the materials available from [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024 – Go and do likewise – Churches Together in England \(cte.org.uk\)](https://www.churches-together.org.uk)

Churches Together in Ross and District News:

CTRD are organising a Light up a Life service on 9th December at 2pm at The Venue. For more information, please contact the CEO on herefordshireceo@gmail.com

**Christmas Services**

Christmas Church Services

Christian Life Church Ross-on-Wye
<https://www.clch.cc/ross/> ross@clch.cc
 Friday 15th December 6:15 pm Carol Singing at Tudorville Community Centre
 Sunday 17th December 11 am Carol Service at The Larrupers Centre

Forest & Wye Community Church, Henry Street, Ross-on-Wye
 07975 994224 <https://www.fcchurch.co.uk/> connect@fcchurch.co.uk
 Sunday 10th December 4 pm Carols by Candlelight in Henry Street, Ross
 Sunday 17th December 4 pm Carols by Candlelight in Parragate Road, Cinderford.

Quakers/Society of Friends
 07833 901281 <https://smquakers.org.uk/local-meetings/ross-on-wye>
 Every Sunday 10:30 am Meeting for Worship, plus coffee and refreshments

Ross Baptist Church
 01989 566966 <https://rossbaptist.org/> rossbaptist@rossbaptist.org
 Sunday 10th December 4 pm 'Sunday at 4' in the Church Hall "Sunday at 4"
 Saturday 16th December 7 pm Christmas Tea with Carols and Readings
 Sunday 17th December 10:30 am A Christmas Celebration in Drama and Song
 6 pm Nativity Service
 Sunday 24th December 11:30 pm Carols by Candlelight
 Monday 25th December 10:30 am Midnight Communion
 Family Christmas Service

St Frances of Rome RC Church, Sussex Avenue
 01600 712029 <https://monmouthandrosscatholicchurches.uk/>
monmouth@rcadc.org
 Sunday 24th December 7pm Evening Mass
 Monday 25th December 11am Morning Mass

St. Mary's Parish Church
 01989 562175 <https://rossparishes.uk> administrator@rossparishes.uk
 St Mary's, Ross-on-Wye
 Sunday 17th December 4 pm Carol Service
 Tuesday 19th December 2:30 pm Quiet Carol Service
 22nd & 23rd December 5:30 pm Outdoor Carols under the Spire
 Sunday 24th December 4 pm Crib Service
 11:30 pm Midnight Mass
 Monday 25th December 8 am BCP Christmas Day Service
 9:30 am Christmas Day Sung Eucharist

St Michael's, Walford
 Sunday 17th December 3:30 pm Carol Service
 Sunday 24th December 4pm Crib Service (No morning service)
 Monday 25th December 9:30 am Christmas Day Service

Churches Together in Orleton News:

- The Methodist Chapel Service is on 10th December at 10.30am.
- The C of E Primary School's Christingle is on 14th December at 9.30am.
- The service on 17th December at 11am is at St. George 's but Chapel Group led.
- The C of E Primary School's carol service is at St. George 's on 20th December at 5.30pm.
- Carol singing at the Boot is 20th December at 7pm.
- The village carol service is at St George's on December 22nd at 6.30pm.
- Christmas Eve: Christingle, 4pm at St. George's Church. Midnight communion at St. George's 11.30pm
- Christmas morning: informal worship at the Methodist Chapel at 10am.



Dear Church Leaders

Thank you for your continued support in promoting our vacancies.

We are looking for more link workers who are passionate about listening to, and supporting families who are struggling or in conflict and with a special focus on Dads. Our vision is to see families thrive, whatever the circumstances.

I would be grateful if you circulate these advertisements via your church communication channels or post on any notice boards and if you know someone who has some experience working in schools or with families or who would be suited to these roles, please approach them prayerfully and encourage them to apply.

If anyone wants to visit our Families Team and come and have a chat over a cup of coffee, we would love to do that. Just ring us on 0330 202 0730.

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

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

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Any enquiries can be directed to Hilary.thomas@vennture.org.uk or Richard.griffiths@vennture.org.uk

WEST MIDLANDS KICK

COACHES/MENTORS/CHAPLAINCY (FULL TIME AND PART TIME)

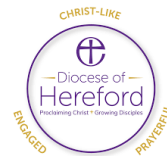
LOCATION:

We are pleased to have a variety of job opportunities across the West Midlands in Redditch, Worcester, Hereford, Worcestershire, Wolverhampton and Telford.

An exciting opportunity to deliver quality sports sessions and/or mentoring, dance and chaplaincy depending on role within our schools on a weekly basis. The coach/Mentor will be passionate about embedding values within each session and be committed to our mission, to transform young people's lives with Gods love, through sport and support.

For more information, please click on the link:

<https://kick.org.uk/careers/>



Bishop Richard and Deborah invite you to join them on 3rd - 12th Dec for a 24-7 prayer event to end the Diocesan Year of Prayer. The Chapel in the Bishop's Palace will be converted into a creative prayer room which will be open from 6am till 10 pm. Through the night hours you can still pray from home. Find more information on the Diocesan website or sign up at <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/22c5e4/>



To find out more about the Single Friendly Church Network and how this charity is inspiring change, please click on this link:
youtube.com/watch?v=6HcbPTm8DPY

Single Friendly
CHURCH NETWORK

We encourage churches to welcome and value single people at every stage of life

40% of UK adults are single

Singleness is on the rise in **every age group** in the UK, but single people are disproportionately missing from our churches. Those who do attend often feel invisible and isolated. That's why we want to help churches change.

OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE A MOVEMENT THAT WELCOMES AND VALUES SINGLE PEOPLE IN ALL OUR CHURCHES.

What can my church do?

- 1** The best place to start is with our **Guided Audit**. It's practical and easy to use. Our team is here to support you with it.
- 2** Join our network of **Single Friendly Churches** to share ideas and encouragement. Your church will also be featured on our UK map.
- 3** Access a host of further **resources** and **training** on our website, including helpful articles on many issues facing single people.

Find out more and download our Guided Audit at
www.singlefriendlychurch.com

Our Guided Audit includes free training and resources
 Sign up at singlefriendlychurch.com

5 Steps to becoming a Single Friendly Church

"We recognised that a single person's experience of church can be isolating, and we wanted to do all we could to change this."
 - a Single Friendly Church

- 1 Who is single?**
Single includes all ages and stages of life. You should consider the different types of singleness in your church and community.
- 2 Language**
Review the language and images used in your services and publicity. Ensure it is inclusive of single people.
- 3 Welcome**
Warmly welcome people coming and sitting alone. Create social opportunities after the service that fully include single people.
- 4 Teaching**
Ensure sermon themes and applications are relevant for single people at all stages of life. Does your teaching value singleness as well as marriage?
- 5 Leadership**
Are single people included in leadership at all levels in your church? e.g. small groups, service leading.

singlefriendlychurch.com

Single Friendly Church Network CIO charity No 1203076
 Church House, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT

Single Friendly Church Network is supported by **Christian Connection**



#Holmerchurch

Friday 8th December

Worship Night
with WAM
(Youth with a Mission)

at Holmer Church Centre
From 7.30pm

Worship. Testimonies. Refreshments.
All Welcome

Healthwatch Herefordshire are looking to work closely with Herefordshire communities on their new CLeaR (Community Led Engagement and Research) Project. We want to hear your views, opinions, experiences and ideas about health and social care research. It's time to get involved and have your say about which research and studies are conducted, how they are carried out & how they will benefit you and your community. If you would like to find out more please call or text Kerry Gibson-Yates on 07726 937276 or Mary Simpson on 07925 882537. Alternatively scan the QR code and complete our online questionnaire. We can't wait to hear from you.

Have your say

healthwatch
Herefordshire

Rural Communities
in Herefordshire

We need to hear from you

Every day in the UK, someone is diagnosed with a disease or a condition. The treatment and support they will receive will, at some point, have been informed by **health & social care research**

Have your say about which studies & research gets done, how it's carried out & how it will benefit you and your community

Share your views, opinions, experiences & ideas
Help us to improve the health of rural communities in Herefordshire

Want to find out more?
Call or text Kerry on 07726 937276
kerryhealthwatchherefordshire@gmail.com
www.healthwatchherefordshire.co.uk

Talk to us...

Get in touch or scan the QR code to complete our questionnaire online