

Hello all, if you have any news or events that you would like mentioned in the next issue of the newsletter, please let me know by **midday on 31<sup>st</sup> March**. Thank you!

in this approach? Adopting insights from adaptive leadership thinking, this event offers space for clergy to reflect on their own approach, as well as exploring practical ways to lead well when it isn't always easy to know where you are going.



### Lay & Ordained Rural Leaders Retreat - Salisbury

5th - 6th March 2024

1:00 pm - 1:00 pm

A 24-hour retreat for lay and ordained rural leaders.

A new gathering at Sarum College, Salisbury

[To read more and to book a space click here](#)

There is a CPAS training event coming up on 6<sup>th</sup> March 10am-3:30pm both at the Mascall Centre in Ludlow:

We lead in uncertain times when models of missional leadership that have worked in the past feel less helpful today. What does it mean to be agile in our leadership. How can we grow

### Thy Kingdom Come launch – 7<sup>th</sup> March

Thy Kingdom Come, the global ecumenical movement for evangelisation, is happening this year from 9<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May. TKC unites Christians worldwide and from across different denominations and traditions to pray earnestly between Ascension and Pentecost for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and for more people to come and know Jesus.

Join the TKC launch on March 7th at 2pm GMT, as they unveil this year's brand new resources for all ages, including the new Prayer Journal and Novena, daily films, children's resources and content from The Way UK for young people.

This year, they will be featuring a brand-new set of films for the 11 days, including one focusing on the remarkable life of Reverend Dr Florence Li Tim Oi – the first woman to become a priest in the Anglican Communion, eighty years ago this year.

To join the online launch, sign up at the Church of England website [here](#).



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## MISSION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The United Reformed Church (West Midlands) Synod is seeking a Mission Development Officer

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an experienced and creative mission enabler and facilitator. You will help local churches understand their church and mission environments, supporting them to engage and participate in God's mission locally and in the wider world, often following a Local Mission and Ministry Review. As an advocate for developing discipleship, you will encourage discipleship to be at the heart of all we do.

You will:

- be excited about mission and helping others to reach their potential
- have the ability to enthuse and facilitate
- be able to develop and deliver training for different learning styles
- have a working knowledge of the latest resources, ethos and practices in mission
- understand the nature and dynamics of the local church, barriers to effectiveness in mission, and mission potential in a variety of contexts
- be able to work independently and as part of a small Synod team.

[Download the job description and person specification](#)

[Download the application form](#)

[Download this job advert](#)

Please apply using our application form. CVs will not be considered. The job description, person specification and application form can be downloaded from our website <https://www.urcwestmidlands.org.uk/job-opportunities.html> or request an information pack from the Office Manager, Lindsay Peniston, by email to [moderatorspace@urcwestmidlands.org.uk](mailto:moderatorspace@urcwestmidlands.org.uk) or tel: 0121 783 1177.

Closing date: 12 noon, Thursday 7 March 2024

Shortlisting: Tuesday 12 March

Interviews: Monday 25 March



This Lent, join the community of Hereford Cathedral as they perform the Hereford Passion.

Sharing the story of Jesus' final days, the production will use words, music, action to tell the events of that fateful week against the stunning architecture of the cathedral nave. The production will be directed by the Revd Canon Chancellor James Pacey who has directed five previous performances in Newark, Cambridge, Nottingham and in the cathedral church of Southwell Minster.

The performance will begin at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm) and tickets cost £8 per adult and £6 per child. Please note that there is no interval in this production.

This production is most suitable for children aged 8 and above – the production is thematically intense due to the story but not visibly distressing.

If you have any questions about this event, or accessibility, please contact [events@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:events@herefordcathedral.org) or call **01432 374 251**.

To book for either 8<sup>th</sup> March or 9<sup>th</sup> March, please click on this link: <https://www.herefordcathedral.org/news/the-hereford-passion-2024>

## **Churches/Christians Together Group Events / News**

### **Churches Together in Weobley (CTiW)**

CTiW: Holiday Club: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 9am -12:30 – Easter activities for children.

World Day of Prayer

Date. Friday 1st March @ 10:30 A.M

Location & Hosts: Weobley Methodist Church

Theme: **I beg you, bear with one another in love**

Refreshments after the service.

### **Churches Together in Weobley (CTiW)**

Lent Course: Starting Wednesday 21st Feb at 2.30 and finishing on Wednesday March 20th

Location: St Thomas Catholic Church, Weobley

Host: Father Simon McGurk

Theme: “Be Holy for I the Lord Your God am Holy”.

### **Churches Together in Weobley (CTiW)**

Walk of Witness

Good Friday 29th March 2024

Starts 11:00 a.m. from St Thomas Catholic Church Weobley

### **Christians Together in Ewyas Harold and District**

Good Friday 29 March. Shared reflection and meditation. Venue and time to be confirmed.

Contact [sue@2youngs.co.uk](mailto:sue@2youngs.co.uk) for more information.

Taize Prayer Easter Day 31 March 6.30 at Dore Abbey. An opportunity for a more peaceful celebration of Easter joy. With chants, prayers, readings and silence - all in candlelight.

### **Churches Together in Ross**

**World Day of Prayer**

**Friday March 1st 2024**

**11 am St Frances of Rome**

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation, which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world. This year the service content has been devised by women in Palestine.

All (men as well as women) are welcome to join in the service which will be followed by a soup and bread lunch).



**I AM MARK**  
A Daring New Staging of the Gospel of Mark

Edinburgh Festival  
**fringe**  
sell-out show  
2019

Performed by Stefan Smart  
Directed by Lisa Gilmour

"Sometimes it takes a living voice, like this one, to make you hear the Bible for the first time."  
Archbishop Rowan Williams

**Sunday, March 17- 3.00pm**  
St James the Great, Mill Lane, Colwall, WR13 6HE

Admission: £5 (admits purchaser and a friend)  
Refreshments provided  
Tickets: <http://tkt.link/IamMark> or scan the box

[facebook.com/colwallchurch](https://www.facebook.com/colwallchurch)

### I AM MARK

I AM MARK is a daring new, word for word, solo dramatisation of the Gospel of Mark performed by Stefan Smart and being hosted by St James Church in Colwall on Sunday 17 March 2024 starting at 3.00pm. It lasts for 1 ½ hours with an interval and is suitable for all over the age of eight.

Stefan, a former English and Drama teacher at King Edward VI School in Southampton, has performed I AM MARK to considerable acclaim in churches, cathedrals, schools, and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Towards the end of the 1970's, the late Alec McCowen CBE packed theatre audiences in London and later on Broadway with a solo production of Mark's gospel. I was fortunate to attend one of the London performances and, in my view, Stefan is following closely in his footsteps with I AM MARK. It has inspired me to support his work and encourage a performance to be held in Colwall.

The book of Mark was written to be shared live with first century audiences in one sitting and aimed for those outside of the Jewish faith. It has the potential to capture 21st century hearts and minds of faith and no faith.

So book tickets, come along, sit back, watch and listen as Stefan takes us through the story 'as it was in the beginning' with all its nuances, urgency, power, challenge and comfort. The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, has commented 'Sometimes it takes a living voice to make you hear the Bible for the first time - a voice that presents some saying or episode not as a stray fragment but as part of the rhythm and pace of a story that goes on gathering momentum. Mark's gospel has just that kind of momentum and this performance gives a memorably strong sense of it.'

Please do not keep this to yourself – make a point of inviting family members and friends to come with you. It is taking place one week before Palm Sunday signals the start of the journeying days of Holy Week and Easter celebrations.

Ticket cost is £5 admitting the purchaser and a friend. Available from John Goodwin Estate Agents in Colwall (01684 540300) or online <http://tkt.link/IamMark>

Ian Baker

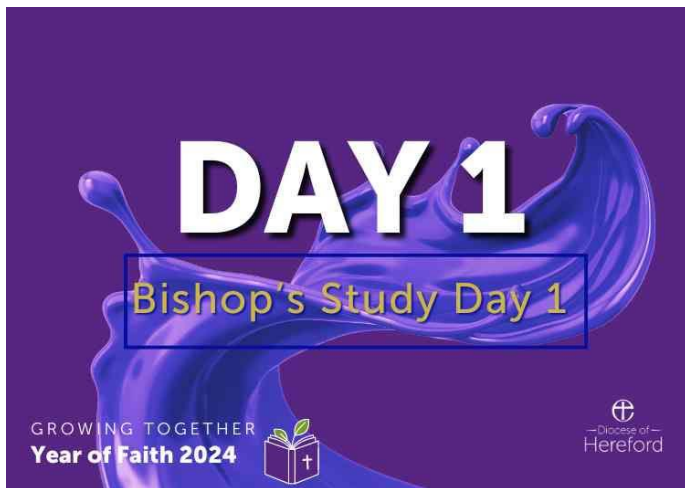
### Talk Discipleship and Funding Opportunities over Coffee!

St Peter's Saltley Trust offers funding and support for creative projects in Christian learning/discipleship and religious education. Come and hear about our new grass-roots grant opportunities, and help shape our new programme of discipleship projects by telling us what you think helps people go deeper in their everyday walk with God. Meet us at the following times/places, and we'll buy you a coffee (or similar)! Open to any - not just church leaders/clergy.

- Tuesday 12 March 10.30-12.30, Bill's Kitchen, All Saints' Church, Hereford HR4 9AA
- Wednesday 8 May 10.30-12.30, Wesley's Cafe, Broad Street, Ludlow SY8 1NH

No need to book, but dropping us an email would help us know who to expect. Look out for the Saltley Trust logo when you arrive. Contact Ian Jones ([director@saltleytrust.org.uk](mailto:director@saltleytrust.org.uk))





### **Bishop's Study Day 1 - part of our Year of Faith 2024. 14<sup>th</sup> March 9:30am-3pm.**

Join us for an exciting in-person event at Craven Arms Community Centre. This is the first **Bishop's Study Day of 2024**. Explore the significance of faith in our lives and discover new perspectives that will enrich your spiritual journey.

At this event, you'll have the opportunity to connect with others who share a passion for the Christian faith. Engage in thought-provoking discussions, listen to inspiring talks, and gain valuable insights from our speakers including **Paul Williams CEO Bible Society and Rev Andrew Ollerton Presenter of The Bible Course**.

The Craven Arms Community centre offers a welcoming environment for this event.

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to deepen your faith and connect with others on this exciting journey. Register now for this event!

### **23<sup>rd</sup> March, 10am-3pm.**

### **Bishop's Teaching Event - Growing confidence in the word of God @ Tupsley**

Join us at **St Paul's Church, Tupsley, Herefordshire** for a special in-person event where Bishop Richard will share valuable insights on growing confidence in the word of

God. This event is designed to help you deepen your understanding and strengthen your faith. Don't miss this opportunity to learn and connect with others as part of our Year of Faith. Whether you're a seasoned saint or just starting your spiritual journey, this event is open to all. Come and be inspired!

### **The ABC journey of disability inclusion**

Disability charity Through the Roof is calling on all UK churches to join the ABC journey of disability inclusion, from Access to Belonging to Commission.

The ABC model is a simple tool for churches to help people think through how to include disabled people. It reflects the fact that disability inclusion in church and Christian life is a journey through different stages.

Access to church buildings is just the first step. People can still feel excluded once they are in a church, if they do not feel like they belong, or that their gifts are valued enough to be commissioned in a role. Sarah's story clearly shows this:

"I have Down's Syndrome and severe hearing loss... I felt excluded at church because everyone had a job, and I didn't. Our Churchwardens included me. I am now the 'chief snuffer'. I snuff out the candles after the service. I am happy because I am helping and I feel part of a team."

Read [more here on Sarah's church life](#) being transformed.

Here is a summary of the ABC model Through the Roof uses, working with churches and people across all disabilities to enable: Access, Belonging and Commission...

- **Access:** For everyone to know Jesus, with disabled people fully welcomed into Christian life
- **Belonging:** For everyone to grow together as the family of God, with disabled people flourishing in community with others

- **Commission:** For everyone to reflect the character of Jesus, with disabled people making disciples, to the glory of God.

Help your church to include disabled people – become a Roofbreaker disability champion! And find out more about the ABC

at <https://throughtheroof.org/about/abc-journey/>



Intergenerational Mission Learning Community

Dates: **21st February, 21st March, 15th April 2024**

Times: **11am-1pm**

For anyone involved in Intergeneration mission or who works with children, young people and/or families. An opportunity to gather over food, share good news stories, pray and learn together.

To be added to the mailing list to receive more details please email [Lizzie Hackney](mailto:Lizzie.Hackney@westmercia.police.uk)

### **Volunteer Police Chaplains wanted.**

The chaplaincy team of West Mercia Police is seeking new volunteers to join the multifaith team of chaplains at various sites across Herefordshire. In particular we are looking for one or more people to join long serving chaplain Mike Wilkinson at Hereford Police Station, with a view to taking over from him when he retires from the role. Other opportunities include Ross and Leominster and, out of county, Ludlow and Bridgnorth.

A chaplain regularly visits their assigned police station to relate to officers and staff based there. Ideally they should live nearby. It is a ministry of listening, presence and prayer. No formal theological training is necessary. Training and support will be provided by the lead Chaplain Revd Dick Johnson, who is based at Police HQ, Hindlip.

Those applying should have the support of their home church (references will be needed), should be prepared to give up to 8 hrs/month, and will need to undergo vetting clearance as an accredited Police Support Volunteer. Expenses are provided. For more information speak to Dick on 07946 655450 or email

[dick.johnson@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:dick.johnson@westmercia.police.uk)



## **WEST MIDLANDS KICK COACHES/MENTORS (PART TIME)**

### **LOCATION:**

**We are pleased to have a variety of job opportunities in Hereford**

An exciting opportunity to deliver quality sports sessions and/or mentoring and dance 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 peoples lives with Gods love, through sport and support.

**APPLICANTS WILL:**

- Be passionate about delivering sessions of a high quality.
- Have an understanding of the issues that young people face.
- Engage well with children and young people with the ability to inspire and motivate.
- Have an understanding of assessment and development for both classes and individual children depending on the service delivered.
- Use sport as a tool to embed life skills/values within each session.
- Be committed and excited by the mission of KICK to, "Transform young people's lives, with God's love, through sport and support".

**Click below for relevant job Descriptions or contact**

**[beccilee@kick.org.uk](mailto:beccilee@kick.org.uk)**

**[KICK Mentor Job Description](#)**

**[KICK Coaching Role Job Description](#)**