

MISSION-NEWS-SOMERSET

December 2018

Good tidings of comfort and joy! We hope this finds you well, excited for the festivities, and not completely overwhelmed by the amount of shopping left to do or last minute planning for worship and mission events. We have limited this edition to four items of news and information about our 2019 AGM and Forum event. More than enough at this busy time of the year.

News



Premier Radio have again launched their **Christmas Alone** – a campaign which lists all the venues on an interactive map which are open on Christmas day who are running something other than a regular service – a lunch, gathering, light entertainment etc – for those people who might be on their own. You can add your event to their interactive map <https://premierchristianmedia.co.uk/16DQ-5YQOE-NNNB2N-3CZAWA-1/c.aspx>

Success for Movement youth worship night in Wells Cathedral. Just over 500 mainly young people were at the event. Youth groups came from Minehead, Chippenham, Clevedon, Martock and from more, both locally in Wells and further afield. It was a fantastic evening of worship and celebration. The Movement team were joined by Tom Smith, a worship leader with Soul Survivor and renowned speaker Joshua Luke Smith from Orphan No More. Kate Dommett, a youth worker in Clevedon said: 'What an amazing event! It was fantastic to see the Cathedral packed with young people praising God and gathering together to worship and be in His presence.'



CAFOD appoints Christine Allen as next Director The Catholic aid charity Cafod has appointed Christine Allen as its next director – almost 30 years after she first worked for the charity. Allen, who was campaigns coordinator at Cafod between 1989 and 1991, will join in the spring from Christian Aid, where she has been director of policy and public affairs since 2012. Before joining Christian Aid, Allen spent 11 years as executive director of the Catholic development charity Progressio, which closed last year. She has also worked at the social landlord umbrella body the National Housing Federation and the children's hospice charity Chas.



“That we should act together in all matters except those in which deep differences of conviction compel us to act Separately”

- The Lund Principle

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The Churches Together in England (CTE) General Secretary's vision for the future. Paul Goodliff, General Secretary of Churches Together in England, addressed the Enabling Group at its meeting in November 2018. In this address he stated a new vision for CTE and plans for the future: "As we begin a new chapter in CTE's life, with



the implementation of the 2017 Theos report our priority, what will be our vision for the life of CTE, and, indeed, the life of the churches together in England in uncertain — perhaps, perilous — times? First and foremost, we must develop our renewed ecumenical identity with greater focus upon our common witness and collaboration in mission. The churches in membership with CTE have identified and called for this, and the challenge of the times demands it. Not that CTE is called to become another mission agency, but rather, an ecumenical space where greater collaboration in mission becomes possible, and even inevitable — a broad tent under which we can gather and share life. The growing ecumenical character of the Archbishop of Canterbury's initiative, Thy Kingdom Come reflects such a move. The broad tent resembles, more accurately, a marquee, with the sides wide open to receive the breeze of God's Spirit and enable ready access to the world beyond.

[To read the full statement click here.](#)

Churches Together in Somerset office closed for Christmas: from Friday 21st December 2018 and reopen on Wednesday 2nd January 2019.

Event (A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices)

Churches Together in Somerset AGM and Forum

Saturday 23rd February 2018 10.00am - 3.30pm
Bagley Baptist Church, Coldnose Lane, Bagley, Nr Wedmore BS28 4TG.

This event marks a change away from a mid-week meeting to a Saturday – hopefully to allow more people to be free to attend – and with a different format and extended programme to fill the whole day. In place of a ‘talking heads’ the Forum will feature market stalls and interactive workshops (not places where you are talked-at but where you are expected to be involved and challenged in ways that will help to deepen our spiritual life.

Badged as part of "Mission Explored", the theme for the Forum will be **“Spirituality for Life”**.

A formal invitation will be set out early in the New Year but if you need more details now please contact me— contact details below.

Put this event in the diary... we look forward to seeing you there



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