

### **Voluntary Contributions**

Voluntary contributions are encouraged towards the cost of this quarterly newsletter and other costs incurred by Somerset Churches Together in maintaining support links to Churches and Christians Together Groups throughout the County. The guideline for your contribution is £5 per worshipping congregation per year within each Churches/Christians Together Group.

Somerset Churches together gratefully acknowledges voluntary contributions received during 2006 from Churches/Christians Together Groups in Backwell, Bath, Bath (South East Zone), Batheaston, Brean, Bridgwater, Burnham and District, Castle Cary and Ansford, Chard, Clevedon, Glastonbury, Keynsham and Saltford, Langport, Locking Castle, Milborne Port, Minehead, Peasedown St John, Pill, Radstock, Sandford, Shepton Mallet, South Petherton, Wellington, Winscombe and Yeovil Town Centre.

Thank you for supporting the work of Somerset Churches Together in a tangible way. This is greatly appreciated.

## **SOMERSET CHURCHES TOGETHER ANNUAL GATHERING**

Wells United Church, Union Street, Wells  
20 October 2007  
9.30 am – 1.00 pm

### **Churches in Community**

An exploration of the growing opportunities there are for churches to work together in partnership with other faiths, the police, local authorities, primary care trusts and other agencies to build good and lasting community life.

The programme will include presentations by speakers from the Hope 2008 project, faith representatives from local strategic partnerships and others.

**ALL WELCOME**

**COPYDATE FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER: 10 March 2007.**  
**Please send copy to Robin Dixon, County Ecumenical Officer,**  
**25, Claverton Road West, Saltford, Bristol BS31 3AL. e-mail:**  
[sctog@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sctog@blueyonder.co.uk)

## **Churches Together at Christmas**

**Bath** As in previous years, Churches Together in Bath organized 'Open Christmas': an opportunity for any one who is on their own, or otherwise unable to join in family Christmas celebrations, to come to a free Christmas meal, with all the trimmings, followed by an afternoon of entertainment and singing. It is organized at Kingswood School, Bath, and over 80 helpers share in the transport, cooking, serving and clearing up. Bath Churches Together believes that nothing more truly reflects the generosity of God at Christmas than this annual event.

**Weston-super-Mare** Over five days of Christmas, people of good will in Weston-super-Mare come together, not to sing carols but to provide 'Comfort at Christmas' to the homeless and hard up in the town. The highlight is Christmas Day when up to 60 people who live rough or in temporary accommodation will sit down to lunch. Some of these will also stay over for one or two nights. This year's event takes place at Saint Paul's Church in Walliscote Road.

For the past 17 years, 'Comfort at Christmas' has brought all kinds of benefit to everyone, helpers included. In that time, its influence has spread so that now, either side of the five days, a 'Winter Warmth' programme is held at several churches in the town. This provides food and fellowship most evenings from 7.30 to 9.00 pm, running from November to March.

**Chard** In early December, the churches in Chard held Supper and Entertainment in which each of the eight churches contributed a short entertainment item. This produced a whole variety of contributions – flute, piano, duet, varied readings, a dialogue between God and St Francis about lawn-care, and a potted Cinderella, played deadpan.

**Pill** Pill Churches in Covenant joined the Salvation Army in the morning on 23 December for ecumenical carol singing in Pill Precinct. After carols, singers were invited for coffee and mince pies in the Salvation Army citadel.

**Brean** Fortnightly Craft Evenings at the churches during the year culminated in a Christmas Craft Fair at St Bridget's church in December. The Fair raised £640 – and had been a real partnership between the two churches. We hope to continue the Craft Evenings in 2007 because they were times of great fellowship and fun.

**Keynsham and Saltford** Tin's galore! Soups, baked beans, raspberries, corned beef – whatever your choice, it seemed to be there! It's all good food for hungry homeless fellows and girls, cared for by the Julian Trust in Bath and the Bristol Methodist Centre. They were all donated by pre-Christmas shoppers in



Keynsham High Street one Saturday morning just before Christmas. This has been organized by Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford for several years now. PA systems outside Somerfields and the Methodist Church gave voice to an appeal for generous gifts for the homeless. Teams from each church in turn take the microphone and borrow a shopping trolley to collect what is given. People have been so very generous. The two homeless centres will not only have meals to offer around Christmas but for some weeks to follow.

**Minehead** Christians Together in Minehead had their own decorated tree as part of the annual Christmas Tree Festival, arranged by the Save the Children Fund, in the Methodist Church, and arranged for carol singing around the town's Christmas Tree in the central square during a busy pre-Christmas afternoon. This year, the Catholic Church made the blessing of their outdoor crib an ecumenical occasion, inviting representatives of other churches to join in leading the readings and prayers.

**Clevedon** In Clevedon, the main activity together at Christmas is not an event at all – it's a Christmas card. Clevedon churches have been delivering a Christmas card to each of the 9700 dwellings in the town since 2001. Every year, local junior schools hold a competition for a card design for the coming Christmas. Judges decide on a winner. Each of the member churches bears the cost of printing the cards and then distributes them to their allocated part of the town. A list of all the services to be held by member churches over Christmas is enclosed with the card. The card is a major outreach to the people of Clevedon.

**Backwell** Ministers and others from the Anglican, Methodist and Catholic churches led a pre-Advent Quiet Afternoon. All churches joined in Carol Singing outside the Spar in Backwell on the Saturday before Christmas. A Christmas card was distributed around the village, giving details of all the Christmas services. Donations were received from all the churches towards gifts to be taken to two Homes for the Mentally Disabled in Backwell.

## **Christians Together in Minehead Ecumenical Lent Groups**

Ecumenical House Groups during Lent are being organised by Christians Together in Minehead. Under the title *Discovering our Witness*, four sessions for small groups, with as wide a mix of members of different churches as possible, will be held. Themes to be discussed are:

- What we value about the church we are in personally.
- Strengths and weakness of our churches – as seen from inside and outside them.
- The needs of the people in our area and how far we are meeting them in our churches.
- Separate or together? What we could do better.

There will be opening and closing sessions for members of all the groups. Robin Dixon from Somerset Churches Together will speak at the opening session about the challenges of getting together in this way. In the closing session, the outcomes of the discussions will be shared.

Such groups have been valued in Minehead in the past, although, on the practical level, it proved necessary to agree 18 months ahead to run such a programme as many churches make their own plans for Lent well in advance. For Lent 2008, the aim is to have a series of lectures by visiting speakers on a wide range of issues of current importance to those within and without the churches.

**Chris Lawson**

### **Sanctuary Marquee Glastonbury Festival 2007**

Would you like to be part of a community helping at Glastonbury Festival and as a part of the Christian Church willing to demonstrate the love of Christ in Action by offering festival goers a warm welcome, space to reflect and a willingness to listen.

The Sanctuary Marquee will be staffed 24 hours a day from 1.00 pm on Thursday 21 June to 1.00 pm on Monday 25 June. This year the Marquee will be cleared at 12.00 pm each day until 8.00pm to enable the space to be used creatively.

It is essential that you attend both training days that will be held on Friday 8 June from 7.30pm till 10.30 pm and Saturday 9 June 9.30 am till 4 pm in Pilton Village hall, you are over 18 and live in the south west.

To receive an application form, either email [honestdoug@worldonline.co.uk](mailto:honestdoug@worldonline.co.uk) or send a stamped address envelope to Doug Lowe, Lilac House, Henlade, Taunton, Somerset TA3 5LS



## **Set All Free: Marking the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade**

2007 will mark the bicentenary of the Act to abolish British involvement in the Slave Trade. The 1807 Act was passed on 25 March, 1807 after a vigorous national campaign by the abolitionists and many others, often inspired by Christian values.

### **The Set All Free Project**

*Set All Free* has been created by Churches Together in England as a collaboration between many groups to mark the bicentenary, particularly in terms of historical truth telling, the legacy of slavery and modern day slavery.

### **How Can You Get Involved?**

Make use of the available resources on [www.setallfree.net](http://www.setallfree.net) to organise your own events and reflection. You may want to hold a service in your town or area, using the resources produced by *Set All Free*. You can also get involved in the campaign to oppose modern forms of slavery. You can undertake a local history project to explore the links between the Slave Trade and your area. Some towns, villages and stately homes benefited. Did your church become involved in the campaign to abolish the Slave Trade? You can also use the resources available to learn more about modern slavery – it is estimated that in the world today there at least 12 million men, women and children in some form of slavery, including bonded labour, forced labour and human trafficking. Visit [www.setallfree.net](http://www.setallfree.net) to find out about what you can become involved in.

### **What Will Be Happening In 2007?**

*Amazing Grace* – A film on the life of William Wilberforce. Walden Media, who produced *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* for Disney, will release in 2007 a film on the abolitionist, William Wilberforce, which will focus on his efforts to end slavery and the slave trade in the British empire. Find out more at [www.walden.com/web/teach/grace](http://www.walden.com/web/teach/grace)

*Cargo* – a new musical by Paul Field will use music, words, dance and images to tell the story of the Abolitionists' campaign and show how in the past and present ordinary people can make a difference. *Cargo* can be done as a large scale production, as a smaller church event or

Paul Field can be booked to do a solo concert featuring the songs. Visit [www.paulfield.com](http://www.paulfield.com)

*Africa Snow* is a new play written by award winning playwright Murray Watts and to be performed by the renowned Riding Lights Theatre Company. It will tour the country in 2007, accompanied by programmes in churches and schools to help us campaign against slavery today. Visit [www.cms-uk.org/africansnow/play.html](http://www.cms-uk.org/africansnow/play.html)

### **Resources and Information**

[www.setallfree.net](http://www.setallfree.net) – the website of *Set All Free*.

[www.antislavery.org/2007](http://www.antislavery.org/2007) - a campaign against slavery today.

*Set All Free Resource Pack* – available from the Set All Free website

*Act to End Slavery Now* – a joint publication by Anti-Slavery International and Set All Free. The booklet covers modern slavery. Available from Set All Free

*Chain Reaction* – Bible Society resources for Bible Sunday on the Bible's impact on Wilberforce. Sermon outlines, prayers etc. Free resources from 01793 41800.

## **A DAY ON HEALING IN WELLS CATHEDRAL**

**Saturday 28 April 2007**

**9.00 am to 4.00 pm**

The Guild of Health, an ecumenical organization serving Christ and the community within the Church's Healing Ministry, will be holding a teaching and study day on wide aspects of Christian Healing Ministry with addresses, fifteen workshops, fellowship and prayer. The day will begin and end in Healing Worship.

Those taking part will include: The Rt Revd Peter Price, Bishop of Bath and Wells, The Rt Revd Declan Lang (Bishop of Clifton), The Rt Revd John Pritchard, Bishop of Jarrow, and The Very Revd John Clark, Dean of Wells Cathedral.

Please bring a picnic lunch including drinks. Both the Cathedral and the Bishop's Palace Restaurants will be available but space is limited.

Cost: £12.00. Further details from Mrs Evelyn Hastings, Shelwood, Rectory Road, Alderbury, Salisbury SP5 3AD (01722 710487) or Miss Mary Tschiersch, 46, Leithcote Gardens, London SW16 2UY (020 8677 8680)

## **Lent Courses 2007**

### **Can We Build a Better World? - Learning from William Wilberforce**

**York Courses – Christian Study Resources for Groups and Individuals** <http://www.yorkcourses.co.uk/>

This course celebrates the life, work and faith of William Wilberforce and pays tribute to his work in combating slavery 200 years ago. Contributors: Archbishop John Sentamu, Leslie Griffiths (of Wesley Chapel), the Poor Clares (from BBC TV's *The Convent*) and actress Wendy Craig are introduced by Dr David Hope.

Booklet: £3.50 (£2.75 each for 5 or more) Tape: £8.95 (£6.95 each for 5 or more) CD: £10.95 (£8.95 each for 3 or more). Transcript: £5.00.

### **USPG Lent Resources 2007**

This Lent, USPG is inviting us to go global by taking part in a five-week Lent Bible study course. *Going Global*. This will take a tour of the world church, stopping en route to learn lessons from the church in Swaziland, the Philippines, India, Japan and Brazil. At the same time we can draw inspiration from the story of the early church, as described by Luke in the Acts of the Apostles.

You can order free study booklets, collection envelopes, Lent boxes and posters at [www.uspg.org.uk](http://www.uspg.org.uk).

### **Life Source: a Five-session Course on Prayer for Lent**

Robert Warren and Kate Bruce      Church House Publishing ISBN No: 0715140949 - Price: £3.99

Following the hugely successful *Life Attitudes* and *Life Balance* courses, this new Lent course for 2007 encourages a new-found joy and delight in prayer, for novices and the experienced alike.

Ideal for Lent, cell or house groups, the course combines Bible study and discussion with a creative, hands-on exploration of five prayer patterns drawn from our rich Christian heritage.

*'Learning to pray is so simple it takes a lifetime to achieve... here is a book about praying which is rooted in God and in our humanity, full of good sense, encouragement and joy. I commend it most warmly.'*  
Christopher Herbert, Bishop of St Albans

## **2007 Lenten Challenge to Lifestyle**

**'What on Earth are we doing?'** is the Devon-side Ecumenical Lent Course for 2007. Promoted by Devon Churches Green Action in cooperation with BBC Radio Devon, this is aimed to encourage us to look at our lifestyles in the context of Lent. The initiative will include a resource pack for local churches and church groups, presentations, worship ideas, Bible study and Young People's activities.

Topics to be covered during the series include Consumerism, Energy, Food, Transport and Water. To register an interest to receive further information, please send an e-mail with your name and church/community to [joanie@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:joanie@exeter.anglican.org)

## **Lent Books**

**The Archbishop of Canterbury's Official 2007 Lent Book** is *Power & Passion*, Samuel Wells, Zondervan, £8.99. ISBN. 9780310270171 More details from <http://www.chbookshop.co.uk>

"Samuel Wells vividly paints the stories surrounding Jesus' cross and resurrection. We see the weakness of Pontius Pilate and Barabbas, and the compromised character of Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. We discover the subtle power of Pilate's wife. And in Peter and Mary Magdalene we find the true power of resurrection, bringing forgiveness and ending the stranglehold of death, thus transforming all human passion. Through close readings of the gospel texts, Wells demonstrates the significance of these characters for faith and life today."

In this book, structured with one chapter for each week of Lent, Wells guides us from the deathly power that put Jesus on the cross to the new power brought by Jesus' resurrection. The book offers opportunities at the end of each chapter for prayer and discussion

### **Cafod/Christian Aid Lent book 2007**

#### **Turning Points**

**Price:** £4.95 **Pages:** 104 **ISBN:** 0232526885

Six leading writers offer their own personal response to the readings for each day of Lent 2007, using stories and insights to help us draw closer to God through reflection on the words of scripture, through prayer, and through action for justice. The contributors are Barbara Glasson, Pamela Hussey, Joyce Karuri, Moire O'Sullivan, Kathleen Richardson and Jane Williams.



## Christian Ecology Link

### What is Christian Ecology Link?

**Christian Ecology Link (CEL)** is an interdenominational UK Christian organization for people concerned about the environment. It offers insights into ecology and the environment to Christian people and churches and offers Christian insights to the Green movement. It was founded in 1981 and supports Christians from all backgrounds and traditions. Its Patrons include Rt Revd James Jones, Fr Sean McDonagh, Jonathon Porritt and Prof Sir Ghillean Prance.

All people are responsible for our impact on God's creation as a whole. CEL helps its members to understand and relate these responsibilities to their faith. Members can then encourage others in their local church to think seriously about these issues.

CEL publishes a magazine called *Green Christian*, a news bulletin and also *ChurchLink* which is a free twice yearly A4 resource leaflet/poster for any church that requests it. It produces resource packs and leaflets, arranges events and conferences and offers information and advice.

Currently, there are several CEL ongoing developments for local churches. These include:

- Operation Noah (encouraging a Christian response to climate change)
- ChurchLink (a scheme to produce a twice yearly simple environmental sheet free for churches)
- LOAF Food Campaign

For further information, contact CEL on 01524 33858 or e-mail: [info@christian-ecology.org.uk](mailto:info@christian-ecology.org.uk) or visit [www.christian-ecology.org.uk](http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk)

### How Do I Join?

If you or your church would like to become members of CEL, the standard annual subscription is: Individuals £18.00 (low income £10); Joint/Family £28; Local Church – please send a donation (recommended amount £25). Contact CEL Membership Secretary, 9 Nuthatch Drive, Earley, Reading RG6 5ZZ or CEL Information Officer on 01524 33858 or e-mail: [info@christian-ecology.org.uk](mailto:info@christian-ecology.org.uk)

## What about CEL Local Groups?

You may want to meet and work with green Christians from other backgrounds. Contact the CEL Local Groups Coordinator on 02392 422129 or e-mail: [earthmatters@gffoe1.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:earthmatters@gffoe1.wanadoo.co.uk) who will tell you which groups are at work in your area. If none exist, you might want to start a Christian Ecology Group within your own church and then, later, contact other Christian worship communities in your district. Talk to your Minister or Priest about what you want to do and, if appropriate, contact the CEL Local Groups Coordinator for some further guidance on how to start a group and organize a meeting.

### Forthcoming ECO Events

**10 January. Energy, Faith and You: Churches Responding to Climate Change** at the Albemarle Centre in Taunton from 10.00 am until 1.45 pm with Michael Northcott (Reader in Christian Ethics, Edinburgh University) and Stuart Coleman (Devon Association for Renewable Energy) Contact Vena Prater on 0117 955 7430 for further information.

**10 March. Trinity College, Bristol Conference: Environmental Decision-Making: Does Theology Help?** Speakers include Dr John Bimson (Old Testament, Trinity College, Bristol) and Ian Arbon (Fellow of IMechE). Phone 0117 968 2803.

**24 March. Why Should Christians Care for the Planet?** Venue: Sarum College, Salisbury. Many Christians are concerned about the environment, but struggle to see how it relates to their faith. Leaders: Dr Martin Hodson, Revd Margot Hodson, Dr Michael Morecroft. Bookings and further details from Fiona Hulbert, Centre for Faith and Action in Society, Sarum College, Salisbury (01722 424838).

**14 May. The Christian Response to Climate Change: Theology and Action** at Sarum College, Salisbury from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm with Dr Edward Echlin and Ruth Jarman. Contact Fiona Hulbert on 01722 424838.

**18 – 20 May. Emmaus House Retreat Weekend on Christianity and the Environment.** Led by Mary Colwell and Fr Sean McDonagh. Phone 0117 907 9950 or visit [www.emmaushouse.co.uk](http://www.emmaushouse.co.uk)

**5 June. World Environment Day.** Contact AROCHA on 020 8574 5935.

## News

**A Prayer for Our Prisons.** Baroness Patricia Scotland QC, Minister of State for the Criminal Justice System, was among the speakers at an ecumenical service for Prisons Week held at St Peter's Italian Church, Clerkenwell Road, London. 'The faith communities have a vital part to play in the care and resettlement of offenders,' she said. People of faith have the motivation to care for all – for people of no faith, and people of some – whatever has happened, whatever they have done, and wherever they may have been. There were also prayers, music and testimonies from those who have experienced the impact of imprisonment first-hand. In a moving ceremony, a candle was lit and the name read for each of the prisons in England. It is hoped that the service, which was planned by an ecumenical group brought together by the Prison Advice and Care Trust, will become an annual event.

**First Women Bishop for the Moravian Church.** Sister Beth Torkington was consecrated on 2 December 2006 at the Church of the Holy Family in Blackbird Leys in Oxford. She will serve as a Bishop for the Moravian Unity, which is the world-wide church, working alongside Revd John McQwat, the only other Bishop based in the UK. Sister Beth will also continue to care for the Moravian congregation at Leominster in Herefordshire. Further information about the Moravian Church and its long history can be found at [www.moravian.org.uk/](http://www.moravian.org.uk/)

**Europe as a Value Society.** 'Europe must grow together as a value society', said Professor Michael Bunker, the next General Secretary of the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (Leuenberg Fellowship). He was visiting Brussels for the opening of an exhibition which showed the contribution of the churches which grew out of the Reformation to the shaping of the religious and political life of Europe. In the context of the expected re-launch of the debate on an EU Constitution, he said that Protestant Churches in Europe are working for the humanization of Europe.

**WCC General Secretary Visits China.** The unique contribution of Chinese Christians to the ecumenical movement was highlighted in Shanghai by the World Council of Churches (WCC) General Secretary Revd Dr Samuel Kobia at the beginning of a November 15-22 visit to China. Without the involvement of the Chinese church in the ecumenical movement and the WCC in particular,' he said,' we would be a much poorer fellowship. This is because you represent something unique that is very much needed in the ecumenical movement today. As a post-denominational church, you are in a class of your own, and we want to learn from you,' Kobia said.

## Noticeboard

**Abolition of the Slave Trade.** Churches Together in Greater Bristol are organising a series of four lectures to mark the celebration of the bicentenary of the abolition of the Slave Trade. These will all take place at 7.30 pm on the following dates: 3 May at Broadmead Baptist Church - Revd John Proctor, URC Minister and Lecturer in New Testament at Westminster College, Cambridge will lecture on John 8. 32-6, 'if the Son has set you free, you are free indeed; 10 May at the New Room, Broadmead - Bishop Joe Aldred of the New Testament of God on the spirituality arising out of the experience of slavery; 18 May at Clifton Cathedral - Mr McQuade of the Anti-Slavery Society on modern slavery; 19 June at Bristol Cathedral - Bishop Kallistos Ware, Orthodox Bishop of Diokletia, on the Orthodox understanding of humanity as made in the image of God.

Greetings from the **Chaplain Among the Deaf in the Diocese of Bath and Wells**. My name is Pam Grottick and I am married to Howard. We moved to Somerset from Kent where I was a Teacher of the Deaf for 30 years and I was licensed to my new role as part-time lay Chaplain on 20 March. I'm also a licensed Reader of 21 years and as such am developing my ministry in my village Church at West Pennard. I am privileged to be involved in services for/with deaf people and would like to tell you when and where services are held.

**Services for Deaf People in the Diocese of Bath and Wells** are held regularly at different venues throughout the county. Services are signed throughout and a voice-over is always given for those present who are less familiar with sign language.

**The Venues for Services are:**

**Emmanuel Church, Oxford Road, Weston-Super-Mare** - held on the first Saturday of the month at 4.30pm

**St. Mark's Chapel, Bridgwater College, Bath Road (College Way), Bridgwater** - held on the third Sunday of the month at 3.00pm

**Emmanuel Church, Apsley Road, Weston, Bath** - held on the fourth Sunday of the month at 3.00pm (Please note - no service on 24 Dec)

Each service is followed by tea. Anyone is more than welcome to attend our services - you don't have to have a hearing loss, just an interest in worshipping with deaf people in a Christian signing environment. As well as the fellowship enjoyed, it's a good opportunity to learn more about signs in worship.

I can be contacted on 01458 830085 (tel. + fax) and my e-mail is [pam@home01843.freerve.co.uk](mailto:pam@home01843.freerve.co.uk)

## **New Resources**

**Faith in Rural Communities: Contributions of Social Capital to Community Vibrancy.** ACORA Publishing, The Arthur Rank Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LZ. ISBN 0-9551358-1-8. Cost: £10.00 plus postage. Also available at [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk) This report is the result of research by Coventry University which studied five locations across England: Acle in Norfolk, Austwick and Clapham in Yorkshire, Bridge Sollars in Herefordshire, Fence in Lancashire and Iddesleigh in Devon. The researchers carried out interviews to understand the faith communities and identify issues of social concern. They crosschecked the results through interviews with people outside the faith communities. The research concludes that vibrant rural communities are sustained and enhanced by the informal and individual actions of people of faith. These often small and unseen actions benefit the whole community. The research was supported by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.** The theme for 2007 is 'He even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak,' based on Mark 7.31-37. The theme was chosen by the churches of South Africa, at the request of the International Committee, which represents Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. The resource material is available from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. Phone 01733 325002

**This Immoral Trade: Slavery in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** by Caroline Cox and John Marks. Monarch Books, Oxford, 2006. ISBN 185424 7654. The book contains stories of how it feels to be a 'slave' and enables the reader to begin to enter into the trauma of slavery. The authors' picture of contemporary slavery is not only based on documents but also on their real life experiences of refugee camps, boy soldiers and abused children.

**Corrymeela Sunday.** The 2007 theme is *Christ's Ambassadors in the Work of Reconciliation*. As before, the Corrymeela Sunday Pack for 2007 includes elements of political analysis, theological reflection and liturgical suggestions. There is much in the material which can also be used by groups in preparation for or indeed on Corrymeela Sunday itself. The 2007 Pack is now available from the Belfast Corrymeela Office: Corrymeela House, 8, Upper Crescent, Belfast BT7 1NT.

**The Community of St Denys in Warminster** exists to enable men and women to find for themselves a rule of life which is expressed in prayer, in regular partaking of the Eucharist, and in fellowship. Contact Jenny Walker on 01985 214824 or email: [stdenys.ivyhouse@btopenworld.com](mailto:stdenys.ivyhouse@btopenworld.com)

## **Dates for Your Diary**

### **JANUARY**

- 18 – 25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. [www.ctbi.org.uk](http://www.ctbi.org.uk)
- 27 Holocaust Memorial Day. [www.holocasmusmemorialday.gov.uk](http://www.holocasmusmemorialday.gov.uk)
- 26 – 28 Weekend of Services for World Peace and Disarmament. [www.world-disarm.org.uk](http://www.world-disarm.org.uk)
- 28 Homelessness Sunday. [www.homelessness-sunday.org.uk](http://www.homelessness-sunday.org.uk)

### **FEBRUARY**

- 4 Education Sunday. [www,Christian-teachers.org.uk](http://www.Christian-teachers.org.uk)
- 11-18 National Marriage Week. [www.nmw.org.uk](http://www.nmw.org.uk)
- 18 Poverty Action Sunday. [www.church-poverty.org.uk](http://www.church-poverty.org.uk)
- 26 – 11 March Fairtrade Fortnight. [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)

### **MARCH**

- 2 Women's World Day of Prayer. [www.wwdp-natcomm.org](http://www.wwdp-natcomm.org)
- 18 Corrymeela Sunday. [www.corrymeela.org](http://www.corrymeela.org)

### **APRIL**

- 8 – 14 Mental Health Action Week. [www.mentalhealth.org.uk](http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk)
- 28 A Day on Healing in Wells Cathedral