



**SOMERSET  
CHURCHES  
TOGETHER**

# Newsletter

No 78

October 2008

[www.sctog.org.uk](http://www.sctog.org.uk)



# SOMERSET CHURCHES TOGETHER ANNUAL GATHERING 2008

**Locking Castle Church, Bransby Way,  
Weston Super Mare BS24 7BW**

**Saturday 8 November 2008  
10.00 am – 3.30 pm**

## **Churches in Community From Vision to Action**

All who are interested in churches of different traditions **sharing their life together to reach out into the community** are invited to this **special gathering** which is held every year.

There will be **worship, displays, presentations, opportunities** to share experience and **small group discussion**.

A choice of **workshops** will be available in the afternoon.

**Booking forms available from**

**01225 872903 or e-mail: [sctog@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sctog@blueyonder.co.uk)**

## **The Provocative Church.**

There has been a whole spate of books in recent years whose titles describe the church in various ways. They include *The Prevailing Church*, *The Responsive Church*, *The Purpose Driven Church*, *The Mission Shaped Church*, *The Living Church*, *The Gospel Driven Church*. Some of the titles make me smile; for example, *The Intelligent Church*. As opposed to what, one wonders! I am thinking of adding one or two of my own. How about *The Completely Exhausted Church!*? Or, perhaps, *The Totally Confused Church?*

But the one that has got me thinking most is *The Provocative Church* by Graham Tomlin. We tend to think of being provocative as a negative thing. My dictionary defines provocative as 'tending to arouse indignation or sexual desire'. I am sure the writer wasn't looking for that kind of church! But he was arguing for a church that evokes a reaction, stimulates a response; a church that intrigues and sparks people's interest.

It was this kind of thing that Peter had in mind when he wrote in his first letter, '*Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have*' (1 Peter 3:15). He is encouraging his fellow believers to live the kind of life that entices, intrigues and provokes questions in other people's minds. The kind of life that creates a desire for God.

That's how it was on the Day of Pentecost. Something unusual takes place in the streets of Jerusalem. People from miles around hear God's message in their own language. And in Acts 2:12 we read: '*Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"*' Peter is then able to explain what it is all about.

Are we the kind of Christians that provoke people to ask these kinds of questions? Do we live distinctive and provocative lives? Are our churches the kind of communities that fascinate, attract and entice people to look closer to find out what is going on?

For most people today, the church is a relatively harmless irrelevance. It only hits the headlines when there is an act of violence done in the name of religion or one of its leaders acts in an entirely inappropriate way. Then we provoke a reaction! The wrong reaction!

What kind of church do we need to be to create a desire in people to want to know more? A church that is provocative in the right way.

**Revd David Hewitt, Regional Minister, South West Baptist Association**

*The Provocative Church* by Graham Tomlin (revised third edition, 2008) is published by SPCK at £9.99.



## Hope in Weston-super-Mare and Area



I consider myself privileged to be President of Churches Together in Weston in the year of Hope 08. Hope is an initiative of churches to help demonstrate Christian faith in action and explain the meaning of that faith throughout the UK. You can find out more on the main website [www.hope08.com](http://www.hope08.com) or on Weston's very own [www.hope08wsm.org.uk](http://www.hope08wsm.org.uk). Huge banners saying "Hope in Weston-super-Mare and area" have been appearing all over town and well over 20 churches have joined with the Hope vision of sharing the gospel "in word and deed".

One of my predecessors, Rev Peter Lynch, Chair of the Steering Group, says "Every church in Churches Together is encouraged to use the Hope logo and identity to proclaim the Christian gospel in word and deed this year. If we all do what we always do, and more, this year under the Hope banner, we will impact the town and the work of the churches in bringing hope to our communities, adding huge social and spiritual capital to our town." (Unfortunately our banner here at St Peter's blew away in the February storms, but our hope still holds fast!)

The year of Hope began on the morning of New Year's Eve, with a service of thanksgiving for 2007 and prayers for 2008. A procession of Christians made their way through various churches throughout the evening, culminating in a service to welcome the Year of Hope at Milton Baptist Church. Clarence Park Baptists organised a major event in April to foster relationships with the local community and to bring together those with needs and those who can help them.

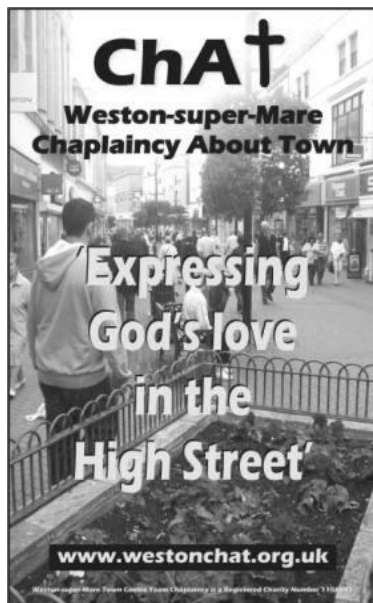
In June the old St Nic's church at Uphill was a perfect venue for those who braved the weather to pray for and over the town. As well as prayers and services, churches have been offering hope to the people of Weston in many practical ways, through Street Pastors, work in the town's schools, Chaplains About Town (CHAT), and the hospital chaplaincy team. There was even a serious onslaught with paintbrushes for the Ashcombe Scout Hut and Weston's YMCA building!

In July, the town was rocked by the pier fire, and Weston Churches were quick to respond to the Mayor's request for a service on the pier, to give thanks for many years of memories. About 160 people stood in the rain, to pray for a swift rebuilding, not just of the pier, but for the people of the town.

At time of writing, we look forward to a major Launch Evening for the autumn Alpha Courses around the town with Adriano Basso, Bristol City's Christian goalkeeper, sharing his story at the Helicopter Museum. These courses will be augmented by Weston Bible week and other events throughout the area. Hope 08 doesn't end on December 31<sup>st</sup>, but goes on through to 2012. The theme of hope is integral to our message of God's love, and we will continue to bring that theme, in words and in action, to the people of Weston Super Mare, for many years to come.

# ChAT

ChAT is a charity that has been set up by local Christians in Weston-super-Mare, to provide a friendly listening ear to businesses, employees, shoppers & anyone who frequents the town centre.



## The ChAT Prayer

Lord of all, whose Son, Jesus Christ, befriended those in business and commerce and listened to people in their need, guide and bless the work of Chaplaincy About Town, that through its ministry with others it may find joy in your service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Rural Resources

### Some Websites for those Working in Rural Settings

The **Churches Rural Group** consists of representatives from the Churches of Britain and aims to enable the churches to consult effectively and work together to promote and resource God's mission in rural areas. [www.churchesruralgroup.org.uk](http://www.churchesruralgroup.org.uk)

The **Centre for Rural Mission** brings together the most experienced evangelists, researchers, writers and teachers on rural evangelism from across the churches and mission agencies. [www.ruralmissions.org.uk](http://www.ruralmissions.org.uk)

**The Arthur Rank Centre** is a focus and resource for the work of the Christian churches in rural areas. [www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk](http://www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk)

**Rural Theology Association** aims to raise awareness of the nature of rural ministry, worship and mission in the world at large. [www.rural-theology.org.uk](http://www.rural-theology.org.uk)

The **Farm Crisis Network** provides pastoral support to farming people. [www.farmcrisisnetwork.org.uk](http://www.farmcrisisnetwork.org.uk)

# South West Christian Healing Forum

(An Ecumenical Venture)

A Study Day on the Healing Ministry

“Healing of Memories:  
How does God heal the Hurts of the Past?”

**Speaker: Martin Broadbent**

Retired Chairman of the London South West District  
of the Methodist Church

Venue: Blue School, Wells

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2008

9.15am – 1.00pm

There will be a variety of workshops looking at subjects  
such as Healing of Memories & Spiritual Direction; Family Tree  
Ministry;  
Enneagram; Practical forgiveness in Prayer Ministry

Further details and brochures will be available from 8th September  
from

St Andrew's Church Office, Station Road, Congresbury BS49 5HL  
Tel: 01934 833126 Email: [revmatthomson@hotmail.com](mailto:revmatthomson@hotmail.com)

## **‘What’s the Difference’ – Somerset Faiths and Beliefs Forum’s Mobile Exhibition**

As part of its work to promote harmonious relations between people of different faiths and beliefs in the local authority area of Somerset, Somerset Faiths and Beliefs Forum has produced a mobile exhibition

The exhibition is designed to show the contribution people of faith make to the community of Somerset and break down prejudice and misunderstanding. It has been inspired by the Somerset Anne Frank Exhibition held in Taunton in March 2006 which had over 10,000 visitors from across the county and beyond.

The exhibition can be taken to schools, colleges, churches, community organisations, council offices, libraries, health centres, any location where the public might gather.

There are five panels, four of which feature young people from a particular faith group, which include quotes on what faith means to them and how it can help create better relations between people in the community. An accompanying DVD is also being produced to accompany the exhibition, which will contain the full interviews with each young person – copies of the DVD will also be available to purchase at a minimal price to cover costs.

We have already received sponsorship from a number of bodies including the Somerset County Council, Avon and Somerset Police, Somerset Churches Together and Somerset College of Arts and Technology have produced the first set of exhibition materials and graphic design free.

At the moment the Somerset Faiths and Beliefs Forum is working out a policy for hiring out the exhibition and welcomes any enquiries about its hire.

For more information on hiring the exhibition and purchasing the accompanying DVD please contact:

Rev. Bruce Thompson, email: [revbrucet@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:revbrucet@tiscali.co.uk). Tel: 01823 275765  
Alistair Beattie, [faithnetsouthwest.org.uk](http://faithnetsouthwest.org.uk), tel: 0117 304 2298

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### **Reconcile Your People**

**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** is the time, either from 18 to 25 January or at Pentecost, when we pray for the unity of Christ’s Church. This year the worship resources, developed by the Churches of Korea, explore the pain of division but also look with faith to God who can make all things well.

For further information visit [www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer) or contact Norwich Books and Music on 01603 612914 or at [orders@norwichbooksandmusic.co.uk](mailto:orders@norwichbooksandmusic.co.uk)



## **Embracing the Anglican-Methodist Covenant**

*Embracing the Covenant* - the latest report from the Joint Implementation Commission (JIC) of the Anglican Methodist Covenant - is a well written report that is worth reading. It highlights that not even JIC really understands all the implications of this new way of working towards unity. We are treading new ground with a covenantal 'road map' for unity rather than concentrating, as in the past, on discovering full visible unity through an institutional vision. Now, we are beginning to understand that full visible unity may be something rather different, with each denomination celebrating its unique contribution to the body of Christ – we can all learn from one another, without demanding that the other conforms to a 'one size fits all' unity.

The report recognizes that there is some disappointment about the slow pace of change while recognizing that new approaches take time to be accepted. The big issue in the report is that growth in the Covenant is not a top down imposed method of coming together but, rather, a bottom up initiative which progresses while the theological work continues. There is already enough 'permission giving' in both denominations to allow significant growth in what can be done together. The original Covenant affirmed that there is a mutual recognition of the authenticity of each other's churches and ministries. The work to fully implement that is bound up in all the issues around episcopacy, and there is no reason, as yet, to lose confidence in the possibility that there will be convergence with the regard to this matter.

A continuing tension is working with diversity and discovering what is equitable and inequitable diversity. For those who are familiar with post modernism and the many ways of understanding it, diversity is a slippery subject. It is not just tolerance. This only brushes difficult subjects under the carpet and the lessons of history are that they will re-emerge at some point in the future to embarrass all concerned. That is why the theologians need to do their work while allowing practical progress at grass roots level to prosper.

For the theologically minded, there is a chapter about different ways to understand salvation – is it about our being rescued from our 'human depravity' or about our personal response to the gracious activity of God in Jesus Christ? This is the difference between Calvinism and Arminianism.

The report underlines the principle that unity is the servant of mission and not an end in itself. The disunity of the churches presents a divided Christ to the world which is a theological nonsense because the Church is His body. The report also makes the point that effective mission will take a major step forward when others see the quality of relationships among Christians.

**Revd Nick Williams, Bath and Wells Diocesan Ecumenical Officer**

*Embracing the Covenant: Quinquennial Report (2008) of the Joint Implementation Commission under the Covenant between The Methodist Church of Great Britain and the Church of England* (ISBN 978-1-85852-346-9) is available from Church House Publishing at £5.99 (Phone: 020 7898 1451).

**SOMERSET CHURCHES TOGETHER**

**The Anglican and Methodist Covenant:  
Five Years On**

**An Evening of Reflection, Exploration and Discussion**

With

The Revd Ward Jones, Chair of Bristol Methodist District  
and

The Ven. Andy Piggott, Archdeacon of Bath

At Midsomer Norton Methodist Church, High Street, Midsomer  
Norton BA3 2DR

**On Thursday 13 November 2008 at 7.30 pm**

The Anglican Methodist Covenant was signed in November 2003. The latest Joint Implementation Commission Report was published in June. Now is a good time to take stock of developments.

Some are disappointed that progress towards their idea of full visible unity can best be described as sluggish. But this is a covenant, not a roadmap!

Covenant is not about each side compromising its dearly held beliefs and ways of being. It is about travelling together, learning from one another and discovering how someone else's viewpoint is equally relevant, especially when we disagree. Disagreement can be the time when we may dare to learn that difference is not necessarily the way to division but an opportunity to celebrate our God given diversity. From the story of Cain and Abel to the musical 'Oklahoma', and tragically even today with all its worldwide conflicts, humankind struggles to respect difference.

The Anglican Methodist Covenant is opening up a new way to resolve 'difference'. All around the Somerset area, there are examples of people of faith from different traditions working together for the Kingdom of God. We may have different ways of worshipping and serving in Christ's name - some noisy, some quiet - but all help us in different but equally relevant ways to a sense of God among us.



AN ANGLICAN-METHODIST COVENANT

## **Faith Groups Working in the Community – Partnerships for Social Action**

Faith based organisations and charities have long been at the forefront of social action in this country. Recently there have been several publications which highlight the government's commitment to dialogue between faith groups and an acknowledgement that faith groups are a distinctive part of the voluntary and community sector.

In 2006 *faithnetsouthwest* undertook a survey of social and community action by faith groups. The report, *Faith in Action in the South West*, demonstrated the contribution that faith groups are making in providing a wide range of social welfare and community services, both formally through projects, and informally through their work in the community. One of the recommendations of the report was that churches and faith groups should seriously consider ways to develop their buildings as a community resource as well as a place of worship, in order to reach out to the wider community. Also, public bodies, including funding bodies, should recognise the vital importance of such buildings to local communities and look for ways of offering support in their development and maintenance as a community resource. The second recommendation was that faith groups should be more proactive in seeking partnerships with other community and statutory organisations in providing support for their local community.

In June 2008 a partnership between the Church Urban Fund, the Department for Communities and Local Government and NAVCA (National Association for Voluntary and Community Action) produced *Believing in Local Action - Successful Partnership Working between the Faith Sector and Local Infrastructure Organisations*. In the introduction, Hazel Blears MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, said that she is keen for local faith groups to develop their social activism, and to work together to provide shared solutions. This report is also a contribution to the developing relationships between faith-based organisations and local government and agencies. Case studies show what can be achieved through strong partnerships and the report highlights the benefits of good relations across the third sector.

This focus on partnership has been developed in two other recent national publications. In July 2008 the Department of Communities and Local Government published *Face to Face and Side by Side: A Framework for Partnership in our Multi faith Society*. This outlines the Government's inter-faith strategy and draws on research and responses to a consultation. The Framework contains examples of effective practice, practical suggestions for communities and local authorities and links to further sources of support and guidance. The aim is to create more local opportunities both for dialogue and collaborative social action where people come together and share their time, energy and skills to improve their local neighbourhood.

The government's support for the delivery of the Framework for Partnership includes a new ***Faiths in Action Fund***. It is hoped the grants will support a wide variety of local activities in a range of community settings, including innovative new ideas as well as 'tried and tested' approaches. Particular priorities are working in partnership between different faith communities, improving local communities, encouraging interaction and exchange of ideas. This £4m grants programme opened in August 2008 and is administered by the Community Development Foundation (CDF) on behalf of the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG), The deadline for applications for Round 1 is 1 November 2008

Information about this grant can be found on the CDF web site - [www.cdf.org.uk](http://www.cdf.org.uk). If you want to discuss a potential application in the future, or have any other queries about the fund, please contact ***faithnetsouthwest***. Email: [info@faithnetsouthwest.org.uk](mailto:info@faithnetsouthwest.org.uk), tel; 0117 304 2298

### ***Faith Communities' Response to Major Emergencies***

An opportunity for leaders of faith communities & their nominated representatives to attend a **FAMILIARISATION DAY** introducing the Major Emergency Plan:

**November 4th 2008, Avon & Somerset Police HQ, Portishead  
9:45am to 3:00pm**

*Contributors include representatives of the Emergency Services, the Local Authorities' Civil Contingencies Units, the Avon & Somerset Constabulary Operational Planning Dept and the Faith Communities*

**Arranged by ISR in co-operation with Avon & Somerset Constabulary. ,  
There is no charge for this event but prior registration is essential.**

Contact ISR, 162 Pennywell Road, Bristol BS5 0TX

(Tel: 0117 955 7430; Email: [sheila@ccisr.org.uk](mailto:sheila@ccisr.org.uk) or [mep@ccisr.org.uk](mailto:mep@ccisr.org.uk) )

### **Free Resources for Churches to mark World AIDS Day**

ACET, the Christian HIV and AIDS charity, has produced a free resource pack to help churches mark World AIDS day on 1 December 2008.



The pack, *Facts for Life*, focuses on the charity's HIV prevention work which currently reaches over one million young people with Christian sex, relationships and lifestyle education delivered by church based volunteers. *Facts for Life* contains service ideas, presentations, stories and encouragement from around the world as well as a challenge to the local church to get more involved. The free pack is available by e-mailing [enquiries@acet-international.org](mailto:enquiries@acet-international.org), telephoning 0208 5687770 or by writing to ACET at PO Box 46242, London, W5 2WG.

## **Understanding the Past versus Influencing the Future – The Ever-Present Dilemma.**

On the 10 September 2008 the first beam in the Large Hadron Collider at CERN was successfully fired and steered around the full 27 kilometres of the world's most powerful particle accelerator. The search had begun to discover what has been dubbed 'The God Particle'. On the same day, six Greenpeace volunteers were acquitted of criminal damage by a Crown Court jury in a case that centred on the contribution made to climate change by burning coal. The charges arose after the six attempted to shut down the Kingsnorth coal-fired power station in Kent last year by scaling the chimney and painting the Prime Minister's name down the side.

These two events happening on the same day prompted me to ask the following question: 'Which is more important - understanding where our world came from or trying to influence where it is going?' Of course, the question has been asked many times before. Earlier in the month, ex-Chief Government Scientist Sir David King had got himself into trouble by raising the question. His problem was that although expected to be on the side of the scientist he advocated paying more attention, resources and money to solving the pressing problems of climate change. As a scientist well known for his opposition to coal-fired power stations he also expressed doubts about the value of particle accelerators.

In a Channel 4 interview he said, "I made a speech on Monday night as president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science saying: this rethink needs to come into the thinking of the scientific and technological community as well. And I simply commented that it's interesting that we understand in such detail about fundamental particles, that we can look with confidence at the Higgs Boson and its structure and properties, and we can build a massive multi-billion pound machine in order to test the theory. I think it's amazing that we have the technological capability to land a craft on Mars so many miles away. At the same time I'm dismayed that we haven't yet got highly efficient methods of producing energy from the sunlight landing on the planet so that we can simply leave fossil fuel where it is in the ground and use solar energy. And I'm dismayed by the fact that millions of people a year are still dying from malaria and HIV aids. My plea really was for the brightest young people coming into science and technology, if they were heading towards, say, particle physics, just to give it a little thought. Perhaps they could contribute to one of these very big problems which are central to the future of the whole of mankind."

So what is it to be, the past or the future? I guess the answer is that both are important. Certainly, understanding where we came from will always be important, increasingly so as the creation versus evolution argument hots up *again*.

According to Times On-line, The Revd Professor Michael Reiss, a clergyman, a biologist and Director of Education at the Royal Society, provoked a furore this week when he called for creationism to be treated in science lessons as a

legitimate “world-view”. But in fairness to him, what he was advocating was that young people be given the chance to understand both sides of the debate so as to make their minds up in an informed way. Ultimately, said Reiss, such children were unlikely to change their minds, but at least they could be encouraged to view evolution as one way of understanding the universe.

Coincidentally, the Church of England has expressed deep concerns about the spread of creationist views to the point that it has developed a new section to its website to mark the approaching bicentenary of Charles Darwin’s birth in 1809 and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species* in 1859.

What is called for is a healthy balance between the mystery of faith and the wonders of scientific discovery. As the Revd Dr Malcolm Brown, one of the inspirations for the website, writes: ‘There is no reason to doubt that Christ still draws people towards truth through the work of scientists as well as others, and many scientists are motivated in their work by a perception of the deep beauty of the created world.’ As scientists are encouraged to search for an understanding of the past, we should be taking an active role to protect and cherish God’s creation, however created, with the aim of safeguarding it for future generations.

**Brian Kellock, Somerset Churches Together Sustainability Group**

#### **MONSIGNOR WILLIAM MITCHELL – AN APPRECIATION**

Mgr William Mitchell (usually known as Bill or Billy) died unexpectedly on 29 August 2008.

A past Chair of Somerset Churches Together and for many years the Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, he was deeply committed to the ecumenical journey throughout the Clifton Diocese where he served in a variety of roles during 47 years as a priest. People who came to know him from different Christian traditions valued his gift for friendship which, coupled with a prodigious memory, meant that he kept in touch with a wide circle of the friends he made from among the many people with whom he worked and he always remembered the significant things that mattered to them. He epitomised the belief that true ecumenism depended upon deepening our relationship with one another in Christ and he fully lived out that conviction.

In his pastoral work Mgr Billy was keen to promote friendship and co-operation across the different traditions. He had a talent for seeing fresh possibilities for Christians working together in innovative ways and central to his ministry was his encouragement to clergy and lay people to be creative in taking up these opportunities. His fine intellect and his expertise as a canon lawyer ensured that he was able to guide people to find workable solutions that withstood challenge. Many people active in ecumenical work in Somerset and beyond owe a great deal to his inspiration and support.

## Noticeboard

The South West Churches' Rural Officers will offer a **Practical Introduction to Rural Ministry** on 10-12 March 2009 at Dulverton Residential Centre on Exmoor. The full cost of the 48 hour course for the ordained in rural ministry is £60. For further information, contact Fr Robert Miller at 2, High Street, Dulverton TA22 9HB or phone 01398 324217.

Finance Re-Direct Ltd, Methodist Insurance plc and the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group plc offer affordable **Public Liability Insurance** schemes for Churches Together groups. For further information, contact the insurance companies concerned.

The **Association of Interchurch Families** provides a support network and information service for families where partners belong to different denominations. It provides local group meetings around the country. For further information, visit [www.interchurchfamilies.org.uk](http://www.interchurchfamilies.org.uk) or phone 020 7654 7251.

**Don't Stop at the Lights** is a new booklet from the Church of England which offers church leaders a template for a year-long programme of practical action to reduce their congregations' carbon footprints as energy prices head upwards. It is available from Christian bookshops or by mail order via the web at [www.chpublishing.co.uk](http://www.chpublishing.co.uk) at £14.99.

**Friends and Heroes**, the award-winning TV series shown by the BBC, is an animated action-adventure for children aged 6 to 10 which weaves stories from both Old and New Testaments into every episode. A series of original lessons based on the biblical material in each programme is now available from Friends and Heroes Productions Ltd. Phone 01624 811747 or visit [www.friendsandheroes.com](http://www.friendsandheroes.com)

The **Making our Way Exhibition**, an exhibition of children's work, will be an evocative start to the 1100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Diocese of Bath and Wells. It will take place in Wells Cathedral from 27 to 30 January 2009. Other events planned include a large event at Glastonbury Abbey and a youth pilgrimage. For more information and a full guide to events, visit [www.bw1100.org](http://www.bw1100.org)

An **Individually Guided Retreat** led by experienced spiritual directors will take place at the Ammerdown Centre in Radstock from 10 to 17 November. Fr Gerald O'Collins and Sr Elizabeth Rees will lead a week of silent prayer, reflection and reading. For further information, visit [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org) or phone 01761 433709.

**Glimpses – Youth Work and Spirituality** by Steve Bullock and Nigel Pimlott is a new resource pack from the National Youth Agency to help youth workers develop spirituality for themselves and for their work with young people. Visit [www.nya.org.uk](http://www.nya.org.uk) for more details.

## Dates for Your Diary

### OCTOBER

- 3 CAFOD Harvest Fast Day. 020 7733 7900
- 10 World Mental Health Day. Phone: 020 7803 1101
- 18 Study Day on Healing Ministry. Blue School, Wells.  
01934 833126
- 19-26 One World Week. Growing Together. 0118 939 4933
- 26 Bible Sunday. [www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk)



**Buried Treasure?**  
Unearth God's riches this Bible Sunday

### NOVEMBER

- 8 Somerset Churches Together Annual Gathering. Locking Castle Church, Weston-super-Mare. 10.00 am to 3.30 pm.  
01225 872903.
- 9 Remembrance Sunday
- 13 The Anglican Methodist Covenant - Five Years On: An Evening of Reflection, Exploration and Discussion at Midsomer Norton Methodist church at 7.30 pm

### DECEMBER

- 1 World Aids Day. [www.worldaidsday.org](http://www.worldaidsday.org)



### JANUARY

- 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. [www.ctbi.org.uk](http://www.ctbi.org.uk)
- 27 Homelessness Sunday. [www.housingjustice.org.uk](http://www.housingjustice.org.uk)

homelessness  
SUNDAY 