

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

MIND THE GAP— Rich World, Poor World—the unfinished agenda is the title of a folder of materials produced by Christians Aware. It is designed as a resource for study, discussion and action towards reaching the millennium development goals. The papers are full of useful information and well worth using. The pack costs £5.00 and is available from Christians Aware, 2 Saxby Street, LEICESTER, LE2 0ND

ROOTS AND BRANCHES; the history of Christchurch, Ilkley is just what the title says. But the title does not convey the fascinating story of the development of Methodism and Congregationalism in Ilkley and the situation that led to two streams of Christian life coming together. It is an interesting story of both the opportunities and some of the difficulties that confront churches as they draw closer to each other and perhaps, eventually, form a united church. The church is now celebrating 25 years of God's blessing.

A REMINDER AND AN OFFER

WYEC asks Local Churches Together to pay an annual subscription of £3.00 per member church to support the work of the Council.

The Methodist Insurance Company has introduced a policy for Churches Together covering three small events and three large events for £63.00 for a year. This seems very good value.

This newsletter is **NOT** copyright. You are encouraged to make as many copies as can be used in your church/area. Please make WYEC as widely known as possible and encourage people to call on it for any help that it may be able to give.

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WEST YORKSHIRE
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NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2007



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SERVICE OF REPENTANCE AND RECONCILIATION

FRIDAY APRIL 27th 7.30 p.m.

ST ANNE'S CATHEDRAL,
LEEDS

Led by The Rt Revd Arthur Roche,
Bishop of Leeds

Preacher; The Rt Revd John Packer,
Bishop of Ripon and Leeds

FROM CEO TO CEDO!

Instead of a County Ecumenical Officer WYEC is going to have a County Ecumenical Development Officer, stressing that the job is to take ecumenical working forward in new directions. He is the Revd Dr Clive Barrett who expects to start work in the post in June. He writes:-

I am deeply committed both to ecumenism and to West Yorkshire.

An Anglican priest, I started my ordained ministry as curate of Wakefield Cathedral. This gave me insight and regard for the breadth of the County from Todmorden to Knottingley. For ten years I was a chaplain at the University of Leeds. The chaplains were inspired by the WYEC Church Leaders Covenant and developed a wide ranging ecumenical team.

For the past nine years I have been privileged to be Priest in Charge of St Cross, Middleton in South Leeds. I have played a full part in the work and witness of Churches Together in Middleton, including setting up a youth project and (following WYEC again) campaigning against the spread of racism—actions that were far better done by Churches Together than by one denomination alone.

I have a passion for peace. As a researcher into peace movement history I have been a visiting fellow at the Peace Studies Department at Bradford University and at Leeds Metropolitan University. I bring this passion for peace-making and reconciliation with me into WYEC.

The heart of peace-making is the building of relationships. As I start with WYEC, I look forward to building new relationships across West Yorkshire. Whether you are part of an existing Ecumenical Partnership, or a Churches Together group, or trying to work more closely with other Christians in your area, I look forward to meeting you and worshipping alongside you. I firmly believe our Christian life is to be lived *together*. What that means in practice will be different for each community. But if we encourage each other, and give time to building relationships with each other we could find that our unity is not only a hope but a reality.

BLACK AND WHITE TOGETHER

The West Yorkshire African Caribbean Council of Churches recently celebrated its 13th Anniversary. An inspiring address by Dr Roswith Gerloff, a Lutheran who has done considerable research into the life and witness of the black majority church in the UK and beyond, pointed out very clearly how both Black and White majority churches need each other. Are there opportunities for meeting in your area?

ANNUA GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER— 27th May 2007

New Testament Church of God, Easterly Road, Leeds. For more details contact e-mail pj.lancaster@tiscali.co.uk. An opportunity for meeting!

FEAST OF NATIONS July 7th Briggate, Leeds

Permission has been given by Leeds City Council to use Briggate on 7th July for an international Christian celebration as part of the 800 year celebration of Leeds being granted a charter. This is a tremendous opportunity to "raise a banner among the nations" for Jesus and His Kingdom and many who have heard about this are really looking forward to something coming together.

Prayer is important to see that this does happen, the City Council is totally behind such an event taking place. If it is successful then it could become an annual feature.

ABOLITION OF THE SLAVERY TRADE ACT 1807. The anniversary is being celebrated with a number of special events in West Yorkshire. Unfortunately details are not yet available. Please contact the WYEC Office for more information.

WYSOCS

Never heard of WYSOCS? Neither had the newsletter editor until three days ago. It is the West Yorkshire School of Christian Studies and it will be celebrating its 21st birthday in June. Bishop Tom Wright, a very well respected New Testament scholar will be coming to speak at St Columba's in Headingley, Leeds, on June 15th and 16th. Tickets and details are available from admin@wysocs.org.uk—telephone 0113 258 9300