



Newsletter

Churches Together in Kew - building love and trust between the churches in Kew that binds us together in the Holy Spirit, moves us to worship together and leads us to action to proclaim the Gospel by shared witness and service in the world.

October 2010

This is the first in an occasional series of updates on CTK activities which we will distribute electronically, or print in church newsheets or magazines. We hope you have had a refreshing summer break and would like to inform you of recent developments and provide some details of the forthcoming activities we are planning.

CTK President

We are very pleased to announce that Father Peter Hart of St Luke's and St Philip's & All Saints (The Barn) has accepted our nomination to the new role of President of CTK. Paul Booth (St Anne's) continues as chairman. This new role recognises the joint contribution of the clergy and laity in our ecumenical initiatives in Kew. Fr Peter has been a full member of the CTK Planning Group for some time now as clergy representative. We are very pleased to have Fr Peter's spiritual insights as an integral part of our planning group and for the direct link with the clergy that he provides.

Hustings

On April 15th, CTK hosted a hustings event in St Luke's hall. We were very pleased to have a capacity audience, despite the competition from the first ever televised prime ministerial debate. The evening was skilfully chaired by David Durie from St Winefride's and we were very fortunate that all seven of the Richmond Park candidates were able to attend. We had a lively debate covering a wide range of issues. We were very pleased to have hosted this event, which we felt represented a valuable contribution to the community and raised the profile of our churches. Maybe next time it would be good to have some more specific questions on Christian issues.

Lent Groups

Over 80 members of our congregations took part in bible study groups in homes around Kew during Lent. This year we were very fortunate to have a booklet, Forty Days Of Lent, specially prepared for us by Barbara Wood from St Winefride's congregation. Barbara took the theme of forty days and forty nights based on stories from the Old and New Testaments. If any one missed the bible studies and would like to have a copy of the booklet we still have copies left (price £3). Here is a

quote from one of the groups - '...this year's course has been one of the most stimulating. Certainly the level and depth of discussion and sharing has been remarkable.'

We have started planning our Lent 2011 activities and, once again, this is likely to take the form of bible study groups. We are currently looking for suitable materials, but one possibility is a theme related to the 400th anniversary of the publication of the St James' bible in English (1611).

Bible Studies at Kew Baptist Church

Steven Gunderson, who some of you will remember as the previous pastor of Kew Baptist Church, led a short bible study series on Romans during the summer. A small, but enthusiastic, number of our parishioners attended and were highly appreciative of Steven's commentaries. Steven will be running a 5-week series of studies on 'The Strange Sacrifices of Leviticus 1-7 and How they Speak to us Today,' on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm, at Kew Baptist Church, Windsor Road starting on October 20th. Everyone is very welcome.

Ecumenical Services

Once again, we will hold an ecumenical service during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We are also considering ecumenical acts of worship during Advent. Full details will be provided nearer the time.

Understanding Islam

This course, which was run in Kew in 2009, is being run again at St Thomas Aquinas Church Hall (Ham Street, Ham Common, Richmond-Upon-Thames, Surrey. TW10 7HT) on Tuesday afternoons from September to November 2010.

The course consists of ten two-hour sessions, including a visit to a Mosque. It is given by Dr Chris Hewer, the St Ethelburga Fellow in Christian-Muslim Relations, who has been involved in the study of Islam, and practically in Christian-Muslim relations since 1986. For many years, Chris Hewer worked in Birmingham as Inter-Faith Adviser, and was associated with the Centre for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations.

Further details are available from Diana Mills on: 02089483276 or Major (Retired) Rashid Laher 07766327989. rai.laher@blueyonder.co.uk

Pilgrimage

We are still hoping to organise an ecumenical pilgrimage to Rome – so watch this space!

Please visit our website at: <http://www.kewchurches.org.uk>