

DIOCESE OF TRURO

DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM
GROWING THE CHURCH

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Worship Matters!

A newsletter for Lay Leaders of Worship August 2017

Welcome to Number 11!

Thank you for your feedback from Number 10—much appreciated!

A rather belated 'Worship Matters!' which has given me the opportunity to point you in the direction of some autumn resources! Apologies but it has been a busy time all round!

This issue is stuffed full of resources to help you in your ministry throughout the coming months, both online and in print. Most of the books can be borrowed from the office in Bodmin but if you are further west arrangements can be made to get it closer to you!

The review of the ministry of Local Worship Leaders is ongoing; there is a short report within this issue.

One of the consequences of sending the last issue to incumbents has meant that I have been asked to add the Readers to the distribution list now as well so welcome to the Readers and I hope you find something useful for your ministry.

I am constantly on the look out for 'Good News' stories and would really appreciate contributions towards the next issue! A short story and a photo (if possible) would be great—you all do such amazing things whilst leading worship in your parishes—please share your good ideas!

Every Blessing and thank you for all you

do in your parishes! Shelley

WANTED!

Examples of Good Practice!

I know all LWLs are a shy and retiring group of people! But you all serve your parishes in a fantastic number of ways! At the Network days we heard great stories of ways in which LWLs had facilitated worship in their benefices and at the Chapters, many clergy acknowledged that they couldn't do what they do without you! You are much valued in your parishes and we would like to be able to raise the profile of your ministry in the Diocese.

We would like to hear from LWLs who regularly meet as a worship team to plan, pray etc; we would also like to hear from anyone whose ministry is focussed on leading Book of Common Prayer services, or regular family services and also from anyone leading outreach style services such as café or Messy Church, as well as those who are leading Taize, other special services or combine their LWL work with Baptism visiting and other ministries.

You all have much to offer and we need to tell your stories to raise the profile of your ministries across the Diocese—you will not have to write anything! We will ask the Comms team to come and speak to you personally! Willing volunteers...contact me as soon as possible!

Free Resources from Roots:



Let's go to a festival! ROOTS supporting discipleship

Festivals, sacred and secular, are more popular now than ever. Whatever your passions, tastes, beliefs and budget, there seem to be festivals to suit you. What draws people in such large numbers to festivals? And what options are there for those brave enough to try running a festival of their own?

The article includes perspectives from four Christians with diverse experiences of attending and organising festivals, plus resources to help you connect with the local community.

Whether you're thinking of organising a small event, or have greater ambitions, this is an opportunity for the Church to build bridges with people in a festival context.

Download and share: [ROOTS Let's go to a festival!](#)

ROOTS Resources for the new term

As we look beyond the summer, ROOTS offers free resources to mark the start of a new school term at the beginning of September.

ROOTS To boldly go: All-age service

To Boldly Go is an all-age service for those facing new challenges at home, work or school. This service could be held on a Sunday leading up to a new school year, but it could equally well be used in school towards the beginning of term. It focuses particularly on the resources God has given us to cope with new challenges and the confidence this should give us in any new situations we face.

Download and share: [ROOTS To boldly go](#)

ROOTS Back to school children's prayer
This simple responsorial prayer will reassure young children as they start or continue with school.

Download and share: [ROOTS Back to school children's prayer](#)

Children's music survey

Out of the Ark Music publishes songbooks and CDs that are widely used in primary schools in the UK for assemblies and plays.

Out of the Ark Music is now conducting some research into the use of children's songs in churches. They'd like as many people in children's ministry to respond! If you'd like to participate, you will receive a songbook and CD as a thank-you for your time.

Complete the survey from [Out of the Ark Music](#)

Prayer Spaces in Schools—in case of emergency:

Prayer Spaces in Schools have uploaded 3 'rapid response' prayer spaces which could be used in case of a tragedy. You need to register to download them, but that's free.

The link is here: <http://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/stories/518> These could be used in Messy Church, Café Church or other Family Service contexts.

Creationtide 1 Sep—4 October 2017

Thinking about resources for Creationtide?

Worship resources from the Church of England website include:

- Material for Seasons and Festivals of the Agricultural year from [Common Worship: Times and Seasons](#), commended by the House of Bishops for use at the discretion of the minister
- Resources for [worship and prayer](#) produced by the Environment Task Group
- A series of [liturgical resources](#), including collects, post communion prayers, forms of intercession and additional material for the Eucharistic Prayers, produced for trial use by the Diocese of Guildford
- A liturgy for [All Age Worship](#), produced by Canon Johnson while an incumbent in the Diocese of Manchester

You will also find some useful resources for Creationtide produced for the [Green Christian](#) website.

Want to know more about Creationtide and how you can engage on a daily basis in prayer, reflection and activity sign up for the daily email from [Ecochurchsouthwest](#)

For worship and prayers influenced by Celtic Christianity:

www.faithandworship.com

Lots of prayer and worship resources for festivals, daily prayer, prayer pictures and much more to explore including an excellent article on writing your own prayers.

Visit www.iona.org.uk for published worship resources from 'Wild Goose' Publishing

Daily prayers to use in the morning, midday and evening as well as compline from the [Northumbrian Community](#) There is also an interesting article on what Celtic spirituality is and the community's way of life.

Daily prayers and liturgies from the Community of St Aiden and St Hilda can be found [here](#).

A [Celtic style prayer](#) for Advent from Wellspring.org.uk, a site worth visiting for other liturgies too.



Worship resources for all year round:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/worship/texts/times-and-seasons.aspx>
<http://www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/worship-resources-search?worship=yes> Particularly good for rural contexts—tried and tested!

A new website that you may find useful:

<http://www.allageworshipresources.org/>

Lots of tried and tested outlines of services of all types and themes. The plan is to add to the stock over time so keep returning to see what has been added.

<https://uk.pinterest.com/revmaryhawes/lectionary-resources/> has links to a huge number of resources and articles that you may find useful at various times of the year!

A resource list from [‘Alternative Worship’](#) from Iona worship resources to using ‘Prayer paths’.

A guide to [writing prayers](#) for worship.

Some great [real alternative ideas](#) from an ordained priest in north Halifax, Yorkshire.

Looking for prayers that reflect the latest news? Try the [Church of England website](#)

I hope you find some of these useful. If you have a particular website that you find useful, please let me know so we can share and pool our resources!

Worship Idea!

If you have identified a similar need in your neighbourhood and can access suitable facilities this might just be something that you might like to facilitate!

Worship on Wheels—Nailsea Methodist Church

A church in Bristol held a Worship on Wheels service last month, specifically welcoming and celebrating scooter and wheelchair users.

Following the great success of a similar event last year, Nailsea Methodist Church held a café-style church service where scooter and wheelchair users could bring their wheels to the tables and be fully involved in the worship.

The congregation heard from Steve Ledbrook - a volunteer, fundraiser and campaigner who also has Becker Muscular Dystrophy - and reflected on a message of inclusion and liberation from the minister, the Revd Deborah Mallet.

Email: the Revd Deborah Mallet nailseabackwell-methodist@gmail.com

Report on findings from the 2016 survey of Local Worship Leaders and Incumbents

310 Local Worship Leaders - 261 responded (fabulous response!) 22 clergy responded. The main findings were:

- Majority of LWLs are active once a month; in a typical month LWLs take 250 services representing approximately 20% of all Sunday services in the Diocese.
- In a significant number of places the church ‘relies’ on this ministry.
- There is patchy coverage in some places LWLs are totally embedded but in others non-existent.
- Most LWLs feel valued and supported at a local level, often as part of the ‘growing and discovering’ part of the church.
- LWLs typically offer a variation of a modern language Service of the Word, some stick closely to the Morning Prayer format, while others will exercise much more creativity. In a significant minority of places the Worship Leader will offer a traditional language Book of Common Prayer Office, and in another significant minority of places the SOW format will be non-liturgical or close to ‘Messy Church’.
- LWLs often work in pairs, groups or teams, and in some places lead part of a service shared with a priest or Reader, ie leading the Ministry of the Word at a Eucharist before ‘handing over’ at the Peace.
- 15% reported feeling frustrated at not being used; 10% are active now but will be less in the future due to age and ill-health.
- There is a persistent perception in some places about lay ministry being 2nd best to ordained ministry.

So what next?

As a Diocese we need to be much more proactive in giving thanks for this ministry, to continue to raise the profile of LWLs (and LPMs!) at both parish and Diocesan level and firmly place lay ministry in the ongoing Diocesan strategic planning.

Those of us at the centre are working hard on your behalf to address these issues but there are a few things that you as LWLs can do too!

- Ensure, if it isn’t already, that there is a report on your work in the Annual Report of the PCC compiled for your APCM.
- Letting the Communications team know of any successful or something different about services that you have led (and sending something for Worship Matters! See Wanted on the front page)
- **And continue to serve your parishes to the best of your ability to give God his worth! Thank you for all you do!**

Training for Local Worship Leaders Sunday Plus Courses—Autumn 2017

There will be Sunday Plus Local Worship Leaders training taking place in the following locations beginning in September 2017:

Roseland Area—St Mawes
Beginning Thursday 7 September 7.30 pm
Led by Revd Deb Grigg

Calstock area
Beginning Thursday 14 September 7 pm
Led by Maggie Willmott and Sarah Bradbeer

Wadebridge
Beginning Tuesday 26 September 7 pm
Led by Revd Nikki Thornhill

If you know of anyone who would like to join these courses, please ask them to contact [Shelley Porter](#) 01208 892811 (office hours) for a Recommendation form and for further information about the course.

If you have people waiting for training unable to attend any of these please let Shelley know so that a course can be arranged. A minimum of 6 people is needed.

Shelley is always on the look out for more facilitators so if you would like to consider leading training or would like to sit in on a course with an experienced facilitator please let her know!

Safeguarding and Local Worship Leaders!

Some clarification!

As Local Worship Leaders, you are not required to be DBS checked but you are expected to undertake at least C2 level safeguarding training. If you haven't attended this training then please check the [diocesan website](#) for training opportunities in your area or contact your PCC safeguarding officer who may be able to arrange some local training.

If, as part of your Local Worship leading duties, you also take home communions in to individual homes or nursing homes, then you will need a DBS check and at least C2 level safeguarding training. You may also need to ensure that your LPM co-ordinator or incumbent knows who you are visiting and when.

Local Worship Leader Network Day

I am planning on organising a Network Day for Local Worship leaders in Spring 2018, date and venue to be confirmed. Hopefully this will be a better time for most of you busy people!

Please let Shelley know if there is a particular topic/theme that you would like to covered or if you have a suggested speaker as soon as possible.

Thank you!

Linking Songs—How and Why?

Sam and Sara Hargreaves consider how to create 'Flow' in sung worship, written for the Royal School of Church Music magazine 'Sunday by Sunday' but reproduced as a [free read](#) (download also available). The assumed audience was a church looking to transition from only using traditional music into including more contemporary styles.

More ideas for weekly worship:



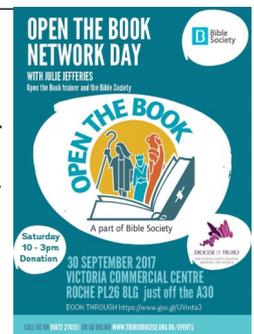
A whole raft of ideas that can be used in worship is available from the same website <http://engageworship.org/ideas> Well worth a visit if you are stuck for ideas and updated regularly from a wide range of contributors.

The same website are producing ideas for worship linked to the Revised Common Lectionary for [every week](#)

Training Opportunities:

Open the Book:

There will be an Open the Book network day held on Saturday 30 September at Victoria Commercial Centre, Roche, minutes off the A30. You may not be a team member yourself but please pass this on to your local team who may not have heard! [Bookings](#)



Messy Church:

There will be a Messy Church Network day with Lucy Moore held on Saturday 7 October at Truro Methodist Church. Please pass this on to your local Messy Church who may not have heard! [Bookings](#)



An Introduction to Godly Play:

There will be an Introduction to Godly Play session held on Saturday 25 November at Bude Methodist Church 10 am to 3 pm. If you would be interested in attending please email [Shelley Porter](#). Places are strictly limited so book early!

