

## Healing Ministry may be a calling for you to explore with others

### Healing Wells

The hope is that each Deanery will have a focal point or 'Well' of people that anyone can contact for help or advice with healing matters within their parish. This help might be in the form of support, practical advice, resources or training courses or simply a listening ear. The 'Well' would not be expecting to 'tell you how' to conduct your Healing Ministry but to listen to your individual needs and offer direction accordingly.

If you are interested come along to an existing Healing Well to meet like-minded people with a heart for healing ministry. Currently there are the following Healing Wells :

**St Thomas Church, Wells** BA5 2XG  
margaret@grahamhendy.plus.com

**Holy Trinity, Yeovil** BA20 2BU  
rev@gaenorhockey.plus.com

**St Andrew's, Congresbury** BS49 5EN  
rev.matt.thomson@newcreationchurches.org.uk  
siobhan.armstrong@newcreationchurches.org.uk

### Discovering Wholeness Together

Discovering Wholeness Together forums are where we ask how can the church engage with mental well-being.

The next forum is scheduled for:

**Saturday 2nd March**

**The Old Deanery Wells, BA5 2UG**

2pm - 5pm

Please register your interest online through the Events page on the website:

[www.bathandwells.org.uk/mh-forum](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/mh-forum)

### How do I find out more?

Talk to the someone on the Diocesan Healing Advisory Group:

**Matt Thomson** Healing Adviser  
T: 07970 140064  
E: rev.matt.thomson@newcreationchurches.org.uk

**Caroline Bruce** Assistant Healing Adviser  
T: 01749 685127  
E: caroline.bruce@bathwells.anglican.org

For more information visit:  
[www.bathandwells.org.uk](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk)

Is God calling me to  
Healing Ministry?

“

Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers,  
raise the dead, cast out demons.  
Freely you have received, freely give.

*Matthew 10:8*

”

## What is Healing Ministry?

Healing isn't simply a nice thing that Jesus does on the side; it goes right to the heart and purpose of what God wants for us as individuals, for our wider communities, and for the whole Creation (see Romans 8). This may take many forms, but God's healing isn't simply about maintaining or restoring the status quo. Healing does not just take us into the realm of 'restoration' - into making someone better - but into a form of 'new life,' which is God's will for us all.

First and foremost it is Jesus' healing ministry, and not ours. It is Christ who heals, and it is His essential nature to do so. Jesus seeks to meet us at our point of need - be it physical, emotional or spiritual. How that might be is up to Him. Our role is simply but importantly to give the time, the safe space and the love in order for this to happen.

The healing ministry didn't stop with Jesus. It carried on into the Book of Acts and beyond, in and through the work of the Apostles and others. The practice and commitment to the healing ministry of Jesus is as important today because the World and its people need to experience, as well as to hear, that God loves them. The desire of God to bring healing and wholeness is one of the key ways he demonstrates his reign and Kingdom.

## What skills and disciplines do you need to work in Healing Ministry?

If you are someone with:

### **Humility**

We offer this ministry in the name of Jesus Christ and in obedience to him, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and for the love of our fellow men and women.

### **Self-awareness and openness to one another**

We will be constantly aware of our motives for sharing in this ministry, and those tendencies that may spoil us for it - self-interest, self-importance, a false appreciation of our 'gifts', curiosity, careless talk. We must be constantly discerning the rightness of our 'calling' to it, and our fitness for it.

### **Discretion**

We will treat the confidences exchanged in our meetings and with people for whom we pray or with whom we talk about their needs, with absolute discretion. We will not express opinions or concerns about them with others outside the group.

### **Spiritual life and spiritual growth**

We will not be sufficiently loving, understanding, discerning, self-aware, humble, discrete and effective unless our personal spiritual life is our real priority, and we are constantly growing in

spiritual maturity, through prayer, worship and study.

### **Accountability**

All this requires personal and spiritual discipline; including the discipline of commitment to our work together as a group, and to seek and to take opportunities to share in quietness and in prayer; and more formally, to acknowledge our accountability to the church locally and in the diocese.

Then this ministry may be for you.

