

Nurturing Faith through life-long learning and mutual support

Two Gospel Workshops have already taken place in Stirling and St Andrews.

Two more workshops on Saturday January 15th 10 for 10.30 am – 12.30 St John's Perth (Threshold Centre) PH2 8LJ and Saturday February 19th 10 am - 12.30 pm at St Luke's Glenrothes KY7 4HP.

Please do come along – it's open to all.

Equipped for every good work

The Ministry and Education (MEG) Action Group oversees learning events for congregations across the Diocese. For example, since this lectionary year's Gospel readings are mainly drawn from Matthew, we have been holding workshops to explore his main themes and their meaning to us.

The Group also supports specific learning needs of congregations in the Mission Action Planning process in the Diocese. Once the congregation is at the stage of producing a Mission Action Plan and has decided which Marks of Mission to focus on, the Group can suggest resources such as helpful websites, courses, books or experience from other congregations. The Group is currently developing a 'worship audit'. This resource will help congregations to reflect on what worship is all about, and how it underpins our welcome of newcomers.

We are looking for new people to become involved in the Ministry and Education Action Group and also to be Educational Facilitators. This role would interest those who are willing to facilitate workshops and other training. You do not necessarily need theological expertise! If you have experience of adult learning and teaching you would be particularly welcome. If you would like to find out more, please contact us at the Casting the Net Office (castingthenet@standrews.anglican.org).

Take a look at www.standrews.anglican.org to find out what's going on in the Diocese

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**CASTING THE NET
DECEMBER 2010
NEWSLETTER**



Introduction from Bishop David



Susannah Silver is our new Casting the Net Officer.

Casting, casting and casting again

It's been very encouraging for me recently to meet with our Casting the Net Liaison Officers and with the Facilitators who have been working with our congregations. I get from them a real feeling that Casting the Net is gaining momentum across the diocese.

People think that it's bright ideas that matter most. Well, we've tried to have our share of bright ideas. But what matters even more is that we work hard at what we have decided to do, shaping and re-shaping it as we learn. We need to continue to do what we said we would do. We've all seen too many encouraging initiatives which have 'slipped through the net.'

In this edition, you will find information about the next stages of Casting the Net. Even if you are not directly involved, we ask you to include Casting the Net in your prayers. We believe that growth comes from God. So we must pray about what we do.

Ready to seek growth

I am thrilled to have been chosen by the Diocese to contribute to the Casting the Net programme. Led by the prayerful leadership of the CTN Action Groups, you have done so much already to 'refresh the hearts of the saints' and certainly you encourage me! I worship at St Mary's, Kirriemuir and my background is in project management for cultural and educational projects. I am a trained artist, designer and researcher and sometimes teach. Based in the Diocesan Office for 3 days a week, my role is to encourage development across the Diocese so that together we live the Nine Marks of Mission. I'm looking forward to visiting all of you in the coming months ahead.

Best wishes from Susannah

Growing Faith Communities

Please pray for St John's and Holy Trinity as they take forward these Actions in Mission that they may be filled with the Holy Spirit to continue to listen to God's will and Cast the Net.

We need to continue to nurture our faith, so that we have confidence to share it with others and reach out and show them the transforming power of God's love.

Forfar and Dunfermline launch Mission Action Plans

Congratulations to St John's, Forfar and Holy Trinity, Dunfermline who launched their Mission Action Plans at services in September and October.

St John's had a guest preacher from the Salvation Army. This marked an action to work with the Salvation Army to support young families and those living in poverty in Forfar. That was just one of their 23 Actions in Mission.

Holy Trinity held a marvellous launch service, in which the Bishop celebrated and confirmed eight people. He spoke of transformed lives and that's what Casting the Net is all about. He also commissioned an enthusiastic set of area contacts to connect with those who can't get to church regularly. So well done Holy Trinity for achieving their first Action in Mission on the day of launch!

Kinross in the midst of Mission Action Planning

A pattern is developing. St Paul's Kinross have held their MAP workshop and chosen exactly the same Marks of Mission as Holy Trinity:

- Transformed lives and communities
- Nurture faith through life-long learning and mutual support
- Share our faith through confident and sensitive evangelism.

Taking the first steps

We are delighted that the congregations of Aberfoyle and Stirling have joined Comrie, Dunblane, Kirkcaldy, St Andrews and Aberdour/Burntisland/Inverkeithing in doing Mission Action Planning in 2010/11. They are having their first or second meetings with CTN MAP facilitators, where they discuss congregational life, how to raise the profile of Casting the Net and consider how to understand the needs of the local community better.

Growing Faith Communities

CTNLOs Workshop...

A participant's view:

Today was an excellent day - so much helpful and useful work was done, networking and exchanging ideas and experiences. I felt a tremendous sense of excitement, a positive attitude to the future and a feeling that we are all pulling together across the Diocese, even where there are distinct problems.

4th Mark of Mission Reaching out to children and young people

If you would like information on resources for children and young people in your church, please contact Sue White on Sueyte@aol.com

CTNLOs NETWORKING Day

The second CTNLO NETWORKING meeting was held at St Columba's, Crieff on October 30th. Revd Paddy Allen and her team made the Casting the Net Liaison Officers and speakers very welcome. We spent the day updating everyone with latest developments in the Diocese and then practical workshops on topics such as the place of the SEC in 21st Century Scotland, organising for Mission, communication, new perspectives on prayer and much more... Most importantly, CTNLOs had the chance to catch up and exchange ideas.



A Day of Many Wonders

Sue White continues to support Children's Leaders across the Diocese and hopes to visit more in 2011.

On 2nd October 40 children and adults participated in a 'Wonder Day' led by Rev Canon Philip Noble who holds a Ph.D in "Bubbleology"!!! Canon Philip blows enormous bubbles, entrancing and inspiring children and adults alike with bubbles and stories of the Spirit moving among us.

Jan Dobson, a Guide Dog Trainer, also brought her dog and explained about the trust and faith between herself and the dog.

We played - juggling, bubbles and simple surface tension experiments that gave us surprises and excitement at what we could and couldn't do!!

On 23rd November at the Godly Play day, we shared knowledge and tried different approaches to Christian education with young people. Watch out for information on Messy Church events in the Spring.