

BULLETIN 5

AUGUST 2022

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#### INTRODUCTION – STOKESLEY DEANERY UPDATE

*Brother, sister, let me serve you; let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey, and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load. (Richard Gillard)*

In his address at the recent Lambeth Conference, Archbishop Stephen shared the following thought:

“We also need to remember that probably the best definition of evangelism is simply this: one beggar telling another beggar where to get bread.”

As we seek to move forward on our journey, this bulletin looks at:

- The Living Christ’s Story programme – What’s next?
- Environment and the Community

Please share this bulletin with others as widely as possible. Telling others is one of our great challenges and opportunities.

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#### KEY DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The next Deanery Synod will take place at Christ Church Hall, Great Ayton on Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup>.

A Deanery Environment Network Zoom meeting will take place on **Thursday September 29th at 19:30**. Please contact Geoff Jaques for the link and the agenda or to suggest specific topics.

[Jaques132@gmail.com](mailto:Jaques132@gmail.com)

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## LIVING CHRIST'S STORY

We now have a starting point that was agreed at the Deanery Synod on 12th July. Our draft plan was sent to the Diocese for them to consolidate into the overall Diocesan Plan. We have not had any specific feedback yet, but the Diocese has said we should go ahead unless we spark controversy!

As you know, our plan has three main components:

- Leading by prayer and worship – becoming more like Christ.
- Reaching out, welcoming and nurturing new and existing Disciples – reimagining mission and ministry.
- Worshipping God by doing everything as well as we can to support our mission – transforming structures and finances.

Our next objective is to form working groups, one for each track, to work out what we can actually do. In the first place this is about defining the scope and objectives and putting more detail to the plan and identifying the first steps to be taken.

To your PCC's and wider church communities, please consider the following questions:

- Do we understand what the plan is proposing we do? Can we explain it to others?
- Are there specific areas where we feel we have something to contribute to the Deanery as a whole?
- Are there any issues which are of particular importance to us?
- Are there any members of our community who would be prepared to get involved with one or more of the working groups?

If you need any information, have questions, or suggestions to make, please contact the Lay Dean. Anyone willing to be a member of a working group should contact the Lay Dean directly.

[igdickinson@outlook.com](mailto:igdickinson@outlook.com)

Please include this programme in your prayers. Our objective is to have the working groups set up by the next Deanery Synod meeting on 8th October.

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE TOP

The quote used at the beginning of this bulletin is from Archbishop Stephen's Lambeth Conference speech. To watch, or read it in full, please use the following link. It is at the heart of our agenda

<https://www.archbishopofyork.org/speaking-and-writing/sermons/lambeth-conference-plenary-mission-and-evangelism>

“... with all evangelism, in the end people have to make their own decision about whether to follow Christ or not.

But evangelism itself, the actual business of bringing people to faith, that is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Maybe I should have said this at the beginning, because I find this enormously reassuring. God is the evangelist. God is the one who brings people to faith in Christ.

And, it is our responsibility as the evangelising Church to participate with God in God's work of bringing people to faith in Christ and to help everyone understand that they have a part to play and that they are called to be witnesses to Christ.

This is at the heart of our call today. To be intentional in the work of evangelism. That evangelism is the core business of the Church. That we understand evangelism as disciple making and therefore part of the whole mission of God to bring the whole creation to fulfilment in Christ – to change the heart of the world.”

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#### DEANERY ENVIRONMENT GROUP

The way in which we, as a church, are confronting the environmental issues is one of the major opportunities we have for showing Christ at work in our communities. The Deanery environment group is up and running and a lot is happening.

#### ALL SAINTS ECO SERVICE

On 17th July we were pleased to welcome people from several churches in Great Ayton to our Eco service, held in the beautiful All Saints Churchyard. We considered 'Just One Thing' that we could individually do to care for God's creation better. The intercessions were led powerfully by four of our young children and the toddler group Little Fishes provided pictures of animals to show us what they want us grownups to look after. Three of the Eco Church group from Christ Church told us about changes that they had made to give us ideas of what we can do. Everyone went home with a Cheeky Panda bamboo toilet roll to remind them of what they had committed to do.



#### SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation begins on September 1st and runs through to the Feast of St Francis on October 4th. An ideal time to hold a Climate Sunday Service. There are plenty of resources follow these links

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/creationtide/creationtide-resources>

#### GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

Great Big Green Week runs from September 24th to October 2nd - so this would be an ideal week to organise a service or some other 'green' event.

<https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>

The Great Big Green Week is the UK's biggest call for action on climate change and nature, showing decision makers that people from all walks of life are stepping up to take action - and that we need them to step up too.

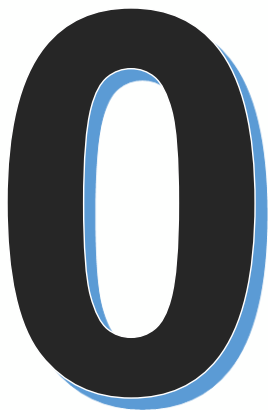
We're encouraging as many Christians and churches to join in and add our efforts to those of others for the greatest combined impact.

Could you or your church host a community event as part of the Great Big Green Week? A litter pick perhaps, some wildlife gardening, or a climate coffee morning - whatever your idea is - get involved today.

#### FEEDING BRITAIN – A DIOCESAN ZOOM MEETING



#### TAKING THE FIRST STEPS



David Yates produced this article for Trident', our Yarm/Kirklevington/Worsall mnthly parish magazine, to introduce Net Carbon Zero.

It looks at how we might start to turn our aspirations into a reality and is something that we might build into the LCS programme.

### **Carbon Zero**

We're going Carbon Zero from now!

The world is getting too hot (Climate Change) rapidly, and while talking and politics continue with postponed goals for carbon reduction up to 2050, the Church of England (Synod) has decided that's no good and an example must be set. So it is now C of E policy to achieve Net Carbon Zero by 2030.

But what does this mean? Good question because nothing we do, no action, is carbon free. But in past millennia the carbon emitted by humans and the animal world as CO<sup>2</sup>, carbon dioxide, has been balanced by plant life absorbing this to generate growth; however now it has become horribly out of balance as industrialization has generated too much carbon emission (and also methane and other gases).

So Net Carbon Zero is taken to mean in this context a reduction of carbon emissions ideally to pre-industrial early 19<sup>th</sup> century levels, or perhaps more realistically to the early 1950s with carbon offsetting.

Why should we bother? Self preservation of the human race. But also C of E policy / theology. God cares for all of life, so we must care; we are to be farmers not consumers of the earth.

Our (Yarm) PCC is starting to consider this, and it's a series of rather complex problems probably requiring the input an expert consultant along the way. Some headings come to mind, to be



considered:

Heat Pump – Ground source or air

Radiators

or Hot Air

Electric Under Pew

Electric Radiant.

Whole church heat or part.

Solar Panels on roof.

Is hydrogen instead of gas going to be a realistic option; depends on government policy (not fixed or developed) and also an unknown extent of technical problems.

Costs. How is it to be paid for.

Carbon expended in installation of systems versus carbon saved.

Offsetting emissions.

Of course we are not alone in this and the Deanery Synod Environment Group are working on it, also led and helped by York Diocesan Synod Environment Committee.

**2030**

Watch this space for further updates from time to time, and in the meantime if you need further information there is a huge amount available on the C of E website; general, technical, examples, and theological.