



The Newsletter of the Family Friendly Churches Trust

July 2010

Check out our website: www.FamilyFriendlyChurches.org.uk

Please feel free to print and distribute this Newsletter.

Recession Busting

The trust is very aware that everyone is having to tighten their belts in the present climate and churches are no exception. For this reason we will be reducing our prices for the next 12 months for our days and weekends.

These changes are for our Family Friendly, Multimedia and Preaching Days and Weekends. All of these can inspire your church to look at new ways of doing things.



Mike prefers to lead a whole weekend as this then involves leading worship and putting into practice the things he has been saying. The cost of a weekend has been reduced from £350 to £295. The cost of a single day in a weekend was £250, but is now £195. If you can work midweek then you can get extraordinary value at just £125 for a day.

Mike's daughter, Sally, can run a parallel children's or young people's programme for £100 plus her expenses. If you wish to have a Friday evening extension to a weekend, then this is now £75. The cost of this reflects that doing this inevitably forces Mike to have to travel on a Friday afternoon!

A Holiday Club, 6 days, usually running from Tuesday to Sunday, including worship, is now £695 rather than £795.

Mileage in all cases is 40p a mile from Market Deeping, near Peterborough.

Please remember that in many instances you may be able to apply to your District or Diocese for help with these costs, particularly if clergy are attending. In addition you may also invite people from your neighbouring churches to attend and make a charge to offset your costs. We can provide publicity material to assist with this.

You can see more about our days and weekends at: www.FamilyFriendlyChurches.org.uk/NewSite/ffw.php

IDEAS

We are feeling really excited for this coming Sunday is the first day that the material can be used – if you stick to the lectionary.

If you use the material we will be very pleased if you let us know what you used and how well it went. We need this feedback so that we can produce useful resources that worship leaders and preachers want to use.

The themes for the Sundays in July are:

July 4th, Ordinary 14 - What do we need? God is all-sufficient

July 11th, Ordinary 15 - God loves you and I love you

July 18th, Ordinary 16 - Be still and listen

July 25th, Ordinary 17 - God gives good things



The material includes Notes, PowerPoint files and video files, is free for July and August. To access it, do take a look at

www.ffctideas.org.uk

We have signed up John Hardwick and David R Keeton as contributors and we now have a PRS licence to allow us to offer a wide range of music resources.

However we are also very keen to hear from song writers, musicians, artists, etc who wish us to distribute their work through IDEAS. We have devised a scheme for paying royalties; see www.ffctideas.org.uk/contrib.php

Transcendence

The other weekend my daughter, Sally, and I worshipped at Transcendence in York Minister.

I would describe it as a multimedia High Anglican Mass with Goth influences. It was mainly held in the Chapter House and the congregation could choose whether to sit on chairs or beanbags.

It was a visual feast in every respect. The initial impact came from the lighting which was stunning. The ambient lighting was very low and this was coupled with coloured uplighting of the walls and a number of icons lit from below with spots that changed colour. The table was covered in gauze which was lit from under the table.



What caught my eye was the projection. There were 4 screens connected in pairs. Only a half of one pair was given over to the words of the liturgy. The remaining space was used for images.

Particularly effective was the use of a mix of video loops, causing icons and visual text (as opposed to text to read) etc to rotate, pan and zoom throughout the service. If you get the chance do go along.

All this made me think that we in the free church are still very wordy in how we use even projection and I intend to take time to experiment and learn how to use some of the techniques that I saw in use here. Anyone around Peterborough like to join in?

You can see more about Transcendence at:
<http://www.visions-york.org/transcendence>

Mike's Diary

Below is a list of Mike's commitments for the next couple of months. Please do pray for him. You can see all Mike's bookings on the web site at <http://www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/NewSite/bookings.php>

July

- 3rd Projection Operators Day @ Stoke Methodist Church, Plymouth
To book: www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/NewSite/mmdoperators.php
- 10th-11th Family Friendly Weekend at Grays
- 17th Preaching at the wedding of Anna Ridley and Matthew Snelling
- 18th Leading worship at Uppingham Methodist Church
- 24th Basic PowerPoint Course @ Wesley Methodist Church, Stoke.
To Book: www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/NewSite/mmdbasic.php
- 25th Leading worship at Oakham Methodist Church.

August

- 1st Blessing of the Wells @ Bradwell in Derbyshire
- 15th Leading worship @ Bourne Methodist Church
- 22nd Leading worship @ Thurlby Methodist Church
- 28th Wedding of Claire Evans, Mike's niece, at Camborne, Cornwall.

July's Offer

This month we are offering the beautifully filmed Celtic Prayers which is set in and around Lindisfarne.



This is for anyone who has an interested in Celtic Christianity and art.

There are 10 longer in-depth video sequences combining visual material, discussion and prayer along with the music of the Northumbrian Community and David Fitzgerald. The video photography is stunningly beautiful.

We are offering Celtic Prayers for just £14 including postage. Normally this would be £21.99 including postage.

www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/NewSite/offer.php

Multimedia Training

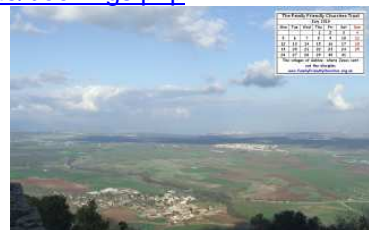
We are running 2 PowerPoint Courses in July.

There is a PowerPoint Operators Course at **Stoke Methodist Church, Plymouth, on July 3rd**.

We are also planning a Basic PowerPoint course at **Wesley Methodist Church, Stoke on July 24th**.

For all these courses see:

www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/NewSite/mmd.php



View from the Mount of Transfiguration

You can download this picture and use it as wallpaper
www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/NewSite/dncal.php

Mike and Ann are leading a trip to the Holy Land in February 2011. For more details see
www.familyfriendlychurches.org.uk/NewSite/holyland.php