



Family Friendly Churches

Committed to making churches places where all are welcome

The Newsletter of the Family Friendly Churches Trust

September 2006

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

Future Present

Work with children and young people has always been an important part of Methodism.

During the past year, work has begun on a major review of work with children and young people.

It has the remit "To work with the wider Church to re-vision work with children and young people (both those still linked to the Church and the vast majority outside the Church)."

The consultation paper 'Future Present' is designed to help this exercise, and can be downloaded from the Methodist web site.

Any responses or comments can be emailed to futurepresent@methodistchurch.org.uk

Music and Evangelism

Music is a very important part of the worship life of any church and the trust believes that the worship life of a church is central to evangelism.

Cliff College is running a day on 'Music and Evangelism'. It is on Tuesday, October 10th, starting at 10am.

Speakers will include Rob Newton, Ashley Cooper and Stan Barker. Musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments and there appears to be plenty of opportunity to use them in jam sessions and worship.

The cost is £17.50 and rooms are available for an overnight stay. Contact Alison Woodgate on a.woodgate@cliffcollege.org or 01246 584222.



The Egroup

One of the most useful features for members of the trust is access to our Egroup.

This instantly puts you in touch with like minded people around the country and allows you to easily ask questions or seek advice. An email sent to the

central address is automatically forwarded on to all the members of the trust.

Although it does not flood you with emails, in recent weeks we have been able to help members find a suitable repair shop for a digital projector, recommend children's resources and locate all age agape liturgies . We have also discussed a number of topics, including what makes a church.

We have also been able to offer practical help to members, for example Peter McCabe was unable to open an important Publisher document. In a morning he was able to find someone who could receive his document, convert it and then send it back to him.

Peter writes, "Even if you don't understand programs or technical things like that, being part of the Egroup is really useful. I should know, I've tried it."

Any member of the trust can be a member of the Egroup and a member church can nominate up to 4 people to the Egroup. For more information take a look at the web site.

Free Date

A cancellation means that Mike is free on the weekend of the 7/8th October. Do contact us if you want to use that weekend.

Songs Kids Love

Last year we ran a very successful vote to see which Christian songs children like the most.

The winner was Rebecca Pitt of Basingstoke and she is photographed below receiving her prize, a MIDI Keyboard.



The good news is that we are running it again! Nominations will open on the morning of September 25th and close on November the 6th.

The voting then begins for real and closes on Christmas Eve.

Keep an eye on the web site and let the youngsters in your church know that this is happening

September's Offer



Sketching the Gospel is a CDrom of drama scripts by Dave Hopwood.

There are scripts for over 200 sketches on the CDrom and if they were all printed out they would fill a large A4 folder.

All the scripts are drawn from the Gospels and cover all the parables, miracle and encounters. There are chronological and alphabetical indexes to help you find the right script.

The CDrom comes with permission for amateur groups to print the sketches and use them in non-profit making performances.

For the month of September we are able to offer this CDrom for just £10.50 instead of the usual £15. See the web site for more details.

Mike's Diary

Below is a list of Mike's commitments for the next couple of months. Please do pray for him. You can now see all Mike's bookings on the web site.

September

9th-10th Family Friendly Weekend at Broomfield, Chelmsford,
22nd-24th Family Friendly Weekend at Bourne
30th-1st Family Friendly Weekend at Brookside, Peterborough

October

14th-15th Multimedia Weekend at Tewkesbury
20th-22nd Family Friendly Weekend at Stafford
28th-29th Multimedia Weekend at Darlington



Mousehole, Cornwall

You can download this picture from the web site as wallpaper for your PC

Published by 'The Family Friendly Churches Trust', Wesley Manse, Town St., Upwell, Nr. Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9AD.

The Family Friendly Churches Trust is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales no. 5222088 and a registered charity no. 1106193. Registered Office: The Old Forge, Corner St., Cromer, Norfolk.

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Sally's article

Bob Coleman's booklet on preaching

Twin approach - children + 20/30s

Joined up thinking.

Consultation in Methodist Church

Month's Offer.

Songs Kids Love

Holiday Clubs