



## press release

### 9 February 2010

#### **CPAS launches leadership podcasts with Graham Cray interview**

A new series of podcasts is being launched by Anglican evangelical mission agency CPAS, to broadcast inspiring and challenging points of view on church leadership.

The Rt Rev Graham Cray, team leader of Fresh Expressions, is the first guest to be interviewed for the CPAS *Leadership Insights* podcast and he will be followed by a range of people discussing their experiences of leadership in varied contexts, as well as looking at role models, encouragements and challenges.

In the podcast, Bishop Graham explains what he sees as the key challenge of leadership: 'The most important lesson we have to face as leaders is that simply repeating the past won't do. We've got to recognise that we're in a new context. We need to re-discover scriptural truths but we need new wisdom from the Spirit.'

'Instead of church leaders saying "how on earth do we catch up with this rapidly changing culture?", our job is to let the Spirit be our leader, to develop qualities of discernment and to ask God to show us together how we can be a little imperfect, local picture of the future that Jesus has secured.'

'The call of the local church is ... to live in such a way cheek-by-jowl with people who don't know Jesus, so that when they look at us they say "I'm not sure about this religion stuff, but if that is half the picture of a future that's possible then I want to know more about it".'

Bishop Graham also discusses the role of lay leaders and gives advice for people of all ages who may want to explore their vocation. For the full interview, go to [www.cpas.org.uk/podcasts](http://www.cpas.org.uk/podcasts). Future editions will feature the Rt Rev Pete Broadbent, Bishop of Willesden, and the Rt Rev Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Reading.

As well as the *Leadership Insights* podcast, CPAS is also producing three further series:

- The CPAS *Leadership Focus* podcasts will offer a different take on leadership, with discussions on key topics such as enabling action, building teams and nurturing people. Bishop Graham also features alongside Rosie Ward in the first programme of this series, talking about the theme of vision and discernment.
- A *Youth Ministry* podcast to engage, encourage and enable youth leaders is also being launched, with the first programme now available on the topic of nurturing your team.
- There will also be exciting podcast material for CPAS *Church Leadership* subscribers, including interviews with contributors and audio recordings of some written resources.

Rory Keegan, CPAS resources manager, said: 'We are producing these new podcasts to provide inspiration and relevant advice for all kinds of church leaders.'

'The *Leadership Insights* interviews will provide fascinating and varied points of view on the nature of leading mission-focused churches, while the other podcasts will give plenty more food for thought about issues which affect all those involved in church leadership.

'These podcasts will be short, enjoyable and provide another way in which we can support leaders, with the choice of listening online or downloading and playing while on the go.'

Podcasts are the latest addition to the new CPAS website ([www.cpas.org.uk](http://www.cpas.org.uk)), which launched at the end of last year. It features a range of information and downloadable resources related to all aspects of the work of CPAS, including a secure online shop, event booking and donation facilities. There is also the opportunity to comment and feedback on all articles, book reviews and resources in the popular *Church Leadership* subscribers' section.

The website is divided into four main sections:

- **Events and programmes:** Quality leadership training organised and run by CPAS, to equip local churches for growth, including the *Arrow Leadership Programme*, *You and Ministry* weekends and training days for the *Growing Leaders* suite of courses.
- **Church resources:** Equipping church leaders for mission with courses, books and resources, including *Church Leadership*, the *Growing Leaders* suite and resources for developing youth leaders.
- **Advice and support:** Support and specialist advice for lay and ordained church leaders, including regional leadership development advisers, exploring call, women in leadership and CPAS patronage churches.
- **Supporting CPAS:** Pray, donate, stay in touch and find materials to use in local churches.

## Ends

For further information please contact Olly Du Croz on 01926 458443 or [oducroz@cpas.org.uk](mailto:oducroz@cpas.org.uk).

## Notes to Editors:

CPAS is an Anglican evangelical mission agency working with churches, mainly in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. It enables churches to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ.

For further information about the CPAS, please visit [www.cpas.org.uk](http://www.cpas.org.uk).