

PRAYER AND NEWS UPDATE

GOD MADE
HIM WHO HAD
NO SIN TO BE SIN
FOR US, SO THAT IN
HIM WE MIGHT BECOME
THE RIGHTEOUSNESS
OF GOD.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21



LATEST UPDATE:
SUPPORTING THE MINISTRIES OF CPAS

cpas

Ventures 2021

We're planning a flexible programme for 2021. No matter what the summer might bring, look forward to all of this:

- Enjoy fun-packed activities.
- Learn and grow in small groups.
- Connect with other young people.
- Explore life with Jesus.

Everything we run will be COVID-secure and in line with government guidance.

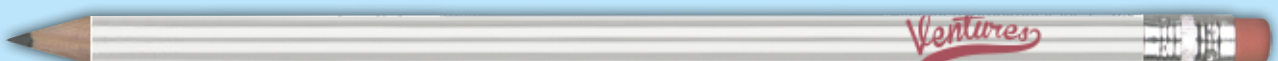


'I ENJOYED SEEING MY FRIENDS, AND MEETING NEW PEOPLE. I ALSO ENJOYED LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE BIBLE AND OTHER PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES WITH THEIR FAITH.' 13-YEAR-OLD

Ventures
Pencil us in!

VISIT THE VENTURES WEBSITE FOR
THE LATEST INFORMATION

ventures.org.uk



Every church
a pathway
to faith



Every leader
a catalyst for
evangelism



Every child
the chance to
explore Jesus



Every Christian
a courageous
witness



CPAS is an Anglican evangelical mission agency working in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Our mission is to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ through the ministry of local churches.

CHRISTIAN WITNESS

One of CPAS' prayerful aspirations is to see every Christian become a courageous witness. I recently reflected on the great challenge of this when reading Carl Trueman's *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*, which is fast becoming a best-selling overview of the rise of modernity and its challenges for Christian life and witness.

His thesis is summarised by one reviewer as follows: 'the world once looked to a transcendent source to legitimate values, but now is purely immanent'. If our culture views values as something defined by human society, this has big implications for Christian witness.

Humanity is in need of external and eternal rescue, yet it is becoming ever more difficult to speak of our sinful nature and the lostness that is so key to the biblical narrative.

Paul tells us that, on the cross, Jesus took our place so that the fallout of sin upon us might be removed and that we might know a restored life in his presence (2 Corinthians 5:21). Amazing and grace-filled as this sounds, it is a toxic idea to an 'immanent' culture.

Please join me in praying that, through CPAS' work, leaders might know the Lord's help in articulating Christian truth in our post-truth world.

Pray that Christians will be courageous witnesses for the gospel, and that the Holy Spirit will show men, women and children of their need for God's amazing forgiveness and gracious atonement.

John Dunnett, General Director



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All Bible quotations taken from
the New International Version.

11-17 APRIL

ST GEORGE AND ALL SAINTS TUFNELL PARK

THE LORD IS
THE EVERLASTING
GOD, THE CREATOR
OF THE ENDS OF
THE EARTH.

ISAIAH 40:28

We would hugely welcome prayer for the right ways – and timing – to connect with new people through smaller scale groups and events as restrictions ease. Pray for more God-given opportunities to share Christ's love, particularly with those most in need in our neighbourhood.'

Alexandra Lilley, Priest-in-Charge



Prayer points:

- As restrictions lift, pray that many new people can be reached with the good news of Jesus. Pray that connections made online would continue to flourish.
- Pray for Alexandra and other leaders including children's worker Steve and lay pioneer minister David, who has been leading a WhatsApp prayer and news space.
- Praise God for all the children who have taken part in the online children's church. Ask that the popular Tufnell Tots toddler group and other children's work would grow in the coming months.

18-24 APRIL

PATRONAGE INTERVIEWS

This week, Patronage Secretary Mike Duff is chairing interviews for the next vicar at St Margaret's Stanford-le-Hope with Mucking (Monday) and St Mary's Eastrop in Basingstoke (Wednesday).

IF ANY OF YOU
LACKS WISDOM, YOU
SHOULD ASK GOD, WHO
GIVES GENEROUSLY TO
ALL WITHOUT FINDING
FAULT, AND IT WILL BE
GIVEN TO YOU.

JAMES 1:5



Prayer points:

- Ask for wisdom for the interview panel at St Margaret's Stanford-le-Hope with Mucking as they seek to appoint a leader committed to Bible-based, evangelical preaching and teaching.
- Pray for St Mary's Eastrop to appoint a new leader to take them forward in being a seven-days-a-week church for all ages through teaching, fellowship, worship and mission.
- Pray for churches running appointment processes for the second or third time having not found the right applicant. Ask God to lead the right person to them, and strengthen those leading in the interim.

25 APRIL – 1 MAY

VENTURES AND FALCONS



We hope to run a flexible programme of COVID-secure residentials, day events and online events. Pray that the Bible teaching, games and activities will help 8-18s explore life with Jesus, whatever the format.

CONTINUE
TO LIVE YOUR
LIVES IN HIM, ROOTED
AND BUILT UP IN HIM,
STRENGTHENED IN
THE FAITH.

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7



Prayer points:

- Pray for wisdom for leaders as to the best way to deliver the Christian teaching. Pray this is really engaging and leads thousands of young people closer to Christ.
- Ask God's blessing on children in the Falcons community, many of whom face disadvantages. Pray that the effects of the pandemic will not hinder them, and that they will know God's amazing love and care.
- Praise God that new young people are getting involved with Ventures and Falcons, despite all the uncertainty of the last year. Pray for continued growth for this ministry.

2-8 MAY

CALLING YOUNG DISCIPLES

CPAS' six-year project with Worcester diocese is now in its fourth year. Church leadership teams and mission enablers will gather on Thursday and Friday to look at their mission and vision for reaching young people.

MAY WE
SHOUT FOR JOY OVER
YOUR VICTORY AND LIFT
UP OUR BANNERS IN THE
NAME OF OUR GOD. MAY THE
LORD GRANT ALL YOUR
REQUESTS.

PSALM 20:5



Prayer points:

- The leaders involved in this week's training represent just nine of the total of 63 churches involved in the project. Praise God for this diocese-wide initiative in making young disciples.
- Pam Macnaughton, CPAS Leadership Specialist, asks: 'Pray for a positive, hope-filled and encouraging time together that helps these churches reach more young people for Christ.'
- Work with children, young people and families is particularly difficult in a pandemic. Pray these churches can pick up their contacts in ways that surprise and delight them as restrictions lift.

9-15 MAY

LEADING IN EVANGELISM RESOURCES

One of our prayerful aspirations is for every leader to be a catalyst for evangelism. As part of this, we are developing several resources including a booklet with around 100 practical ideas for leading evangelism in a local church.



Di Archer,
Resources Manager

THE SAME
LORD IS LORD
OF ALL AND RICHLY
BLESSES ALL WHO CALL
ON HIM, FOR, 'EVERYONE
WHO CALLS ON THE NAME
OF THE LORD WILL BE
SAVED.'

ROMANS 10:12-13

Prayer points:

- Pray for Di Archer, CPAS Resources Manager as she gathers ideas ahead of producing this new resource. Pray for wisdom to discern what to include to impact as many churches as possible.
- Pray for the leading in evangelism hub which CPAS is launching in partnership with Coventry Diocese, and also the online version which will be open to church leaders across the country.
- Many churches have struggled with evangelism during the pandemic. Pray that CPAS' Evangelism During COVID events help many churches to share the gospel at this time.

16-22 MAY

ONLINE TRAINING

Our latest free leadership webinar is taking place this Wednesday and Thursday. These began as the Leadership in Lockdown series and are now focused on leadership as we come out of the pandemic and beyond.



THIS
IS TO MY
FATHER'S GLORY,
THAT YOU BEAR
MUCH FRUIT, SHOWING
YOURSELVES TO BE MY
DISCIPLES.

JOHN 15:8

Prayer points:

- Pray for good attendance and that lots of new church leaders will benefit from this free input and encouragement. Ask that both Wednesday's and Thursday's webinars will be fully booked.
- Much of CPAS' training input for dioceses also continues to take place online. Pray for the training on leading through change with the Dioceses of Worcester (Tuesday) and Gloucester (Saturday).
- Praise God for the unexpected blessing of online training, which has enabled us to support significantly more leaders, including many ministering in remote areas.

23-29 MAY

PCCS

Our third online PCC Tonight training evening takes place this Wednesday, with the opportunity for whole PCCs to attend together (in a virtual way!) and explore ways to lead their parishes forward in mission and ministry.



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FOR
CHRIST'S
LOVE COMPELS
US, BECAUSE WE ARE
CONVINCED THAT ONE
DIED FOR ALL.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14

Prayer points:

- Pray that every PCC member who attends Wednesday's training will come away feeling excited about being on the PCC and God's vision for their parish.
- Pray for all those who have used the PCC Tonight resource. Ask that the tools and insights would continue to help them lead their churches in the work God has called them to.
- Lift up new PCC members, who joined their PCC following the Annual General Meetings that took place in the majority of Anglican churches during April.

PRAYING FOR YOU



Thank you for your faithful prayers for our work. We'd love to pray for you and your church too! Please email Caroline Davenport (cdavenport@cpas.org.uk) or call 0300 123 0780 to be included in our staff prayers.

SUPPORTING CPAS

Our vital gospel ministry would not be possible without our generous supporters. To make a donation, please visit www.cpas.org.uk/give, send a cheque payable to CPAS or call 0300 123 0780. Thank you.





Falcons

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‘Everyone is different, everyone is special, and God will always be with me.’



FALCON POWER

Falcon holidays are fun, friendship, and faith-based activity breaks for youngsters who endure challenging circumstances, and they can transform lives: as 10-year-old Alex said, ‘On the Falcon holiday, I learnt that everyone is different, everyone is special, and God will always be with me’.

So we were determined to find ways to respond to COVID-19 in an agile way, given any potential restrictions and last-minute changes that will affect summer plans. On 6 February, we held a Zoom conference for holiday leaders and other volunteers to share ideas on how we might bless these wonderful young people this summer, given the uncertainty we face.

We sent all those attending a cream tea in the post, along with a leadership booklet and a candle to help us learn, plan, pray and worship together whilst having fun.

We started the day with Dr Eli Gardner, clinical psychologist and director of Kids Matter (which helps churches serve the most vulnerable families) putting us in the shoes of young people who’ve endured lockdown. We spent time together in prayer and worship, then Claire Corley (volunteer leader and CPAS Arrow graduate) helped us consider how to keep teams motivated, despite disruptive restrictions.

The conference’s online break-out rooms were great spaces to talk through problems and solutions. For example, one leader suggested filming and editing videos with the children if lockdown made it impossible to meet physically. They would be able to collaborate on a creative, fun activity, even if they couldn’t all be in the same room, and the idea was enthusiastically received.

One leader summed up the experience with, ‘I feel very encouraged to get back on the horse!’. With that ‘can do’ attitude, and God’s help, we are optimistic about delivering a COVID-secure programme of events this summer that will see disadvantaged children having fun, making new friends and exploring life with Jesus.