

## Summer Update 2010

***Falmouth and Penryn Churches Together (FPCT) is an association of fourteen Christian congregations in Falmouth, Penryn and the surrounding area. Through this union, we explore and put in to effect ways of serving God together both in worship and in service to the community. Forum meetings of the clergy and lay representatives from these churches along with outreach team members take place every two months to discuss and plan ongoing outreach, worship and activities.***

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another.

Hebrews 10:24-25. (NLT).

As we near the end of the summer break, it is an opportune moment to have an overview of the last year and of the ways we have worked together, started new projects, expanded various ministries and outreach and have been blessed in so many ways by working together. Most importantly, we now have Penryn churches incorporated onto our association of congregations and we have welcomed their participation, input and ideas.

- **The University Campus at Tremough** is expanding, with a full-time Chaplain and ecumenical Chaplaincy team. We appreciate our contacts with the students.
- **In the Public Arena**, FPCT endeavors to be more widely known and available to the community. Our Communication Officer, Neil Tinson works hard to produce posters for events and has recently produced a FPCT information leaflet for wider distribution in the community. A weekly article 'God in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' written by some of our church leaders appears in the West Briton.
- **FPCT has been involved in Civic and Public events**, including the Mayoral Service in Penryn and the RNLI Open Air Service.
- **Our monthly Prayer Tent on the Moor on the first Saturday of the month from 10am to 2pm** is well used by the community, with members of the public coming in with prayer requests and for a chance to talk and to be listened to.
- **The Ecumenical Chaplaincy at Falmouth School**, set up several years ago as a pilot project is now a well established part of the school, with ministry to students, staff and regular involvement in school assemblies.
- **The Nursing and Care Home Chaplaincy** has teams that visit on a monthly basis. Under Steve Dutton's leadership, residents are ministered to in a variety of different ways and appreciate the opportunity for worship, fellowship and a chat.

- **Work with children** during the year in after school Kidz Klubs, Grandbuddies group, weekend activities and events to celebrate special Christian occasions have been inspirational under the guidance of Marcus Jones, our Children's Worker. Training sessions for volunteers have been much appreciated. Currently, a major review of the Grow-In Project is taking place with the need for further financial funding, as original grants are finishing.
- **The Street Pastors Scheme** has been up and running since December 2009, with Street Pastor Teams on the streets of Falmouth on every Saturday night. They have a very positive influence and are supported by the Civic authorities and Police. There has been very positive feedback from the police and casualty services regarding a reduction in 'incidents'. Expansion of the scheme is anticipated with more volunteers required, more training and more nights to be 'on the streets' ministering to the youth of our community from 10pm to 4am.
- **The Poverty Forum** is developing good working relationships with other local community groups and hosted the 'Community Live' Event in May, which may well become an annual event to showcase local initiatives. Volunteers run the Dracaena Community Café on Wednesdays and the lunches for those in need on Tuesdays at St. Mary's. Work is being undertaken with regard to our response to Climate Change. The Poverty Forum works in conjunction with the national body 'Church Action on Poverty'. Fair Trade fortnight is celebrated and encouraged.
- **The Food Bank**, set up by Highway Church in Penryn under the guidance of the Trussell Trust is fulfilling a desperate need and is also fundraising by running the King Charles Coffee Shop on Fridays with lots of volunteer support from FPCT members, serving and baking cakes.
- **The Good Shepherd Initiative**, providing training for pastoral care for those facing the trauma of bereavement and loss is running a 'taster day' in October for those who may be interested.
- **Church Representatives on the Forum** have given of their time and talents over many years. Some have moved on and new members have been welcomed. We were saddened by the news of Revena Pengelly's death. Revena was very involved with many aspects of Christian ministry and her humour, wit and generosity will be missed.

As we move into the future, after our summer break, we are mindful of God's blessings and guidance in our undertakings and we have much for which to be thankful. Please continue to support FPCT by your prayers and efforts. May God bless us all and our summer visitors too. May His Kingdom come, His will be done and may we continue to rejoice in the ways the Spirit moves among us with amazing grace.

Chairperson : Rev Geoffrey Bennett    Vice Chairperson: Jan Winslade    Secretaries: Heather Haden,  
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