

# Readers Day 2018

## Sharing Ideas, Resources and Stories of Good Practice

### Websites

[www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com) sermons, puzzles, quizzes, colouring pages etc

[www.judaism101.com](http://www.judaism101.com) and [www.jewsforjudaism.org](http://www.jewsforjudaism.org) to get an alternative Jewish view on the Tanakh (OT)

[www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) and [www.biblehub.com](http://www.biblehub.com) and [www.oremus.org](http://www.oremus.org) and [www.textweek.com](http://www.textweek.com) download bible texts and translations

### Resources

Roots Good resource helps with liturgy, Sunday by Sunday by age groups and all-age. Sample pages are free, but you have to pay for a subscription

You Tube: skit guys using the media in house groups, worship, messy church etc

Readers need the best possible modern written resources:

The 'Reader' magazine book reviews/extracts; eg Messy Church does Science

Godly Play re-enforcing the link between church and school

Open the Book collective worship resource

Common Worship *New Patterns of Worship, Pastoral Services, Times and Seasons* (especially Good Friday service), *Festivals* (special intercessions)

Children's resources Barnabas in Schools, Barnabas in Churches (Bible Reading Fellowship)

Café Church series of talks from different members of the congregation ("Finding God in...") on arts (music, poetry, knitting etc)

Stepping Stones very informal service, starting with tea and toast

Using Powerpoint for songs, in a sermon (pictures? Writing? Cartoons?)

Cartoons can make a good sermon opener

Puppets in all-age worship; in collective worship

Ideas for Mothering Sunday for teenagers/children to participate in; sketch – "Strictly Come Mothering" and judges; use of little sketches

Wild Goose publications Celtic liturgies and worship material

Jane Williams' Commentary on Lectionary readings for 3 years, Church House Publishing – Advent & Lent, small and inexpensive. All the congregation reading something each day during Advent & lent (similar to the Novena)

*The Pilgrim Way* new catechism – National church website and booklets available

For Lent 'Easter through the eyes of...' led to WW1 Chaplains, Art and music?

TV programmes

Pilgrimage

Connection with a Community eg CR, Condetta

Sue Woan

Clare Benton-Evans – interactive resources

Books: Able books, Phillips books

Aslan

Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF)

Using You-tube to provide visual resources for preaching and also for Bible study

John Pritchard's Intercession books

Celtic prayers/blessings – online

## **Questions, ideas and challenges**

Inject humour

Hold a Film night in the church and show an appropriate film together with popcorns and drinks etc

Using 'The Armed Man' by Karl Jenkins as music to base a service around. This includes Agnus dei and Kyrie.

Use headlines from newspapers – National, local and international. Take your own or ask people to bring their own.

Get congregations to read aloud taking a verse for each side of the church or each group. This could be any passage from the Bible.

Reading the Bible in parts

Read Marks Gospel during the period between Palm Sunday and the Crucifixion

Church open for 1 ½ hrs for unwanted winter clothes, duvets, sleeping bags. Raised money for 40 new sleeping bags.

Used school uniform system – free to those in need.

Community Bank – open 2 days a week.

Need to have churches open but problems with drug abusers, drunks etc

Booklet printed for Matins and Evensong

Evensong once a month with supper

Compline and Cocoa

St Pauls at Tea-time once a month

Tea and toast once a fortnight for all the village

Monday Morning Meet every Monday morning for all the village

Sunday Lunch – in the pub for single, living alone people

Messy Church

Teddy Bear services

Pet service? Perhaps photos of!

Away Days

PCC Days – where going? Neville Emslie.

Modern developments in **Funerals** which are unrelated to Christian faith or church – is there scope for Readers infiltrating this sector of the 'funeral business'?

Readers who are struggling with, eg failing eyesight or other problems. How can they find a new role? How do we encourage and support change in practice and/or role?

Should Readers be part of Chapter? Some of us are and find it being useful and a source of encouragement.

3 Readers (in Sittingbourne deanery) meet up for a meal every 2 or 3 months.

Deanery Reader Representative keeps in touch with Readers via email. Circulating and encouraging ideas/resources, sending reminders about Reader reviews.

Walking Group – good way to encourage conversation; pub lunch. Beating the Bounds with pub lunch.

Using a poem on the Nativity, breaking it up with carols – setting was ‘Café’ church, giving everyone something to say

Telling a Gospel story as a monologue, especially when it is recorded with differently in more than one gospel.

‘Awkward’ bits of the Bible – often people want answers to these, so rather than skip over them bring them into your preaching.

TV as a prop/stable - I did a crib service based on the LG smart TV ad where the mother says the telly is what Christmas is all about. I used lots of silly puns which were words used in both the nativity and in televisions and made a television out of a cardboard box. We had songs and readings and then I returned to the prop to talk about the true meaning of Christmas. The box was on a trolley which I eventually turned round to reveal a stable scene. It seemed to go down really well and the children were genuinely surprised and not expecting it.