

# NORHAM DEANERY NEWSLETTER JULY 2017

## From the Area Dean

Dear Friends,

I'm grateful to Ian Corsie for putting together this issue of the deanery newsletter, which demonstrates the progress that's being made in 'Re-imagining Norham Deanery.'

I'm pleased to say that our two Bishops and Diocesan Officers are very supportive of the pilot training scheme to encourage lay ministry/leadership/discipleship. We're 'working with the grain' so far as the diocese is concerned!

Please put a copy of the leaflet about the training day on 16th September into the hands of anyone who you think might be interested, and encourage them to come along. It would help those planning the event if people were to register in advance.

This year's Deanery Confirmation Service will be at 6.00pm on Sunday 15th October at St Mary's Church on Holy Island. Whether or not someone from your church is being confirmed, it's a good opportunity to express our sense of belonging together, and to encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ as they take an important next step on their journey of faith.

With best wishes,

*Rob Kelsey*

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## DEANERY DIARY

Sat <b>16 Sep</b> from 10 till 2:	Open Event with the Lay-led Worship Group at Berwick Parish Church
Sun <b>15 Oct</b> at 6:	Deanery Confirmation Service Holy Island Church
Weds <b>18 Oct</b> at 7 for 7.30:	Peter Middlemiss Memorial Lecture in Berwick Parish Church Hall
Mon <b>30 Oct</b> at 7 for 7.30:	Deanery Finance Meeting in Spittal Parish Church
Thurs <b>30 Nov</b> at 7 for 7.30:	Deanery Synod meeting in Berwick Parish Church preceded by worship planned by the Lay-led Worship Group

## LAY MINISTRY TRAINING IN NORHAM DEANERY

In November last year, as the culmination of the 'Re-imagining Norham Deanery' process, the Deanery Synod approved a report by the Deanery Development Group which presented a vision of the local church in which 'lay people are coached, resourced and supported, and feel confident and relaxed about exercising their gifts of ministry by leading worship and serving the local community.'

The report recommended that a 'Lay-led Worship Group' should be formed and that a pilot training scheme with the following characteristics should be organised:

- Training to be locally delivered;
- Training to be 'on the job';
- Scheme to be adapted to the needs of the participants;
- Mentoring to be available;
- The group should be a 'learning community' with participants learning with and from each other;
- Participants should learn how to encourage the gifts and skills of others.

11 possible participants were approached and 6 signed up for the training, which began in May, facilitated by Rachel Wood, the Diocesan Local Ministry Development Officer, and with John Vilaseca as administrator. There are 6 training sessions, one per month, culminating in planning a Deanery Service to be held in Berwick Parish Church immediately before the next Deanery Synod meeting on Thursday 30th November.

There will be an additional training day on **Saturday 16th September** from 10 till 2 in Berwick Parish Church/Hall which is open to anybody from the Deanery churches who assists with worship, including reading the Lesson, leading intercessions, etc. One of the workshops will be on 'Music in Worship' (or 'Surviving and thriving without an organist'). See the accompanying flyer for more information, and, if you would like to attend this training day, please contact Revd John Vilaseca on 07860 828852 or [vilaseca26@yahoo.es](mailto:vilaseca26@yahoo.es)

## **WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN IN THE DEANERY**

The second strand of important work identified in the 'Re-imagining Norham Deanery' report was 'encouraging the Church's ministry to children and young people' in our area. We are waiting to move forward until somebody with the right skills and enthusiasm for this vital work comes along, who would be prepared to get together a team of fellow-enthusiasts to make things happen. We would especially like to organise a deanery-wide event for children and young people.

So this is a call for help in identifying this right person. If you feel this might be a calling for you personally, or you know somebody who might be pleased to be approached about this task, please contact the Area Dean, Revd Rob Kelsey, on 01289 382325 or [robert.josephkelsey@live.com](mailto:robert.josephkelsey@live.com) . We need to be where the young people are, and speaking their language, rather than hoping they will turn up to our church services.

One important thing that is happening in this area is the presence of Henri Schutte as Pioneer Youth Worker for Tweedmouth, Spittal and Scremerston: he is nearing the end of the first year of a 3-year funding period. However, his work is very specific to these parishes and is not deanery-wide. And, of course, good work is being done with young people in individual parishes: with child-friendly worship, choirs, etc.

## **PRAYING FOR THE DEANERY**

All these deanery initiatives need to be underpinned by prayer. One very helpful tool is the Deanery Prayer Cycle that has been put together by John Vilaseca and which is now being widely used; and he invites us to send him particular prayer requests from each of our parishes, to be included in the cycle. However we also need people who feel called to pray, either individually or in groups, for the needs of the church in our area: specifically for those in the Lay-led Worship Group and for the right person to be the co-ordinator of a deanery Children's and Young People's Ministry Group. If this might be speaking to you, please contact John Ayerst on 01289 302680 or [johnayerst869@yahoo.com](mailto:johnayerst869@yahoo.com)

The Diocese of Newcastle  
• generous • engaged • open •

**Encouraging lay ministry/leadership/discipleship  
in Norham Deanery**

***You are invited to take part in***

***A TRAINING DAY ON:***

***READING THE BIBLE IN CHURCH  
LEADING THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION  
MUSIC IN WORSHIP***

***(or ‘Surviving and thriving without an organist!’)***

***10.00am to 2.00pm  
Saturday 16th September 2017  
Berwick Parish Church  
and Church Hall***

Each participant is invited to take part in two workshops  
See next page for programme and registration details

# Programme

- 10.00am Registration and coffee
- 10.15am Opening worship
- 10.30am First workshop (One of: Reading the Bible, Leading the Prayers, or Music in Worship)
- 11.15am Coffee and cake!
- 11.45am Second workshop (One of: Reading the Bible, Leading the Prayers, or Music in Worship)
- 12.30pm Lunch (to be provided)
- 1.00pm Feedback from the Deanery Lay-led Worship Group
- 1.15pm Plenary session
- 1.45pm Closing worship (including contributions from the workshops)
- 2.00pm Depart

To register, please contact the Revd John Vilaseca on [vilaseca26@yahoo.es](mailto:vilaseca26@yahoo.es) or (01289) 298098 or 07860 828852 with the following information:

1. Your name, parish church and contact details
2. Your choice of two workshops
3. Your dietary requirements, if any

**'Music in Worship'** will:

- Help people grow in confidence in teaching and leading unaccompanied hymns and worship songs
- Share in singing a few simple new songs and chants, and discuss how and where they might be used in worship
- Talk through the 'do's and don'ts' of using CD accompaniment
- Explore ways of singing the service using familiar tunes that are easy for congregations to pick up

**THE SECOND PETER MIDDLEMISS MEMORIAL LECTURE**

## **The Revd Dr Pete Phillips**

Director of the CODEC Research Centre  
for Digital Theology at Durham University

# **‘Human Flourishing in a Digital Age?’**

**7.30 pm Weds 18th October 2017**

**Berwick Parish Church Hall**

**(refreshments available from 7.00)**

With a background in New Testament teaching and research, Pete Phillips moved to St John's College, Durham in 2008, taking up the challenge to foster and develop, part-time, a cutting edge digital theology research programme at CODEC – exploring Biblical Literacy, Preaching, and Communication in a Digital Age.

Peter Middlemiss was, among other things, a Reader in the Church of England and a churchwarden at Berwick Parish Church. Two of his passions were the development of people's theology and lay discipleship.

For more information please contact Ian Corsie on  
01289 387257 or [ian@corsie.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:ian@corsie.eclipse.co.uk)