



BISHOP'S NOTICES

to Congregations from the Bishop of Edinburgh

14 November 2008

CHRIST CHURCH MORNINGSIDE

FIFTH SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday 30th November: 4.00pm Choral Evensong for Advent Sunday

5.00pm Lecture for St Andrew's Day in Church Centre

Richard Holloway: "Creative Disloyalty"

Please note the previously advertised course on Mark's Gospel, due to begin on Tuesday 25 November, has been cancelled.

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST PRINCES STREET, EDINBURGH EH2 4BJ

Associate Rector (Congregational Life) (Part-time appointment)

This is an opportunity to work as part of a team within a busy city centre church. The Associate Rector will bring dynamic and focused leadership to the pastoral and faith development dimensions of congregational life. This work will encompass all members of the congregation, including the very young and very old.

The successful candidate is likely to be a graduate in theology with at least three years experience of stipendiary ordained ministry.

- Standard stipend +housing allowance, pro rata

Job description and application forms are available from the Church Office (email stjohnsoffice@btconnect.com tel: 0131 229 7565). Anyone interested in the post is welcome to discuss it informally with the Rector, The Revd. Dr John Armes (tel: 0131 225 5004).

Caring Christmas Trees



Buy a 'Caring Christmas Tree' (genuine fresh Nordman Fir) and support homeless people at the Bethany Care Shelter this winter

You choose the size, collection site and preferred collection date.

To order your tree and find out about volunteering visit www.caringchristmastrees.com or call **0845 111 8733**

(Volunteers would be very welcome to help with leafletting promotion of the scheme and/or distribution of the trees at pick-up sites). **The Order Deadline is Wednesday 17 December.**

A Quiet Day for Scotland

Part of an initiative of ACTS

A Quiet Day at Augustine United Church (George IV Bridge) on Saturday 29 November
10am-4pm.

10am: welcome and tea/coffee

10.30am: short of worship and talk

11am: silence and time for reflection

12.30pm: prayers

1pm: lunch, please bring sandwiches. Tea/coffee available

2pm: short act of worship

2.15pm: silence and time for reflection

3.30pm: short act of worship

3.45pm: tea/coffee

All welcome for part or all of the day.

The Changing Post Office

Hosted by Action of Churches Together in Scotland and Scottish Churches' Rural Group



An opportunity for Churches to lead their communities in the provision of cost effective sustainable services.

Thursday 4 December 2008

11am to 4pm

The Church of Scotland Offices

121 George St

Edinburgh

EH2 4YN

In 2007 the Government announced the changes it was proposing to reshape the Post Office. The Post Office Network Change Programme came into being later that year. As part of this programme 2,500 Post Offices across the UK were to be closed. At the same time the Post Office increased the flexibility within its rules to permit Post Office services to be provided in other ways. For example Post Offices could be hosted in community buildings, such as churches. This flexibility has been used by churches to provide Post Office facilities.

Developments began in England where the Change Programme was implemented first and so there are now a number of churches, from several denominations, with experience of setting up and running Post Offices. Experience suggests that taking on the running of a Post Office can both allow the church to provide a vital service to small communities but that it can in addition help to attract people back to church. In addition other recent developments allow the church Post Office to be a part of a wider service to communities.

Web based communication have allowed Churches to act as the receiving hub for foods, and other things, ordered electronically from networks of local suppliers. This combined network supports the development of an environmentally sustainable community capable of addressing issues of access to services and food poverty through an efficient network of local suppliers. This can provide an additional reason for people to visit a church based Post Office and so needs to be considered as a part of local churches appraisal of the services needed by their community. Developments of these types increase the use of church buildings and so attract people back to church. The aim of this One Day ACTS Sponsored Conference is to discuss these issues.

To register for this conference please telephone Shona Paterson on 01259 222362 giving your name, contact details and a note of any special diet. There is no cost for the conference but booking is essential – by 27 November please.