

## District Newsletter November 2008



Hallo everybody,

The 'Seasons of mist and mellow fruitfulness' have given way to '.....no flowers, no leaves, no birds, - November.'!

In these later months of 2008 it could be a good time for reflection and appraisal, - 'Where have we come from?' 'Where are we now?' 'Where are we going?'

The answers will be different for each Church, each Circuit and each person. Things change with the passing months. Within the District we have seen changes, particularly in staffing. The District Team has sought to recognise new challenges and opportunities, and to discern what God would have us do.

There is an initiative called 'Fresh Expressions' that is developing within the Christian Church. This seeks to help to bridge the gap between our usual Sunday Worship and the experiences of the everyday, and try to help those who desire an understanding of Christian life, but find attendance at a Church Service, daunting and hard to understand.

As we develop some of the initiatives of Fresh Expressions through various activities, such as 'Messy Church' for children, and Café Church for the community, let us pray that God will give us wisdom, energy, and the necessary skills to do work that he can own and which will give him the glory.

In the Connexion there has been major re-organisation and this is affecting some of our work in the District. We are eligible for some extra staffing and this has the potential for increased support and encouragement for the work in each Circuit.

Ecumenically we seek to grow in understanding of Christians who Worship in ways that are different to ours. Would our togetherness in Christ not be taken forward, if on one Sunday all Christians worshipped at their nearest Christian place of Worship, regardless of the name on the door. If the saving in petrol money was suitably channelled, many would become aware that sometimes good things happen for them. A water pump, a classroom, farm implements etc. It's just a thought.

May God guide us in our thinking about what is 'His Will,' so that His Will will 'be done on earth as it is in Heaven'

With loving thoughts to all,

Janet.