

Mission - an introductory paper

"Recovering confidence in outreach"

Amersham Deanery Plan has a section entitled "Partners in Mission" where the Deanery has committed to working together to "Proclaim afresh the Gospel". To fulfill this statement the proposal is that in 2013 the Amersham Deanery would plan to ask all member Churches in the Spring of that year to launch some special event in each Parish.

For instance, each PCC should be asked, in the context of Mission, "What is your Church for?" and secondly "What are you doing about it?" Each church would decide what would work best for them, but many may choose to link into a Group Theme. From this should flow lots of new ideas for different forms of Mission across the Deanery, resulting in

- **Sharing resources - people, expertise, buildings**
- **Sharing local ideas**
- **Sharing models of mission/outreach**
- **Sharing initiatives to improve effectiveness**

The concept would be to pick two/three weeks in May 2013 to launch an outreach programme, under the heading...

Chiltern Churches Festival

Each Parish would be invited to plan their outreach programme during the Festival timescale. Local publicity would mean that attention could be drawn to all the plans. A website such as www.chilternchurchesfestival.com would allow churches to publicise their programmes on the web giving extra publicity.

The whole programme would need a major launch event and a coordinator to be the centre for information etc. and perhaps more importantly, effective follow-up. The aim of the project, with the help of the Holy Spirit's guidance would be to build confidence in the message and work of the Church in order to grapple with the challenge of evangelism, for we have been entrusted by God to "preach the Gospel to all people, to baptise them and make them disciples".

"The Church exists for Mission as fire exists for burning" - Emil Brunner