

FACT Gathering in Trinity Church Frome
Saturday 22 October 10.00am-12noon.

10.00 Welcome and opening prayer

Hymn: ‘Lord for the years’

Psalm 127

All invited to write on their ‘post-it’ the burden they feel
for the local church

The Lord’s Prayer

10.15 Setting the scene

Sharing the ideas underlying the reason for our gathering

10.30 What is the Lord saying to the body of Christ in Frome?

As they wish, people will have the opportunity to draw
pictures, write thoughts

Space for those present to pray (silently or in small groups of
two or three)

**11.15 Opportunity to share (not debate!) thoughts on our hearts
as we look to the future**

11.45 Conclusion

The way forward. Where do we go from here?

Closing prayers and a shared commitment

The grace and sharing of the peace.

*Timing is important on two counts: people attending need to know
when it ends and Fair Frome are holding a lunch today in Trinity.
A number of folk could be going on to that.*

"The journey we are on demands the laying-down of old fears and misconceptions of each other, and the building up of a shared story together. These celebrations mark the writing of a new chapter in the history of the Christian Church."

Pope Francis and Archbishop Justin Welby

The Transforming Wigan Challenge (cf Frome?)

"It is clear to all involved in the shaping of the Transforming Wigan project that church as has been in Wigan will not be sustainable. The congregational demographic is skewed; buildings are a problem; growth is at best patchy. It is also clear that it won't simply be a pattern of gentle decline; in 10 years' time numbers and money will fall off a cliff.

That said there remains a richness and vibrancy about the local and church communities of Wigan. There is a pride and generosity of spirit among the congregations that continues to manifest itself in giving of time, talents and treasure – a testimony to the faithfulness of generations of Christians.

The key will be to unlock this latent spirit where it isn't sufficiently strong, give greater licence to those where there is vision and desire and to set a new tone and a new missional ambition."

"This is the best example I've experienced of a post denominational church, *where we are all heading.*"

Richard Chartres, Bishop of London, on leaving a church plant.

In essentials unity - In non-essentials liberty - In all things charity

Attributed to Rupert Meldenius

Check out the following websites:

www.FromeACT.org.uk;

Redeeming our Communities **www.roc.uk.com;**

Hope Together:Towards 2018 **www.hopetogether.org.uk**

Ps 27:8 ‘My heart says of you, ‘Seek his face!’ Your face Lord I will seek.’

Luke 11:1 ‘Lord, teach us to pray.’

Heb 11:6 ‘Without faith it is not possible to please God’

Heb 11:8 ‘By faith, Abraham set out even though he did not know where he was going.’

Micah 6:8 ‘What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God.’

Matt 9:17 ‘Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.’

Eccl 3:1,2 ‘There is a time for everything – be born, to die to plant, to uproot.’

Esther 4:14 ‘A time such as this’

Luke 12:56 How do we interpret the present time?

Isaiah 41:14 “‘Don’t be afraid, O worm Jacob, O little Israel, for I myself will help you,’ declares the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy one of Israel.”

Acts 2:42 ‘They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.’

The main purpose of this meeting⁴ is not to persuade those present of the path ahead but to gather on board all who seek the Lord's vision for his church in this area.

Given the fact that Advent/Christmas follow shortly after Justin Welby's visit, it is anticipated that the follow up to this meeting will proceed in 2017 and thereafter.

**'Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us,
through the world's tempestuous sea'**

John Edmeston

The Sending Out

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.

In the power of the Holy Spirit send us out!
Into a world that needs to know your life, your presence.

Send us out!
**Into a world that needs the Spirit of God, carried on our lips and
in our loving arms**

Send us out!
Into the world to live as God's resurrected people!

Go in the power of Christ
We have a gospel to proclaim

Go in the peace of Christ
Thanks be to God

Check out the website www.trypraying.co.uk