

**EVENTS
JULY 2005**

Kofi Annan Lecture at St Paul's Cathedral

On Wednesday 6 July (the first day of the G8 summit) the Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, will be giving a lecture at St Paul's on poverty reduction. There will be other members of a panel who will respond to him (the Bishop of London and provisionally Gordon Brown are among them).

More details are available at www.stpauls.co.uk. The lecture starts at 6.30pm, with doors opening at 5.40pm.

African Snow – a play about slavery and forgiveness

2007 is an important bicentenary: the abolition of slave trading in the British Empire. The founding fathers of the Church Mission Society, William Wilberforce among them, were hugely involved in the abolitionist movement. The CMS has commissioned Murray Watts to write a play which commemorates the bicentenary but also highlights the fact that slavery continues across the world today.

The play is called *African Snow* and it portrays a powerful story of an imagined encounter between former slave-trader John Newton and the liberated slave Olaudah Equiano. Read more about the play and slavery then and now at www.africansnow.com.

As the play tours major theatres across Britain, CMS wants to work with schools, churches and other groups to bring home the message of modern slavery but also the power of the Gospel to set people free.

For further information, contact Church Mission Society, Partnership House, 157 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UU or t: 020 7928 8681.

Racial Justice Sunday – 10th Anniversary Service at St Paul's Cathedral

This year is the tenth anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday. It is always celebrated on the second Sunday of September and its purpose is to encourage Christians to give thanks for human diversity and commit to working against racism, including by contributing to a fund called Racial Justice, administered by the Churches' Commission for Racial Justice. The fund supports racial justice projects around Britain and Ireland.

This year there will be special national services in Glasgow, Cardiff and London. The London service will be at 6pm on 11 September in St Paul's Cathedral. It will involve a drum group and youth choir together with participation by schools, churches throughout the region, Church leaders from various Christian traditions and representatives of community groups supported by the fund, including groups working with or consisting of people seeking asylum.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Please help us to advertise the service to your networks. For further details contact Richard Solly, at Churches Commission for Racial Justice by t: 020 7654 7244.

The Durham Media Academy

This short residential course, 15-19 August, at St Chad's College, Durham, is a rare opportunity to be taught by people who have helped pioneer new broadcasting technology.

Further details and information are available from www.mediadurham.com.

Courses at Oak Hill College

A Vision for Mission: Oak Hill College Thursday 8th September at 7.30pm. The majority of Christians now live outside the West, but in many countries they are still a minority. Are missionaries still needed? What contribution can the declining European church make to the growing communities of Africa, Asia and South America? How can they help us? These questions will be addressed by Ray Porter, seconded by OMF International to be Director of World Mission Studies at Oak Hill, and César Guzmán, Director of the Centre for Pastoral Studies.

Evening Course at Oak Hill: Growing Healthy Churches - An Introduction to 1 Corinthians with Dr Paul Woodbridge. The courses take place on Thursday evenings from 22 September, 7.15pm to 9.15pm. Drawing from Corinthians, the courses ask the best way for a church to grow. The courses cost £50 for 16 lectures over eight weeks.

More information about all the courses is available from Peter Wood, e: peterw@oakhill.ac.uk.

Earthly Father, Heavenly Father relationships

An opportunity to discuss 'Abba' relationships with guest speaker the Revd P G Whiting CBE, chaired by Mike Palmer-Fry.

6.30pm, 14 July, at St Augustine's Queens Gate. The cost of £5 per head includes food. For more details contact Julian Whiting, t: 07899 723 620 or e: jgwhiting@yahoo.co.uk.

Contextual Theology Centre

Formation and the Christian Congregation: 10am, 6 July, at the French Church, Notre Dame de France, Leicester Place WC2. As part of the Centre's regular series of meetings for Christian Leaders, this meeting will follow up the Archbishop of Canterbury's lecture, 'Formation: Who's bringing up our children?' More detail about this even can be found at www.london.anglican.org/EventShow_4478.

Consultations on Contextual Theology: 7 and 8 September at the Royal Foundation of St Katharine in Limehouse. The first day will look at issues affecting congregations nationally; the second will have a focus on London.

Further information is available online at www.theology-centre.org and also from The Contextual Theology Centre, The Royal Foundation of St Katharine, 2 Butcher Row, London E14 8DS or by t: 020 7790 3540.