

In Touch



Creator God

God our Father, you created the world and sent your own Son to live among us, made of the same stuff, breathing the same air, marvelling at sunrise and sunset just as we do. Help us to participate in the life around and within us as your life, as you living in us and we living in you and in each other. God of love and life, restore us to your peace, renew us through your power and teach us to love all that you have created and to care for the earth as your gift and our home.



Dates For Your Diary

18th-19th September Church of Sanctuary Conference

21st September Church Support Committee, Nottingham

22nd September Youth Work Sunday

22nd September Peace Sunday

www.for.org.uk/peacesunday

13th October Homeless Sunday

www.housingjustice.org.uk/news/news

20th-27th October One World Week

www.oneworldweek.org

Peace Sunday

For many years, the United Nations has encouraged the observance of 20 September as the International Day of Peace. The World Council of Churches calls on Churches to make this a day of prayer for peace, and to include prayers for peace in their services on the Sunday before or after 20 September. Resources are available at www.for.org.uk/peacesunday

Quiet Garden Movement

The Quiet Garden Movement flows from the example of Jesus's withdrawal to natural places to pray and his invitation, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest' (St Mark's Gospel 6.31), and brings together a range of gardens for sharing outdoor space for the inner journey. They say that Quiet Gardens are: A local initiative and resource for people in your area Vary widely in their size and situation Are enjoyed in solitude or with others Act as both a context and focus, in which to share. <https://quietgarden.org/>
If you would like some help to begin working on a quiet garden for your church, contact us.

Peace Conference

The Conference of European Church (CEC) will be holding a Peace Conference from 10 to 12 September 2019 at the Institut Protestant de Théologie, Paris, France. The conference will be held as part of the CEC 60th anniversary this year, focusing on

the 1919 Paris Peace Conference, identifying its legacies and the hard lessons learnt from the European and global past, and search for new and creative ways of peace building in the 21st Century.

<http://www.ceceurope.org/?event=peaceconference-2019>

Places of worship security funding

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/places-of-worship-security-funding-scheme>

'The places of worship (POW) protective security funding scheme is a government commitment in the hate crime action plan. It provides funding for protective security measures to places of worship and associated faith community centres that are vulnerable to hate crime. You can submit a bid for funding from 5 July until 23:59 on 31 August 2019. We will not consider any bids received after this date. Applicants can submit bids for up to 3 protective security measures. You will be required to contribute 20% of the total cost of the security measures. The maximum government funding available to any place of worship or associated faith community centre is £56,000.'

Opportunities for 18-25 year olds

CWM Europe Youth Assembly
December 6-8th 2019, Shallowford Staffordshire. General Theme: Loneliness and mental wellbeing.
ICF Conference
22nd - 28th July 2020.

The Conference will take place in Curry College, Milton, Massachusetts and will include speakers, workshops and trips to the Plymouth Rock, Plantation and other local interest places. There will also be a youth programme with Congregationalists from all over the world. The Conference will focus on the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower Pilgrims.

Criteria for both events

Regular attendee at CF church
Willing to share the experience with their church and wider
Willing to commit to being part of a group.
Applications in writing/video/recorded to Yvonne Campbell telling us something about yourself, and why you wish to attend.
Applications should have written support from a church leader.

Prayer spaces in schools

<https://www.prayerspacesinschools.com/>
'Prayer spaces work best when they're not one-off events, but part of the ongoing spiritual and pastoral life of a school, part of (and sometimes a catalyst for) an ongoing rhythm of involvement in assemblies, subject lessons and lunchtime or afterschool clubs, etc. Our aim is to encourage more local churches and Christian communities to partner with, or 'adopt', their local schools, to serve and support the spiritual life of the whole school community'

There will be no In Touch for September. The next edition will come out in October.