



The unity of the Spirit

The Apostle Paul is pretty outraged when he finds that tensions in the Corinthian church had led to people starting to define themselves as members as one camp over against another, some saying ‘I follow Paul’; another, ‘I follow Apollos’; another ‘I follow Cephas’ (1 Corinthians 1:12).

His response is frank and robust, denouncing this as “worldly” (3:3) and the stuff “mere human beings” might do, not the Spirit-filled followers of the one Lord Jesus Christ. Our calling in Christ, says Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, is to “*make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace*” (4:3). We are united in the one Spirit, he is saying, but we need to *keep* it, to treasure it, to protect it “*with*

humility and discipline – not in fits and starts, but steadily pouring ourselves out for each other in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences” (The Message).

As theologian of the Holy Spirit Jack Levison puts it in his book ‘Fresh Air’, “*the house of God cannot - must not - be subdivided, rankled by rivalries, shattered by schisms, diminished by its misconceived differences*”. This is a constant challenge for us still in the church today. But if ever there was a time for us to show a different way of handling deeply held differences, and of living as God’s people in a more peaceable, familial, Spirit-led way, then surely this is it.

You don’t need me to tell you about the deep tensions in the country around the Brexit debate, and all the connected issues that affect the future of the Union and our future relationships with our European neighbours and the nations of the world. Too many people who should know better seem to be intent on deepening division and pitting winner against loser, one camp against another. What would Paul say!

The church, as a foretaste of the age to come, has a fundamental responsibility to model a way of living that can hold together a Spirit-united people with Spirit-inspired tolerance, compassion and grace. Indeed, we are not just to demonstrate it, but we are to use our voices and our influence in our families, communities and our nation to be reconcilers, menders, connectors, who work with the ever-active Spirit, the go-between God, as He binds all things together in Christ and builds God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

“ We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.”

With love and prayer,

Kevi

Page Index

- 2 Welcome to Kate and Oliver
- 3 Intercessors Network
- 4 Your Church 2020
- 5 Finding out more at Scargill
- 6 Living Word 2019
- 7 Jesus Shaped People
- 8 News Items

Welcomes to Kate and Oliver



We are delighted to welcome Kate King as a new Trustee. Kate lives and works close to our offices in Telford, where she is an Intergenerational Missioner for the Diocese of Hereford. She was raised locally in a little, local and ordinary rural church, and

now works in many of them across north Shropshire. She will be a thoughtful and enthusiastic voice in Trustee discussions, with her heart for the renewal of local churches as all-age communities.

Kate writes "Since returning to live in Shropshire I have witnessed the ministry of my small rural church die away, only for it to then burst into life again through the

unmistakable work of the Holy Spirit sweeping through the church, our local school and the wider village community. As a lay leader of some years and now a Diocesan employee, I am acutely aware of the pressures on our little, local and ordinary churches.

However, I have once again fallen in love with the Anglican church and the extraordinary place it has in our communities. I am hugely excited by the vision and work of ReSource to empower and equip the Body of Christ, lay and ordained together, to discern and join in with the work of Holy Spirit in the most practical of ways. It is the most enormous joy and privilege to support and promote their work in this way".

Kate is married to Steve and they have a delightful three-year-old son, James.



We are thrilled that Oliver Hermes has become a Trustee of ReSource. Oliver is in the early years of his retirement and brings to the Trustees not only long experience in the life of his church in Milton Keynes, but professional experience in management

and finance, areas that we have been looking to strengthen on the Board.

Oliver writes "Our God is the God of the unexpected! For over a year before I retired from my career managing a property investment company in London, I had been looking for what God wanted me to do next. Was I looking in the wrong places? Was God's timetable different to mine? Questions that we have all probably asked ourselves when seeking God's direction in our lives.

Then I was approached by one of the Trustees of Resource outlining the role that needed to be filled. Was this what God was calling me to do? I wasn't sure so I asked some friends from my local church to seek God's will on my behalf. Between them they were given nine pictures, one of which was clearly describing ReSource.

So, I am excited about what our great God has in store for ReSource in this next period of its amazing ministry working with the little, local and ordinary churches. For my part, I will be endeavouring to use the gifts that God has equipped me with to assist Kevin and the whole team with the outworking of ReSource's ministry."

Oliver is married to Christine and they are both active members of St Mary's Church, Bletchley, where Oliver was until recently Churchwarden.

"God is building a strong, experienced and prayerful group of Trustees to give wise oversight to ReSource"

Bishop John Holbrook, Chair of Trustees

ReSource Intercessors Network

Intercession is one of ReSource's main priorities, and after meeting with a number of intercessors earlier in the summer, we are delighted that God has brought us to a point where we are able to launch the *ReSource Intercessors Network* from the autumn. In fact, we are up and praying already! The main purpose of the *Network* will be to intercede for the renewal of the church nationally, to pray for our *Partner Churches*, and to undergird ReSource events and our ministry generally.

We are very mindful that that intercession and deep listening to God is fundamental to the renewal of the church and to the prospering of our ministry.

We are delighted that the Revd Esther McCafferty has agreed to be the Facilitator of the *Intercessors Network*, and in that role to support three Coordinators who will each be the main point of contact with our intercessors for four months of the year. Esther brings huge experience and great passion to this ministry, and it will be a joy to be working with her on the *Network* and to have the benefit of her wisdom and leadership. Welcome on board, Esther! And welcome, too, to Mike and Ann Hutchinson who will be handling the first Coordinators' shift between now and the end of the year, with huge thanks to them for helping us to get the ball rolling.

If you feel prompted to explore being a member of the *Intercessors Network* please be in touch with Lizzie in the ReSource Office, or use the Contact page on our website, and we will let you have a paper summarising the work of the *Network* and how it will operate, along with a simple application form for you to complete. Because members of the *Network* may on occasions be given access to confidential information we are asking that applications have the support of a church leader. We also need to ask a few other questions to ensure that we keep on the right side of data protection rules.

We learn from the New Testament that when we intercede we join the Holy Spirit as He intercedes with us and for us (Romans 8:26,27) and with the ceaseless intercession of Jesus (Romans 8:34 and Hebrews 7:25). What a privilege to join in this eternal work of intercession within the Godhead, and as we do so to listen to the words and heartbeat of God for His world, and for the work to which He has called us (1 Corinthians 2:10-12).

Do take a look at the Intercession page on the ReSource website for more information, and do be in touch if you would like to join the *ReSource Intercessors Network* and be part of this great new venture.



The Revd Esther McCafferty

Introducing Esther

Esther has been in Christian ministry for the whole of her adult life, teaching RS and working for Scripture Union before becoming a Deaconess and then getting ordained. She has served in Manchester, Chester and London Dioceses, and most recently, before her retirement, as Rector of Basildon, and Area Dean.

Esther came to faith as a child, and says "in my mid-teens I became thirsty for more of the Spirit in my life. This led to contact with the Fountain Trust and with Michael & Jeanne Harper, then Anglican Renewal Ministries and the Springboard Team, then going on SOMA Missions, being an intercessor for SOMA, and linking in with New Wine. I am so grateful to have been richly blessed, so that I can be a blessing to others in renewal, discipleship and mission."

Esther loves travel, music, and volunteering as a Team London Ambassador.

"I know how intercession has sustained and encouraged me in tough inner city, urban ministry. I am looking forward to giving back the gift of all that I have learned, by helping to lead the ReSource Intercessors Network. If you feel the Holy Spirit prompting you to join this great work, we would love to hear from you."

The Revd Esther McCafferty

Your Church 2020

How can ReSource serve and support your church in 2020? In the Summer Newsletter we encouraged you to think about holding a Sanctuary Day for your church or a Connect Day for a group of churches. Here are some other ideas to think through and maybe talk to your church leaders about.

Teaching Days

Teaching days can sound all very formal, but in reality they can be fun as well as mind stretching and heart-warming. And we will always suggest that Teaching Days include worship and response times so that there is an element of retreat and refreshment alongside learning together. We don't have a set ReSource curriculum, but our particular focus is the person and work of the Holy Spirit, especially in renewal (personal and in our churches), discipleship and mission, and issues around church leadership. With a wide team of possible facilitators we can generally find someone good and suitable for most requests.

Vision Days

Lots of dioceses are asking churches, benefices and Deaneries, to produce a Mission Action Plan as a strategic guide to future direction and priorities. Some churches do this as a matter of course, while for others the process isn't a natural one and doesn't come easily. ReSource has experience of helping churches through the Mapping process and of facilitating Vision Days as part of the Review stage. We are particularly keen to help churches to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying in the process and how He is guiding, and ReSource can help with this either on a vision-seeking day or as a companion on the MAPping journey.

Sunday Preaching

Going away together as a church can be a really good thing, but this isn't always possible and there is lots that can be done and experienced on home turf. ReSource often runs day programmes and retreats, finishing with collective worship together on Sunday morning. Do ask us if you would like some templates or models of what might be possible, based on our experience elsewhere. We are also very happy to source preachers for Sunday worship, even for a series of Sundays exploring a renewal, discipleship or mission theme and the Holy Spirit's person and work. Why not suggest this to your church leaders?

Church Partnership Scheme

ReSource is launching a flexible Scheme for churches to partner with them, with fuller details on our website. The overall purpose is to build a relationship in which ReSource will pray for your church and send copies of this Newsletter as a regular commitment, as the basic building blocks of a partnership, but then also add to this with regular visits and events if this is felt to be helpful locally. You will see on the website that we are offering four 'levels' of partnership. In reality we are entirely flexible to provide whatever will be most helpful. If you are a church leader do be in touch with us about the Scheme.

If you would like to discuss how ReSource can serve and support your church, please contact us by email or phone, or enquire using the Contact page on our website www.resource-arm.net.



Want to find out more?

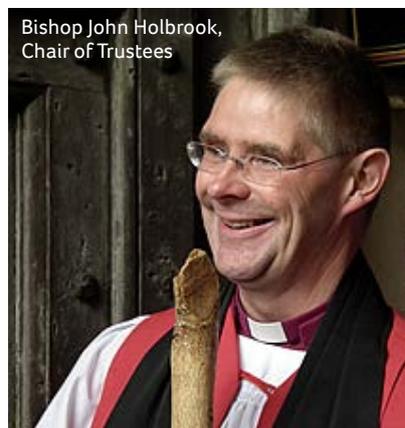
How would you like to spend a day at Scargill House in the Yorkshire Dales, and find out a bit more about ReSource while you look out from the Marsh Lounge windows at the craggy fells over Wharfedale? Add into the mix some worship led by the Scargill musicians, teaching from +John Holbrook, Bishop of Brixworth, and lunch with the community, and it promises to be a great day out.

We would love to invite you to spend the day with us at Scargill House, near Skipton, on Monday 4 November. If you can be free that day, and Scargill is within reach, why not book it in your diary and be in touch with Scargill House to reserve your place. This is a day for anyone who might be interested, and you are welcome to bring a group from your church if you would like to make a day of it together.

“Scargill’s most important mission is to provide generous welcome to all who find their way through our doors, and to make space for the mysterious transforming love of God to work in people’s lives.”

Our intention is that this is the first of what we hope will be regular ReSource Days across the country, which combine an element of retreat with an opportunity to find out more about ReSource’s ministry and what we may be able to offer to you and to your church or group of churches. There will be a team of us there from ReSource, representing both staff and Trustees, and there will be opportunity not only to hear in the sessions about our work, but to talk to us if you are starting to feel that ReSource might be able to support the life of your church or your work as a church leader.

The Day will be hosted by Phil Stone, the Director of the Scargill Movement, and is part of the emerging partnership



Bishop John Holbrook,
Chair of Trustees

between Scargill and ReSource. We have shared values and a shared desire to serve the church for its deeper renewal and flourishing, and we feel ourselves to be on a journey to discover how the community life of Scargill can enrich the itinerant work of ReSource, and vice

versa. We are looking forward to contributing to the Scargill residential programme next year, and to inviting members of the Scargill community to join us on the road as we visit little, local and ordinary churches in the north of England. We are also delighted that the Scargill community will be leading a residential retreat next March for the combined staff and trustees of ReSource and SOMA UK. It is lovely to see God weaving us together!

So do consider whether this is a Day that you would like to be part of, and book a place asap. The Scargill community is kindly offering to host and feed us for a small contribution of £10 to cover costs. The Day will start with refreshments at 10.00am, and run through to 5.00pm. And, yes, there will be time to walk and to pray, and to enjoy the atmosphere of this “thin place”.

To book your place at Scargill on 4 November please phone 01756 760500 or email bookings@scargillmovement.org



Living Word Carlisle

Living Word is an offshoot of the Keswick Convention, and has been held in Carlisle annually since the 1940s. Our gathering brings together church members from across and beyond the city as we hear God speak through his perfect and powerful Word, praising him in song, and responding with love, prayer and devotion. And this year we were delighted to have Kevin Roberts opening the Bible for us.

Our theme at Living Word was 'Living in the Spirit' and we learnt from passages across the Bible: Prophecy (Ezekiel 47:1-12), Promise (John 15:26-16:15), Proclamation (Acts 8:1-17) and People (Acts 2:42-47). Kevin consistently pointed us to the glory of God in the face of Christ, which of course is one of the Spirit's great works – he is the Spirit of Jesus and points us to our Saviour.

In taking us to Ezekiel, Kevin reminded us of the eastward flow from the temple in Jerusalem as the prophet shows us the river's impact. All we need has already been provided – we don't need a new Pentecost because the Spirit's work is ongoing in these last days. And so it is that "where the river flows, everything will live" (Ez 47:9) which points to Jesus' promise that "whoever believes in me ... rivers of living water will flow from within them" (John 7:38).

Chapters 15-16 of John's gospel offered a familiar but hugely encouraging reminder that the Holy Spirit is personal – he is "he" and fully God, another one like Jesus to come alongside us, the Paraclete. Kevin helped us think about the Spirit's work in leading us to Jesus, into truth, into holiness and into the Father's plenty.

Our seminar-style engagement with Acts 8 focussed on the work of the Spirit in sending us to people not like us,

and enabling us to proclaim the truth of Jesus with passion into their real context, as compassion enables and accompanies sharing the gospel.

And our final evening in Acts 2 was an impassioned call to reorientation – the Godward focus that turns followers towards brothers and sisters, outsiders, and the future. As we responded in silence and prayer, we knew the Lord calling us afresh to be used by him, empowered, re-envisioned and inspired.

"I felt an almost tearful joy at hearing what I've tried to share for fifty years, put so much better and explained so well"

Dr Peter Ward

Those familiar with Keswick will know the "all one in Christ Jesus" banner that exemplifies its ministry. My prayer as Chair of Living Word is always that our speaker so teaches the Bible with faithfulness and clarity that all Christians, whatever our backgrounds, experiences and beliefs, hear the voice of the great Shepherd. Our aim is never to be divisive, but to teach clear Bible truths with warmth, and Kevin modelled and embodied this for us.

The Holy Spirit was at work amongst us in Living Word 2019 through the clear, humble, faithful Bible exposition – and just as we need his help to understand so we need his power to live in obedience. Many brothers and sisters across this area of North Cumbria were fed and encouraged, challenged and equipped together, for which we are grateful to God.

Andrew Towner

Jesus Shaped People

Like ReSource, *Jesus Shaped People* is about the flourishing of little, local and ordinary churches. Its leaders are also in a growing relationship and partnership, as we are, with the Scargill Movement. It feels to be more than coincidental that our paths have crossed, and we look forward to seeing how we can bless and support each other's work. Gordon Dey, JSP's founder and leader, tells us more about it.

"Jesus Shaped People describes itself as a 'whole church discipleship adventure'. Based on St Mark's Gospel, it offers an innovative way of encouraging churches, particularly those serving marginalised communities, to re-shape their vision and work based on the ministry of Jesus.



Jesus Shaped People began in 2005 as a 'home-spun tool' to enable the churches of a largely urban housing estate parish in the diocese of Bradford to gain a better grasp of Christian discipleship. It proved to be highly effective in enabling the congregations to become more wholehearted and single minded in 'following Jesus'. In 2011 it was adopted by five Bradford Anglican parishes that serve disadvantaged communities, with good response and effect.

In 2016 a Charitable Trust was formed to oversee JSP's future development; since then there has been steady growth of interest and benefit. JSP aims to steadily expand its reach in the UK, including wide ecumenical use. It has high priority for the inclusion of children and young people and has a particular, though not exclusive, concern for the missional renewal of churches that serve disadvantaged communities. JSP emphasises that not only does Jesus prioritise the inclusion of excluded and marginalised people, he also chooses to live a simple prophetic life, and invites his followers to join him in this.

JSP stimulates 'corporate discipleship', inspiring churches to enhance their grasp of being the 'Body of Christ',

and in enabling all, especially the 'least and the lowliest', to engage in ministry in their local church. Church members are helped to develop their common life and love for each other, and find common purpose in their discipleship.

JSP identifies five priorities in Jesus' ministry as key

foundation blocks for growing 'corporate discipleship'. Congregations are introduced to these priorities through use of a JSP fifteen week programme that integrates Sunday worship and small groups for adults and young people. Following this, churches are helped to discern God's leading, and how they can be equipped to respond, including possible use of JSP 'follow on' resources, including 'Spirit Filled Life'.

Web-based resources enable churches to explore and embrace these priorities, and a bank of additional follow-on resources is growing steadily.

"Jesus Shaped People looks at the life of Jesus in a fresh way. It asks 'What would happen to our church if we based everything we do on the life of Jesus?'. Not only is it a radical way to handle the gospels, it leads to a complete re-orientation in our churches."

All JSP resources enable 'whole church discipleship growth' to take place – as common thematic resources help adults and children to grow together.

Those who would like to explore JSP are invited to visit: www.jesusshapedpeople.net

Gordon Dey



News Items



ReSource Ministers and Companions

Thanks to the generous giving of so many of you in last year's Appeal we have been able to work with James Lazarus as our full time Development Manager to develop a Scheme to appoint, train and deploy a team of volunteer *ReSource Ministers* to deliver our public ministry. We look forward to appointing the first cohort during the autumn and to them being ready to go by the end of the year. This is a major step forward in developing our capacity and extending our reach, for which thanks be to God.

We look forward to making further *ReSource Minister* appointments early in 2020, along with the first cohort of

ReSource Companions, trained and equipped to deliver our *Alongside* programme of personal, prayerful and prophetic support for church leaders. It is such a joy to be building the team, and to be doing so through a process which combines prayerful discernment of God's call, alongside careful recruitment. You may have spotted too that we have abandoned the word *Associate* for our volunteer co-workers. If the ministry is to grow, then our *ReSource Ministers* and *Companions* will be right at the centre of the charity's life and work.

Autumn Programme

We have some great events running through the autumn and are delighted at the way that doors are opening into "little, local and ordinary churches", which is exactly where we want to be. We have our first *Sanctuary Day* in October, with more booked for 2020, and a whole variety of weekends-away and at-home, along with Saturday retreats and vision days. Pray for the team as they lead these, and for the Director and others as they lead day retreats for the Bishop of Lichfield's staff steam and the clergy of the Diocese of Liverpool.

Twitter

If you use Twitter do follow us @ReSourceARM and give us lots of likes and re-tweets to get news out about ReSource's ministry! We put out a daily prayer on Twitter and we tweet from events that we are running, so that we can release all those arrow prayers that are so helpful and effective. Do keep an eye, too, on our website www.resource-arm.net for news and information that may be useful to you and your church leaders. And please be in touch with us on email prayer@resource-arm.net if there is anything we can pray for you or your church.

Merisa MacInnes

Merisa has been a great help to us as we have developed the new website, logo and literature over the past year, drawing on her long experience in the Christian charity sector. It has been great to have her on the team, and I'm delighted that she has accepted a Consultant appointment to help us, initially through this autumn, to raise the funds we need in order to grow the work. Please pray for Merisa and join us in trusting that "God's work done in God's way will never lack God's resources".

Archbishop John Sentamu

Patron

Bishop John Holbrook

Chair of Trustees

Kevin Roberts

Director

Lizzie Brown

Administrator

James Lazarus

Development Manager

Merisa MacInnes

Development Consultant

Giving to Resource

If you feel moved to give to the work of ReSource, thank you!

Single donations can be made directly into CAF Bank, *ReSource for Anglican Renewal Ministries*, account number 00032578 and sort code 40-52-40 or through the *CAF Donate* button on our website. Regular donations can be made by standing order, using the form available in the *Ways to Give* page of our website or from the office. Gift Aid forms are available on the website or from the office, as is information about how to remember ReSource in your will. Thank you!

Contact

ReSource
Meeting Point House
Telford
Shropshire
TF3 4HS

T: 01952 371300
E: office@resource-arm.net

 ReSource
 @ReSourceARM

Charity no. 1180394

