

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BISHOP`S STORTFORD
Report to St.Michael's APCM 2018

During the year Wendy Shipperlee, has become Chairman of CTBS, and, Reverend David Akande, Vice Chairman.

The Member Churches are All Saints, Baptist, Community Church, Havers Community Church, Holy Trinity, Methodist, St James, St Joseph's, Salvation Army, St Michael's, and United Reformed Church.

The Associate Members are: Bishop's Stortford Money Advice Service, Christian Aid, Company at Christmas, Great St Mary's, Sawbridgeworth, Grow, Holiday Bible Week, Portland Child Contact Centre, Stort Valley Schools Trust, Street Pastors, Y.M.C.A., and Thirst Café.

Representatives from the following organisations and initiatives have spoken at meetings during the year:

Try Praying – an initiative launched by the Baptist Church
Y.M.C.A.

Bishop's Stortford Money Advice Service
Portland Road Contact Centre
The Night Shelter

Linking Lives UK A new scheme to be set up locally with the aim of Reaching out to elderly people who live alone.

Notable Events have been

Riding Light's Production of *Cross Lights*

The Election Hustings

The Town Carnival which included a CTBS float.

It was noted that Holiday Bible Week, Carol Singing in Jackson Square, distribution of the CTBS Christmas card and Company at Christmas had again all taken place happily and successfully.

The following comments refer to items discussed at the Forum held on Wednesday, 21st February, 2018 both notable events which have taken place and forthcoming ones, some of which are still in the planning stage at the time of this report.

Bishop's Stortford North

Clive Weir is now the Representative. A welcome pack is being prepared which can be delivered to people moving into the new homes at Stortford North.

No inter-church Lent Groups were planned this year, but individuals were welcome to join any of the many activities which individual churches were offering.

Oberammergau Passion Play 2020

Rosemary Thomson is willing to organise a trip, which could be offered to members of St. Michael's and other churches.

Forthcoming Events

Good Friday Service and Walk of Witness 30th March

Week of Prayer 21-25th May

The Town Carnival – 16th June

There is to be no CTBS float this year, due to lack of human and physical resources. However, associate members are planning to have stalls on the field.

Holiday Bible Week 6th – 10th August

Carol Singing Jackson Square 7th December

Company at Christmas 25th December!

Further information regarding these events will be published in the Newsletter at the appropriate time.

The CTBS website is [<http://ctbs.org.uk/>]. Anyone who would like something entered on it should contact David Clapham at the Community Church.

Details of all Churches Together current and forthcoming events are posted on the display boards within our Church. The undersigned will be happy to provide more information on any of the above or refer enquirers to the appropriate source.

Margaret Fox CTBS Representative,
8th March 2017