

Annual Meeting of The Christian Community Canterbury November 3rd - 5th 2017



The Will to Heal

Finding the courage for change

The Christian Community 57 Wincheap Canterbury CT1 3RX "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' (Luke 15:4-6)

Healing - to make whole. By retrieving one lost sheep, the whole flock gets healed. How many have we lost as Christian Community, over the last 95 years, who walked away through the backdoor, while we are anxiously looking out of the front door, waiting for new people to come in? What does the Angel of our Community need? What is asked of us, what is needed and hoped for in the Spiritual World? Can we not only start to expand our Movement for Religious Renewal in contact with 'the outer world', after we have examined our 'inner world', and made it whole? Could that be our challenge; to heal, to make whole and holy? Not just ourselves, but also our Congregation, our Christian Community? Healing can be done on various levels: physical, social, spiritual. We know there is a purpose and meaning in illness and suffering, a process to go through and things to learn. One of those can be: discovering the Will to Heal.

What is this will? How can we find it? What is this healing? How can we do it?

We like to start this journey by 'going into ourselves', trying to explore the conditions to make healing happen, to waken our will. And we hope to find ways to start the healing process.

And then find ways to co-create together, as a community, that what is said in our Creed: "Through Him can the Healing Spirit work". To start healing ourselves, others, the world.

Dr. Saskia Renkema and Dr. Peter Hanrath will speak from the point of view of the medical profession.

Priests of The Christian Community will speak out of the spiritual profession.

Delia Rosenboom will lead us in an hour of singing where even the most shy and inexperienced voice will discover the social healing power of music.

Evelyn Turner will do short Eurythmy sessions to experience the same through movement.

On Saturday evening we will create a circle and by using the 'Talking Stone' we can share our thoughts, feelings and comments on what we have experienced during the weekend.

Rev. Tom Ravetz will give the concluding talk on *Sunday.*

"The healthy social life is found when in the mirror of each human soul the whole community finds its reflection; and when in the community the virtue of each one is living" Rudolf Steiner.

In preparation: please find a postcard and write words (like a poem or verse) that you found healing on the back. Bring it in an unmarked envelope. We will share them out at the end of the meeting, so everyone can take one home.

Programme: The Will to Heal -Finding the courage for change

Friday 3rd

4:00-5.30 Registration in the Church

- 6:00 Supper in the Scout Hall
- 7:00 Welcome to Canterbury and introduction to the theme, Rev. Willem Boonstoppel and members of the congregation.
- 8:30 Close of Day in the Church

Saturday 4th

- 9:00 The Act of Consecration of Man
- 10:15 Coffee in the Scout Hall
- 10:45 Eurythmy
- 11:30 Talk by
 - Dr. Saskia Renkema and Dr. Peter Hanrath
- 12:15 Discussion on the theme in small groups
- 12:45 Lunch
- 2:00 Singing with Delia Rosenboom
- 3:00 Talk by Rev Luke Barr 'Going to the Father': the precarious soul-journey of healing
- 4:00 Tea
- 4:30 Eurythmy
- 5:00 Lenker's overview of

The Christian Community, including the international work, news and reports from the UK.

- 6:00 Supper
- 6:50 Evening Circle Short introduction by the priest and the possibility to share experiences, thoughts and feelings.
- 8:15 Close of Day in the Church

Sunday 5th

- 9:00 Act of Consecration of Man
- 10:15 Coffee in the Scout Hall
- 10:45 Concluding talk by Rev. Tom Ravetz and conversation
- 11:30 Review/preview
- 12:30 Take-away lunch and Goodbye