

Exploring God in Dementia

Thursday 11 May 2017

To book please use this [Eventbrite](#) link

Or use this form with a cheque for £15, payable to EDBF Ltd, and post to:

Joanie Harris
Church and Society,
Old Deanery,
The Cloisters,
Exeter EX1 1HS

Title Name
Church
Address

Post code
Tel
Email
Dietary needs

Workshop choice

Please indicate 1st (1) and 2nd choice (2)

- Partnering in care
- Dementia and ethics
- Ministry in care homes
- Intergenerational Church
- Cognitive health in later life
- Intro to dementia



"I look forward to hosting this day where we can explore together what God is teaching us through dementia."

Bishop Robert Atwell

"This is an important issue facing our local communities and churches."

Revd Graham Thompson Chair of Plymouth and Exeter Methodist District

An ecumenical gathering organised by the following denominations but welcoming everyone:

Diocese of Plymouth

South West Baptist Association

South West Learning Network of the Methodist Church

United Reformed Church
South Western Synod

Diocese of Bath and Wells

Diocese of Exeter

Diocese of Truro

Local contact and enquiries:

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Exploring God in Dementia Theology, spirituality and personhood



An ecumenical South West Regional Study Day for Ministers, Local Preachers, Readers and church leaders

10-4 Thursday 11 May 2017

Riverside Conference Centre, Exeter EX4 1DU

£15 including lunch



What does it mean to minister to those who are living with dementia? How do we honour their contributions and memories? What might this teach us about identity, personhood, and the love of God?

Keynote speakers

Dr Peter Kevern is Associate Professor in Values in Care, Staffordshire University. His main area of research is on spiritual issues raised by dementia, but he also writes on issues to do with the role of religious communities in relation to health care, disability and ageing.

Dr Pia Matthews is lecturer in theology, philosophy, bioethics, medical law and healthcare chaplaincy at St Mary's University, Twickenham, specialises in issues to do with profound disability, dementia, mental health, suicide, elderly and end of life care and spirituality.

Ian Sherriff is Academic Partnership Lead for Dementia at Plymouth University, a board member of the Alzheimer's Society nationally. Research includes the benefits of early diagnosis of dementia and the challenges of dementia in a rural setting.

Workshops will include

Revd Dr Margaret Goodall was until recently Chaplaincy Development Manager for Methodist Homes (MHA). Areas of interest and research include spirituality and dementia and the role of music in accessing spirituality. She has contributed to and written books on ageing and dementia.

Revd Canon Dr Joanna Collicutt is Psychology and Spirituality Lecturer at Ripon College, a clinical psychologist and specialist neuropsychologist. As Oxford Diocesan Advisor for Spiritual Care with older people, she's developing a criteria for dementia-friendly church and a focus on Intergenerational Church.

Dr Julia Teale and Dr Ruth Lamont are researchers at the University of Exeter's Centre for Research in Ageing and Cognitive Health (REACH). They will discuss the maintenance of cognitive health, living well with dementia and cognitive rehabilitation.

There will also be an Introduction to Dementia for those who wish to refresh their understanding of the basics.

This is a conference primarily for ministers and priests, church leaders, Local Preachers, Readers and church leaders of all denominations.

You may wish to update your understanding before you come:

- Dementia is not a natural part of ageing.
- Dementia is not a disease in itself. Dementia is a word used to describe a group of symptoms that occur when brain cells stop working properly.
- Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia, but there are many other types of dementia too.
- At present there is no cure and research continues into the many different causes of dementia.
- However there are several drugs that may help depending on the type of dementia. Cognitive therapy has also been shown to be of benefit. Other therapies such as reminiscence work may improve the quality of life for people living with dementia.

Useful links

www.dementiafriends.org.uk

www.alzheimersresearchuk.org

