

# **BUILDING FAMILIES, BUILDING FAITH – 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2014**

Thank you for booking for our conference! We are very excited about how the day is shaping up and looking forward to having you with us. Please note that the conference is now takes place only at one venue - The Trinity VA School in Quakers Road, Devizes SN10 2FH.

Below please find all the information we think you'll need for the day!

## **Timetable**

9.30am – The Trinity VA School – registration opens

10am – Opening worship, coffee break, family workshop – Listening to God

12.15pm – lunch break (bring your own lunch) – outside space and play area available

1.15pm – creche registration opens

1.30 – 2.20pm – session one; supervised games session for children, messy room and prayer shack open

2.35 – 3.20pm – session two; messy room and prayer shack open

3.20pm – creche, prayer shack and messy room close; tea break and 'Grill a Parent'!

3.50-4.30pm – closing worship

## **Speakers**

**Rachel Turner** has been a full-time children's worker in churches around the UK and the National Children's Work Coordinator at New Wine. She continues to consult, speak at conferences and run training days for parents, children and youth workers around the UK and Europe. Her work has brought her into contact with thousands of children and families through mainstream New Wine summer events, parish weekends, schools, and daily encounters in her own church. She is currently the Children's and Youth Pastor at Harrogate New Life Church. Rachel's first book Parenting Children for a Life of Faith was released in 2010 and her second, Parenting Children for a Life of Purpose, has just been published.

**Colin Bennett** is the Vice-Principal of Moorlands College and the Director of Training for Community and Family Studies at the college. Colin became a Christian whilst training as a Youth and Community Worker at Westhill College in Birmingham. Following his training, he worked in Birmingham and Sheffield on a variety of high-profile inner city youth and community work projects. He is a regular writer and speaks on family, youth and community issues. When he is not busy with College life, he enjoys various sports and, along with his whole family, is a keen football supporter.

**Sheila Mitchell** has been a member of St James' Church since 1988 and is married to a non-believer who has coped with her working for Christian organisations over the past twenty years, firstly as Children's Advisor in Salisbury Diocese and then as a national youth and children's officer.

**Richard Rugg** says "I am currently the curate at St Peter and St Paul in Buckingham and I'm married to Ada, with two children Anouk (6) and Illinca (3). Before being a minister in the CoE, Ada and I worked as youth and children ministers for over 7 years. We are passionate about reaching whole families with the message of gospel. I particularly want encourage men to play a big part in helping the faith of the families to grow, as often they have more influence than they realise. "

**Becky Sedgwick** has been a single mum to Hannah for more years than she cares to mention, and for the past six years has been the Children and Families Worker at St James' Devizes. Before that she worked in a very strange variety of jobs, including in the parking industry, at the Bank of England and as a PA to a New York millionaire! When she's not working there's nothing she likes more than a good game of netball.

## **Seminar and workshop choices**

To help with planning it would be great if you could indicate which seminars you will be attending (but you are free to change these on the day!) In each session, there is a workshop that has been particularly designed for whole families to attend, although children and young people are welcome in all seminars.

### Seminar and workshop choices for session 1:

**'Families, Faith and Deuteronomy 6'** - Colin Bennett - Deuteronomy 6 gives us God's blueprint for how to do faith in families and this seminar will help you build life-changing faith into the rhythms and patterns of the everyday life of your family.

**'When hearts are shared'** - Sheila Mitchell - when your partner doesn't share your faith, it can be hard to know how to balance sharing your faith with your children without undermining your partner's beliefs. In this seminar we will be exploring how to live in that tension while remaining true to both our partner and to God.

**Families of faith reaching out to other families'** – Richard Rugg- What does it look like – and how powerful can it be – when a family of faith influences the families around them? In this workshop we will look at how each family, no matter how large or small, can be Jesus to those around them.

### Seminar and workshop choices for session 2:

**'Faith and Families when it all goes wrong'** - Rachel Turner – in this workshop we will be looking at how faith works when life doesn't – when the hamster dies, grandma is ill, someone is made redundant or a teen turns their back on church, what does faith together look like?

**'Dads and faith'**- What does it mean to be a dad of faith? -Colin Bennett- In this seminar Colin will be exploring men's role as dads in a family of faith.

**'I'm a Single Parent – what's your superpower?'** – Becky Sedgwick - being a single parent is hard work and sometimes it feels like all we can do is cling onto our faith in the face of all the pressures we face. In this seminar we will be looking at what the Bible can teach us about how to survive and thrive as single parent families of faith.

### Parking

There will be parking for up to 40 cars at The Trinity School – once on site, please follow the directions of our parking team. For delegates with blue badges, there will be priority parking at the school. Please let us know if you require blue badge parking on the slip below.

### Children

The conference is designed for the whole family, and so there is no separate children's or young people's stream. The morning worship and teaching is for everyone; during the afternoon there are activities which you may like your children to attend – a games session during one of the seminar slots, a prayer shack and a messy art room. There will be adults supervising each of these venues, but please note that, with the exception of children booked into the creche, children remain the responsibility of their parents at all times. Children will be welcome in all seminars and workshops so please feel free to let them stay with you.

When you arrive and register, there will be wristbands for all children – please write your name and mobile number on the wristband so we can contact you if necessary.

Children under the age of 5 can be booked into our creche for the afternoon sessions only (during the morning there will be reserved area for parents and babies, where you can still access the worship and teaching). Creche places are limited and to book a place please complete the slip below and return with your payment to the church office.

### Prayer ministry

During the day there will be prayer ministry available at designated sites in each venue. In the afternoon there will also be our young person led prayer shack, where you can come and receive prayer or just enjoy hanging out with God.

### Refreshments

Hot and cold drinks and biscuits will be provided at registration and mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Delegates will need to provide their own packed lunch.

### Payment

The cost is £5 per head (under 5s go free), or a family ticket is available for £15.

Please enclose payment with the slip below.

# BUILDING FAMILIES, BUILDING FAITH CONFERENCE, 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2014

Please complete and return this slip with your payment to: Judith Bishop, Conference Administrator, St James' Church Office, Church Walk, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 3AA. It would help us enormously if you could let us know your seminar choices by 14<sup>th</sup> February!

Names of delegates :

Creche required (please give name and age of child/ren)

Special needs:

If you have a blue badge and require priority parking, please tick here.

We will reserve parking for you The Trinity School.

Please also let us know of any other way we can help you; for example wheelchair access.

Seminar choices:

Session one

*Workshop – Families of faith reaching other families (Richard Rugg)*

*Seminar – When hearts are shared (Sheila Mitchell)*

*Seminar – Families, faith and Deuteronomy 6 (Colin Bennett)*

Session two

*Seminar – I'm a Single Parent – what's your superpower? (Becky Sedgwick)*

*Seminar – Dads and faith – exploring the role of dads (Colin Bennett)*

*Workshop – Families and faith when it all goes wrong (Rachel Turner)*

Payment:

£5 per delegate or £15 for a family ticket (under 5s go free). Please enclose payment with this form. Cheques should be made payable to 'St James Southbroom PCC'.