

Festival Churches



The Venerable Andrew Beane
Archdeacon of Exeter

01392 425577

archdeacon.of.exeter@exeter.anglican.org



5 Reasons Why

- **Sabbath**
 - Resting, Waiting, Wondering
- **Milestone**
 - Stopping off point along a journey
- **Re-Wilding**
 - Just letting go and giving to God
- **Jubilee**
 - Re-setting and giving back to God
- **Celebrating**
 - Festivals personal and liturgical



Festival Churches a Model

- 22 Churches in the Team
- 3 Full-time Clergy (plus curate and SSM)
- 1 Large Market Town Church
- 2 Smaller Village Churches
- 1 Fresh Expression Church
- 6 Festival Churches
 - Escape Room
 - Wedding Venue
 - Champing
 - Festivals
 - Heritage Churches



5 Opportunities

- **Changing World**
 - Post-Pandemic, Demographics,
- **Changing Church**
 - Clergy, Ministry, Finance, All God's People
- **Changing Community**
 - Church not Club, Re-engagement
- **Changing Environment**
 - Re-Wilding, Net-Zero, Biodiversity
- **Changing Opportunities**
 - Insurance, Governance, Networking, GtRC, Commercial links, Funding



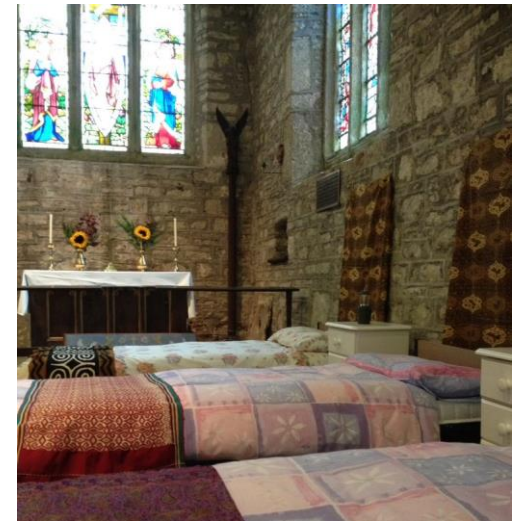
5 Key Principles

- **Open for all**
 - Open everyday, warm welcome, good information
- **Unique 'selling' point**
 - History, Environment, Wedding, Location
- **Engaging widely**
 - Community, Friends, Diocese
- **Planned Co-operatively**
 - Governance, MCAP, Seeking Support
- **Worship Continues**
 - 6 Services a Year, Special Events, Space to Pray



5 Festival Church Uses

- **Festivals**
 - Christmas, Easter, Harvest / Baptism, Weddings, Funerals
- **Quiet Spaces**
 - Prayer, Pilgrimage, Exploration, Trails
- **Schools**
 - Space, Assemblies, Learning, Environment
- **Community**
 - Foodbanks, Shops, Library, Hall, Heritage
- **Commercial**
 - Glamping, Office Space, Escape Rooms, Weddings, Comms



5 Helpful Websites

Growing the Rural Church

<https://www.growingtheruralchurch.org/>

The Association of Festival Churches

<https://afchurches.org/>

Inspired Classrooms

<https://www.inspiredclassrooms.org/>

CCT – Champing Project

<https://champing.co.uk/>

Explore Churches

<https://www.explorechurches.org/>



Welcome to Inspired Classrooms – exploring churches as places of creative learning across the curriculum.

This Toolkit gives you the ideas, lessons and resources to help build a full cross-curricular day of learning within your local parish church. It will empower and enable both schools and churches to fully realise the learning opportunities that exist within these 'Inspired Classrooms'.

The lesson and activity suggestions here will challenge, engage and inspire pupils and in the process enable them to develop a range of essential key skills. We hope that they, and you, enjoy visiting Inspired Classrooms!

