



THE
**CONTEXTUAL
THEOLOGY**
CENTRE

2014 SPRING PROGRAMME

All events are free,

but (unless otherwise stated) require registration.

To register, please email events@theology-centre.org

You can sign up for our **regular monthly email** of news,
events and publications on our website at

www.theology-centre.org

SPRING DATES

January

21th

Theology for the Local Church
Preparing For Lent

February

3rd

Community Bible Study
Hackney

24th

Citizens UK Christian
Leaders' Caucus

March

11th

Theology for the Local Church
**Church For The Poor
- Or Of The Poor?**

April

7th

Community Bible Study
Bethnal Green

June

17th

"What Kind of Growth?"

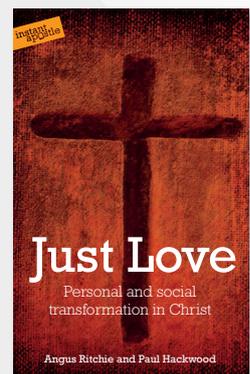
OUR LENT PROGRAMME: JUST LOVE

CTC and the Church Urban Fund are publishing an exciting, accessible book for groups and individuals to use during Lent.

Just Love: Personal and social transformation in Christ explores what the Gospel readings set for Lent teach us about the nature of God's love. It stresses the ways in which that love challenges and transforms our individual lives and the social and economic order, and roots Christian social action firmly in our life of prayer.

Just Love is written in accessible language, with testimony from lay and ordained Christians already involved in social action. It includes specific, realistic suggestions for prayer, reflection and action - and can be used by individuals and study groups.

Written by CTC Director Angus Ritchie and Church Urban Fund Executive Chair Paul Hackwood, *Just Love* will be available shortly in paperback and Kindle versions - see our website for details.



CITIZENS UK CHRISTIAN LEADERS' CAUCUS

Feb
24th

The Centre holds a termly event for Christian leaders (lay and ordained) in Citizens UK. Our spring Caucus is on **Teenagers, Organising and the Local Church** – with contributions from **Fr Sean Connolly** (Assistant Director of CTC and Priest of the Catholic Parish of Manor Park) and **Caitlin Burbridge** (CTC's Church-based Community Organiser at St Peter's Bethnal Green). It will be held at the **Hurtado Jesuit Centre, 2 Chandler Street, Wapping E1W 2QT** on Monday 24 February at 10.30 for 11am, and will end with lunch at 1pm.

THEOLOGY FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH SEMINAR PROGRAMME

This **programme of seminars** brings together the latest thinking and research to help church leaders reflect together on both the **theology and practice** around key issues facing local churches. They are practical opportunities to share thinking and identify new practices.

The seminars are **free** and will be held every other month at the Royal Foundation of St Katharine in Limehouse. They are aimed at both lay and clergy church leaders. Seminars will be **10.30am – 1.30pm** and lunch will be provided.

Jan
21st

Tue 21 January
PREPARING FOR LENT

CTC and the Church Urban Fund (CUF) are publishing a book for groups and individuals to use in Lent – and its authors **Angus Ritchie** (CTC Director) and **Paul Hackwood** (CUF Chairman) will be speaking at this event. *Just Love: Personal and Social Transformation in Christ* will use the Gospel readings for each Sunday in Lent to explore the nature and implications of Jesus' love – both for our individual lives and for our social and economic order.

Mar
11th

Tue March 11
**CHURCH FOR THE POOR
– OR OF THE POOR?**

How can churches ensure homeless people are treated as more than clients needing help – but are valued as full members of the Christian community? This seminar will include speakers with extensive experience of work with and for homeless people, among them **John Deacon** (Day Centre Manager at West London Mission and a Trustee of the Contextual Theology Centre). It will explore how churches move from being “for the poor” to being genuinely “of the poor”.

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

Feb
3rd

Hackney

Apr
7th

Bethnal Green

On the first Monday of **February** and **April**, join us as we go out into cafes, museums and pubs in eastern London, to do Community Bible Study together! A growing range of people – clergy and laity, Christians and non-Christians, are gathering to listen to the voice of Scripture, and relate it to their daily lives. We meet from noon to 1pm, and all venues serve lunch if you are able to stay!

ADVANCE NOTICE: “WHAT KIND OF GROWTH?”

Jun
17th

6.30 for 7pm
Venue to be confirmed

An evening exploring the Christian understanding of ‘growth’ - and what it means in diverse and deprived contexts. The event will include testimonies, discussions, and an address by the Bishop of Chelmsford, the **Rt Revd Stephen Cottrell**.

Open to all, the evening is organised by the Presence & Engagement Network - a project of CTC for the Church of England Dioceses which cover Greater London. More details will be posted online in due course.