



ST AGNES  
LONGSIGHT

# MISSION & ACTION GROUP

Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2006

Present: Denzil, Doreen, Leah, Jean, Stephen.

## Apologies:

### 1. Amnesty

Denzil to find out about this year's Greeting Card Campaign. We will create a display as last year and encourage more people to take part.

### 2. Gold Mining: Unearth Justice Campaign

The following outline of this project was decided:

- A. Advent Sunday: give out the petition post cards during the service for people to sign and then leave at the back. The cost of the postage (47p to America) to be paid for by donations (a member of the group offered) so that it is easier for Stephen to buy 40, 50 or whatever stamps and post rather than ask people to do this individually.
- B. Advent Candle: during Advent the candles will be lit (by children as in previous years) but to include a meditation/prayer about linking the gold/advent/Christmas themes.
- C. Epiphany: the service at Epiphany will involve those present signing and linking the chains to be sent to CAFOD immediately after the service as part of the national petition.

### 3. Share the Light

This project/idea to be handed over to the Pastoral Care & Nurture group who have already suggested similar initiatives.

### 4. Inclusive Church

It was decided to obtain a new leaflet and first circulate it among SAMAG members and then the PCC membership. The comment was made that it was important that inclusivity should also mean that individual groups are not singled-out (for example, deaf, blind, gay, women etc). A service should not be aimed at a particular group but should be accessible/appropriate for anybody/all people. It was suggested that Rev Ros Hunt could be asked to speak to the church on these issues given that she has experience as a chaplain among the deaf.

### 5. Suicide Seeds

The material available for this campaign - including the petition/action resources - is all web-based and not easily accessible by the majority of our congregation. It was decided to email the ETC (the campaign organisation) and ask if they can suggest or supply appropriate written alternatives to their e-campaign. Denzil agreed to look into this.

### 6. New ideas

Doreen introduced a UNICEF booklet containing a story of a boy in Africa orphaned through AIDS and a campaign linked to this. She suggested the story should be read by members and Denzil took it away. Also the story of a Zimbabwean woman, Thabitha Khulmalo, had been broadcast on the news. Thabitha had been raped and abused in her own country. Amongst other issues she has highlighted that in Zimbabwe women's sanitary products, even if donated freely, were being sold by the authorities at an outrageous price making it impossible for most women to buy them with an effect on both health and dignity. It was agreed to find out more about this.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 11.30am

**AGENDA:** To take stock of this years achievements, plan for next year and make suggestions for the PCC annual mission giving.