

PURSUE PEACE WITH EVERYONE, AND THE HOLINESS WITHOUT WHICH NO ONE WILL SEE THE LORD. HEBREWS 12:14

CONFLICTS IN THE CHURCH CAN SEEM SUCH A DISTRACTION FROM GETTING ON WITH THE REAL WORK; BUT THIS IS THE REAL WORK. CANON ROBERT WARREN

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

Conflict exists in every walk of life, including the church. However, escalated and badly-handled conflict can cause long-lasting damage to the relationships and ministry of your church; and can negatively affect the church's reputation, and individuals' faith.

All church traditions face conflict, with tensions and power-struggles in local churches, and with challenges at national level, for example with intense differences over issues on human sexuality. Often church leaders feel ill-equipped to deal with these tensions.

The aim of the Faith in Conflict conference is to enable you to find better ways to engage with conflict in church life, connecting you with others wanting to work creatively at this; and to offer you the opportunity to learn from Christian professionals who have worked on handling and transforming conflict for many years.

By joining us in this conference you will have an opportunity to:

Understand our challenges which arise from the culture of how conflict is handled in churches

Gain a renewed vision of how the churches might view conflict differently

Grow our capacity to respond to conflict in its many forms

Develop supportive networks linking organisations, people, and training resources

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The conference is designed for those in senior and middle level leadership roles in churches and Christians who are practitioners in peacemaking and peacebuilding.



“Christian communities of people inevitably face conflict. While conflict presents challenges for the Church, it can also become an opportunity for growth and positive change. Such transformation matters and can have lasting benefits to the Church and wider community. I therefore welcome the way that the *Faith in Conflict* conference will help church leaders to reflect on this.”
REVD DR MARK WAKELIN, PRESIDENT OF THE METHODIST CONFERENCE



“When people find reconciliation with God it overflows to those around. My dream for this conference is for us to have the imagination to see reconciliation flow through us to the church and the world around. Our churches are in desperate need of finding ways of modelling love in diversity and diversity without enmity. I do hope you will join us.”
JUSTIN WELBY, BISHOP OF DURHAM



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Tuesday 26 February

Registration opens at 12 noon with lunch at 1pm. The first plenary session begins at 2pm followed by workshops. The day ends at 9pm

Wednesday 27 February

8.30am–9pm, a mix of stimulating workshops and plenary sessions with breaks for refreshments, lunch and dinner

Thursday 28 February

The day will begin with a Conference Act of Worship at 8.30am and finish with lunch at 1pm after a shared Eucharist

WORKSHOPS

The conference has been designed so that we all make a journey of discovery together. The majority of workshops will be in medium-sized groups. The leaders of these groups are drawn from different denominations and have extensive experience of dealing with conflict in the context of faith-based communities. For further details and individual biographical details see

www.faithinconflict.com

CONFERENCE OUTCOMES

Through taking part in the conference we expect that you will have:

- Shared stories and experiences of conflict in your respective Christian communities – the good, the bad and the ugly
- Identified the different shapes and sizes that conflict comes in
- Understood how conflict has different effects on people and that they handle it in different ways, some more effective than others
- Reflected on experiences of handling diversity and managing conflict found in the Bible
- Heard and been inspired by practitioners and theologians who are working at the forefront of tackling different approaches to conflict in the church
- Considered the ways conflict might be a sign of opportunities for change within the church and how we might see God at work there
- Discovered different options for intervention and their relative strengths and weaknesses
- Been open to the Spirit through time set aside for topics and issues that arise during the conference
- Identified ways in which the church can harness the creative power of conflict
- Shared a commitment to advancing conflict transformation and know where to find the support on that journey



“The human wreckage around us shows us how hard it is to ‘live with difference’ and flourish as communities. Sadly this includes our Christian churches. Leadership in peacemaking is essential. This conference aims to equip leaders at a deeper level to allow the insights of the Gospel to shape our thinking and to signpost our resources. I warmly commend this significant event.”

REVD ERNIE WHALLEY, PRESIDENT ELECT OF
THE BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN



“The Church is not called to avoid conflict but to face it faithfully and to turn it towards God’s purposes of healing and hope. I’m delighted that *Faith in Conflict* is taking place in Coventry, a city inspired by the Christian vision of resolution of conflict through reconciliation and the refusal to allow its destructive forces to have the last word.”

CHRISTOPHER COCKSWORTH,
BISHOP OF COVENTRY

SPEAKERS



REVD DR JO BAILEY WELLS, a priest in the London diocese, was until recently the Director of the Anglican Episcopal House of Studies at Duke Divinity School. During her seven years there, the House developed a unique reputation for working across the fractured ecclesial divides in the wake of the consecration of Bishop Gene Robinson. Jo is also theological consultant to the Archbishop of Sudan, supporting the work of over a dozen theological colleges and bible schools in South Sudan and Sudan, and teaching there regularly herself.

Jo's academic interests focus on the Old Testament, seeking to enable its literature and theology to be enjoyed more fully within the church. Handling diversity and managing conflict turn out to be hot issues in ancient as well as modern times – and Jo looks forward to exploring such connections, challenges and opportunities at this conference. Jo has taught and spoken widely on four continents, and published two books (*God's Holy People*, and a commentary on Isaiah) as well as various articles. Previous appointments include Dean of Clare College, Cambridge as well as lecturer in Old Testament at Ridley Hall, Cambridge.

REVD DR SAM WELLS is Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields and Visiting Professor of Christian Ethics at King's College, London. St Martin's is a unique parish called to a three-dimensional congregational, commercial, and charitable vocation in the heart of London.

Sam was for seven years Dean of the Chapel at Duke University, North Carolina. During this time he was closely involved in the Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham, which seeks reconciliation between victims, perpetrators and wider society, particularly in relation to violent crimes. The book *Living Without Enemies: Being Present in the Midst of Violence* (IVP, 2011), which Sam wrote with Marcia A. Owen, arose out of this ministry.



His work often focuses on bringing people of different social locations into deeply enriching face-to-face relationships in the context of fear and faith. He is currently writing a book on good and less good ways of engaging with poverty.

For further details of the speakers and workshop leaders visit www.faithinconflict.com or call 024 7652 1261

PLANNING GROUP

Since 2006, a group has met under the auspices of Coventry Cathedral, exploring how the church should respond to the challenge of conflict. Many of the group's members have extensive experience in conflict transformation, both inside and outside the church.

You are invited to join with them for the *Faith in Conflict* conference to begin a journey of finding better ways to handle conflict in the church.

Andrew Acland, Mediator, facilitator and trainer

William Fittall, Secretary General of the General Synod and Archbishops' Council

Anthony Hannay, CEDR Accredited Mediator and retired Solicitor

Bill Marsh, Mediator and Director of Conflict Management International

Alastair McKay, Executive director of Bridge Builders

David Porter, Canon Director for Reconciliation Ministry, Coventry Cathedral

Ruth Scott, Priest, writer, broadcaster and mediator

Chris Seaton, Director of Peaceworks

David Richbell, Mediator and trainer of mediators

Stephen Ruttle, QC, mediator, director of a community mediation charity

Justin Welby, Bishop of Durham

David Williams, Co-ordinator for *Faith in Conflict*

Jo Williams, Baptist minister with a conflict transformation portfolio

VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

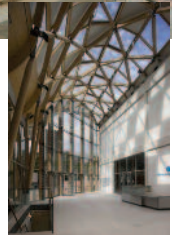
Coventry Cathedral is recognised worldwide as an iconic religious-based centre for reconciliation. Following the destruction of the Cathedral in 1940, Provost Howard made a commitment not to revenge, but to forgiveness and reconciliation with those responsible.

Building on this experience we are committed to develop our ministry as a centre for excellence to resource the church in the practical outworking of reconciliation as an integral part of Christian worship, witness and discipleship.

Participants' accommodation will be in the Britannia Hotel, next to Coventry Cathedral.

Workshops will be held in three landmark venues across the Cathedral Quarter including the Old Blue Coat School and the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum.

BUT THE WISDOM FROM ABOVE IS FIRST PURE, THEN PEACEABLE, GENTLE, WILLING TO YIELD, FULL OF MERCY AND GOOD FRUITS, WITHOUT A TRACE OF PARTIALITY OR HYPOCRISY. JAMES 3:17



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FAITH IN CONFLICT

FINDING BETTER WAYS TO HANDLE CONFLICT IN THE CHURCH
COVENTRY CATHEDRAL, 26-28 FEBRUARY 2013

Places are for the whole conference and include all meals, refreshments and sessions and will be booked on a first-come, first-served basis. Pricing is per person. Spaces are limited, and early booking is recommended. "Conference only" rates include access to the conference but do not include accommodation or breakfast.

The special Early Bird discount rates are available if booked on or before 23 November 2012.

You can book on-line to secure your place immediately or complete the form below and return it to David Williams, Conference Administrator, Coventry Cathedral, 1 Hill Top, Coventry CV1 5AB.

Note that this conference may qualify for funding from training grants in your church.

CONFERENCE RATES

	STANDARD	EARLY BIRD (UNTIL 23 NOV)
SINGLE ROOM	£360	£325
TWIN (SHARE)	£330	£297
CONFERENCE ONLY	£275	£250

Booking and Cancellation Policy: A non-refundable deposit of £100 is required to secure your place. Full payment will be required by 4 January 2013 at the latest. Any bookings made after that date must be paid in full at the time of booking. If you cancel before 4 January we will retain the deposit. If you cancel after this date the full amount will be chargeable and will be retained in order to meet our costs for commitments made. Terms and conditions are on the web site.

BOOKING FORM

Please photocopy form for more than one booking or, if you prefer, book online at www.faithinconflict.com

TITLE	<input type="text"/>		
FIRST NAME	<input type="text"/>	SURNAME	<input type="text"/>
JOB TITLE	<input type="text"/>	CHURCH/ ORGANISATION	<input type="text"/>
DENOMINATION	<input type="text"/>	EMAIL	<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>		
<input type="text"/>			
POSTCODE	<input type="text"/>	HOME PHONE	<input type="text"/>
WORK PHONE	<input type="text"/>	MOBILE	<input type="text"/>
SINGLE ROOM <input type="checkbox"/>	TWIN ROOM <input type="checkbox"/>	CONFERENCE ONLY <input type="checkbox"/>	TICK HERE FOR EARLY BIRD <input type="checkbox"/>
PLEASE INVOICE MY ORGANISATION <input type="checkbox"/>		I ENCLOSE A CHEQUE* <input type="checkbox"/>	
DIETARY/SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS	<input type="text"/>		
INVOICE ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT AND PURCHASE ORDER NO.	<input type="text"/>		
HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CONFERENCE?	<input type="text"/>		
I HAVE READ AND AGREE WITH THE BOOKING AND CANCELLATION POLICY <input type="checkbox"/>			