

## Endorsement of Hope 2008 by Devon Church Leaders

'Following the effective Just 10 Devon outreach in 2006 and prior to our celebrations to mark the 1100th anniversary of the Diocese in 2009, Hope 2008 comes at just the right time. Here is a national call to focus on God's core activity - transforming lives and communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Hope 2008 is a wonderful opportunity for Churches Together in Devon to act as one body and speak with one voice in witness of our one Lord. I strongly commend all local churches to join together in this venture. '

From Bishop Michael

*'If Hope '08 manages to stimulate a year of prayer and missionary activity it will enable the Devon Christian Communities to become clear unambiguous signs of our hope in Christ for the whole county. We must support it in prayer and deed'.*

+ *Christopher* Christopher Budd, Roman Catholic Bishop of Plymouth

I commend Hope 2008 as a useful tool to help congregations in their task of discerning what God is asking of them in this time of transition.

David Grosch-Miller, Moderator, United Reformed Church South Western Synod

'Hope 08 offers churches everywhere a fresh opportunity to engage with their local community in mission – a project which will enable the delivery of both evangelism and social action in making Jesus known. I wholeheartedly commend it.'

Jez Brown, South West Baptist Association

Hope 2008 is a serious attempt to enable all of us to be 24/7 Christians and express the gospel in prayer, worship and action in our communities. I am encouraging the Methodist Church to join with their communities across Devon to take and use this initiative. It is about looking, listening and praying for our communities to discover ways which we can engage with need and punctuate the year with activities which engage where people are to show that our faith is a 24/7 reality.

John Carne Methodist District Chairman.

"Hope 2008 will present the Church with a tremendous opportunity to respond to the calling of Christ to be relevant to the needs of today's society . It will encourage churches in Devon to once again work together in the service of the Gospel both in mission and social action. I am happy to give it my wholehearted support."

Major Cliff Bradbury South Western Division of the Salvation Army

"I am glad to commend Hope 2008 which is a special gift to the churches and communities of Devon, and it will enable us to express something of Christ's transforming love to those amongst whom we live and work".

+Bob Evens Bishop of Crediton