



October 2013

### Our website

We are delighted to bring you news that our new website [www.livingspirit.org.uk](http://www.livingspirit.org.uk) is now live. Further content will be added on an ongoing basis. We want to thank Steering Group member Linda Pearson for all her input and for the connections she has made with artists and poets, enabling our site to embody the LS vision. Thank you also to our website developer Francis Miller for giving shape to our ideas in such a clear way.

### Themes of this newsletter

#### Our planetary identity

New topics with this edition include the contribution to our sense of who we are arising from scientific understandings of our make-up as human beings and of our cosmic origins; and the way these have historically been reflected in some strands of Christianity. The Harvest sermon we have linked to here was given by Deborah Colvin, a deputy head in London, who won the Rolls Royce Science Prize in 2011, and is a member of *LivingSpirituality*. Go to: <http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/articles/>

#### Art and Spirituality

We also have a new article by Linda Pearson on the relationship between art and spirituality. This forms an introduction to the LS special interest group on this theme. Go to <http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/special-interest-groups/art-sig>

#### Inclusive politics

A film that may be of interest is The Stuart Hall Project (see <http://www.bfi.org.uk/news-opinion/bfi-film-releases/stuart-hall-project>) directed by John Akomfrah. This is a very whole production which covers the background and experiences of racism that have arisen in the life of cultural theoretician Professor Stuart Hall. It shows a lifetime of positive campaigning on behalf of groups suffering from racism and other similar forms of marginalisation. Stuart Hall's love of jazz inspires the music, and the scenes of the Caribbean and of the UK are shot with remarkable beauty. Stuart Hall has no spiritual context for his life and prophetic mission, and yet exhibits the sustained commitment, and non-aggressive approach to justice-making that we

associate with peace-and justice–makers inspired by religious belief. For completeness I should also mention that my companion found the episodic storytelling, often dependent on t.v. film records, a bit frustrating. This documentary film won high praise at the Sundance Documentary Festival.

**Our quarterly events listings for November 2013-February 2014** can be found at [http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/events\\_nov13-jan14.pdf](http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/events_nov13-jan14.pdf)

### **New special interest group?**

We have included in the South East section of the events listing and under Special Interest Groups on our website a proposal from London LS member David Carter to be in touch with others with similar interests in the area of prayer and meditation.

### **Supporting *Living Spirituality***

Please consider whether you could make a donation to help towards the costs of Living Spirituality. Since all work apart from website development and maintenance is voluntary, our costs aren't expected to exceed £1000 a year. A donation of between £15 and £25 per year would be fantastic – or whatever you can afford. Here is a link to our website section enabling you to request the appropriate donation and Gift Aid forms: <http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/support-us/>

### **What we will be offering**

We are committing to producing quarterly e-newsletters and events digests covering the UK and Ireland. We will be regularly adding content and links to our website. Regional activity and the development of special interest groups will depend on the wishes of our subscribers. We will send LS leaflets and posters to any venues where they would be seen by those potentially interested. There will be occasional LS events, usually in partnership with companion organisations.

I had hoped to send this newsletter direct from our website, but we need more time to ensure that all the email addresses are transferred correctly, so this is coming as a PDF with links to items that are on our website.

Petra Griffiths  
LS Coordinator

### ***Living Spirituality Steering Group:***

Revd Elizabeth Baxter, Petra Griffiths, Heather-Jane Ozanne, Linda Pearson, Jenny Sandler. For members' details go to <http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/who-we-are/steering-group/>