



Welcome to the September 2020 newsletter from Inclusive Church!

September 2020

The Inclusive Church Newsletter is a digital publication produced every month. It aims to provide supporters and members with the latest news and information from around the life of Inclusive Church and our partner organisations.

From the National Coordinator

Hello everyone, and welcome to your monthly newsletter.

The Annual Lecture by June Boyce-Tillman was a great success, and we had plenty of wonderful feedback about it. Some people wanted her to answer questions she didn't have time for on the night, so she has very kindly answered more questions from supporters since - read below for a link to these.

We're gearing up for the annual Conference on Disability and Church in October, taking place online this year. Although registration hasn't quite opened yet, you can be the first to hear about it when it does by signing up to this (very occasional) Disability Conference e-news list. Read more below.

Finally, in the news section, you will find a message about becoming an IC trustee. We have had several trustees leave in the last few years, and now is the time to replace them. It is also an opportunity to diversify our board, so it reflects the full spectrum of work on inclusion which we are engaged in!

Finally, on a personal note, my family is finally moving into our new house on Saturday, after a long Covid and fixed rental agreement - related wait, so that's very exciting!

Thank you for your continued support. Enjoy the newsletter!

Ruth Wilde. National Coordinator

Telling Encounters: Stories of Disability, Faith, Church and God

Telling Encounters: Stories of Disability, Faith, Church & God

Sat 17th October 2020

Registration for the conference was due to open on the 21st September (as the picture above says), but is slightly delayed. To find out first when it does open, please check Twitter (@livingedgeconf) or sign up for updates on the Disability Conference [here](#).

The 9th annual Living Edge conference *for* rather than *about* disabled people, a partnership between St Martin in the Fields & Inclusive Church, will this year be entirely online, working with [HeartEdge](#).

We are very excited to be working with HeartEdge, who have amassed enormous experience of running events online in this coronavirus year, and will help us greatly in making this event as brilliant and as accessible as it can be.

IC Annual Lecture: extended Q&A with June Boyce-Tillman

We've had so much great feedback on this year's annual lecture, held online on the 27th August. Thank you for letting us know how much you loved June Boyce-Tillman's address. June didn't have time to answer all the questions she was asked that evening, but she has kindly sent us answers to all of them on email. These are published on the IC website [here](#).

If you missed the lecture, watch it again on our YouTube channel [here](#).

Blogs and News

IC news

Below is a message from the IC trustees:

'Could you serve the Inclusive Church Network as a trustee of the national charity? The Board invites applications/nominations of enthusiastic and dedicated supporters of inclusion of all kinds to join in governing our growing network. The Board would especially welcome applications from people with lived experience of exclusion — particularly Black and Asian people and people of other ethnic minorities, women and minority genders, and non-Anglicans. For more information, please Inclusive Church: office@inclusive-church.org'

A message about General Synod elections:

'The General Synod elections for 2020 have been deferred by 12 months, meaning voting will now be in September 2021. Inclusive Church is continuing to work with our partners to organise for these elections, with Nic Tall being our main contact.

Nic would like to remind everyone that Annual Parochial Church Meetings in the C of E were extended so they could take place up until 31st October. If your parish is yet to hold this meeting, this year you will be electing Deanery Synod members, and these members will be able to vote in September 2021. General Synod elections can be extremely close, so please ensure that you take up all of your allocated Deanery places, that your members understand their responsibility to vote and to support inclusive candidates. When voting opens in 2021 we will be circulating a list of candidates who have signed up to an inclusive statement to help inform voters.

If you would like to know more about the elections, or are interested in standing for General Synod next year, please get in touch with Nic (synod@inclusive-church.org).'

We have recorded a bonus chat with Rosemarie Mallet for our '**Black Theology Series**'. You can listen to it [here](#).

Other news

Shut In, Shut Out, Shut Up : this is a series on disability and church which is being organised by our

partner, HeartEdge. If you would like to watch the previous conversations, click [here](#). If you would like to register to watch the upcoming conversation on Friday 25th Sep, click [here](#).

Inclusive Church Ambassadors

We have a great network of ambassadors covering different parts of England and Wales. They are the representatives of Inclusive Church on the ground. You can find out who the ambassadors are - and where they are - by looking [here](#).

Details of the role description for ambassadors is available [here](#). If you want to be an ambassador for your area, get in touch with the [National Coordinator](#).

2020 Ambassador Training

Our regional ambassadors have been busy attending training in the art of Public Narrative - a technique developed by Marshall Ganz and used by community organisers around the world, as well as famously by Barack Obama in his speeches. Running the training are IC supporters and Public Narrative trainers, Nigel and Christopher Pietroni. Christopher teaches leadership at Birmingham Institute of Leadership and at Harvard with Marshall Ganz.

Events

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** All events listed here are online, unless stated otherwise.*

Shut In, Shut Out, Shut Up

This is a series on disability and church which is being organised by our partner, HeartEdge. The next conversation is on **Friday 25th September** and you can register [here](#).

Telling Encounters: Stories of Disability, Faith, Church and God

Our 9th annual conference for rather than about disabled people, in partnership with St Martin in the Fields will take place entirely online this year, working with [HeartEdge](#) to bring our usual mix of talks, panel, workshops & small groups. The conference will take place on **Saturday 17th October 2020** - save the date. To sign up for updates and to find out when registration opens, click [here](#), or follow the conference on Twitter: @livingedgeconf

Gathering Voices: Seeing More Queerly 2020

This conversation is being organised on Zoom by Gathering Voices and will take place on the **17th October**. It is about breaking false binaries in gender and sexuality. Joining the conversation will be: Lu Skerratt, Alex Clare-Young, Rachel Mann and Jide Macaulay. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

Holyrood House: 'The Inner World of Music', Music, Spirituality and Wellbeing led with Revd Prof

June Boyce-Tillman MBE

Holyrood House are hosting this event - in person, with Covid rules - on the **24th October** at St Oswald's Church, Sowerby, Thirsk. To find out more, download this [pdf leaflet](#) or have a look at the Holyrood house website [here](#).

Supporting the work of Inclusive Church

We are so grateful for all the wonderful, generous supporters out there keeping us going.
Hip hip, hooray!

If you value the work that IC does and are a member or supporter, maybe you would like to give to our work, either as a one-off donation or on a monthly basis. Why not take a collection in your church for IC?

Inclusive Church exists only because of the generous giving of our members, member churches and supporters. The more money that is given, the more capacity we have to do great things!

You can donate quickly and easily by following [this link](#). Or contact Ruth: office@inclusive-church.org

To ensure that you continue to receive this newsletter, please make sure you let us know if you change your email address.

The content of the newsletter is drawn from a number of sources including individuals and partner organisations. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect a 'formal viewpoint' of the Inclusive Church trustees, individual members of Inclusive Church or registered Inclusive Churches. Contact The National Coordinator at Inclusive Church by phone 07935 374877 or email: office@inclusive-church.org