**[TKC Creative Prayer Ecumenical Workshop](http://www.thykingdomcomeprayer.co.uk/latest-news/~PAGEID~D17F5573B2594A3A8B75)**

Wednesday 15th February 2017
at Winchester Cathedral’s Wessex Learning Centre

On February 15th, as part of the preparations for this year’s inspiring wave of prayer across the country and across the globe during the *Thy Kingdom Come* prayer novena between Ascension and Pentecost, the Wessex Learning Centre saw eighty people come together in prayer from across the diocese for the **Creative Prayer Ecumenical Workshop**.

The Creative Prayer Workshop offered a taste of the richness that beckons during our ecumenical and global prayer together in TKC Novena 2017.  ‘T*he richness of ideas was amazing’,* said an attendee as they left.

Speakers and attendees came from Anglican, Catholic, Methodist, independent Evangelical, and Community churches, sharing in a great richness of ideas and traditions for engaging in prayer. Also to simply pray together as the TKC novena encourages new opportunities to do.

'*It was great to hear from so many passionate prayer leaders from across the denominations, on such a wide range of approaches to prayer’,*said one attendee.

'*The whole day, every single workshop and presentation, were without exception excellent and very thought provoking.  Our church’s group felt truly inspired and will certainly be taking lots of these ideas on board. It was wonderful to have so many practical, hands on experiences.  It was also great to be an ecumenical group, a taste of what the Christian church should be about’,*commented another attendee.

It was thanks to our generous, expert, creative speakers that the day filled people with such a richness and diversity of ideas, encouragement and resources:

Christopher Simon-Evans guided us through traditional and contemporary novenas; Erica Roberts explored prayer in older life with insights into *drawing on deep wells of prophetic and pastoral prayer;*

*Gill Sakakini led a creative session Introducing activities that help engage all ages/abilities in prayer including a prayer wall and prayer breviaries to enter the rhythms of daily fixed-hour prayer;*

*Brian Wakelin suggested ways to creatively link in prayer across cultures and across global partnerships during the TKC novena particularly;*

Sarah Long, Andy Saunders & Sheila Hopkins provided a wealth of practical ideas for creatively engaging family, youth and schools in prayer. To end a full morning,

Brian Draper opened the space to breathe and pray in his session on how we connect with the space around us creatively, purposefully, simply and prayerfully.  In the afternoon the riches continued with:

Sally Dakin pointing to ideas to engage in prayer using all our senses; Jenny Ellis introduced and led a time of Centering Prayer;

Pete Hay & Andy Wright explored community prayer and 24/7 prayer; Sue Wallace offered a wealth of sample ideas for multi-sensory prayer; and

David Grant, Emma Miles, & Danny Stupple offered an overview of Who Cares and Hope Eastleigh’s mission action.

Special thanks to Jennifer Fradgley for taking care of arrangements for the day.

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