

Understanding Islam: the First Steps

Friday 2nd November

This is a day to help us begin to explore what Muslims believe, a journey into understanding Islam from its own perspective. We will cover the following areas:

- Islam before the time of Muhammad
 - Standing before God
 - Building a Just Society
- 'Open House' – when Chris will respond to your questions

**The Presbytery, St Patrick's Church,
Barnsley Road, Sheffield Lane Top, Sheffield S5 0QF**

10.00 am start – 3.30 pm (coffee and tea from 9.30 a. m.)

Pope Francis wrote in the Joy of the Gospels (250) *“Interreligious dialogue is a necessary condition for peace in the world, and so it is a duty for Christians as well as other religious communities.”*

There is no charge, but donations would be welcome on the day. Please bring your own packed lunch. **If you would like to come** please contact Rev Liz Wills **0114 2610732** or e-mail: johnandlizwills@gmail.com giving your name and contact details.

The day will be led by

Dr Chris Hewer

Chris Hewer is a Christian who comes from a background in Christian theology, education, Islamic studies and inter-faith studies and has worked in the field of Muslims in Britain and Christian-Muslim relations since 1986, including 6 years as Adviser on Inter-Faith Relations to the Bishop of Birmingham. His current work is to teach study days and residential courses, and to develop written and electronic resources. **See more about Chris on www.chrishewer.org** Everyone is welcome: you don't need to have any previous knowledge of Islam and there will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions during the day, as well as breaks for refreshments!

After Chris led one of these days at St Peter's, Ellesmere, some of the comments were:

"Best study day I have attended"

"I was challenged about my Christian faith"

"Chris Hewer's knowledge is encyclopaedic"

"Brilliant, challenging, inspiring"