

## Considering Celebration

The banner group has been meeting this year to consider designs and colouring for two banners to be made on the subject of celebration. We are a small group (newcomers always welcome) and have had several meetings since September, last making two paper banners for Advent.

We start the sessions with prayer and consideration of a bible passage, then talk through the subject to establish phrases as a basis for pictorial ideas. The celebration banners need to relate to the existing textile piece in the church and we noticed the suggestion of a chalice shape in the garments of the seven angels on the reredos. In the resource pictures brought in by members we found one showing landscape as a chalice shape with the "stem" of the chalice forming a road. Bobbie Bourne commented on the guidance of God as we walk the Christian way based on Christ the Saviour as the sure way, truth and life. Ideas began to flow as we considered the process of being found by Christ when we realise our deep need of him. Then as we come to him in repentance and giving up self, he steps into our lives and gives us the new start in his way. Images came together build up a framework to hold the ideas.

Then to consider the other banner – what other foundation do we have for Christians that is rock firm? We thought about creation with all its goodness as God made it and how the Holy Spirit broods over the world. This world, after the 'fall' still shows Gods glory and sustaining power. The image of radiation light with a large Holy Spirit bird symbol over an expression of landscape began to emerge.

Alison Hodson is doing some further drawing with a cascade of animal and plant patterns across the banner under the representation of God and spirit. In 'Christ the way' she has drawn on an image of Christ the king from Southwell Minster with arms outstretched. This stage of preparation for any banner needs to be unrushed. Getting the design prepared and tonal and colour work done will take some time but we hope to have some paper versions done in the not to distant future.

*Janet Thomas*

### **Music for June**

**Saturday, 4th June** (7.30pm) sees the welcome return of the internationally famous organist Gordon Stewart.

This is the first of our Celebrity Concerts this year and there will be a giant screen projection of the console.

Programmes £7.00. Wine and nibbles in the interval.

**Tuesday, 21st June** (1.00pm) our Lunchtime Series continues with a recital by Greg Abrahams from the Birmingham Conservatoire.

Refreshments from 12.15pm. Retiring Collection.

*Celia Yeo*