

Revd Canon Tim Montgomery

Tim was born in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire in 1959 and grew up in nearby Broxbourne. He attended the Broxbourne School and in 1978 went to the University of Hull to study Theology gaining his honours degree in 1982. During his time in Hull he also gained experience in detached youth work through a church and community outreach project in Marfleet. In 1982, he married Sue and moved to Cambridge where he completed a post-graduate teaching certificate at the Homerton College.



Between 1983 and 1986, Tim taught Religious Studies, History and PE at Saffron Walden School whilst also helping as a volunteer to develop a new youth & community centre (Romsey Mill) in Cambridge. In 1986 he joined Revd Mike Breen at Romsey Mill to help develop a new youth work scheme (Alpha Teams) as well as pilot an education & youth work link project called “School’s Youth Worker” (a pre-runner to the current ‘mentoring’ scheme operating in schools today). Tim also served as Archdeaconry Youth Officer for Cambridge from 1986. During this time he established the ‘Romsey Mill Roadshow’ – a community outreach project combining music and drama with trust and co-operation games. This project was a regular event at the Greenbelt festival and also toured Northern Ireland as part of a mission and community development project among young people.

In 1988 Tim became Director of Romsey Mill where he built up a large staff and volunteer team putting most of his energies into training, supervising and releasing people into their gifts and ministries. During this time he also spearheaded ‘The Jordan project’ – an alcohol-free café-bar serving young families during the day and young people during the evenings. Tim embarked on ordination training in 1990 with the East Anglian Ministerial Training Course and was ordained deacon in 1993 and priest in 1994. Tim served as NSM curate at St Phillip’s church in Cambridge whilst continuing to lead the Romsey Mill alongside regular consultancy projects to help new and emerging community projects.

In 1993 Tim was released part-time to develop his growing consultancy work with other community projects. He led a number of groups through vision and strategy exercises as well as helping project leaders to build and develop effective teams of staff and volunteers.

In 1994 Tim embarked on a large consultancy project with a new charity called ‘Causeway Trust’. He helped to guide the Trustees through the start-up phase of a unique combined-abilities project which led to establishing ‘Keppleway’ in Cumbria – an education and activity centre for non-disabled and able people together. Tim recruited the four key patrons (Prof. Stephen Hawking, Jonathan Edwards, Roger Uttley and Bishop Ian Harland) and set up the official launch at Crystal Palace in 1996. Tim then moved to Cumbria in 1996 accepting the new post of Chief Executive of *Keppleway* and spent five years establishing the project and the two key teams to manage the centre and the programmes. During this time Tim also helped with a church plant initiative on the Hallgarth estate in Kendal as part of the outreach work of St Thomas’ Church.

By 2000 Tim had completed the establishing phase of *Keppleway* and was looking forward to the next development stage. However, he was invited to put himself forward for the vacancy of Vicar of St Thomas’ & St Catherine’s churches, and, to his surprise, was appointed to that post later in the year.

In 2006 Tim became the Team Leader of the new 'Two Valleys Team' bringing 7 small village churches into the mission network of St Thomas' church which by then had taken on the role of a 'resource church' within the diocesan strategy to move from survival to revival. In 2008, St Thomas' church underwent a £500,000 refurbishment to make the building a better space for further development of mission and ministry in the community. A new phase of mission began with a strategy called "Inside-out, Outside-in" which aimed to radically change the way in which Church operates as a vibrant expression of the Kingdom of God in the 21st century.

In 2011 Tim was seconded to the Bishop's Staff team as Bishop's Adviser for Leadership and Strategy with a brief to help church leaders lead the change envisaged in a ten year Diocesan Strategy called 'Growing Disciples'. This work brought in the plan for new Mission Communities across Cumbria.

In 2012, Tim began exploring further the need to help leaders of churches, Christian organisations and businesses journey through the process of leading transformational change. The charity 'Emmaus Leadership' came into being in 2013 with the aim of putting experienced change-leadership coaches alongside Christian leaders to help them bring a significant change objective into being. See www.emmausleadership.org.uk for more information about Emmaus Leadership and its Companions.

In 2013 Tim's first book was published. With the intriguing title of 'And Moses Put His Shoes On,' this book unpacks the challenges of following Jesus and influencing those around you as you get on with the commissioned task to make and grow disciples.

Tim's emphasis is on teaching and coaching leaders with a particular emphasis on the outworking of vision and strategy. His focus is undergirded by clear Biblical teaching and equipping, always focusing on growth and discipleship. He has built strong leadership teams and developed the mission-focus of all those seeking to extend the Kingdom of God in their spheres of influence.

In 2015, Tim accepted the post of Director of Mission for one of the first Strategic Development Initiatives of the Church of England within the Renewal and Reform programme. This initiative focuses on the Deanery of Wigan in Liverpool Diocese and has the objective of turning around the mission and financial strength of the Church by 2022. See www.transformingwigan.org.uk for more on this.

Tim is married to Sue and they have four children and four grandchildren who look after them!

Tim can be contacted via the websites above or directly at tim.montgomery@liverpool.anglican.org