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Westminster College

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"Faith sees the invisible, believes the unbelievable, and receives the impossible."

Corrie Ten Boom

IMAGINE

... a regular reflection from me as I journey with you in this adventure that is our life together at Westminster.

NEIL



Rejoice! Change can be unsettling. It demands from us humility, not least because so often change ushers in a newness we can't contain or control. It invites passion and hard work as we take what we know and the resources we already have and bend them to the task beginning and the opportunity opening. It tests trust and relationships as we go forward together. And, amidst change, we can rejoice.

Change here has been as basic as the air we breathe since I came to Westminster in 2005. It's been a constant, sometimes vast, sometimes slight, never absent. That cannot be surprising, because anything even slightly about God, Church, mission, faithfulness, discipleship and witness is unlikely to be static. The Holy Spirit, and scripture's consistent story, point to change and transformation for us even as they stress God's consistency and permanence. And, with God leading us into and amidst change, rejoicing can be profound.

John Bradbury's departure is a profound loss we feel keenly I know. But still I rejoice because his ministry and gifts are being called by God into new and vital ser-



vice. I rejoice that we can announce and welcome as his successor Revd Dr Robert Pope who brings equally wonderful gifts and experience to help build us and the CTF up. I rejoice in the appointment of Revd Peter Ball as our first ever Director of Church Resource Development. These are staggeringly significant changes. They will be, I believe, also deep, deep blessings. Rejoicing feels entirely right.

Being Ecumenical

I've been interested to dip into a Grove booklet on Receptive Ecumenism given our context here. It offers a number of habits as important:

Conversion—seeing ourselves and others afresh, discovering more of who we can be in the light of what others teach us.

- **Relationships** humbly giving others the chance to give to us.
- **Identity**—an interchange of appreciation

that highlights the identity of others in all their variety and, consequently, demands that we own our identities more fully and in ways that let us share



