



# What's your mission?

*2010.global*

be inspired, get involved

6 June 2010 offers a unique way for Christians all over the world to celebrate God's call to mission.

The day is set aside to celebrate all that we have received from God through many different expressions of faith – and a great chance to commit ourselves to witness to Christ today ... whoever we are and wherever we live.



## 1910 what was it?

It's a hundred years since the great World Missionary Conference held in Edinburgh in June 1910 – which drew together Christians from many churches to think strategically about the worldwide mission of the Christian Church. While those attending the conference were mostly white, western and male, it was nonetheless a groundbreaking and momentous event. Participants recognised the need to move beyond colonialism and to welcome the birth and maturing of independent and self-governing churches around the world.

## What grew out of it?

Since then, Christians have learned much about how to work together, to share news of the love of God, and to witness to Christ in many different ways – defending the poor, struggling for justice, resisting racism, working for reconciliation, protecting the planet. Much of this has happened – in countless contexts and cultures – as Christians have learned to listen to one another and work in partnership with many others, of different faiths, or none. Without the impetus of 1910, much of this would have been impossible.



## Reflection, study, action

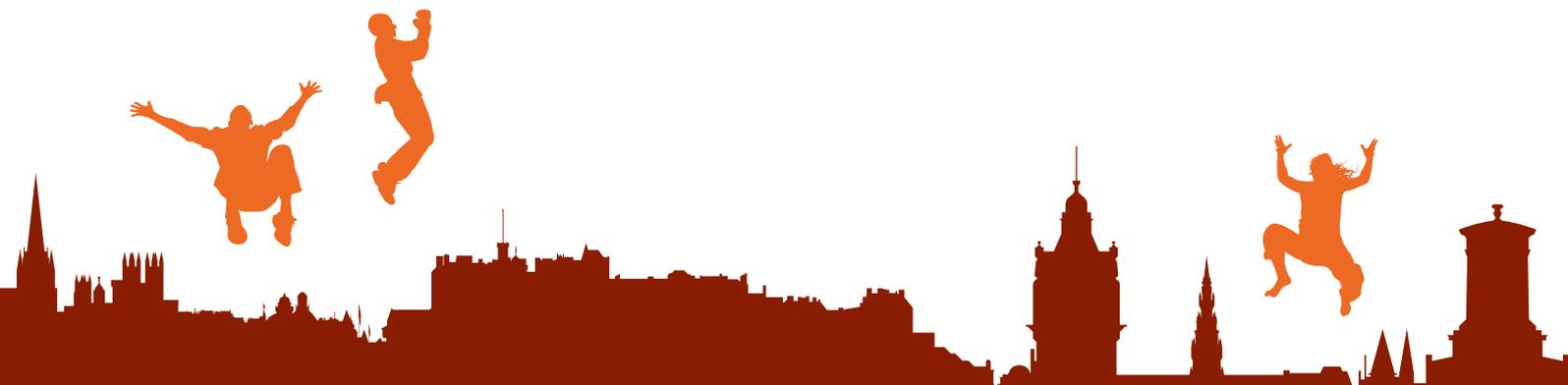
Over the past few years, a group has been working on how to assess the impact of 1910 – and to consider the challenges facing Christian mission today. To that end a number of study groups have been working on key themes related to the nature and meaning of the Christian faith today, and others have been working on how the centenary can best be marked around the world, as well as in Edinburgh.

## Global and local

The 1910 Conference took place in a classical western City. 100 years later, we want our celebration to be truly global, truly local and as wide-ranging and inclusive as possible. Modern technology and the internet open many new ways for this to happen. Our project *2010.global* is an opportunity for you to gather ecumenically in your locality, to thank God for a century of mission, and to wrestle with the challenges of all that lies ahead.

## A two-way process

In 1910 the initiative came from Edinburgh. Now, in 2010, your celebrations and reflections around the world can offer a message back to Edinburgh. A symbolic act of reflection, thanksgiving and commitment will be held in Edinburgh at 14:00 GMT on 6 June 2010. At the same time, we are encouraging churches and Christian communities around the world to hold their own celebration. In this way we want to see the global church united in its commitment to global mission.





## 2010.global – Here's how you can be part of it!

Join groups of Christians all around the world in holding your local celebration of mission in June 2010. It can be at any time of the year to suit your programme, or on 6 June to link with others around the world. You may want it to be

- an ecumenical act of worship
- a youth night
- a drama presentation
- an outreach event
- a home group celebration

## Use our 2010.global template as a guide

If you don't have confidence in putting together an event – well, have a go anyway! Find a simple template, and more information about the project, on our website [www.edinburgh2010.org](http://www.edinburgh2010.org). You might use the template and build up a celebration according to your own style and culture. We hope to see local expressions of joy, thanksgiving and commitment in mission from all around the world. It will be a great witness to God's love.

## Develop a symbol

Can you develop a symbol, sign or shape that expresses something of what God's mission means for you and Christians in your part of the world? It might be based on the shape of a local mountain that reflects God's presence in your history; or the roots and branches of an indigenous tree that speaks of newness and growth; it might be an image from the sea reflecting the movement of God's spirit in your communities – the possibilities are limitless! You might develop it in a group, use a local artist, or have a competition in your church or Sunday School. You might produce a badge, flag, T-shirt or banner. It might be an icon, or a symbol for your church. It would be great if you could share it on our website [www.edinburgh2010.org](http://www.edinburgh2010.org), so we can build up a library of your images from all around the world.

## Pray with us

Edinburgh 2010 offers this prayer for all to use, as a global and united expression of thankfulness to God. Please also write and share with us your local prayer, so that others may use it.

*God of Grace*

*Your love flows in abundance through your world.*

*You have come close, touched our pain,*

*And fired our hearts with hope.*

*As now we give you thanks,*

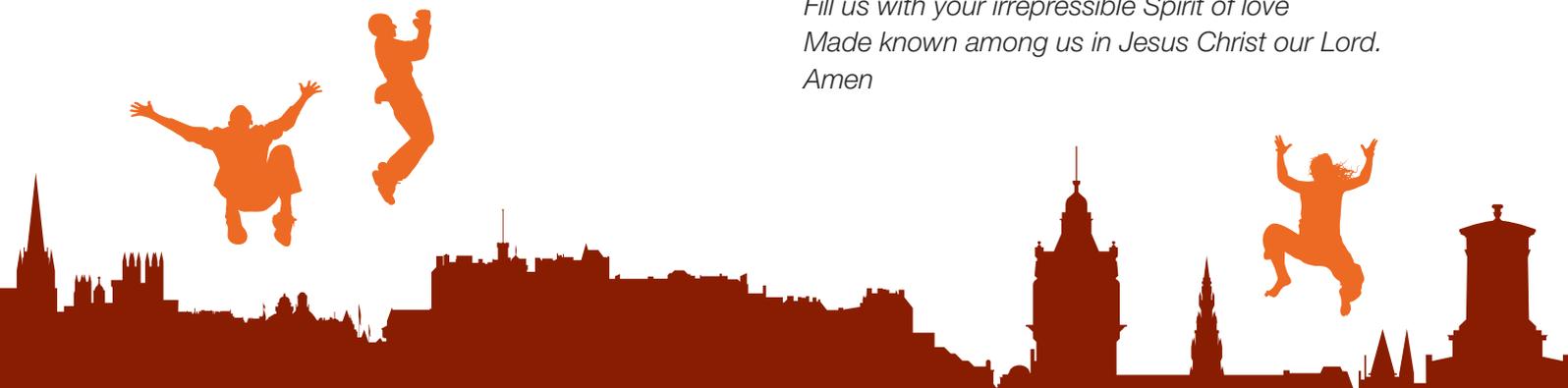
*And celebrate your mission*

*To reconcile, heal and transform.*

*Fill us with your irrepensible Spirit of love*

*Made known among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*





## Join the big global celebration on 6 June 2010

Edinburgh's celebration of mission will be held on Sunday 6 June 2010, at 14:00 GMT. Why not hold your event at the same time? For some in the East it would mean an evening event, or, in the West, a morning one. Others may find that impracticable and want to plan an event at another time or on another day. It might be a special event or part of an existing local programme. Edinburgh 2010 is exploring how the Internet might enable some groups to link up live with Edinburgh on 6 June. Visit our website [www.edinburgh2010.org](http://www.edinburgh2010.org) to find out more about that.

## Turn the party into action!

- Try to design into your local celebration some kind of outcome that commits you to the next stage of God's mission in your region. What will be its focus?
- Can you agree on an action agenda?
- Can you share with others around the world, what you plan to do next as a result of this time of reflection and thanksgiving?
- What is your vision for local mission in the coming years?
- How do you plan to develop it?
- What can you do differently as the world changes around you?
- What can you do together with other Christians rather than working apart?

## Use the Edinburgh 2010 website

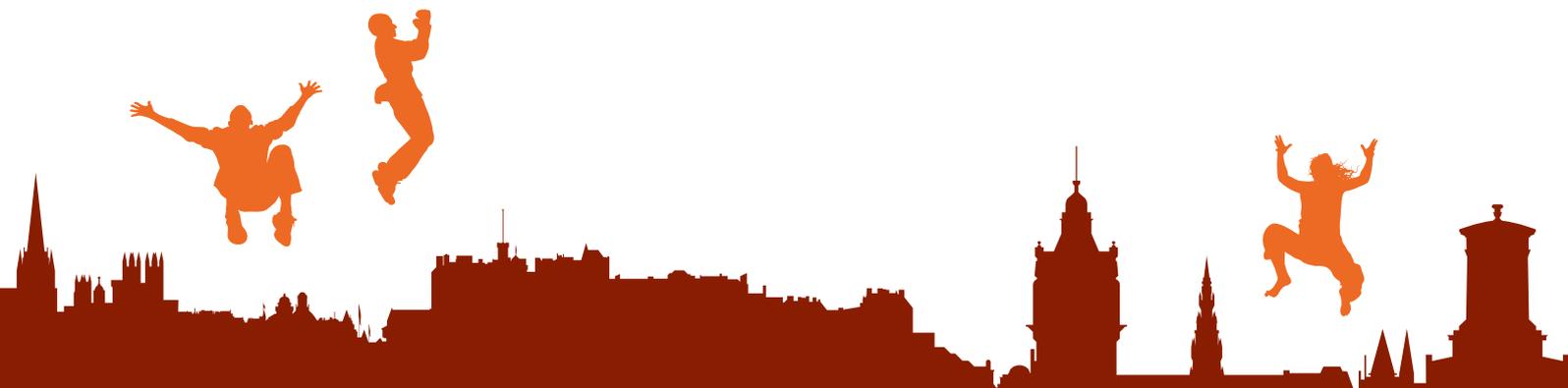
Share your visions, dreams and action plans on our website [www.edinburgh2010.org](http://www.edinburgh2010.org), so others can see and be encouraged by what you are doing. Whether you plan an event around 6 June, or at any other time, you may find ideas from around the world that can enrich your local mission and your ideas may be just what others are looking for. From these, new friendships, partnerships and alliances might emerge. God may have surprises for us all.

## Go greener

God's creation is in serious danger, and we all need to work together to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases urgently. Visit our website [www.edinburgh2010.org](http://www.edinburgh2010.org) to find out more about how your *2010.global* event can go green.

## And finally ...

Edinburgh 2010 will only have been worthwhile if we all get on with the job, called by God to be agents of transforming love, bringing hope and healing to God's people all around the world.





## Edinburgh 2010 General Council

African Independent Churches, Anglican Communion, Asian Pentecostal Society, Baptist World Alliance, Church of Scotland, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, Council for World Mission, International Association for Mission Studies, International Fellowship of Evangelical Students, Latin American Theological Fellowship, Lausanne Committee for World Evangelisation, Lutheran World Federation, Orthodox Churches, Roman Catholic Church, Seventh Day Adventist Church, World Alliance of Reformed Churches, World Council of Churches, World Evangelical Alliance, World Methodist Council, World Student Christian Federation

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