

MICANEWS

Leeds Mission and Care Group 2017

Mission & Care Group Meeting Thursday 11th May at Stainbeck Church

On the evening of a sunny day 31 people met together representing 9 churches (including The Bridge, Otley) and 14 apologies were received. Reverend Clare Davison sent her greetings to the meeting.

Angela opened the meeting reflecting on the '50 great days of Easter' How do we witness? Stainbeck Church has been witnessing for 86 years - past and the present and what does the future hold? Leeds Citizens is one way Stainbeck witnesses to local communities.

A REMINDER: Clare's Induction takes place at Headingley St Columba on 22nd July at 3pm. All churches in the M & C Partnership have received an invitation. ***This is for anyone who wishes to attend***, but . . .

PLEASE LET HEADINGLEY KNOW THE NUMBER COMING FROM YOUR CHURCH and please BRING A CAKE OR TWO IF YOU CAN!

Hinsley Hall **can't** be used for parking but the Council are being asked about other car parking.

Pastoral News

Reverend Anne Lewitt has received and accepted a Call from the West Sussex Group of Churches: Billingshurst, Pulborough and Petworth. Please pray for Anne, her family, West Park Church, the URC in South Leeds and also the West Sussex Group at this time of mixed emotions: sadness, expectation, excitement and wondering. And we wish Anne well. Anne is expecting to leave us August/September and in the meantime the Moderator and Area Pastoral Elder will visit both Elders' meetings here.

M & C Group/Partnership Visiting

Disappointment was expressed at the attendance for the URC in South Leeds Community Cafe when only 3 people from the Group attended with 1 apology.

In the light of this there was a discussion as to whether we want to carry on with the highlighted visits. Should we give apologies? Can others from our congregations be persuaded to go? It is good to continue to get to know each other better. We are expecting to discuss it at our July meeting so please think about it.

20th May Wigton Moor Christian Aid Big Brekkie. Tour and hear about new mission opportunities 9.30 - 11.30 (apologies from URC in SL as this is their Community Cafe day)

17h June Armley, Wesley Road Chapel, Coffee Morning 10 - 12noon.

Sharing: St. Andrew's, Roundhay - There had been an Ecumenical Walk of Witness on Good Friday; A Sunrise Service in Roundhay Park and they had a wonderful Easter Day Service. There are plans to develop the halls and the car park entrance entitled the 'Welcome Project'. **The Summer Fete is on 3rd June 2 - 5** "fun for all the family" and is a fundraising event.

West Park - Community Project Table Top Sale on 10th June. Bacon Butties, toasted teacakes etc. Abbey Churches Together had a Good Friday Walk of Witness from St. Stephen's Church to Kirkstall Abbey. The Catholic Church celebrated 60 years in West Park.

URC in South Leeds - Indoor Bowls Friday 12th May.

Morley - Tony Lee shared how much Heather Raistrick (St. Mary's in the Wood) is part of the Church Leaders' Meeting in Morley. The Good Friday Walk of Witness was an important contribution to ecumenism. Tony thanked people for buying tickets for Kiss Me Kate (40 plus at least 20 others). **St Mary's in the Wood** have inherited an allotment which they can't care for. They will be pleased to have any help that can be offered in the summer for tidying it up.

Christian Aid Week begins 14th May leaflets were available to take away. **Caring for Life** Plant sale 13th May.

Leeds Faith Forum - website closed but have Facebook and Twitter. Moira (Gallagher) has attended two meetings on Shadwell Lane. At the moment she is listening and learning.

Dementia Friendly Leeds can be contacted for a speaker. **Growing Old Grace Fully** resource circulated earlier. **St. Mary's in the Wood Memory Cafe** will have a Harvest Festival in August.

Leeds North West Foodbank - has 7 distribution centres round North & West Leeds with an 'interesting' group of volunteers. The Trussell Trust started in Salisbury and have a system to work to e.g. food recommendations are on red paper (which is difficult to photocopy)! They are really short of some food e.g. only 24 tins of tomatoes for 36 allocations and tinned meat, rice pudding and tins of fruit are also needed. However they have lots of soup, beans, pasta and tea at the moment. More people are using the Foodbank and supermarket suppliers are not being so generous with donations. Cash is also needed for petrol, insurance, utilities etc. Railway station bucket donations are very generous (even on the strike day £1300 was collected). The Foodbank also has people who can give advice.

Headingley St Columba 14th May 2pm - Ukulele Band and Choir in aid of Wheatfields and Parcevall Hall Quiet Day 12th May. 25th April Christian Aid talk was well attended (with good cakes!)

Stainbeck - Network Leeds' Interact being launched but is not to be confused with Stainbeck's Interact. Good Friday Walk of Witness and prayers took about 30/40 people of all ages via Waitrose, fish and chip shop, the estate, outside the bookies to hot cross buns and a warm welcome in the church. Interact street food festivals have happened twice on the estates with free food tables in the streets - supported by Leeds City Council, Youth Service etc.

Church Together in LS11 have distributed about 450 'It's Your Move' booklets to the 11 schools in Beeston for Year 6 school leavers. **Wigton Moor** also do this and perhaps your church could think about it also.

John Tilbury spends time visiting his elderly neighbours - his practical theology.

The Bridge Church, Otley - about 12 people are having training in helping people with dementia in readiness for their new ventures which will provide a space for carers and people with dementia. Also the weekly Communion service in the hall has doubled in numbers recently.

Wigton Moor - A church meeting on 14th May has been called to discuss with an architect the re-ordering of the entrance area and room in the church which is now available for church use as the play-school which has been in for a number of years is going elsewhere. 50th Anniversary celebrations are being prepared for next year. Please hold Peter and Alex in your prayers as they minister to the family and friends of a 16 year-old girl who has committed suicide after being bullied at school. **Any ideas for the Bus Pilgrimage** will be welcomed by Alex please. And he is the guest preacher at the annual Association of Christian Teachers on 22nd June on his 9th wedding anniversary!

Thanks to St. Andrew's, Roundhay, for hosting the Elders' Conference in April and to The Bridge Church, Otley, for hosting Church Secretary Training Day in June.

Next meeting 18th July at St. Andrew's Roundhay and September meeting is at Headingley.