

Deanery Synod Report for 2023

All the meetings were opened and led by Rev. Nick Watson and started with a time of scripture.

The first meeting in March 2022, was also the first Deanery Synod 'face to face' Meeting. Therefore, this meeting at Christ Church in Brunswick was to spend more time together, sharing and listening within our Mission Communities.

A brief summary was also given - of where we were re the Mission Communities (M.C.) and clarifying the Vision for them.

- Plus providing information on The Eco-Church and its energy footprint tool.

-The 'Thankfulness and Generosity Vision' was introduced, giving resources and plans to help church treasurers.

These have all been further discussed and the 2nd Conference for Thankfulness and Generosity was held in September 2022, while all churches are expected to complete the Eco Church Form.

Further Mission Community Leaders (M.C.L.) have been appointed, and meetings arranged between them for further cohesion. Focal Leadership and relevant Courses have been encouraged.

Following meetings have included: Rev. Nick Watson guiding us through 'Transformation' (with a video of a Church For A Different World) Part of the Transformation is ensuring M.C.L. and other various vacancies start to be processed. Lately these vacancies have been filled. Funding is important, and stage 2 bids to the Church Commission was successful, thus providing funding for over the next 5 years. This supports; A the Transformation Support Office (T.S.O.) who will provide hands on help to Parishes and M.C. with New Initiatives. B. The T.S.O. for Environmental Team at the Diocesan Office which supports Lay Development and Focal Ministry, plus providing a Deanery Children's and Family Worker.

Throughout the year, emphasis has been, and continues to be "A Renewed Focus on the Core of the M.C. in Growing, Nurturing, and Serving" whilst being sustainable. Discipleship is a key priority while bringing Transformation threads together.

It has been noted that that the key Areas have been taking longer to achieve than predicted, however overall the Mission Communities are slowly developing and will continue to do so over 2023, with opportunities for Mission, to Inspire others, and ensure the M.C. is grounded in Prayer.