

Worship vision group 7-1-19

Present: BW, PF, LG, CN, SH, MT, MW

Apologies: RH

Welcome to our new members: AM, JS and William Lowries.

Review of last few months:

Patronal festival - no joint choral evensong as choirs not able to get together. So we had a communion service instead - well received, perhaps an option for next year if no choir available. MT shared that since URC and St Nicholas clergy coming up to retirement there is a lack of momentum for joint choir activities, and perhaps we will need to take a fresh look at these when new clergy in place.

Remembrance Sunday - 250 this year. Lucy asked the guides/brownies to come as families which helped to swell numbers as well as it being 100 year anniversary. More relaxed - stopping in middle of communion for silence was no an issue and worked well. Trumpeter was incredible. (With large services we need to double up on coffee rota and use a car park full sign).

Living with Loss - about 30 came, psalm 23 was the focus. Valued by those there as a meaningful and helpful service. Good as an outreach service, as many were not regular church attenders.

St Luke's day service - about 20, microphones don't work in chapel. Beautiful service, perhaps could offer wholeness and healing services more often. Wholeness could be explained as more than physical healing. Can be good as outward focused service. Plan to do one summer term too.

(Confirmation service at Emmanuel) We held a confirmation class with four people - none ready to be confirmed. MW suggested meeting again with those who've done courses and chosen not be confirmed. Emily M. took communion at midnight service - needs following up with admission to communion, PF to action.

Advent Christingle - memorable because of visuals. Lovely service. Logistics of candles well managed by CN. Popular service and good to do it at Advent. Launched Christmas season.

YLS and 18+ Joint service - good synergy between them, well attended, TOC choir too. Mopped up some who were on the margins and they said they would come again, eg Payne family came en masse. Plan to do an AW service together at some point.

Nine lessons and carols 120 came. Children's choir was lovely. Choir was really good, Margaret did a great job. Everyone starts and finishes readings differently- needs standardising. Scripture speaks for itself. Prayers worked well, responsive prayers important. Candles bent, did not work so well, and after discussing candles will review at next meeting. Hold this service a week earlier next year/ could swop with YLS/18+ service.

Crib service Costumes were in the hall, better to have them in the church. Girls with baskets doing collection worked well. BW did well to lead and play the piano, perhaps next year have someone else leading if she is playing the piano.

Midnight service – numbers down slightly on last year. New tradition - Candle for Christ lit at midnight, after sermon, with other advent candles lit at beginning.

Christmas Day - all age service. Good participation with children, especially one girl from St Saviours! Numbers less than last year, many families away this year.

To review school services and MC next time.

Season of invitation:

People found it a challenge, remembrance was easier to invite people to because it was 100 years. Having invitations available for when people come, thinking ahead to the next thing.

CN - Christmas invitation need to have a little more information about services and church, with a map. Could do this for Easter services.

Mission focus in October:

Sharon from Grassroots came but there was a baptism service too. Service was too full and her content got lost. So if external speaker in future, not during AW or baptism. Will need planning into the Worship Rota,

Looking forwards:

Pcc vision and values -

Joyfully Living Jesus - joyfully living out faith and Jesus is joyfully living. This is our main focus.

Our values which underpin our vision:

Welcoming everyone, deepening community, growing disciples - affects every aspect of church.

Worship rota -

Songs of praise - might be last one or to be held yearly. It's become that you have to have a story but actually that's not the case.

Grave talk - with Paul Bye funeral director coming.

Cathedral praise on 31st March - done by Christchurch, at the cathedral.

14th April – Taize suggested instead of Choral meditation.

Easter Day - MT retires as LLM.

Updates -

Preaching Group - review sermons, and look ahead. BW, PF, MW, JS, AM, DB, WL and MT to be copied in.

Baptism families – BW suggested changing policy for people to come regularly twice monthly for three months before booking a baptism, or we offer a thanksgiving. PF - significant vows but it is also an act of the grace of God. Does it have to be the clergy doing the baptism preparation? We could do baptism in normal service or AW – suggest to families to come to both and you can then decide which is for you, with a meeting either side.

Worship space

Sound system - three funding bids out, waiting for responses

Church furniture - still ongoing - waiting on vision and values

Courses

Confirmation - dates booked for September

Lent course - suggestions

CN - BRF - Lent with New Daylight - daily bible reading through Lent as well as group reading.

MW - Fruitfulness on the Frontline - daily life outside of church. Good course but perhaps not suitable for Lent.

PF - Paula Gooder - spiritual essentials for real life.

BW - Welby - Reimagining Britain.

Plan agreed – an afternoon group with BRF books, facilitated by CN. Have 25 copies available.

Evening one - Lentwise - Paula Gooder. PF to provide details of material.

Parish retreat day - 9th March. At Willow Grange. BW Finding someone to lead it.

Just Looking course at Toddlers - faith exploring course. PF and Vanessa co leading it. Meeting with church in Oxshott who are using material based around Luke's gospel.

AOB

Collections to be discussed at clergy/wardens

Childrens slot – has not tied in much with what they are doing. CC leaders encouraged to use living stones, roots etc. MT to encourage further.

Date of next meeting: 1st May 2019 7:30pm.