

Grow Team Report 2021

The Grow team continues to serve the people of St Peter's by supporting the growth of our young people and the spiritual development of the worshipping community. We have been blessed with the appointment of our Children and Families' worker, Rachel Gaster-Woods, who has brought new energy and direction to our children's ministry with the opening of Morning Stars for pre-school children on Monday mornings and the re-introduction of Sunday School as Bright Stars.

Deborah Lock continues to do amazing work with our young people in their monthly TAG session and this year we were delighted to have 4 of our young people go forward for confirmation by Bishop Jo in November. The young people also continue to take an active part in our worship by acting as servers in the 10am service and we were fortunate to have Chris Carter run a training session for them, to allow them to more deeply understand the important role they play in worship. We pray for Deborah as she embarks on the next exciting initiative of introducing first communion.

For the spiritual growth of our congregation Sara Langley and Jane Anderson have run the "Unanswered Prayer" course on Zoom as our Lent 2021 reflection, which allowed some of our friends from Whitely Village to participate. We had in-person intergenerational Advent session where we looked at the words of a Christmas carol, learnt to sing it and then discussed what the words meant over mince pies and cake. Thanks to Sue Gray and Rob Stafford for their invaluable input. Both were well received and we look forward to more in person events once all the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

As part of our intergenerational focus we worked together with all ages to prepare our church for the Harvest Festival. This proved really successful and Margaret Hicks will again lead the team to decorate the church for Easter in 2022.

Working alongside the Care team we are pleased to celebrate the continued popularity of the Breakfast Praise service and to look at ways to allow families to continue to worship at St Peter's once their children grow out of Breakfast Praise. There are also plans to look at ways of integrating the 9am congregation with the 10am congregation occasionally.

I am very thankful for the support and encouragement of all at St Peter's as we continue our journey of faith to know and serve God better.

Jane Anderson

April 2022