

## **Diocesan Synod 28 November 2020.**

### **Breakout Group: AIDAN**

#### **Good News:**

Newly trained Lay Worship Leaders feel empowered to be more creative in this model.

Helps to empower more folk to lead. But a request for more lay training. (was answered in the breakout group).

Crisis of money and clergy staffing etc makes us look to where God is and try to join in.

It feels as if what is coming from above melds in with what is happening on the ground, so very encouraging.

Good news as distributes roles and gives ability and confidence to be church

Model has relevance and resonance in rural

Challenges parochialism; make sure that good ecumenical relationships are grown and continuing to be nurtured. Christians together not denominations.

Pay homage and respect to Carol as this was so much part of her vision.

#### **Where is this already happening?**

In various places in slightly different models. Wylam etc; Bedlington; across Bellingham Deanery;

A concern expressed that while this is happening, folk are still not confident in ways of drawing others into faith and the church. (Training conversation)

Be very aware that we must work with other Christians in each area and become Christians together rather than denominations – a liberating thought! Key and focal ministers do not need to be Anglican, they just need to be called to the role.

Comment that we must go on with people from where we are and not be deflected by buildings!

#### **What should we let go of?**

Clericalism and parochialism. We need confident Christian communities nurtured and enabled by their leaders.

Concern voiced by one clergy member of group that he would find it very difficult to let go of his power in the communities in which he serves and let a focal minister be in charge. (group tried to reassure him)

Comment that transition is scary and so feeling scared is a normal response. Let go and let God and pray a lot, and be excited as well as frightened!