

MICANEWS

Leeds Mission and CARE Group

Mission and Care Leeds Partnership Meeting held at St Mary's in the Wood, Morley on 2nd July 2018

23 of us representing 9 churches met with 12 apologies received.

We were welcomed to St Mary's by Heather Raistrick.

St Mary's opened the meeting with worship led by Heather, Susan McGarroch, John Tilbury and Shirley Varley. We sang 'The Kingdom of God is justice and peace'.

Updates were then shared on their Memory Café, visits to the local school and their ecumenical involvement with Morley Churches Together and progress towards Morley's Fairtrade status.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 11th September

THE CHURCH IN SOUTH LEEDS

SPEED SHARING

(see overleaf)

Update from Clare (Leeds M&C Partnership Mission Enabler): Clare reported that the Management Group have had a good meeting with various Ministers sharing their experiences of different ways of team working. This was really helpful for our ongoing task of discerning our own patterns for future working together.

Sarah Oldknow and Alex Walker have stepped down from Management due to other work pressures. Our thanks to them both for all they have contributed. Terri Raddings has now joined us in her role as Ecumenical Officer.

Clare reported that she had made contact again with Trinity United, Harehills and Trinity, Rawdon. Also that she had visited the Elders at Christ Church, Castleford with Terri. She has currently led worship in almost all of our churches - which she has enjoyed and found helpful.

The main item on our agenda was the sharing of the responses from our churches to the **Crisis and Opportunity** paper sent out by Synod. This gave us further insights into both the similarities of our current issues but also the diversity of our contexts. **Churches were asked to send their written responses to Clare.**

SPECIAL NEWS was shared:

- 3 teenagers soon to be received into membership at **Beeston Hill Free Church**
- **The Church in Cottingley:** 10 July - AGM; 4 August - Summer Fair; 9 September - Harvest with Messy Church.
- 15 Sept 10am - 4 pm - **Heritage Day at Headingley St Columba**
- Sun 30 Sept 3.00pm- **Community Songs of Praise at Stainbeck.**

Details were also shared for an **Open Day on Wednesday 1st August at Leeds Church Institute** around the issues of **Universal Credit**.

The meeting closed with prayer and thanks to all at 9.00pm.

**OUR NEXT MEETING at The Church in South Leeds (Belle Isle site)
Speed Sharing Event, Tuesday 11th September, 7 for 7pm**

Aim of the evening: for us all to get to know what happens in each other's Churches, focusing on how we engage with our local community

Outcomes: possible ideas to take away of how we can tweak our own activities to engage more with our local community, and to see if there are things we can work together on

Timings:

- **7pm** begin with faith tea, time to chat together for about 45 minutes - **please bring a plate of food to share**
- 7.45pm opening devotions and instructions for 5 minutes
- **7.50pm - sharing: 3 minutes for the Church to speak and 3 minutes for questions.** A bell will ring every 6 minutes for those going around the tables to move on to the next one. **Those who are sharing on the tables need to prepare 3 minutes of information only!** It can include a handout with more information.
- Approx. 8.50pm break - after all the tables have been visited once, we will have a few minutes breather with a cuppa before having a time to focus on one church.
- Approx. 9pm - 15 minutes to focus on getting more information from *one* Church which especially interests you and those you're with - please talk to each other over the cuppa to decide where to focus on
- Approx. 9.15pm, 10-15 minutes all come together to say how we've found the evening and what has been especially helpful
- 9.25pm at latest, final prayers

People needed: at least 3 from each Church, one or two to share if you'd prefer, and 2, or preferably more, to go around tables. Please invite as many from your Church as possible

What to share:

- what sort of area your Church is in: economic, ethnic, age, etc
- what activities your Church does to engage with the local community
- which are working really well (focus on these)
- any which have helped feed into the life of the Church in growth in numbers, discipleship or service

A poster / flyer to follow.