

MICANEWS

Leeds Mission and Care Group

Mission and Care Leeds Partnership Meeting held at Stainbeck United Reformed Church met on 14th November 2018

with 24 of us representing 10 churches, and we received 13 apologies.

Angela Hughes welcomed everyone to the meeting. She led the opening worship on a theme of "remembering" during a time of changing seasons and a rapidly changing world.

Our guest Tom Chigbo of LEEDS CITIZENS gave an inspiring talk on the benefits of working with this group and how it helped Stainbeck URC to establish new links with their local community. Lives have been changed in a significant and powerful way. As a result the City Council funded improvements to steps and pavements in the area.

If your local church is interested in learning more or being a member of LEEDS CITIZENS then Tom Chigbo is on 07908 055606 or by email: tom.chigbo@leedscitizens.org.uk

Next Meeting 15th January at Headingley St Columba's

Update from Clare: Clare asked for feedback on the Speed sharing event in September. There was positive feedback at the time. More time might have helped between the sharing. Discussions raised the possibility of having another sharing event again over food (!) to go deeper and have time to share more. What do you think? Would you like a follow up date?

The Local Management Group along with URC Ministers in Leeds has been looking at different models of ministry including the Sheffield experience of Team Ministry. Various options for possible team and partnership working have been discussed. A meeting with LEP Ministers has also taken place in November. There will be more updates on progress in 2019.

Ministers have met to discuss the skills they can share and offer across the churches. This included helping with projects, introducing "Holy Habits", worship leading, and support with hospital visiting on request. It was stressed that we need to include lay and ordained ministers in how we plan to share resources across our churches. It is also important for visiting worship leaders to know the local church's worship needs and projects so they can focus on them when preparing.

Do we need to worship together more?

Getting to know each other and good communication are so important. Church secretaries have an important part to play in this. Clare is available in 2019 to help churches explore their visions already submitted to Synod. Clare circulated an activities sheet. It summarizes what is happening daily across our churches. Send any feedback to Clare please. (revclare.urcleeds@gmail.com)

Praying for our churches There's an eagerness to have a prayer calendar so we can focus our prayers for each of our churches and their priorities. We plan to reissue the previous one page church mini-profiles but they need to be up-to-date. Please send Jenny Poulter any amendments by the end of January so we can circulate a new edition. (jandb.poulter1@ntlworld.com)

There was lots of news to share from our churches including of forthcoming events. Many of these were due in the days just after the November meeting. Please do get news out well in advance for circulation and long before our MiCa meetings if you want to invite other churches. Anne Parker has the up-to-date circulation list.(leedsmica@btinternet.com)

We need YOU! Can two or three people please volunteer to share in taking notes at our meetings to produce a copy of **MICANEWS** after each meeting? If this is YOU can you please contact Angela Hughes (on angela.hughes1@icloud.com). Thank you.

Events reported at the meeting included - Children's Christmas Party at Stainbeck for all our churches Saturday 1st December 2.30pm; - Charity concert for Wheatfields at Headingley St Columba's on 25th November; - the West Park Christmas Fair supporting local charity shops; - a "Holy Habits" Film night at Headingley St Columba's;

News round up The 3rd Learning Community Day on "The Blessing of Ageing" went well. What ideas do you have for future Days? Please tell Bronwen Robinson.

More News roundup Thanks from Barry and Anne for supporting their "anniversary" fundraising for Fairtrade, Leprosy Mission and Palestinian Goods; - The Church at Cottingley plan a chill out room for their young people; - Diane McHale has opened a Christian BOOKSHELF Unit 30, in Morley Market.

Dates for the Diary in 2019

Sunday 13th January 10.30am John Proctor, General Secretary of URC will preach at Beeston Hill United Free Church and that evening at 6.00pm at Trinity Methodist Church Bramley

Tuesday 15th January 7.00 for 7.30pm Leeds Mission and Care Group at Headingley St Columba's, with a talk by Peter Clarkson from his sabbatical studies on the Persecuted Church

Saturday 23rd February 10.30 am - 2.00 pm Special gathering led by Janet Tollington who is an inspiring speaker and is invited to help us see a way forward to transform our thinking on partnership working. More details in early 2019.

Wednesday 13th March 7.00 for 7.30pm Leeds Mission and Care Group at Wesley Road Chapel, Armley

Saturday 30th March Elders Conference with focus on "**Walking the Way**" and "**Holy Habits**". The keynote speaker will be Andrew Roberts author of "Holy Habits"

We shared pastoral news and remembered people in our final prayers.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace