

MICANEWS

Mission and Care Leeds Partnership Meeting held at Beeston Hill United Free Church Church on 13/3/2018.

23 of us representing 10 churches met with 12 apologies received.

Terri Raddings secretary to the church welcomed everyone to the meeting. All were particularly pleased to welcome Robert Lewis from Trinity United Church on his first visit. Terri welcomed Stefanie Hoyle one of the Synod Children and Young person's practitioners and invited her to open the meeting in worship. Stefanie spoke of the opportunities of each day being a new beginning under God's love, strength and warmth to enable us to deal with whatever the day brings. We sang together 'Great is thy faithfulness'.

**Next Meeting:
May 15th at Wigton Moor**

Leeds Mission and Care Group

Update from Clare: Clare has now completed her round of Sunday morning visits and has been to a number of elders' meetings and messy church events. She and Terri had been pleased to worship at Trinity United where they were warmly welcomed. Clare has continued to offer support to churches responding to the 'Crisis and opportunity paper'. She is to attend Cliff College for Inviting Forward training in April and is working on creating a skills audit across the churches and also an events diary through which churches can share news of their forward plans. Clare suggested holding a joint event where churches could come together, circulate in small groups and share food and conversations about the life of their respective fellowships. This was greeted with enthusiasm and it was agreed it should be held on **September 11th at Belle Isle** taking the form of a Faith Supper. Time to be decided.

Response to 'A Crisis and opportunity' letter: after much discussion it was agreed that there should be a Leeds Partnership response to the letter which would tell the story of our coming together and outline the vision for the partnership in the next 10 years. It was affirmed that the situation of LEP churches would be born in mind.. The Leeds Partnership Management Group would put this document together and circulate in draft form to all churches in readiness for the **May 15th meeting at Wigton Moor**. Individual churches would be able to share their responses to the letter with the group at the meeting to be held on **July 4th at Morley** [tbc].

Prayer walks: Alex Walker suggested they should be more locally focused with each church taking their own walk on the same day then visiting each other to share stories. Alex will circulate an explanatory letter.

Dates and news of some events: a commitment was made that all MICA dates for 2019 will be set a year in advance. It is understood that the same people do not have to attend each meeting, it was more important that each church is represented.

24th March - Messy Church at Cottingley; 29th March 9pm Tenebrae and Communion at Headingley St Columba's; 29th Mar 7.30pm Communion round the Table and Mar 30th 9pm Tenebrae at Stainbeck. 1st April 6.30am Sunrise service at the bandstand in Roundhay Park.

11th April 7.30 Headingley St Columba's - Possible ways to deliver a community audit; Sat April 21st 10am - 4pm Relating to Sikhs and Sikhism Day course. Booking details on website - blackleycentre.co.uk Info has been sent to church secretaries from Synod. Further days to be held to cover other faiths.

Sat April 28th St Andrew's 10am - 4pm Elders conference 'Prayer, Community and Discipleship' for all who are interested. Book via Val Morrison [valmorrison7@btinternet.com]

The church in South Leeds will welcome preachers. Cottingley asked for preachers for July 22nd, Aug 6th, Sept 9th · Oct 6th. Nov 14th M&C meeting at Stainbeck

Children's and Young Peoples work: Stefanie, together with her co-worker Megan each bring diverse experience of youth work both church and secular. They aim to engage, empower and enrich both the lives of young people and churches across the Synod. Stef gave us an inspiring and encouraging outline of much of their work. She will send details of all planned activities and opportunities to our churches and is happy to be contacted at the Synod office. In particular we give notice of a **Family Day** to be held at the **Yorkshire Sculpture Park on 6th June**. This is a free event - only parking charges will apply. [Funding for group transport could be sought from the Synod Mission Fund.]

Synod update: Major points from Alex Walker's report - a) Information on statutory data protection is available - Willie Duncan can offer helpful advice. Each church will need to display a 'privacy notice ' explaining their policy. b) Each church was given the power to develop their own 'green policy' to reduce their carbon footprint. Alex Jowitt, Synod's green apostle can advise.

Other business Tony Lee was affirmed as this year's URC representative to the Diocesan Spirituality and Faith Conference.

Christ Church in Castleford have asked to be a part of this MICA group. They will be invited and will receive MICA news.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace