

MICANEWS

Leeds Mission and Care Group

Mission and Care Leeds Partnership Meeting held at Wesley Road Chapel, Armley 13/3/19

19 of us met representing 9 churches and Generation Y

We were welcomed to Wesley Road by Janet Taylor who led opening worship on the theme of journeys, chosen because the church is constantly journeying forward. She then told us a little about the church which is a LEP including the Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed Churches. The current building is 32 years old and includes a resource centre. The church is central to the Methodist Circuit and holds lots of their events. There is a reducing membership but the church is working closely with Whingate Methodist Church to hold a joint monthly service and there are plans to share in other ways as well. Regular community events at Wesley Road include a luncheon club, coffee slot and knit, craft and chat sessions. We met Wesley, a teddy, who attends many events and was photographed in the meeting!

Clare now has a mobile phone on which she can be contacted at 07485065413. The vestry phone is still available to dial in on 01132752359

The next meeting will be held at Trinity United Church, Roundhay Road on Tuesday 7th May 7pm for 7.30pm start

Youth Assembly

Jacob Lowe has been appointed to the URC Youth Executive as representative for Yorkshire and will soon attend his first meeting. He showed a short video of the Youth Assembly to give us an idea of what those of us who don't fall into the 11 – 25 age group were missing!! This had been at Whitemoor Lakes in Staffordshire in January with the theme of "One Body".

Interest was expressed in hearing what the Youth Executive were thinking about the church for the future and we look forward to hearing about that later when Jacob has started attending meetings. Further information about the Youth Executive can be found on the URC Yorkshire Youth Facebook page and he can be contacted at yorkshireyouthrep@gmail.com

Update from Clare

- Resources sheet – every church has one and it would be helpful if they could be returned to Clare by the next M&C meeting. She will try to match needs and resources.
- The church activity sheet was available in A3 form for each church listing everything going on throughout the week. It was felt that this could provide prayer points.
- A further meeting had taken place with the ecumenical ministers serving the LEPs. The Moderator is to convene a meeting involving a wider group of people including chairs of Pastoral and Ministries committees to discuss a way forward.
- Clare reported that Janet Tollington's Old Testament seminar had been an excellent day. The Management team had agreed to give her a gift of £100 as well as her expenses. She was very grateful for this.
- The above and the provision of a mobile phone have added to the budget for this year which is shared 50-50 between HStC and the Partnership.
- Has met with Leeds Church Institute to see what resources they can offer. There are a lot of ecumenical projects taking place across Leeds.
- On May 23rd there is a day entitled "Those seeking refuge" at Leeds Church Institute and posters/details were distributed.
- Clare had met with Tom Chigbo of Leeds Citizens to follow up his visit to a previous meeting. It would be possible for the Partnership to join for £1000 a year instead of £250 per church. A discussion took place about this and it was agreed to ask Tom about the possibility of a "taster" training day in order that churches could assess the relevance for their situation. Stainbeck have been involved for some time and have found it very beneficial in their community work. Although information about Leeds citizens had previously been circulated to churches it was agreed that a summary of their work would be useful and would be circulated.

Appointment of new Moderator

Alex Walker outlined the process and said that the aim was to have a new Moderator appointed well before the current Moderator is due to retire in 2020. Churches and the Partnership Management Group have been asked by email what qualities they would hope to see in this person. The appointments group is producing a profile of the whole of Yorkshire for potential candidates. Each church has been asked for half a page for this and it was suggested that this would also serve as the church contribution for the prayer booklet – one half page about the church's life and aspirations would serve both purposes. Please submit this by Maundy Thursday.

Alex mentioned the fact that the new Synod Clerk, which is now a full time, paid role, would be happy to visit M&C groups or churches. Just to prove that the M&C group has an educational function a discussion took place about the correct pronunciation of the word "clerk"!!

Prayer walk

Alex agreed to organize another church to church prayer walk perhaps with some sections in a reverse direction to last time in order to avoid long uphill sections!

Yorkshire Assembly – May 8th Scarborough

Synod Council have offered a subsidy towards transport which can be booked through the Synod Clerk, Tim Crossley. Clare Davison and Terri Raddings are coordinating transport from Leeds and it was agreed that separate buses were required from the north and south of the city to avoid driving round for hours in the rush hour traffic. Numbers are required by the end of March in order for transport to be booked.

On the back of the poster is a booking form for lunches which need to be booked in advance to the address on the form.

Prayer booklet

Five churches have now replied. See comment above about producing one document for this and the Moderator's appointment panel. Jenny Poulter would appreciate these as soon as possible please.

Other dates

- Elders Day (open to anyone interested) Theme - Holy Habits - at St Andrew's Roundhay on Saturday 30th March. Lunch provided.
- Synod Big Day Out – for everyone. Flamingoland September 14th. Reductions for early bookings!
- Learning Community residential, Wydale Hall 19th -20th September. The focus is "community audit". There is no charge for this.
- Arnold Harrison, former Moderator had died recently and his funeral was to be held on the Friday of the week of our meeting.
- Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) have a meeting on 27th March from 10am – 1pm at Bridge Community Church in Leeds re provision of food to children in need, particularly during school holidays.

Next Mission and Care Group meetings

Tues 7th May at Trinity United

Wed 10th July at Christ Church Halton

Wed 11th September at St Andrew's Roundhay

Thursday 12th November at the Church in Cottingley