

Church Council Update – This covers the period from the last CC update in July until the October CC meeting. As normal there was no CC meeting in August, and whilst the September meeting took place as planned, the update was deferred to merge with this October update.

Youth Work – It is great to have Lawrance in post now and he is getting involved with Immerse, Compass/14-2-17, Desire and directly with local schools. The Welcome Service for Lawrance on 13th September was a great success and thanks go to Lawrance's family and friends for organising the excellent catering. We have now received the promised Vale grant to support the outreach work and are very grateful for that. Lawrance is planning a youth concert for 21st November involving Oxford Young Steps and supported by Immerse, aimed at Compass and 14-2-17 members. I am sure that support in prayer or practical help would be appreciated.

Environmental Issues – A small sub group, chaired by Martin Tillin, has been formed to progress the Eco-Congregation review (see - <http://ew.ecocongregation.org>). This was discussed at a previous CC and agreed to be a useful framework to help us assess where we are as a church and to help us to shape our response to the environmental issues and the changes we need to make in the future. An initial assessment has been made and as expected there are some things that we are good at and it indicates some areas where we need to improve. There will be more about this at the AGM and an opportunity to contribute to the debate. It is important that consideration of the environmental impact is something that becomes part of every decision that we make as a church and all that we do and it is not just considered as another set of projects to resource.

Church Weekend – 13th-15th November - This is a great opportunity for us to get to know one another better as a church family, so please make it a priority. Due to the minimum commitment necessary to reserve the area we wanted, we do still have a number of places to fill. An invitation have gone out to All Saints members but if there are family, friends or other people you know associated with the Christian Centre that would be interested in coming along, please let Noreen know a.s.a.p.

Alpha – The Alpha supper was on 1st October and the course at the Christian Centre started on Monday nights from 5th October. It is not too late to for people to join in. Anyone interested should contact Pamela Shirras.

Sunday evening services – Several people had expressed a desire to have these and they are now planned for the first Sunday of each month at 7pm. It is intended to keep these as informal worship times and to minimise the amount of teaching preparation required.

AGM & Church Council – The AGM will be taking place on Sunday 18th October at 8pm. We will start with a time of worship, please make every effort to attend. As well as the usual reports we will spend some time considering the environmental issues before us, where we are as a church, and how we should respond going forward. We will be seeking new members to be elected to the Church Council and the Joint Council and we would encourage you all to seriously consider if you are able to serve in this way. Please talk to a member of the CC if you would like more detail.

LEP Review – A review with the Churches Together in Oxfordshire (CTO) is now underway and should be complete by Christmas. This a guided self assessment and the panel includes members of the congregation (Martyn Sené, John Norris and Lisa Wyatt), as well as external visitors that we can expect to see at various activities.

Questions or comments to me or any CC member. Thanks, Glenn.