

## **Church Council Update**

The following update reports on the discussion at the July Church Council meeting. If you have any questions or comments, please let me know or speak to any member of the Church Council. Thanks, Glenn.

**Youth Appointment** – This was discussed at some length, taking the feedback from the day of prayer. Whilst disappointed at our initial failure to appoint, this does provide an opportunity to re-evaluate where we are going and will enable Peter Bennett to be more involved in the selection process. The conclusion from the discussion at the CC meeting was that:

- a) We do want to push on and advertise again as soon as possible,
- b) We want to continue with the role as defined.
- c) We should increase the number of hours and offer up to full time.
- d) We need to review the job title used in the advert, as Youth Leader was confusing.
- e) We should try to offer some assistance with accommodation if at all possible

This will be more challenging financially. There may be opportunities to apply for other grants but even without that, it looks like the budget will just about stretch. A further challenge is to see if as a church we can provide or contribute to an accommodation package, as this could make a significant difference to potential candidates.

To that end please could you consider the following and if you might be able to provide or contribute to the accommodation please could you contact me this as soon as possible to discuss the options. In particular:

- A) Are you able to provide free or reasonably priced accommodation for a youth leader and if so, under what circumstances (i.e. if you would only consider male or female, singles or a couple, over what period of time, would be self catering or could it include meals, what costs would you want to recover etc).
- B) Would you be prepared to make a further commitment to a financial contribution towards the accommodation package (or generally to support the additional hours we are now looking for)

A small group has been tasked with progressing this as quickly as possible and will liaise with the Joint Council sub-group for support. If you would like to be part of this group please let me know.

**Compass Café** – The police continue to be supportive and are keen to continue with additional evening. From September it is intended to run the existing Compass on Thursday's with an age range of 11-13 and for the police to run a session for 14-17 year olds on Wednesdays.

**Immerse** – Amy's farewell services is on 20<sup>th</sup> July and we are very grateful for everything she has done for the Immerse and the church as a whole. Claire Naylor has committed to helping run Immerse and has been working closely with Amy. We will need more help to support this activity in future, if you are interested in doing this, please speak to Steve.

**Ministry** – Steve fed back on a visit to Dudley, which was not particularly positive. Steve reminded us that whilst we should long for and be open to filling of the Holy Spirit, we should be wary of cultural norms that are often assumed and expressed in charismatic circles. He thought that what was happening in Lakeland was a genuine work of God although he wasn't keen on

the style and presentation. Others had visited Chorley Wood and found it a much more uplifting experience. We should and do continue to seek genuine revival at Peachcroft. Steve reported the good news that Rachel Wood is seeking baptism and that he will be starting preparation sessions asap.

**Finance** – We appear to be on plan to break even on the year, which is better than originally budgeted and this is supporting the plans to extend the hours that we can offer to a Youth Leader. We also discussed charities that we should be supporting with our tithe this year. In addition to our existing support for Tear Fund, we agreed to share the remainder between Care for the Family & Share Jesus International. The exact amount to be donated will be confirmed at the end of the financial year (August)

**Alpha** – We agreed that we should run our course on Monday evenings as last year, planning to start on 29<sup>th</sup> September. If this is something that you would like to be involved in please let Steve or Fiona know.

### **Worship**

Arrangements for services in the autumn are taking shape. We expect Peter to be with us for at least one Sunday in four. All-age worship will usually be led by some of our own members, leaving one service a month led by someone from Peachcroft and one a month by an outside preacher from one of our supporting denominations. Peter's first service will be the 21<sup>st</sup> September.

**AGM** – A provisional date for the AGM has been set as the evening of Sunday 19th of October. Please pencil this into your diary.