

Church Council Update

The following update reports on the discussion at the May and June CC meeting and the CC ½ day away in April. If you have any questions or comments on any of this, please let me know or speak to any CC member. Thanks, Glenn.

CC Away ½ Day – At the CC on the first Thursday of each month, we do try to meet regularly with the leaders of the different ministries to talk & pray with them but often the meetings are taken up with day-to-day business. Hence the CC now meets on a Sunday afternoon a couple of times a year to try to ensure that we have time and space to consider more strategic issues. To this end we met in middle of April and discussed a number of areas of our life together:

At this session we discussed the Church Weekend and agreed that it should be led by Peter and focus on Healing & Wholeness. We talked about welcoming new people into the church community and building relationships. We also considered the questions of the balance of service to the community versus evangelistic outreach. This is not because we think that we should be starting new outreach activities but that we should be guiding and shaping how our ministries develop going forward. One area we discussed was Alpha courses and whether there are other alternatives that might be more appropriate. We decided that it was still right to run Alpha but it is important to remember that it relies upon individual invitations and the whole congregation need to be thinking about whom we should invite.

Having discussed other potential options and in particular, trying to answer the question “what would be appropriate for people that we are in contact with?” we decided that rather than just guessing, that we should ask them. We have therefore put together a community survey, which is now available for distributions. This includes questions that will hopefully help us to shape all of our ministries going forward, so please encourage people to fill it in and return it.

Youth Pastor Appointment – Following an exhaustive (or rather exhausting) interview and appointment process, I am very pleased to say that the position of Youth Pastor was offered to and has been accepted by Lawrance Shama. Subject to completing the paperwork formalities (CRB & references), we look forward to Lawrance starting on 1st July. I am sure that you will all join us welcoming Lawrance and his family to Peachcroft. We are planning to formally welcome him at the service on 13th September. This has been a long process but hopefully we are now at the start of a new and exciting road. I would like to thank everyone that has helped with the selection process and particularly all of the Youth Leaders that have been doing such a sterling job in the meantime.

Sunday Club – At the June CC meeting Marion Haynes joined us to provide an update from the SC Leadership team. We were reminded again, what a dedicated and excellent team of leaders we have and our thanks go to all of you. The numbers attending SC was discussed and we recognise that this can be difficult for the leaders when they may have a large number or could have no children in their group. A lot of effort goes into preparing a SC session, so it would be very helpful if parents could inform the SC leaders if they know that their children will not be attending on a particular Sunday morning.
(This can be done via email to sundayclub@peachcroftcc.org)

The Age of Stupid – This event was very well received and many thanks go to Martin & Ken for organising it. It raised many serious issues that we need to consider as individuals and as a church together. We will certainly be discussing this again at CC but also intend that it is the subject of debate for future church meetings / AGM.

Church Weekend – We have had a reasonable number of responses for the church weekend on 13th-15th November already but there are still a lot outstanding. This is a great opportunity for us to get to know one another better as a church family, so please put this in your diary and make it a priority. If you have any questions please see Noreen Carvel.

Baptisms – It was really great to see two of our young people coming forward for Baptism last week, so please continue to pray for Anna & Naomi. It was good to celebrate together as a church family in the sunshine afterwards and we are planning to have another Church bring and share BBQ in July after the service on 26th July. Please put that in your diaries too.