

Church Council Update

The following update reports on the May Church Council meeting. There is also a Church Council away ½ day on Sunday 16th May focusing on evangelism and outreach. If you would like to provide any input to or have any questions regarding this update, please speak to Peter or any member of the Church Council.

Youth Work – This month the CC met with youth work leaders to discuss both youth outreach (Compass/14-2-17) and Immerse. There have been some exciting developments and progress with the youth outreach activities, some of which have been fed back at recent services. The atmosphere at both of these regular sessions has improved dramatically over the last year. We are still reliant on a small number of people, who are very stretched, so anyone volunteering to help in any way would be appreciated (this could be up front or behind the scenes and is much more fun and rewarding than it may have been perceived to be in the past), please talk to Lawrance if you are interested. Our thanks go to the current dedicated team, who have been doing a great job for a long time.

The Immerse group is small and there is still a concern that it does not have a critical mass and has suffered from some issues of consistency and continuity. Finding the right time to run a discipleship course is proving difficult and a mentoring programme is being considered. Again, if you would like to help with Immerse, please talk to Lawrance.

Worship – A report from the Worship Group was reviewed. Five of our preachers recently went on a CWR training day, which was well received and it is hope to organise something similar for worship leaders. The programme for the summer is coming together. It includes a series on ‘Books that are hard to find’, Sabbath, the stories of Jesus, and a series on work/life balance. In August we would like to do something slightly different this year (normally all services in August are All Age Worship) and have a short separate session for Sunday Club children (20 mins with them all together) at some of the services giving the opportunity for a longer talk for the adults. If you would be interested in running or helping at one of these children’s sessions, please let Beryl know.

Church Away Day – As communicated in previous updates, we are planning to hold a church away day this year rather than a full weekend. We hope that this will enable more people to attend, as some are unable to commit to a weekend away. This will be on Saturday 2nd October in Ardington near Wantage. Please put this date in your diary and try to make it if at all possible. It will be a good time to build the church fellowship and would be great if we could get the whole church together.

Celebration - 4th July – Given the response to previous communications, we have decided to limit the celebration for the completion of the building project payments to a church BBQ after the service on Sunday 4th July. We would like to make this a real celebration and open it up to invite, family, friends and neighbours. So please put the date in your diary and if one or two people could volunteer to organise it, that would be appreciated.

Audio Visual help needed– We have previously identified a need for more help with the AV and this is becoming critical. Currently we are relying on a small group of people, that is going to reduce further as some of them move on to university. The bottom line is that we need more people to man the sound desk on a Sunday, and volunteers, of any age, would be very much appreciated. Please contact Martin Tillin if you would like to join the Stewards or the AV Team. Full training will be provided.

Building Tithe – Please don’t forget to put in your suggestions for projects that we might support with our Building Tithe. The proposal form can be obtained from Beryl or downloaded from the admin section of the church web site, see www.peachcroftcc.org and look under Admin. We are seeking proposals by the end of June to be reviewed at the July CC meeting.

Finance – Our financial position continues to be healthy, although we are reaching the stage in the year where there are significant outgoings (such as denominational contributions). We were reminded of our obligation to ensure that we are accounting for everything and ensuring it is recorded in the church accounts where appropriate. If you are unsure about what is required, please talk to Iain Carvel in the first instance.

Parish Reorganisation – It was reported that the discussions regarding the restructuring of the C of E parish are ongoing and are expected to conclude by April 2011. Implementation will then follow during the subsequent year.