

Minutes of the CTWM meeting held on 1st May 2019

Present: Mary Addington, Roger Bridgeman, Katherine Eyre, Diane Giffard, Rachel & Alex Green, Rita Joiner, Kevan McCormack, Sue Newell, Lyn Spall, Jean Wallace & Karly Woolgar

Apologies: Lesley Biggs, Penny Bird, Martin Dawes, Freddy Guest, Paul Hambling, Alan Hill, John Horsely, Clive Howard, Barbara Stear & Doug Waller

Welcome

Lyn welcomed everyone and asked for someone to open in prayer, Alex offered.

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were agreed.

Brief Report of Recent Events

Lent Talks

The talks at St Mary's were on how the gospel can be expressed in the wider world, with different speakers for each talk. On average there were 20 attending not all from St Mary's church. The Lenton sessions at The Methodist Church were mainly attended by church members but also a few of our Anglican friends. St Thomas's stations of the cross also had many from other churches attending.

Lent Lunches

The Salvation Army felt these were more organised from their point of view as they had longer to tidy up after their coffee morning/jumble sale. They would like to know in advance which church would be doing the lunches on what day. Lyn thanked all those at the Salvation Army for doing 'the donkey work'. Alex mentioned that he felt there was great fellowship at the lunches, and the way the tables were laid out meant people mingled more especially with the SA visitors.

Walk of Witness

The good weather brought many people out this year, and there were many people especially from the Methodist and St John's who joined us for the service after the walk. Lyn wanted to thank Freddy for finding the readings this year as these were well received. It was also mentioned by people that it was lovely that we started singing while we walked to Elmhurst Park. It has been suggested that we should try and encourage people to reflect during the walk rather than chat. Lyn thanked Doug and Quay for hosting the service and putting on refreshments.

Sunrise Service

The weather was wonderful, Lyn showed us a sunrise picture she had taken. Even though the start was 5.30am approx. 60 people attended. Lyn thanked Alan and the band, and the Deben Yacht Club for letting us use their kitchen.

Open the Book

Due to the schools being busy some of the sessions ended up being close together. The teachers feedback stated that the children are stimulated by these sessions and the teachers can carry on the teaching in their RE lessons. Katherine had noticed the children loved being involved, whether they were being asked to make noises or play instruments. Last term they did the following stories Parable of the lost son, The boys who say no, The men who say no and On the road to Emmaus.

Town Pastors

Diane commented that things had been quieter recently after a spate of incidents where ambulances had to be called. 2 teams (1 male and 1 female pastor) go out each week, with a prayer team back at the Methodist church of 3 or 4 people and usually 2 people praying at home. Most weeks they finish about 12.30am after the pubs have shut, but sometimes it can be as late as 1.30am. They do now have a new female pastor but will be losing Rob this summer as he feels he cannot do the walking anymore but he will be joining the prayer team. If anybody feels they would like to be part of the team please contact Pete Plummer at St John's or one of the team.

Healing on the Streets

As far as we know this is still going well with a team going out once a fortnight, and prayer cover back at St John's Old Vic. New members would be welcomed.

Finances

The present balance is £1166.68, this is more than expected as when the Prayer Room closed they gave back £472.48 that had been donated at start up. Expenses due are for a performance licence for the Regatta. It was also agreed that CTWM would pay for the order of service sheets (100) for the Regatta.

Forthcoming Events

Thy Kingdom Come

This initiative was started by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York but now covers 65 denominations in 114 countries. www.thykingdomcome.global/. This is held on the 11 days between Ascension and Pentecost and is all about prayer. Specifically, they invite each and every Christian across the country to pray that God's Spirit might work in the lives of 5 friends who have not responded with their 'Yes' to God's call. Lyn has suggested that all churches let Diane know of any prayer event they will be holding during this time, whether it be a regular prayer time or something special for these 11 days and a poster will be produced.

Regatta

The Regatta will be held on 23/06/19 and at the request of the regatta committee the service will start the event at 12pm. Lyn has booked the CTWM PA held at Quay and asked Mike Hazelwood to run this, she has also spoken to the St John's musicians Rachel offered to play as well. The St John's puppet team have also been booked, Diane has offered to do the reading and Alex offered to lead the prayers. Paul Hambling cannot now lead the service, so Lyn will look for someone else.

Big Family Day Out

This year it is on 14/07/19 10am – 1.30pm. It is mainly organised by Quay church but St John's are taking a more active role this year, anybody else from other churches are very welcome. The idea as always is to give something to the Woodbridge community, let them see the church doing something for them. There will be 3 short acts of worship on the hour, led by John Hardwick. There is also various entertainment for the children eg bouncy castle, face painting, toddler tent etc, as well as a prayer tent, food and other displays. The organising team are asking for volunteers to set up and take down. CTWM will donate £500.

Christmas Cards

Although it seems early to be talking about Christmas Lyn needs to ask the school at the end of term if they can get the children to design a Christmas card at the beginning of next term so that we can chose a winner at our November meeting. It was agreed to ask St Mary's School this year.

Advent Service

Even further away, but a member of St Andrews has asked if they can organise a Taize Advent service this year, this was agreed.

Minute News

St Mary's

Their 'Time to Reflect Group' is starting again but Kevan could not remember when. They have recently held their AGM where Kevan had to tell them they had to find £100,000 part for the mechanism for the bells and the rest for building repairs after the quinquennial report. Recently they have had 6 adults confirmed these are carrying on their meetings, there are another 3 wanting to get confirmed again all adults. 8-10 new families along with St Mary's School are organising a prayer fortnight, with stations set up round the church with hands on activities for the children about prayer.

St Andrews

Their lent course was based on Andrea Skevington's new book 'Jesus said I am'. The congregations at Ufford and St Andrews do their own walk of witness, starting at Melton walking to Ufford then back again for a soup lunch and service. They are organising a barbeque in August for the local Melton community.

Quakers

At present the Quakers are still looking for a new bigger venue to meet in as the suggested venue at Jetty Lane didn't work out. Their monthly appeals are:

May - Amnesty International, June - Suffolk Refugee Support, July - Freedom from Torture
August – Greenpeace, September - Prison Fellowship

Salvation Army

Every 2 months they have a core council and lunch, at present they are trying to get a committee together to help Alan run the church. There are at present 96 people registered with their food bank, with 10-15 of these being low income families. They are trying to get more people involved on their Thursday coffee morning/jumble sale, so they can sit and talk to the people who come in. They asked for prayer for an increase in numbers especially younger members and youth. Alan will be with them until the end of 2020.

Quay

They now operate a welcome desk on a rota, with a welcome pack for any visitors. There is a new women's group held once a month on a Sunday evening. They are running a prayer course on Wednesday evenings and Friday mornings. Monday 3rd June to Sunday 9th June they are holding a prayer time from 9am – 9pm all are welcome.

St Johns

They had their AGM last Sunday, Clive presented the new vision for the church, which many people had been working on. The new mission statement is Loving God, Loving People, Sharing Jesus. The 2 church wardens will continue, but the PCC will change format into 5 small groups focusing on 1 subject, Mission, Pastoral, Growing Younger (encouraging youth), Resourcing & Discipleship. 2 new initiatives up and running are The Hub café on a Monday morning 9.30am – 11.30am, which is looking into once a month sharing the skills of people and having a repair café. The other initiative is 'Who let the Dad's out' a Saturday morning for Dad's and toddlers. 2 other ideas that they are working on is a games evening for 20-40 yr olds to bring their non church friends to. The youth have also suggested taking over the church hall so they can have somewhere to bring their friends to. Shortly they will be running a 'life exhibition' for schools aimed at yrs 5 & 6, they will be trying to bring the Life of Jesus to youngsters via hands on technology.

Methodists

They will be holding their AGM next week for church members. Due to their quinquennial report scaffolding will appear in the next few weeks as repairs need to be done to the capstones and windows. There is a computer club open on a Saturday 10.30am-12 for anybody who may have problems or just wants to know how to use their laptop, I Pad etc, this usually meets upstairs but occasionally in the Octagon with the coffee morning. Last week they started a table tennis club on Saturday mornings 9-10am anybody welcome. For all those that remember him Frank Aichle is preaching this Sunday followed by a soup and pud lunch, do feel free to come and say hello.

AOB

After the meeting finished Rita and Sue from Quay church told Lyn this would be their last meeting. We would like to thank them both for their enthusiasm whilst on the committee and wish Rita well on her move.

Lyn suggested the meeting finished with open prayer, as so much of our meeting had been just about that.

The next meeting will be on 10 September 2019 at St John's Old Vic.

The meeting closed with The Grace

Signed.....

Dated.....