

Notes from a meeting held on Thursday 15th July 2010

Present: Pearl, Beryl, Lara, Stephen

Apologies: Denzil

1. Godly Play

Now to be held bimonthly.

2. Baptism Programme/ Wedding Programme

Stephen has created the cards and Lara said she would look at the 1st year anniversaries coming up this year to send off.

3. After Church...

The opening of the door and Lara and Stephen standing in different places was certainly helping – more people were staying for coffee than previously! We still need to announce this in the notices.

4. Prayer/Awareness Walk

Lara agreed to prepare the walk (Route 2 or 3) for Sunday 1st August at 6pm and Stephen will prepare a walk for Tuesday 17th August at 1pm (note change of date). The walk will involve awareness and prayer and scripture reflections at various points along the way. They are designed to be walked as a group or individually.

5. Pastoral Care

We continued our look at the section on Belonging in Bob Jackson's book, 'Everybody Welcome' (CHP 2009). A discussion arose about methods of welcome and pastoral care. Some points made were:

- One person had recently left the service because she felt uncomfortable when somebody gave her a glare (her child was restless). Whilst we think this is thankfully a very rare occurrence it is still worrying. We should encourage people to show understanding and to show people the hall/crèche facilities rather than simply frowning at them!
- Small Groups allow people to be cared for and feel that they belong. there are many small group opportunities at St Agnes – the new parish ministry overview charts help to identify the various ways in which people can belong, benefit and contribute to church life.
- Perhaps 'Pew Pastors' are a good idea – key people can make a mental note of who is missing or new in 'their pew' (people tend to sit in the same place every week!)
- There is still talking amongst the service – from adults not children!
- People leave behind their newsletters and then say they don't know what is going on during the week!

6. Future Meeting

We shall look at the checklists (either p74 or p100) on belonging.

Next Meetings: Monday 13th September at 11am
Monday 8th November at 11am