



Care & Nurture

ST AGNES
LONGSIGHT

Notes from a meeting held on Monday 10th March 2008

Present:

Beryl, Nancy, Denzil, Stephen

Summary of Achievements

It is now just over 2 years since the group first met. The following things have been achieved in that time:

1. Prayer tree
2. Monthly Prayer time in church
3. Prayer request/intercessions list updated
4. Baptism preparation and care policy
5. Bereavement care and training
6. Exploring the Bible group meets weekly
7. Home Communion invited to Evergreens
8. Children's toy bags
9. Crèche facilities on Sundays
10. Prayer cards for the sick
11. Leafleting houses at festival times

Suggestions for the future/recap on things suggested but not followed up

1. Leafleting

For Easter 2008 straight after the Eucharist on Tuesday 18th March, 11.30am.

2. Return to church

We noted the difficulty facing some people who might want to come back to church but find it awkward.

Suggestion that we take part in the Back to Church Sunday campaign this year and invite people individually.

3. Bereavement

Have a group, afternoon, evening – some time set aside to invite people to come to church with an opportunity to talk, pray, light candles or simply be still in our building and remember their loved ones. Tea and coffee available as well. Providing space and opportunity to talk about those who have died is an important ministry. This ties in with our parish vision of 'in this place will I give peace'. Possibly a May or June evening. Talk more about this next time.

4. Space for peace

Peace week has been wonderful simply because it allows people chance to sit in church to pray, read or simply 'be'. This is another way forward in our vision for the parish.

5. Welcome pack

For newcomers, visitors etc – bring the draft welcome booklet to the next meeting to look at and make suggestions. Suggestions that activities and group information comes first in the booklet, with worship times later.

6. Welcoming in church

We should think about having another person on welcoming duty in church. When the sidespeople are busy it is useful for another person to be available to spend time with new people. A comment was made that the different Eucharistic booklets we use are good – they help people know what's happening easy to follow and allow for adaptability.

7. Teaching

It was suggested that we have a series of articles – perhaps in the magazine – explaining some of things we say, do and see in church, even the more obvious things. For example what does PCC stand for? why do we mix wine and water? etc.

Next meeting: Monday 7th April, 10.30am