

# MICANEWS

Leeds Mission and Care Group

## Mission & Care Group Meeting 21st November at Headingley St Columba

On a rather filthy night when the traffic was atrocious, once again 10 churches were represented. 27 people attended and 9 gave their apologies.

The agenda is always a 'moveable feast' and this evening was no exception. Our surprise guest was Rev Ashley Evans - he had the date in his diary but we didn't! Ashley is the Synod Evangelist and Minister at Bolton Villas.

Geoff Ellis hosted the meeting on behalf of Headingley St Columba's fellowship and this was our running order:

Welcome and opening prayer

Ashley Evans

Reminder of the Calling process

Monthly visits update

Communications **Tony Lee was thanked for keeping us all in touch and Anne Parker will continue with her MiCaNews. Please let Anne know if you feel you are not receiving information**

Communion & worship possibilities

Sharing News

Date and venue of next meeting

Closed with the Grace shared

## Can we offer a welcome in our churches as good as some betting shops do??

Ashley enthused us for about 20 minutes with a great amount of information and stories and if you want to know more about the betting shop - invite him back to Leeds at some point. Read on for a flavour of his talk.

Ashley shared three ways he has of working:

1. Facilitate an Impact Session tailored to any group/ church to start a conversation on where they are at and how to grow the church through a positive programme.
2. Session (s) on sharing the Gospel in the way that people understand.
3. Preach at an evangelistic event.

He spoke about developing 'spiritual muscle memory' - practising by talking to each other in our churches about our faith A LOT! We need to know how to talk to people about our faith. We need to know how to talk about our faith to each other. How God reaches into the depths of our normal lives.

He facilitates Bible Study on 'The Great Commission' having deeper discussions and looking at the Good News and the Holy Spirit working in us and through us.

A question: "If we are not leading our churches into growth, where are we leading them"?

Change the culture from a Culture of Success to a Culture of Faithfulness - we are called to be faithful.

Thinking about 'Vision' - what is a Vision? We need to know what we are doing and where we are going - mission statement - vision statement.

Each person at the meeting received Ashley's leaflet **THE 4 Ps. PRESENCE PROCLAMATION PERSUASION PRAYER** Community activities; Invitations to Proclamation events; Friendship, teaching, example, discipleship; Prayer underpinning

the whole. *Ashley is happy to come along to a Mission & Care training day or to a church or a group of churches.* [ashleymtevens@hotmail.com](mailto:ashleymtevens@hotmail.com)

**This weekend (25th to 27th Nov) a candidate for the Headingley/Leeds Ministry and Mission Enabling post** is doing a task with a group from Leeds M & C churches and the Vacancy Group will observe; after which they will receive feedback from the M & C folks in preparation for them interviewing the candidate. If the Vacancy Group feels that the candidate is suitable to go forward with the process, and the candidate wishes to do so, the candidate will then visit some of our churches. Afterwards the candidate will meet with Headingley St Columba's Elders and the process will continue within that church. The members of the Vacancy Group are: Geoff Ellis, Angela Hughes, Jenny Poulter, Alex Walker, Peter Clarkson and Sara Oldknow.

**Monthly Visits** The visits to Stainbeck (Community Sing) and Beeston Hill (Charity Shop Coffee Morning) were very well supported and enjoyed. A reminder that **St. Andrew's Kaffee and Kuchen is from 2-4pm on Saturday** to hear about the visits to and from Germany. **Future visits - Christ Church Halton, 30th January 7.30pm A Virtual Prayer Walk.**

**Leeds Mission & Care Group** made a successful grant application to Leeds General Purposes Fund for **Network Leeds** - £1000 now and for the next two years, subject to a review. With the cessation of Leeds Churches Together in Mission and West Yorkshire Ecumenical Council operating differently it is hoped that Network Leeds will be the way forward for inter church/ denomination communication.

**It was agreed** that it would be a good thing to have Holy Communion together in our M & C worship once a year.

**SHARING NEWS Leeds General Purposes Fund** are looking for new Trustees and a Secretary ( please contact Geoff Ellis). **South Leeds Team Ministry** the umbrella charity for the Trinity Network Day Centres (Belle Isle and Dewsbury Road) are looking for a new member of the Executive Committee (please contact Janet Howse).

**Headingley St Columba** have an Advent Lunch for 50 people on 27th Nov; 4th Dec a Toy Service for the Salvation Army and Hyde Park Refuge; and children's party for church/social services/Hyde Park refuge children; 10th Dec Carols with Churches together in Headingley at the Arndale Centre; 11th a joint Carols Service with the Methodist Church and on the 18th a Nativity Service.

**Stainbeck** gave out leaflets 'warmly inviting' folks to The Leeds Band Concert 10th Dec 7.30 at Stainbeck; their Community Cafe is employing a community development worker supporting needy families. There have been 3 instances over the last few weeks where people being helped have in turn helped others. **Cottingley** Peter Clarkson has established a link with Cottingley Primary Academy and 70 children will be visiting the church. Also church people will staff a craft table with craft activities telling the Christmas Story at the Community Christmas Fair 26th Nov. Linda McHale was asked to bless the apple trees planted earlier this year on the estate. There will be a Community Carol Service on Christmas Eve. **URC in South Leeds** will be having a Christmas Party on the 14th December 7pm £3.50 and on the 17th the Community Cafe with Carols for charity. **St. Andrew's** are hosting refugees January 23rd to 30th giving them a hot evening meal, friendly conversation and a warm bed each night. WYDAN are vetting the refugees and overseeing as the groups stay at different faith venues. Rev David Grosch-Miller will be leading worship on the 4th Dec after which there will be a buffet lunch and a Q & A session on General Assembly. All are welcome and you can come for the lunch and Q & A for 1pm. **Abbey Churches Together** have carol singing in Kirkstall Abbey on the 16th at 10.30am. **Christ Church Halton** are singing carols and telling the Christmas Story outside Lidl, Halton, on the 7th Dec. at 6pm. Concordia will be singing on Chapel FM, Old Seacroft Chapel, York Rd, on 4th Dec 3pm and will be available on Chapel FM website.

**THE NEXT MEETING IS: 23RD JANUARY 2017 AT WIGTON MOOR 7PM FOR 7.30 and we closed with sharing the Grace with each other.**