Calne Partnership of Churches Meeting
Quarterly Meeting and Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 11 January 2023 at 7.30 pm
Venue: Church House Church St

Representatives

Rose Addington	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	
Linda Carter	- Marden Vale Benefice	- Apologies
Jenny Colby	- Parish of Calne and Blacklands	
Steven Colby	- Parish of Calne and Blacklands	
Lyn Cooper	- Calne Methodist Church	
Father Vincent Curtis	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	- Apologies
Tricia Davies	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	
Derek Gard	- Calne Methodist Church	
Dave Halls	- Dayspring	- Apologies
Elizabeth Hitchens	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	
Craig Manley	- Calne Methodist Church	
Teresa Michaux	- Parish of Calne and Blacklands	
John Michaux	- Parish of Calne and Blacklands	
Andy Miller	- Calne and Blacklands	- Apologies
Terry Mills	- Calne Baptist Church	
Robert Pickford	- Cherhill Church in attendance	
Teresa Quinn	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	
Carole West	- Dayspring	
Jenny Wood	- Calne Baptist Church	
Joanne Williams	- Calne Methodist Church	- Apologies

Quarterly Business Meeting

Steven Colby welcomed everyone and opened the meeting in prayer

Minutes

1. **Apologies** Fr Vincent Curtis, Joanne Williams, David Halls, Linda Carter, Andy Miller

2. **Minutes of the meeting** held on 12 October were agreed and signed as a true record.

3. **Matters Arising**
   a. Progress on Ministers' Meetings - Craig undertook to fix a date for a lunch meeting
   b. Progress on Fairtrade St. Mary's has been asked to use Fairtrade products
   c. Warm Space initiative Three churches are involved and there are volunteers

from 4 churches. The take-up has been sporadic, with sometimes limited numbers, but it has enabled church members to meet and gel together. It was felt that we should continue, but feedback to the Council at a future meeting in March.

d. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - there is a service on 22 January to celebrate this 6:00 at the Methodist Church
e. Messy Church Meeting to discuss this on 25 January at the Methodist Church, 7:30. It is anticipated that Messy Church will happen every 2nd Sunday starting in March.
f. Lent Talks as last year, one group will meet in person starting on 28 February and weekly, with the last meeting on 28 March at 7:30. Venues to be confirmed, but it is probably will start at the Baptist Church. The other group will meet on Zoom starting 2 March and finish on 30 March. The materials used will be the same as those used in Corsham, and Craig will advise further details.

4. **Church Information Sheets,** please send details of updates to Steven asap

5. **Walk for Witness** in conjunction with Cherhill Church, this will start at 2pm on Good Friday at Cherhill Church, all are welcome.

6. **Easter -** Details of services for Holy Week to John by 28 February

7. **Any Other Business**

- Rise Christian Theatre Group, St Edmunds Church Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 7.00.p.m. RISE Theatre will stage their new touring production of "Faithful Companions" at Saint Edmund's Church. More Details on https://www.saintedmundscalne.org.uk/news/rise-theatre-faithful-companions
- The discussion about the use of YouTube and a video would be further researched by Steven and brought back to the next meeting.
- Members were reminded to highlight the dates for service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Lent Groups, Rise Theatre, and deadline for details of Holy Week services and to tell their members often and frequently.

Minutes

Annual General Meeting

A. Chair's report:
The past year started still with some restrictions in place due to Covid, but these have slowly eased throughout the year. It was the year of the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, for which a civic service was held in St. Mary's followed by a picnic on 'The Green'. Though it was also the year of her death and this was remembered in all our churches, giving the people of the area an opportunity to remember and reflect on her life.

As we continued to grapple with restrictions and people's concerns about the pandemic, a service of Compline for the week of prayer for Christian Unity was held over Zoom.

Lent talks were held, two groups being formed, one on Zoom and one in person. Easter services were held in all the churches.

Two clergy have left the town, Rev. Bob Kenway from the parish of Calne and Blackland, and Sam King from the Baptist Church. These two churches are in the process of appointing new ministers. The new Methodist Minister, Rev Craig Manley, is now in place, a welcome addition to the clergy in the area. He is the Superintendent for the Wiltshire United Area.

There was an event in the town hall on 14th May – 'The Calne Big Get Together'. The partnership had a stall there for which we had a banner made and updated the church information leaflets. There were some good conversations during the day about the activities the churches run. My thanks to all who helped with the stall. We had a stall at a Fairtrade event in October and again took the banner and information leaflets, we had a pop-up banner made for this event.

We supported Ukraine by sending donations out to Ukraine, using the Methodist Church as a collection point, thanks to them for this. There are various church families hosting Ukrainian families in Calne.

Calne Baptist Church with the scouts operated a left-luggage service for the Bike Meet in July. In addition to the usual refreshments at St. Mary's for Bike Meet, there was a communion service, which was well attended.

Open the Book is now welcomed into three local schools, Holy Trinity Academy, Marden Vale Academy and St. Edmund's Academy, leading whole school collective worship in each school every week.

The Food bank continues to support the local community during these difficult times of the cost of living crisis. In addition to this the Baptist Church, Methodist Church and Church House are all opening one day a week during the winter as 'warm spaces' an initiative started by the town council. Volunteers are helping from the other churches in the partnership.

B. Treasurer's report:
   This will be circulated subsequently

C. Election and confirmation of officers.
   Steven was confirmed as chair for his second year (Proposed John and seconded by Carole)
   There was no nomination for vice chair and this would be advised later

The secretary was confirmed in post (Proposed Steven and seconded by Jenny)
The treasurer was confirmed in post (Proposed by Steven and seconded by John)

D. The Foundation Statement was read by all

E. Any other business -
The Partnership meetings for this year will be:
Thursday 27 April 7:30 at the Methodist Church
Thursday 6 July 7:30 at St Edmunds
Tuesday 10 October 7:30 at the Baptist Church
Thursday 11 January 2024 7:30 at Church House which will also be the AGM

It was felt that in future the Foundation Statement should be read at the beginning of the AGM

The meeting closed with prayer by Steven and the saying together of the Grace at 9:05