

Minutes of Elders' Session –1st November 2016

Chairman – Rev. Robert Bebb. Minutes taken by – Sue Hawkins

1. 6 apologies and 12 present plus Josh Parmar, Youth worker.
Welcome extended to Sioned Williams, Theology Student in training.
2. Church report
3. The session spent time in prayer
4. The minutes of the Session September 27th 2016 were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising :

- 4.1. **Bible Bus**- Josh Parmar is liaising with colleague in Llanishen Evangelical church to arrange the Bus coming next year as dates in November were not suitable.
- 4.2. **Christian Aid** – Mari Tutesigensi has been invited to address the church on Sunday November 6th am service.
- 4.3. **Photocopier** has been wired and connected to the Wi Fi network.
- 4.4. **Easter** family services were discussed, it was decided that there would be Holy Communion service at 9.30am on Easter Sunday April 16th and an “Agape” style communion held as a Church family at 11.00am. April 23rd would remain as a Parade Service even though it falls at the end of the Easter school holiday. Therefore there will be family services on two consecutive Sundays in the Easter holidays.

5. Main Items.

5.1. Update from Groups :

a) **Christian Aid Group** met on 25/10/16, 3 members. Janet Chapman reported to Elders.

i) Looking forward to Mari visiting us on Sunday 6/11.

They looked at different ways to engage the congregation in raising monies for Christian Aid next year. **Christian Aid Week 14th – 20th May 2017**

Suggestions were:

- Lent Lunches to continue
- Junior Church Cake sale (possibly May 14th)
- Christian Aid week
- House to house collections to continue to target those more “successful” roads. John Rackham will investigate any roads not covered by other churches in our area.
Volunteer collectors to be confirmed by February – Kara will coordinate.
- Community event Saturday May 20th, Kara to liaise with Neil Whittington regarding suggestions (ie Car wash/ family activities etc) and feasibility.
- Whole Church event an Afternoon Tea Party, possibly in June, date to be confirmed. Invite friends and family, donations to Christian Aid. Janet Chapman to check possible dates with Church Secretary and Administrator.

The Chairman reminded the Elders that next year is the special 5 yearly (Quinquennial) Appeal for the Connexion called the **Typhoon of Love** specifically for the Philippine islands. Packs will be distributed to the churches in the New Year.

b) **Future Ministry Committee** – Presbytery has appointed an interim Moderator to oversee the Pastorate Committee to appoint a new Minister and guide us through the process. Miss Glynis Owen with Mr. Mike Martin to assist her will meet with the future Ministry team on Nov 22nd.

The Church Profile and Role description have been drawn up. The Church members have seen the Church Profile and will be invited to see and comment on the Role description. They will be asked to contact an Elder to pass on any comments or suggestions.

The **Pastorate Committee** will be formed to include all Elders and elected Church members.

c) Report from Pulpit Secretary.

2017 arrangements have been sent out to Elders. Josh P. has agreed to preach regularly. One new speaker has been booked on April 9th – a UHW Chaplain Rev. Rhiannon Francis. Andy Webb has confirmed he will preach Aug. 20th a.m. service and Rev Rosemary Aldis will preach in the evening and conduct Holy Communion.

May 14th evening Service there is an United Service for Christian Aid, therefore no Late Late Breakfast. Other United Services will be held in the evening July 2nd at St. Isan's Communion Service and 22nd October for One World Week.

Christmas 2017 - the Carol Service will be in the evening on Dec 17th. On December 24th there will be morning Worship but no evening service. The midnight service will take place as usual that night. Dec 31st morning service only.

d) Worship Group.

This year's midnight Service will be led by Josh P "Tales of the Unexpected" focusing on Joseph's story. The Carol Service, Dec 18th evening Service will be the traditional format of Carols and Readings.

Parade Services in 2018 - 25th February and 22nd April. Both are 4th Sundays in the month.

We are looking to hold two "contemporary" Services a month.

Carol singing at the Three Arches – once again we hope to be able to visit the local pub to share some Christmas carols. Rob Tucker will liaise – Thursday Dec 15th suggested.

5.2. Managing Change ongoing

6. Main focus for next session: Pastorate Committee timetable.

7. Date of next meeting: Tuesday November 29th 8pm

8. AOB:

- i) Mince Pies will be distributed on Saturday 17th December to local businesses and community. Fliers advertising the Christmas services will be given out too.
- ii) Josh seeks prayerful support regarding his future in the Ministry
- iii) Elders were asked to gather names for the Christmas Dinner on December 17th.

9. Closing Prayer –The meeting closed with the saying of the Grace.

Sue Hawkins November 4th 2016.

Agenda November 29th 2016

1. Apologies
2. Church Report.
3. Prayers
4. Minutes of the meeting November 1st 2016
5. Main items
 - Update from groups
 - Pastorate Committee timetable
 - Away Day arrangements
 - Managing change
6. Main Focus for next session
7. Date of next meeting –
8. AOB