

PLANS TO WORSHIP AS A SINGLE SUNDAY CONGREGATION FROM JUNE 2014

On Sunday 27th April our Church Meeting made the decision that we will move to worship as a single Sunday congregation from the beginning of June and that initially we will move around our three premises - Olton, Christ Church and Hobs Moat - on a monthly basis. So the schedule over the Summer will be:

June - Christ Church 10am

July - Olton 10am

August - Hobs Moat

GETTING TO CHURCH

We would like to ensure that all those who wish to worship with us will be able to.

If you normally receive a car-lift to church, we will assume that this same lift will be able to bring you to a different venue.

If you now need a car-lift to church, please ensure that your name and contact details are put on the list in each church indicating that you require a car-lift.

If you are able to offer car-lifts to church, please indicate on the list how many places you are able to offer.

Initially it is assumed that lifts will be church-to-church, but it may be that personal arrangements can be made to collect folk from home.

WELCOME TEAMS

We will seek to ensure that, wherever we are worshipping, those who offer a welcome at the door will represent each congregation, so there will be a familiar face!

Those who have fulfilled this role up to now will be asked where and when they will be willing to do this, so that a rota can be prepared. If you would like to become a part of a Welcome Team then please let the co-ordinator know very soon.

MONEY OFFERTORY

Many of you use the envelope scheme for your offerings and Gift Aid. The envelopes currently being used in each congregation will continue in use for the rest of 2014. Please use your envelopes regardless of which church we are in.

Please may we remind you that the envelope scheme is to enable you to give a regular amount each week and to 'catch up' for any Sundays when you do not attend. Your generous giving is essential to the ongoing life of our church.

YOUNG PEOPLE

We will be ensuring that there is provision for young people each Sunday at each worship venue. We have already begun a program to bring the young people from each congregation together other than on a Sunday, so that they can get to know each other and invite friends.

MUSIC

One of the benefits of pooling our resources is that we now have a wealth of musical gifts - instrumentalists and singers - who can support us in our worship and in some of our mission activities (ministry to care-homes, social evenings etc.). We are arranging an initial gathering soon to prepare for a 'Worship through Music' service on 22nd June. If you would like to be part of this as singer or instrumentalist, then please look out for details of this gathering or ask one of the existing musicians.

FLOWERS

Each congregation enables people to donate flowers, or funds for flowers, on particular significant Sundays. We want to enable people to donate for their particular occasion regardless of which church we are worshipping in. Existing lists will be updated and combined. Details of the 'flower person' in each congregation will be made known, so they can advise about what containers and stands etc. are available in each place.

READERS

As with other Sunday roles we will be looking to amalgamate the lists of those who read the lessons in worship. If you are on a current rota then someone will be in touch to ask where and when you are willing to read so that a new rota can be created.

REFRESHMENTS

It is planned that we should have refreshments following the service every week, enabling conversation and 'getting to know' those from the other congregations. This will be another list that will appear in each church during May, seeking volunteers for the rota.

PARKING @ CHRIST CHURCH

This seems to be a concern for several folk, when it need not be. For those with 'reduced mobility' the church car park in Union Road has 25 spaces. The Warwick Road 'drive-in' has space for 3 cars for those with disability needs. We are investigating the possibility of free parking in the multi-story car park on the opposite side of the Warwick Road.

Please look out for the 'Rota Person' in your church who will be collecting names during May for each of the necessary rotas mentioned above.

ADMINISTRATION

One way in which we could amalgamate our three congregations and release the time and energy of more people for our tasks of mission is to appoint an **Administrator**. We are working on a 'Job Specification', but such a role would likely include: copying papers for Elders' and Church Meetings, taking minutes, preparing and copying the service paper, maintaining rotas for Sunday duties, responsibility for ordering requisites, managing a photocopier etc. The Elders are still exploring this role and any honorarium that may be paid, but if there is anyone who would be interested in fulfilling this role for the church please have a word with Mark.

THINK THERE IS A PROBLEM? - THEN PLEASE ASK!

Over the months we have had monthly united worship, already some misunderstandings about our different facilities have become 'common currency'. If you perceive a problem for yourself please ensure you contact someone who can ensure you have accurate information. Most issues will be able to be overcome.