

COMMENTS REGARDING BISHOP'S "LET US TALK"

Question: What is the 'Personality and Character of your Church?

Comments: "As stated in our Mission Statement "Welcoming to all, to be a Spirit filled channel of God's love for everyone and to be God's smile"

"Friendly, family orientated, fun"

"Very friendly, welcoming, such a feeling of joy"

"Open, mixed, fun, forward thinking, supportive"

"We are a welcoming and friendly church, willing to help and keen to have fun as well"

"Relaxed, welcoming and friendly, catering for traditional and modern needs" **

"We are a welcoming church, enabling people to know the love of God through our Hospitality and fellowship. Our love for Jesus is at the heart of all we do"

Question: What are the priorities of your Church?

Comments: "Outreach, especially to families, to share the blessings we receive from God with others. Cater for a variety of forms of worship, from low to higher forms"

"To reach out into the community"

"To reach out to families who are not 'churchy'"

"Reaching out to the community"

"We are trying hard to 'find' and welcome new families. We are "age-heavy" so we want youngsters"

"Appealing to the wider community in a way which doesn't put them off if they only come for one aspect of the church"

"To build a loving, caring community which can be the hub of our local community, and which can discern and respond to the needs of our local community"

Question: Is there one thing you would like to take on in the coming year (recognising that may mean you may need to stop something else)?

Comments: "? Expanding evangelism to increase building up of relationships with the local community. To be a true missionary church. Listening first"

"Hoping to join the Healing team"

/contd.

“Always ready to do what I can. If a new challenge was thrown at me I would have to drop something for sure”

“To raise awareness of mental health issues within the church community, and to discern how we can reach out to local people, many of whom are isolated and very lonely”

Question: Are there ways in which we can work together to achieve more?

Comments: “Inter-church events to be seen as one with one unified message of the Good News. To devise mission action plans together”

“Meet, discuss problems/red tape. Publicise good church work”

“Pray, talk together as a Diocese, swop ideas”

“Happy as things are”

“Perhaps we need to ‘get into’ local schools so they can get to know us and we can encourage them to come with their gifts to our church”

“More effort to attract the wider community for all the events and Services. Asking them for their feelings”

“To make available diocesan expertise in mental health issues, to enable us to respond appropriately”

Question: How can we best measure the quality and impact of church life?

Comments: “Listen to people and give feedback”

“Eagerness to love and serve the Lord. Extend our love and friendship to those in need, listen to and help”

“Talking to people and give feedback”

“By society around us. Things we can do for each other - our relationships etc”

“By the number of people who attend the church for all the events and Services. Asking them for their feelings”

“At local church level through our Mission Action Plan, and through providing Opportunities for our congregation and diocesan representatives to meet to discuss And discern needs and priorities in our church life together”

** “All of these questions would make good topics for a discussion group so that differing views could be aired”