

St Matthew's Annual Church Meeting 18 May 2008

Agenda

1. Video – A Week in the Life of St Matt's
2. Minutes of the previous meeting
3. DCC election
4. Finance – Giles Parratt
5. Finance Questions
6. enCounter Culture – Richard Thomas
7. Vicar's report
8. Question time
9. Prayer

Minutes

These minutes are to be read in conjunction with the Leadership Team reports distributed ahead of the meeting.

The meeting opened with Worship.

Apologies from Dee and William Harper

1. Video – A Week in the Life of St Matt's

The Video was viewed

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were reviewed and accepted Proposed by Anita Coombs and Seconded by Claire Caless.

3. Election to the District Church Council

CW explained the leadership structure in St Matt's. There are two vacancies within the DCC. One due to Jane Taylor's 3 year term finishing and one space unfilled from last year. Steve Broadie and Alison Edmunds have been accepted.

4. Finance

The budget was £141,810, income was £139,224 and the amount spent was £136,943. Spending was cut back on as soon as the need was seen. There was also a wonderful response from the congregation to the situation. There was a 12% increase on spending from 2006, we implemented some cuts on spending and central costs were slightly less due to a gap in staffing. This won't happen this year.

For 2008 the budget is £148,218. This is a 6.5% increase on last year's income and a 4.5% increase on the budget. Teams are developing around staffing, ministry and growth. This presents a challenge to the year ahead as we look to be below budget

at the end of the first quarter. The Church Centre also adds costs of a round £3000 p/a.

The current situation estimates income of £133,000. This leave a gap of £15,000 and with increased spending this deficit could be greater.

What is needed for 2008?

We will be closely monitoring the individual budgets.

Gift Aid gives us back 28% so please do complete Gift Aid forms.

God's Blessing!

5. Finance Questions

The 28% from the government does take in to account the recent changes. We were going to suffer but we have now been given 3 years leeway.

6. enCounter Culture

A new youth work structure was started in September

- Open Doors, creating contact with young people and meeting them where they are.
- Uprising, A youth service with a gospel message
- SURF (Serving Under a Radical Father), currently age related cells.

Encouragements

- Significant increase in weekly contact
- Genuine change in young people's lives
- Young people taking first steps towards Jesus
- The team

Challenges

- Movement from Open Doors – Uprising
- Outreach Vs Discipleship
- Resources

Vision

- Encountering and responding to God – what is God saying?
- To see more young people move to Uprising
- To employ a Children's Worker.

Someone asked about the response form the parents – this has been really positive.

7. Vicar's Report

Looking below the surface of St Matt's is like looking at an iceberg, so much goes on after Sundays.

We are tracking what the Spirit is doing.

Our dependence is on Jesus

- 1 Peter 2: 4-6 Jesus Christ the living stone, our corner stone
- Encountering and Responding to God Today
- We are like living stones being built in to a spiritual house

Stones in the last year

- 1 year since the re-ordering
- encounter Culture launched
- Matt's Monkeys grown
- NOISE
- Community lunch started
- New Wine Networks grown
- Alpha courses – 2 in one year!
- Team has increased

Future stones

- Space needed
- New Leaders needed
- Children's ministry
- You?

So much more...

- Healing
- Growth
- Sending Out

Our Ultimate Goal

- Declaring God's praises – 1 Peter 2:15
- Be God's witnesses – Luke – wherever we are

YOU! – What sort of stone are you?

8. Question Time

We don't know if the Electoral roll has particularly increased

Transport for a Small Group will be arranged

Talk to Richard to get more involved in the youth activities

9. Prayer

The meeting closed with prayer.