

# **The Garth Ministry Area News**

*Issue 6: September 2022*

## **Ministry Team**

The licensing service on 24<sup>th</sup> July at Christ Church was a very enjoyable occasion and it's been great to have Ian and Sandra working with us over the summer. Rev'd Ruth Coombs was a late addition to those we were going to license after Bishop June offered us the chance to add Ruth's talents to our team. Unfortunately, Ruth wasn't able to participate in the service as she got covid at just the wrong time (is there a right time to get covid?!). However, Ruth was subsequently licensed at a separate service in the Bishop's Chapel and will join us on 9<sup>th</sup> October when she is back from holiday. It remains the bishop's intention to also licence Jennie Willson as Lay Minister but that hasn't been possible yet due to pressure of other things. We have a team day planned for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October where we can get to know each other better and develop our working relationships.

Please continue to pray for The Garth's Ministry Team as our new colleagues settle into their roles and we gel together as a team.

## **Changes in the Diocese**

The Senior Staff team of the Diocese have had their hands full of late with the Archdeacon of Margam, Michael Komor, also filling in as Acting Dean of the Cathedral while the appointment of a new Dean was arranged. This of course meant he also had to deal with the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the Queen at Llandaff. He will probably be relieved that the appointment has now been made and Canon Richard Peers, currently Sub Dean at Christ Church Oxford, will be installed at the Cathedral on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

We will, however, have further changes to adjust to as Bishop June has announced her intention to retire in December. This is not unexpected but means that we should pray for those who will help prepare for the new appointment and for the Electoral College members who will make that appointment in due course.

## **Positive Co-operation**

There has been quite a lot going on behind the scenes in recent weeks which has included some good examples of how our increased working together across the Ministry Area has been beneficial. The MA Council set up a Digital Communications Workgroup which was tasked with developing a MA website incorporating the good material on our existing websites. This will save money, improve links across the MA and improve communication.

This group is working together well and proceeding quickly - hopefully the new website will be up and running by the end of the year. In the meantime, Radyr have helped out Pentyrch by enabling the existing Pentyrch Churches site to be hosted through the same site as Radyr (saving the additional cost of it being hosted elsewhere). In an equally helpful manner Danescourt and Radyr were looking to improve their booking literature for their halls and were able to draw on work Pentyrch had already done for Creigiau Church Hall! Happy Days!

### **Interested in Social Media?**

In a few months' time the Digital Communications Team will be looking at how we can make better use of social media to advertise events and further improve our communication with the communities we serve. We recognise that we are short of people who are knowledgeable in this area and are keen to identify people within our churches who might be able to help us by sharing their knowledge of using Facebook/Twitter/Instagram etc. Please contact one of the Ministry Team (contact details below) or Ros James (07729 128457) if you'd like to help or recommend someone.

### **Any budding artists or designers in our midst?**

We are also starting to think about a logo for the Ministry Area, a simple, easily identifiable image with minimal words that can be used in all our churches as a symbol of our partnership. We recognise that there may well be people amongst our church families who have the skills to draft some ideas for this – if you fancy giving it a go pass your ideas on to Steve (contact details below).

### **Children and Young People**

We hope to get the Sunday evening Youth Club restarted in the next few weeks – those on the mailing list should get an email from us shortly. The group meets at Christ Church, Radyr, but is open to children and young people (in Year 5 and upwards) from any of our churches. You can bring a friend too if you want. If you're not on our mailing list, or don't receive the information by next weekend, please let Steve know. Incidentally, the two opportunities above, and indeed many of the other jobs that people do in churches, are open to people of any age – so don't feel you're not old enough to offer your skills!

### **Planning Ahead**

The MA Council recently spent a day together looking at our Strategy & Vision for the future. It's still a work in progress, but it was a very valuable day and a great encouragement to see how well we are working together. The mixture of elected members and licensed clergy make a good team, with a good range of skills and knowledge between us and a readiness to bounce ideas off each other and both encourage & challenge one another in our work together. It's good to know the Ministry Area has a creative team leading us!

### **Ministry Team Contact Details**

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