



Council Awayday

Overview

Held on Saturday 8 May.

Three topics, arising from the questionnaire, were discussed:

- Youth
- Outreach
- Identity

After discussion in groups, we tried to identify priorities in each area.



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Youth

Questions discussed included:

- what is our work with children and young people for?
- should we take children and young people out of services and provide separate teaching?
- what duties should children and young people have in church?



Conclusions about Junior Church:

- Continue age appropriate, separate teaching.
- Activities should be fun, but not superficial.
- Encourage children to take part in various aspects of worship, including music.
- Emphasis on relationships and fellowship.



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Youth

Conclusions about Youth Work:

- Our resources are limited, so:
 - should we look for a new youth worker?
 - or should we encourage our young people to go elsewhere?
 - or something in between?

No decision reached.



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Outreach

Questions discussed included:

- where do we find potential new members?
- how do we reach them?
- how can we improve our welcome?
- how do our premises help or hinder our welcome?



Conclusions:

- More publicity
 - Leaflet to hotels, embassies etc
 - Should we have a “Publicity Officer”?
- Business cards with short information
- Continue our warm welcome
- Accessible information for newcomers
- Personal contact – invite friends



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Identity

The survey showed our common ground is essentially middle-of-the-road Anglicanism. We are the only church in the area that offers this.



Questions discussed included:

- which features of St Ursula's fit / don't fit the above description?
- how can we help those who don't yet identify with this common ground?
- does a variety of services celebrate our diversity or show uncertainty about our identity?



Conclusions:

- Encourage our diversity
 - Clear definition of type of service
 - Continue the informal services on 2nd Sunday
 - More people to participate in music
 - Children's Eucharistic prayer / liturgy
 - All-Age / Praise Services
- Continue the warm welcome we offer visitors and newcomers