

AGM report: Pastoral care & Layworker.

I returned to work part-time in June and the first thing I need to do is thank the pastoral care team and particularly Keith Callear and Gavin for all they did to fill the gaps during my maternity leave. Since coming back I have focused exclusively on pastoral work (apart from assemblies, open door and odd random activities!) Despite this I still don't seem to have enough hours in the week. The main things we have focussed on in the last twelve months are:

Residential/ nursing home teams: We have been and are still keen to recruit more people for the teams which do services at nursing homes once a month: We currently have teams going to Aldridge Court Nursing Home (1st Tues morning of each month; Contact: Maureen Main); Homebell House (3rd Wed morning of each month: contact Joyce Gainey); Rectory Gardens (1st Tues morning of each month: contact Jan Stanley) & Richmond Hall (Contact Jim Chalmers). We are keen to also find volunteers to also support a service at Baytree house and also possible Acorn (in Walsall, belonging to Margaret & Lloyd Davis)- please let me know if you are interested in any of the above.

Vulnerable adults policy- Jenny Hopley, Dawn Allison, Helen Walley, Lynne Trew & myself have spent several months looking at creating & adopting a vulnerable adults policy. In the last month CCPAS have released a new child protection policy which the church uses and as this now covers vulnerable adults we are recommending adopting this policy.

Meals & Practical help: Along with the office we are working on renewing the lists of people offering occasional practical support and meals for people in pastoral need. We are glad to have Sarah Nowell now helping Jenny Wiedeman in arranging meals. Thank you to them and all those who have cooked for doing such brilliant work in organising this over the last year- it is very much appreciated and valued,

Need for visiting team: The list of visiting people has been very demanding recently as you may have gathered from the long list of poorly & bereaved people on the notice sheet and prayer chain. Keeping up with this has been quite consuming and as a consequence those people who aren't necessarily ill but maybe housebound or lonely and just needing company has been neglected. I would LOVE to get together a group of people to visit those people and care more comprehensively than I am able at the moment. Samuel has brightened up many visits more recently and it has been nice to involve him a little (as long as I can keep him from breaking Wedgwood ornaments and pressing TV switches!). There has been an extensive list of illness & bereavements in our church family this year and some very valued members in particular whom we will sorely miss-

Home communions: Richard, Gavin & I continue to take communions out 3-4 times a year to many of our 'congregation at home' which is always a privilege.

Carers lunches: We held another carers lunch at the end of November and another is planned in a couple months- this time "Tea at the Ritz!"

Prayer support: Gavin & I have been praying and supporting several people recently and we are very very encouraged by the way God has moved and worked in the lives of many of these people in significant and life healing ways. Please continue to pray for our church and also be brave and go for prayer yourself- God has really astounded and amazed us recently and is always wanting to do more

Thank you for all your prayers, support and encouragement over the last 18 months since Samuel was born. I have loved LOVED being back at work and busy again but also thank you for letting me work part time and enjoy being a Mum too. Each year I write my report there are countless things I have to thank God for- he is amazing and surprises me with something new every week . I really want to thank you for sharing your lives and faith with me and allowing me the privilege praying and spending time with many of you.

Love Maxine XXXX