

Churches Together in Leyland

Meeting Minutes from 17th November 2021 at 7.30pm

Venue St Marys Community Centre (previously Priory Club)

Attendance

Leyland Baptist	Pastor Liz Hamilton
Leyland Methodist	Rev Gill Welsh, Kath Grannell - Minute Secretary, David Marston
Midge Hall Methodist	Muriel Butler
St Ambrose	Fr Paul Robinson, Janet Singleton, Rita Braithwaite, Louisa McFarlane
St Andrew's	Margaret Dixon
St James'	Maddy Parkinson
St John's	Rev Barbara Wilson, Peter Fitton - Treasurer
St Mary's	Fr Jonathan Cotton, Martin Smith
United Reformed Church	Christine Holmes - Vice Chairman

Apologies

Leyland Methodist	Brenda Marsden
Midge Hall Methodist	Deacon Ellen Monk-Winstanley
St Andrew's	Rev David Whitehouse, Rev Duncan Bell
St James'	Rev Marc Wolverson, Nerys Brown
St John's	Diane Barnard
St Mary's	Teresa Smith - Chairman

Christine Holmes chaired the meeting as Teresa was unwell. She told us that six local URC congregations were intended to be grouped into a Partnership with two ministers. She used the prayer from the commissioning service as the opening devotion.

Upcoming events

Fareshare at Tesco, organised by Diane Barnard. Tesco will arrange the Saturday with help from the Rotary. Thursday & Friday 18th & 19th November rotas have been filled by CTL volunteers.

Christmas Tree lights switch on at the Cross. Friday 26th November. Lostock hall Memorial band and One Voice Choir leading the singing of carols from 5pm-5.30pm including switching the lights on. Followed by refreshments and further carols at St Andrew's.

Christine also mentioned that on Saturday 27th November Hough Lane would be closed for Leyland Christmas Festivities and the URC would be holding stalls and refreshments followed by a Christingle Service.

Lancashire Sings Christmas Thursday 16th December 7pm at the Roccoco cafe. Martin Smith told us that the cafe is run by the Brothers of Charity at Lisieux

Hall. They will be bringing their own people and a choir. Because of concerns about the numbers, due to Covid, we have not registered the venue and we ask that it is **not** advertised by churches. Regular attenders should still come, be aware due to space some may be outside. Otherwise join in with Radio Lancashire at home.

The One Voice Choir are singing in Tesco's on 11th December at 1.30pm to raise funds for the Furniture Scheme van.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. 18-25 January 2022. Sunday 23rd at 3pm the main service at St Mary's. Tuesday 18th at 12 noon the first service at URC, followed by a soup lunch. Tuesday 25th at 7pm the final service at St Ambrose. There are no printed booklets this year. Each church must download their own service. Teresa will send out a poster for these services in January 2022.

Feedback on discussions with Ministers at Extra-Ordinary meeting in October.

Public Liability and Employers Insurances, without which no CTL events or activities can take place. The Ministers agreed to pay for the insurances from this year's financial contribution with remaining monies supporting the day to day running of the Furniture Scheme as in the past. Churches have been asked to pay their annual financial contribution. Stipulations of the Insurance mean that CTL_now has to have a Safeguarding Policy and a Health and Safety Policy.

The meeting was asked to consider how CTL was currently working and if churches thought that the structure should be changed. Christine spoke about CTL in earlier times and she suggested downloading a document from Churches Together in England entitled "A Flexible Framework for Local Unity in Mission TOOLKIT" which offers alternative structures for consideration if that is the decision of the committee.

Feedback from Discussions in three groups

The things we do together which we can't do individually are very good.
The web site is good.

The funeral director Harvey's service was very good.

Suggestion that we hold CTL meetings alternately day time and evenings to allow more members to attend.

Suggestion a combined service once a year, not on a Sunday, and not at a religious festival when we are all busy.

Can we do something for "Thy Kingdom Come" calling all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost? 26th May - 5th June 2022.

Possibly a prayer vigil. Or prayer stations. There was enthusiasm for this idea and we have until Ascension next year to arrange something. To take forward at the next meeting.

Possible combined service in the summer in the park.

To get young people involved perhaps by identifying how they can help.

Improve awareness of CTL.

A communications spokesman who could visit each church and speak enthusiastically about CTL.

Could we produce a poster or flyer with details of CTL activities and volunteering possibilities?

When there is a CTL event – for ministers to encourage their congregations to attend.

The good thing about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is that it is universal all over the world.

It is good when we can tell members of the public that it is CTL not just one particular church.

Fr Jonathan spoke of a time when the CTL clergy met together as a Fraternal. He suggested having a few minutes at the end of the meeting to try and arrange a get-to-gether.

Margaret Dixon closed the meeting with the CTL Prayer.

Future meeting dates (provisional)

Thursday 24TH MARCH 2022

Tuesday 14TH JUNE 2022

All meetings will begin at 7.30pm

AGM Saturday 10TH SEPTEMBER 2022 10am – 1pm (including lunch)

NB venues for all these meetings are required.