

All Saints @ Prayer | 19th June 2019

Our Church Prayer Meetings today are mainly devoted to praying for forthcoming changes to our services from September.

Why changes?

- Changing context: Current pattern has been in place for last 35 years – character of Lindfield has changed, C of E has changed, ASL has changed
- Refreshment & Renewal: Need for freshness – a sense of tiredness to content and pattern of services
- Missional imperative: ASPIRE completed, so opportunity to renew our focus on mission and outreach
- Rebalancing for growth: numbers are out of balance – need to create space for growth in all services
- Special targets: Families with young children, youth and young adults, 40s-50, the missing generation

What is proposed?

- **8am**
 - a weekly service, BCP Holy Communion alternating with CW Morning Prayer – occasional breakfast in Vicarage
- **9.30**
 - recommitment to ministry amongst families with children
 - adults and children to follow same syllabus of teaching
 - more time with children & adults worshipping together
 - Good News Club to be relaunched & rebranded
 - greater flexibility for spontaneity – testimony, interviews, etc.
 - Less formality of tone and dress
- **11.15**
 - aim to increase the 45-65 age profile of this service
 - a recognisably Anglican service, using a variety of forms, but operating on the principle of “freedom within a framework”, ie structured but not stiflingly so, formal but not formalistic, reverent but not rigid. Some services to be unrobed.
 - explore the possibility of moving to 11.30 to ease congestion between services and create a more reverent start to service
 - opportunities for a different teaching programme from 9.30 from time to time

- begin to use screens for words and images as personnel become available to operate them.
 - greater use of “occasions” – national, local, church – as opportunities for mission and outreach
 - broaden musical repertoire and strengthen music resources with use of other instruments and additional voices
 - Matins (on first Sunday of month) to be discontinued, but balanced by introduction of Choral Evensong/Communion on a monthly basis (except August, December and March/April depending on when Easter falls)
 - One Communion service a month
- **Cornerstone**
 - rejoice at the growth that changes seven years ago has brought to that service, especially amongst youth & young adults.
 - broadly remain on current course, with some minor tweaks

Some cautions

- Avoid leaving God out of the picture
- Avoid disunity amongst congregations and actively promote unity within our diversity
- Avoid pigeon-holing people according to preference of worship style
- Avoid becoming formulaic
- Avoid wanting everything to be done immediately – this is a process of evolution and experimentation

Our overall aim

- Growth in discipleship
- Growth in numbers
- Growth in love and service

We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps. Proverbs 16:9