

FACT Leaders Meeting Thursday 3 July @ St John's Church 12.30pm

Present: Martin Weymont, Neil Maxted, Janet Caudwell, Josie Carpenter, Tom (a retired RUC Minister who is working alongside Josie) , Graham Owen, JS

Apologies: Everybody else – thank you for notifying me.

Opening prayer and reflection based on 1 Cor 14:1-5 and the place of prophecy in the church. Main thoughts were that prophecy is for strengthening , encouraging and comforting (see :3)..... to edify the church. A fascinating, fruitful discussion ensued relating to our personal journeys, the local churches and FACT.

Encouragements and challenges. A number of matters were raised:

Josie/Tom: refusal of planning permission from Mendip Council places future of church building in doubt. General comment on problems with maintenance and future of our buildings.

Graham: reported on progress of Transforming Trinity project.

Martin: raised challenge of provision of workers for children's work and reminded us of the exhibition of artefacts at the Bishop's Palace – a display well worth visiting.

HopeFrome: the challenges it faces were acknowledged as was the view that it is essential HopeFrome continues to impact the community in practical, positive, purposeful ways. [Details of the upcoming meeting on 17 July @ 7.30pm in St John's to discuss the future will be posted.](#)

Neil: encouragements include the increased use of Christ Church for Frome Festival following the reordering ; the fruitful link with Christ Church School in Holy Week using the stations of the Cross in a creative way (see Christ Church website); the opportunity of engaging with the community on Saturday through the church fete at St Mary's. Challenges – the financial situation at St Mary's.

Janet: a notable encouragement is the 2nd Sunday service at St John's which is creatively reaching out to families, also the initiation of a Good Friday service for families.

Martin led us in prayer.

Reflections/Current plans:

Reflections: Fewer Lent Groups this year – one big bonus was the subsequent creation of the monthly FACT prayer meeting on Saturday mornings @8.45-9.30am in St John's.

The joint Good Friday united prayer gathering in the morning is valued.

Pentecost Praise – held outside the Cheese & Grain @ 3.45pm. Small beginnings but well received. Next year it is hoped Ward Jones, who retires in 2015, will be involved.

Current Plans:

- Frome Festival – a wide number of events in churches and two key FACT events.
- Hope Frome – playing key role at Food Festival
- Youth Worker – a candidate was recently interviewed by Graham, Jim Parsons and Brigit Adams. He currently works in Sunday Cafe and it is hoped he will begin early August.
*Graham went on to share a remarkable story about Lucia, a young girl who has been coming to Sunday Cafe and who committed her life to Christ at last summer's Soul Survivor. Lucia has recently been diagnosed with cancer and there has been wonderful support and special times of prayer with/for her with the young people attending Sunday Cafe. **Please join in the prayer for healing for Lucia.***
- Hospital Chaplaincy – Michael White is doing a wonderful 'holding operation' as we await decisions regarding the future of hospital chaplaincy in the local area.
- Frome Show – provide cakes for Postlebury tent? This was raised as a possibility. It is likely this will be the last year for the Postlebury tent – an opportunity for FACT in 2015?
- United Service at Rook Lane Sunday 12 October @ 6pm. Canon David Winter is speaking.
- Michael Mitton's visit to Norton St Philip Saturday 18 October is open to all FACT members. Michael is an outstanding teacher/speaker. Details to follow from Revd Caroline Walker.

Reflection on 'What does love require of us?' This is held over until the September FACT Exec meeting on Thursday 18 September in St John's at 7.30pm.

Closing prayer at 1.55pm.

Date of next Leaders Meeting: Thursday 6 November @ 7.30pm (note: evening meeting)