

Report following our Church Council:

It has been agreed that, following a Church Council, I would place some information in the notices of what we discussed and decided, to keep everyone informed.

At the meeting, we (as always) reflected on the life of the Church, from events to worship to our weekly activities and much more. As always, I want to say thank you to each of you for all you do for the Church and all you join in with in the life of the Church.

- We spent a good portion of the meeting looking at our finances, acknowledging the pressures on these in terms of our Circuit Contribution, energy costs and property maintenance, and the steady decline of our income through giving. We discussed ways we can fundraise and raise funds – for example, our Gift Day in July this year will be to raise funds to heat the Church over the winter, as keeping the Church warm over the winter months comes at a financial cost. But we reflected for some time on our giving and trying to encourage people to give more as they can, this means over Lent we are trialling passing the offertory bags during worship (feedback on how this feels would be appreciated), and we will take some time as whole Church community to reflect on our ‘offertory’ (not just money) in God’s service.
- Following last year’s Gift Day, we have now agreed upon a new Lectern which will include a bigger desk, a small shelf and will be height adjustable.
- Also, after many years of working hard in the background, Brian Watkins will be stepping down from the roles he holds in the life of the Church in terms of property and finance. This means we are looking for people to step up into these roles. If you are interested in what these might be or have some time to offer to picking up roles, please get in touch.
- We organised some upcoming services and events, including Holy Week and Easter (these will follow on posters very shortly). Looking further ahead, have booked an Afternoon Tea Bake and Eat Together (Which should be known as the Great TMC Bake Off!) on the afternoon of Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June. And another Assembly Bangers event to mark the end of the school year on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm after the one in January proved so popular.
- Our next Church Council will also include our General Church Meeting, and will meet on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 10:30 am, all are welcome to this meeting as I want us to spend time visioning and planning together.
- Instead of our GCM happening in Worship, we will instead have a celebration service, including our Gift Day on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July.

**PLEASE get these dates in your diaries!!!!**

I hope this has helped to read about some of what happened at our Church Council, a reminder that we are always seeking people to be trustees of the Church, and all are welcome to Church Council meetings. If you would like to find out more, please do speak to me.

And... if you’ve read this far, please tell me, and there will be a reward (as I’m not convinced people are reading their notices, so please prove me wrong!).

God Bless,  
Rev Katie