**Carsington Deanery Synod Report of 2018 for Christ Church APCM**

Each meeting started with Deanery Evening Prayers, followed by news from the parishes. A report from the Diocesan Synod was shared in the Business section. Presentations followed as detailed below. Rev. Duncan Ballard, Area Dean, chaired each meeting.

**12th March: 33 members of Synod met at Holy Trinity, Matlock Bath and 7 sent apologies.**

Presentations on Projects across the Deanery

Helena Stubbs, Community Buildings Officer from **Rural Action Derbyshire (RDA)** outlined how RDA can support parish churches in commercial projects such as a shop in church.

Gareth Greenwood, Community Project Development Officer from Church House informed us about the **Raymond Ross Fund** available to assist financially with projects for church toilets, kitchenettes or Wifi / Broadband projects.

Training and equipping God’s people

Rev. Carolyn McDonald invited lay Synod members to chart their preferred training needs to equip them to carry out God’s work in their communities.

**25th June: 24 members of Synod met at St. Helen’s, Darley Dale and 21 sent apologies.**

Presentation by Rev. Duncan Ballard on ‘Talking about Jesus’ – Evangelism today’

Duncan showed us results from a recent survey, *Perceptions of Jesus, Christians & Evangelism*.

58% UK adults identified their selves as Christians, but only 10% self-identified as practising Christians.

61% UK adults believe that Jesus existed, 20% believed Jesus was God in human form and 44% of UK adults believed in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Duncan considered this data should encourage Christians to talk about their faith and spoke about a new course- *Faith Pictures*- that encourages Christians to do that. Anyone interested in using this resource should contact Rev. Duncan.

**18th October: 40 members of Synod met at Christchurch, Holloway and 15 sent apologies.**

Archdeacon Carol Coslett led Compline.

Presentation by Rev. David Truby on ‘Reflections from India’

David shared with us his experiences when visiting India and how we can help by donating to the Harvest Appeal. David gave out bookmarks and encouraged us to ask our PCC’s. We watched a short film which showed Sarenga, a hospital and community health project in Durgapur, West Bengal.

Presentation by Kat Alldread and Ellie Ballard on the ‘Church, Dementia and Spirituality’

Ellie & Kat explained there are over 100 different types of Dementia and the varying stages each person may go through. Despite the physical changes and not being able to express things in the same way Dementia sufferers still experience emotions and spirituality. A short clip from a presentation by Jennifer Bute ‘A Glorious Opportunity’ was shown which you can watch fully by following this link **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I7TKQgvwmAI&t=496s**.

Penny Northall, Martyn Davis,

Deanery Synod Representatives for Christ Church, Hulland