

REPORT TO THE PCC BY THE BAPTISM TEAM –SEPTEMBER 2018

Members of the Team are:

Leader	Sue Gray
Baptism Coordinator	Andrea Badcock (also follow up)
Visitor/follow up	Rhiannon Knight
Helpers at services	Lulu Button Lorelie Staines

Frequency of meetings – Annually

In accordance with the guidelines issued by the PCC Standing Committee, this report does not attempt to summarise all of the activities of the Team, but simply highlights significant developments and issues that have arisen since the last report.

1. We are very blessed that so many families ask for baptism. We continue our open door policy of baptising anyone who lives in the parish or has a connection with the church e.g. attending Gems, local schools, Young Vines. We hope that the baptism will lead onto the family attending church, though this is usually not the case immediately. We continue to pray that more baptism families will continue their connection with St Peter's and progress along their journeys of faith.
2. Sue and Jonathan continue to visit families prior to baptism. This enables us to get to know the families and to build a relationship. We also hold a rehearsal, at which we explore the service and give families a chance to get to know each other. This helps them to be more comfortable at the service. We signpost families to activities e.g. Young Vines, Gems, Morning Worship and Communion.
3. We have welcomed a new visitor, Rhiannon, who has joined the baptism team to follow up families post baptism. Sue and Jonathan identify families that they think could potentially get involved at St Peter's and Rhiannon makes contact. This is a new initiative, but early signs are promising. Andrea continues to visit families on the first anniversary of the baptism to deliver a card. We would like to recruit more people to follow up baptism families, along with Rhiannon. This continues to be a priority and we pray that we may help individuals to discern whether they have a ministry in this area.
4. We try to steer non-church families, who aren't used to the Eucharist, towards the 12 noon service. The disadvantage of this is that our congregation don't have a chance to experience baptism. However there are now a number of church families booking the 10 am service.

5. It is vital that we have lay involvement in the Baptism services. Our team members (Andrea, Lulu and Lorelie) play an important role in each service and we are grateful for their enthusiasm.
6. Sarah Tourell continues to do a wonderful job booking the baptisms and all that that involves!

Sue Gray

September 2018