

## **Life of the Church Meeting – 7.30pm Wednesday October 19, 2022**

We had a well-supported Life of the Church meeting in June 2021. Much of our initial energy was focused on what we provide on Sunday mornings, but several other issues were raised last June. We'd like to invite you all to participate in a Life of the Church meeting to be held Wednesday October 19 to consider our best "next steps". Please keep the date and time free. More details will be circulated nearer the time.

We hope to consider the following issues and hope you all feel able to raise any other topics you'd like to be considered.

1. **Sunday Mornings**, currently combines Mindful Meditation with some familiar elements such as hymns, readings and 'something to think about'. This current provision is working well for the majority of members and has attracted some new participants so we will be continuing with this format. What ideas/suggestions do you have to enhance this format?

- One change we are considering is moving the address to the conclusion of the morning service to facilitate the reintroduction of "passing the mike" round the congregation for comments. We could review this experiment at the October meeting but any immediate thoughts on this are welcome.
- More comfortable chairs – this is something the committee are actively considering.

2. The **Wednesday Evening Conversations** continue to provide an opportunity for a critical, in depth look at topics of (theological) interest much valued by the small but enthusiastic group of regular participants.

- Are there any areas/ topics which might encourage you to participate?

3. **Conversational Space**. A much-repeated sentiment last June, was the sense of bonding and the importance of 'belonging' to our local church community.

- During lockdown, the post service conversations online in break out groups were often uplifting, informative and wide ranging. Would you be interested in participating if we created an opportunity for this at another time in the week?
- We have restarted a communal Sunday Lunch monthly and will be interested in your thoughts/ feedback.
- Would you be interested in initiating/ participating in any other online or in church activities? For example, a Book Group, Arts and Crafts, or something else?

4. **Community Engagement**. Several issues arose last June.

- Social/political action - should we do more as a congregation regarding e.g. poverty, climate crisis, collapse in democracy? Some are already involved as individuals in issues such as refugee support.

5. **Vulnerability**. We are a small congregation heavily reliant on a very small cohort of people to keep things viable. Do you have any thoughts on how we might attract new members, and if we should?

6. **Anything Else?** This meeting is your opportunity to make your thoughts known so if you have ideas for additional agenda items please let Brendan, our church secretary, know. He can be contacted at [secretary@cambridgeunitarian.org](mailto:secretary@cambridgeunitarian.org)