

Fruitfulness on the Frontline

This term our Growth Groups have been using some material from the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity called 'Fruitfulness on the Frontline'. It's been really helpful material in helping us to think through how God might use us on our 'Frontlines'. Our Frontline is wherever each of us spends time in any given week with non-Christians. It could be at the school gate, or with family, or work colleagues, or neighbours.

The material outlines six 'M's of how God can use us on our Frontlines. These are:

- **Modelling Godly Character** - On our frontline godly character is both developed and displayed. How do we model the fruits of the Spirit where we are day by day?
- **Making Good Work** - There is dignity and value in the everyday tasks that we do. What would it mean if we saw how our tasks and work can be done with and for God?
- **Ministering Grace and Love** - In the light of the grace that God has shown to us, how might we minister grace and love to those we interact with on our frontlines?
- **Moulding Culture** - What can we affirm about the way we 'do life round here'? How can we influence the culture on our frontlines so people flourish more?
- **Being a Mouthpiece for Truth and Justice** - How might we become champions of right living and fair dealing on our frontlines and courageous enough to speak up when necessary?
- **Being a Messenger of the Gospel** - How might we grow in confidence in talking about Jesus with people on our frontlines? Can we see pathways for sharing the Gospel where we are?

If you're not in a Growth Group but would like to join one, do please get in touch with Duncan. And let's be praying for God to be at work through each of us as we seek to be faithful to Him on our frontlines.

> DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

17th MAR
Sat 17th March, 10am - 'BLAST'
 Free to attend event for all the family - lunch included, fun activities, games, crafts & a short talk. Please note: children must be accompanied by an adult.

1st APR
Easter Sunday, 10.30am - Joint Service
 8am - Our BCP service
 9am - Breakfast in the church hall.
 10.30am - Joint Easter service
 6.30pm - our evening service.

19th APR
Thurs 19th April, 7.30pm - APCM
 Our Annual Vestry and Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Thursday 19th April at 7.30pm in church, all are welcome to attend.

3rd MAY
Thurs 3rd May, 6pm - Colin Buchanan Live
 £4.50 (suggested donation for age 3+) to reserve a place. Australia's #1 kids Christian artist is coming to entertain us all! Book on our website or contact the office.

Task Teams (BOTT & REACH)

In the last edition of Grow News we explained a little about the GROW (Discipleship) Task Team, this month we explain a little about our Buildings & Operations Task Team (BOTT) and our REACH (Mission) Task Team

Buildings & Operations Task Team (BOTT)

Who is on the team? Damian Clapham (PCC), Tim Cotterall, Dave Crossley, Pat Frodsham, Mark Gilbert (Chair, Church Warden & PCC), David Jones (Treasurer & PCC), Jenny Lawson (PCC), John Proctor, Cressida Sutcliffe (PCC), Adrian Taylor (PCC), Ric Turner, Rob Whitham.

What is the team's remit? Our Vision as a Church is to REACH, GROW, SEND. The Buildings and Operations team must serve that Vision. So the BOTT is responsible for:

- i) overseeing all matters involving property and insurance, including the Church Building, the Parish Hall, the Churchyard and any Housing for Staff.
- ii) Implementing the recommendations of each Quinquennial inspection of the Church building and Parish Hall (next one due this year). It supports the churchwardens in their responsibilities for the maintenance of the buildings.
- iii) Acting as a reference point for any issues regarding our buildings.

How can you be involved? If you have any suggestions or issues about the maintenance of our buildings or of the churchyard, please discuss it with a member of the BOTT rather than with our Vicars or the Office staff: they have enough to do already! If you have free time during the working week and have buildings-related skills, please talk to a member of BOTT about how we could use your skills to the glory of God.

REACH Task Team (Mission)

Who is on the team? Christine Dean (PCC), Hannah Edmonds, Matt Ferguson, Revd David Gibb (Chair), Margaret Higham (PCC), Keith McIntosh, Penny Robb and Karen Swift (PCC).

What is the team's remit? Our Vision as a Church is to REACH GROW SEND. The Mission Task Team's role is to encourage all at St Andrew's to REACH out to our Parish, Town, Workplaces, Homes, Schools, and wider area with the good news of Jesus, as we SEND people week by week to their 'frontlines'. It does this by: i) Planning a programme of events throughout the year, using HOPE's 'Rhythm of Mission' ii) Supporting, educating and training people in evangelism and giving them confidence to engage, connect and invite. Ideas include studies on mission in Growth Groups.

How can you be involved? Are there some events that St Andrew's could put on that would help you to invite your friends or family members to engage with Jesus? Talk to one of us! Any ideas you have for outreach or for training - maybe you feel inadequate or poorly equipped to share your faith - if you have any thoughts as to what we could do to equip you to be a better witness where you are at work, in the community, with your family, come and nab one of us! DO pray for ALL of St Andrew's to be better witnesses where God sends us throughout the week.

The Paradox of our Time

"We have taller buildings but shorter tempers; wider freeways but narrower viewpoints; we spend more but have less; we buy more but enjoy it less; we have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, yet less time; we have more degrees but less sense; more knowledge but less judgements; more experts, yet more problems; we have more gadgets but less satisfaction; more medicine, yet less wellness; we take more vitamins but see fewer results. We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly; laugh too little; drive too fast, get too angry quickly; stay up too late; get up too tired; read too seldom; watch TV too much and pray too seldom. We have multiplied our possessions but reduced our values; we fly in faster planes to arrive there quicker, to do less and return sooner; we sign more contracts only to realise fewer profits; we talk too much, love too seldom and lie too often. We've learned how to make a living but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years."

Dr Bob Moorhead