

## 2020 Policy on Prayer Meetings

### 2019 Pattern

The pattern in 2019 has been as follows:

Weekly:

- Thursday 3:30-4:00pm – Just before singing group practice, but poorly attended.
- Sunday 9:50-10:00 – Brief Host Team prayers – attendance varies
- Sunday 10:00-10:25 – Prayers before service – Instigated by Dorothy this year
- Growth Teams – Growth Teams all include prayer as part of their meetings, but mainly for issues relevant to the individual members.

Annually:

- We hold a series of 30-minute prayer meetings linking in with the *Thy Kingdom Come* initiative in the days between Ascension Day and Pentecost, 9:30-10:00am
- We hold an annual prayer morning in November, with half hour slots for people to come to.

None of the weekly meetings are attended by more than a handful of people and the attendance at the annual events was low this year. Only the prayer day has a list of prayer requests for St. Luke's prepared.

At the PCC on 28<sup>th</sup> October there was some excitement on ideas over making prayer more of a focus of our life together as a church.

### Proposed Pattern for 2020

At the PCC a proposed idea to promote prayer in and for the church was suggested in outline. The basic idea was to introduce a 'Prayer Week' once a term to fit in with the present pattern of meetings:

Week 1	PCC Meeting	
Week 2	Normal Growth Team	
Week 3	Normal Growth Team	
Week 4	Prayer Week	
Week 5	Normal Growth Team	
Week 6	Normal Growth Team	
Week 7	Sabbatical Week	Usually coincides with half-term

During the Prayer Week:

- We will interview someone in the main Sunday service as to how they pray
- A sheet of prayer requests for St. Luke's will be produced (replacing Growth Team sheets)
- Growth Teams will major on prayer in their meetings, although hopefully still rooted in the Bible! In particular, the prayers will focus more on the prayer requests for St. Luke's.
- There will also be a special prayer meeting for the church – Saturday morning, where all are encouraged to come to join together in prayer for the church. This will be at the end of the week.

In addition to this new pattern in order to promote prayer at St. Luke's:

- There will be at least one sermon series on prayer
- We will promote the use of Prayer Mate and similar tools to aid prayer
- Other ideas?