

Present \*Apologies

Bethnal Green	Bow Group	Docklands	Stepney & Wapping	Chaplains + Retired
Alan Green	Cris Rogers	Ed Dix	Jonathan Beswick	Fiona Stewart-Darling *
Christine Hall	Beki Rogers	Jane Hodges	Bp Robert Ladd	Barbara Hume
Andy Rider	St Mary Bow -Vacant	Matt Wall *	Richard Springer	Ella Sharples
Darren Wolf	James Hughesdon	Ben Bell	Vienna McArthy *	Mark Aitken *
Erin Clark	Dave Pilkington	Marcus Nodder	Allana Harris	Fiona Green
Sr Judith Blackburn	April Keech	Tom Pyke *	Josh Harris *	Peter Turner
Heather Atkinson	Brian Ralph	Richard Bray *	Angus Ritchie *	Tasha Critchlow
Adam Atkinson	Stuart Lee *		Phil Williams	Nigel Copsey
Tim May	Bernadette Hegarty		Peter McGeary *	Ven Lyle Dennen
Chris Newman-Day			Trevor Critchlow	Nick Hendersen

18 clergy were present – and we were joined by Ian Mylam Warden of LLM's

Bernadette led us in midday worship

We congratulated and welcomed Dave Pilkington(SPOF/StColumba) and Alanna Harris (SGitE) both ordained deacon last week

We welcomed Ian Mylam – who spoke of the work and training of LLM's, the call to lay ministry and the invitation to raise up more folks for this work, calling and recognition. Iam stayed for lunch & joined the rest of the meeting.

## St Pauls

Bernadette gave us an update on St Pauls and their anniversary celebrations next year, she outlined their current consultation regarding and planned £100k redevelopment of the church building to mark the occasion.

She explained that Bow is changing and yet the weekly jumble sale is still a significant aspect of life, providing an informal drop in for neighbours. She mentioned also recently witnessing a stabbing not far from Church.

## Growing Churches in Tower Hamlets together II

Darren Wolf (Islington Team for Church Growth) recapped what we had talked about last time: the Sigmoid curve and the Dunbar number and invited reflections. The main one was that many of our churches have 40 or less 'members' and it was requested that the training speak specifically to that.

We then broke into groups to discuss what was stopping our churches growing, various ideas were fed back.

The statistical evidence suggests that in most cases there are three chief **barriers to growth**:

The Leader's: [a] personal spiritual life [b] capacity for change and [c] and their ability and willingness to delegate.

The Structures: of around governance, staffing and delivery need to respond to, and anticipate change.

The Buildings and space: many of our church families barely fill huge cavernous spaces which can then appear uninviting, whilst at the other end once a building is 80% full growth tends to stop as people stop entering.

There were a number of comments and questions and Darren was applauded.

## Deanery News

1. Bishop Joanne in Stepney - Welcome: F27 September.
2. Deanery Retreat – T8 – W9 October in Ely with the option of arriving on the Monday. Jane Williams will be leading us looking at the theme of 'Sacramental Spirit'
3. The September Chapter meeting date needs to change and it is hoped Bishop Joanne may join us.
4. Alan Green alerted us to an Anti Semitic attack in Bethnal Green, and an anti-racist rally tonight in response. He also mentioned the inflammatory 'burn your church' stickers appearing on church – do let him know of any similar attacks and do report them to the police as Hate Crimes.
5. Tim May will be licensed Rector of St Mary's 2 September 7pm.
6. Heather Atkinson will be licensed as Rector to St Paters on 9 September time tbc.
7. The new St Columba's Barge will be launched and blessed on 15 September at 4pm

Notes: AR – 8.July.2019

## Next meetings

Deanery Chapter: The Bethnal Green Cluster will host a Chapter Beer in August.

Deanery Synod: