**CHURCH MEMBERS MEETING
Wednesday, 30 January 2019**

**47 Members present**

**Welcome**

Apologies for absence: Helen Yarrow, Chrissie Dore, Jill and David Durn, Mick Ledden, Sheila Wills, Josh Newton, Carol Skov, John Bawden and Jan and Tony Rose

1. **Worship**

Barry Dore led a time of worship.

1. **Children’s Work Report**

Lucy Newton gave thanks to everyone involved with children’s work in the church. The report is split into 3 sections: Sunday, Schools, Community

Sunday - Currently 108 children are on the books for Sunday mornings. A programme called Energise, produced by Urban Saints,is used by all groups. The group leaders are using ChurchSuite for registration. This helps Lucy to do follow ups. Family services coming up. Family workshop – fruits of the spirit. Growing family faith – a kitchen table project – how to bring faith into the family. Encouraging families. Social media is used to share information.

Schools work – Open the book is huge! Several local schools now invite the team in to take assemblies and the team is brilliant and schools are open to us.

Lucy does assemblies at Ladybanks and BWI and this is appreciated by the schools and the children really enjoy it. Schools also come into church.

Community – different groups meet during the week.
Both Adventure Tots on Tuesday and Action Tots on Wednesday are packed and both have long waiting lists. Marion Williams and Chrissie Dore have been putting a programme together bringing bible stories to these groups. Lots of church families attend.
Request to the Fellowship to pray for ways in which we might extend this ministry.

Over 200 children were here on Christmas Eve for the Christmas craft afternoon.

Easter Events – Lucy is considering activities we can do.

Holiday Club planning is in progress.

Uniformed organisations continue to be very popular. Families are becoming involved in Sunday services as a result of their children coming to uniformed organisations.

Film Night on Friday 22nd February when we will be showing the film Paddington 2.

Pancake Party – Tuesday 5th March.

1. **ChurchSuite update**

Gillian Rose introduced ChurchSuite - a church management system, helping to organise and manage all aspects of church life which is being used for Data storage, ministry rotas, etc. Deacons and Children’s groups have been using the system for the last 18 months. Sunday group leaders already use the Child check-in module to manage their registers.
ChurchSuite coincided with the new GDPR regulations and has helped ensure that we comply accurately.
MyChurchSuite is the members’ system. Deacons have been trialling it and are now ready for it to go out to the church as a whole. It is a very secure system. It was put together by Christians that come from an IT/Tech background using the same secure technology as Banks.
The system is ready for you to securely log in and use.

Each member will receive a personalised email from Gillian with a unique registration link. When you click on the link, you will be asked to set up a password that you will then use for future logins. To access ChurchSuite put in your email address, login and it takes you to the front page. When invitations to events are sent out, click to accept, decline or ask for more information. Gillian will pick up your response from that click of a button – the system knows who you are. No need for a separate email to be sent to the church office.
For those without internet and email, information will continue to be communicated in the usual ways.

ChurchSuite has different folders;

Personal details – fill in the information you want to share.

Skills Survey – tick boxes by the areas that you can serve the fellowship at RBC.

Passwords can be changed.

Privacy – Options can be changed to show your preferences. e.g. if you don’t want your mobile number given out, the church office will respect that request.

Text messages are not being sent at the present time.

Rota reminders – emails will be sent if you would like it to remind you when you are on duty the following Sunday.

My Children – Your children are linked to you. This information can be updated if your child changes school, etc. Only the child’s parent and the staff team have access to children’s details.

My Events – a church diary of upcoming events. Links can be clicked for you to sign up to events. The system will recognise that it is you.

Upcoming events will be listed.

Small Groups **–** will list who is in each small group and their contact details. If there are people in your group that are not members, they will be listed but their details won’t be shown.

My ministries **–** a list of the activities/rotas you are involved in. You can click on ‘swap’ if you need to change. Please check with the person you are swapping with.

Search for Others **–** this will be our year book for the future. You can look up church members contact details. However, if there is information someone does not want to share, it won’t be available to see and the church office is not able to share it if asked.

Year Book must **not** be shared with others outside church membership.

An invitation to ChurchSuite will be sent to members in the next week, when you can click on the link and sign in. The system is quite robust but if you have difficulties, contact the church office. Login – Ruislip Baptist Church, your email is your church name. A further update will be given if a number of similar queries come up. There are information booklets about ChurchSuite, that are available but they are detailed and give lots of info most people would probably not want to know but can be seen if required. An App is also available that can be downloaded onto your phone.

Gillian Rose and Marie Dendy have spent many hours working on ChurchSuite. A big thank you to them.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

 Craig Rowland presented the Treasurer’s Report (available in the Member’s Area of the
 Ruislip Baptist Church website).

Budget has been set aside to make improvements to the sidewalk.

We are looking at ways people can make payments if they don’t want to give cash each week e.g card readers.

There is a change of personnel in the finance team. John Bawden is stepping down after
10 years. He has handed the baton over to Roy Bawden. Thank you to John for his service.

1. **Membership Matters**

Three applicants for membership were received:

Heather Jones - interviewed by Angela Davies and Phoebe Vasiliou.
Karen Williams – interviewed by Sarah Bell and Anna Goddard.
Pauline Grande Lopez – interviewed by Carina Brown and Denny Flemming.

Karen and Pauline were unanimously accepted into membership.
Heather was accepted into membership; there were 2 abstentions.

Deaths of Michael Burke and Ann Easton were recorded.

There are currently 304 in membership.

1. **Time of Prayer**

Duncan led a time of open prayer for the new members, the Easton, Burke and Soba families and Serena Said. We also prayed for the Alpha course and our country.

1. **Community Outreach report**

Report from David Rose – That we are thankful for the number of folk that come into the church for family services, craft event, children’s services.
Care home teams - a special mention to Joy Sims who led the service at Brackenbridge, 3 weeks after her hip replacement operation.
As a church, we need to continue to pray for and reach out to people we see at Christmas, to bring them into church.
Alpha – week 2 last Monday. A broad range of people attending. Pray that guests continue to attend. Pray for discussion groups. This is where the real work happens.
Pampering event - will be coming up in June.
Church website – we are updating this to make it more user friendly. David is looking at creating a new one. The website is an important part of our outreach, as increasingly, this is where people go to find out information. The new church logo is on the new Year book.
Senior Citizens Christmas party – thanks to Pippa and the team – on behalf of the outreach team and the church. This is a huge part of our outreach.
A Youth Strategy Group has been formed to support our youth worker, John Reynolds, in his role and mission. John Bawden, John Reynolds, Karen Ingram, Andy Bell and Pippa Durn will meet each month.

1. **Secretary’s Report**

Annual BU Assembly – we usually send people. This year it will be over 2 days Sat/Sunday in May at the International Centre in Telford. A much bigger event than in previous years.
Look up on the website or apply on line.

1. **Approval/correction of minutes of last meeting**

There were no amendments to the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved.

1. **AOB**

A request for highlight strips to be put on all the steps in the Sanctuary.

A request that some Sunday weekly service sheets be kept after Sunday. Some spare ones are pinned on the noticeboard in the foyer.

Vijay Soba has been given the all clear from his cancer. The family thanked everyone for their prayers.

Ann Easton’s thanks giving and memorial services will be on Thursday 7th February. The service at the crematorium is by invitation only. The service at the church will take place at 1.30.- everyone welcome.