

### **Diaconate structure**

With an increased number of deacons, and our recent weekend retreat allowing us to think about how we are set up as a leadership team, we have reorganised how we work as a diaconate.

We wanted to create a way of operating which allowed us space to be proactive and intentional. We have also recognised the need to lead and not to manage.

Over the course of our time away, we focussed on what the core basis of our faith is, and quickly and confidently landed on four key areas: evangelism, discipleship, prayer and worship, and pastoral care. It is our belief that these areas are vital to us being the Church that God wants us to be.

These four areas, we believe, are critical to God's mission here in Gorse Hill. They also indirectly pick up the themes we were working with during our pastoral vacancy – bring in, build up, and send out.

We have two deacons (where possible) responsible for developing each of these areas, ensuring that we are committed to giving resource, allowing us to be intentional in our growth. Alongside these areas, we have two deacons responsible for the day-to-day groups of the church which we have split by the primary age target – Under 18's and Adults.

### **The question you are sure to have: 'Who do I speak to?'**

We hope that this model is actually quite straightforward. In the first instance, you should speak to the appropriate office holder/head of department. In the absence of that person, then you should speak to Lars Relton or Mark Harris, depending on what the primary age of your group is.

For example, if you have a question about Pram Club, then you would speak to Julie Harris. If that's not possible, then speak to Lars, as it's a child-based activity. If your question is to do with Sunday Soccer, then in the first instance, speak to Tristan Crabol but if that's not possible, then speak to Mark Harris as it's primarily geared towards adults.

The diagram over outlines our structure in a (hopefully!) clear way.

Diaconate Responsibilities

Fellowship		Nurture & Growth			
		Evangelism Caleb & Heber	Discipleship Matt & Tina	Prayer & Worship Shirley	Pastoral Alison & Kashi
Responsibilities	Children & Youth Lars	Children's Friday Club, Childrens Safeguarding, Crèche, Friday Night Fun, Kidzone, Pram Club, Recreate, Schools Work			
	Adults Mark	Adult Safeguarding, Badminton+, Band of Brothers, Banner Group, Bridge Language Class, Care Team, Christians Against Poverty, Coffee Rota, Flourish, Home Group Leader, Kettles On, Lunch Club, Mission Support, Music Group, PA/AV, Prayer Meeting Rota, Pulpit Secretary, Social Events, Stewards, Sunday Soccer			
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		Secretary Peter		Treasurer Ian	