

THE WINCHESTER DEANERY

A fresh new look at Deanery Synod!

Thursday 14 April 2016 7pm for 7.30pm
St Barnabas, Weeke SO22 6DS www.stbw.org.uk

At our first Synod for 2016 we have a lively active session planned for you and we encourage you to invite other members of your congregation to join us.

We aim to keep any official Deanery business short, after which we will be welcoming Alison Coulter to speak to us (newly elected General Synod member, Lay Chair of Diocesan Synod and member of Winchester Deanery Synod) and share her experiences of her first two General Synods. This will be followed by an interactive session focussed on hearing first hand accounts of four different courses and programmes available to everyone with the sole purpose of growing churches. This will include:



everybody welcome Ed Dines, *Vicar at St Barnabas*

Ed shares his experience of this course and how it can transform a church by improving our approach to newcomers. The course encourages and challenges every member of the church to look anew at what it means to be a welcoming, embracing community and offers guidance for your entire congregation and helps every individual play their part.

Growing Leaders John Spens *Licensed Lay Minister*

This is a great tool for equipping people for outreach and growth over 10 sessions with additional mentor time – which is a key part of the course. There is excellent material for both the course leaders and students. Our Deanery ran it in 2014 with two lay and two ordained tutors, and many of the 32 punters are now using their new skills in exciting ways with some heading for Ordination.



Leading Your Church into Growth Phil Dykes *School of Mission*

Phil will tell us more about this programme which has been serving the local church across the country for almost 25 years. Its vision is to encourage and equip people to grow in numbers, in spirituality and in mission commitment to the local community and the wider world. The East Winchester Benefice and St Faith with St Cross are currently running the programme and will tell us about their experience of it so far.



KNOWING GOD Ruth Guy *Upper Dever Benefice*

"It's not proof of God's existence we want, but the experience of God's presence". Ruth will talk about the course run by a team in the Upper Dever Benefice which is based on a prayer written by St Benedict and how it looks at practical ways of deepening our relationship with God.

