**Wednesday Morning Community**

**How God is at work in our Group:**

Numbers have remained stable at around 40 each week, despite the fact that several people have died or moved into Care Homes over the past year. We are often amazed by the resilience of our elderly congregation who come out to join us week by week, in spite of bad weather and increasing mobility issues. They seek opportunities to deepen their faith and share in fellowship on a day other than Sunday and at a time (10.30am) which is convenient for them. Members of the congregation are actively involved, doing readings and prayers and helping with the chalice. About once a month we now have ‘community prayers’ when people note down situations/people/places that they would like us to pray about together. Many say how much they appreciate being able to participate in the service in this way.

Newcomers are warmly welcome, and over a dozen new people have joined us this year. Most people stay for coffee and fellowship after services, we organise an occasional lunch (harvest, Christmas), and often have cake to celebrate big birthdays. We keep in touch with people who are housebound/in care and send cards for Christmas and birthdays.

**Key hopes for the next 12 months:**

We are developing linkswith people who come to Drop In/Meet & Eat and our hope is that these links will bring them to faith. We chat with people coming to collect Fareshare food at 10am and some now occasionally stay for the service. Several members run groups to help people on the periphery to learn more about faith and for some the Midweek Community may be the next step on their faith journey.

Many have lost loved ones or faced major health problems recently. We hope to provide a safe space to grieve, share concerns and ask for prayer.