

Oakwood Church Information (Roundhay St John)

The parish of Roundhay St John, in the north-eastern suburbs of Leeds, is comprised mainly of residential streets with a population of about 5,500 people, and also includes the substantial outdoor space of Roundhay Park. There is no clear centre of commercial activity for the parish; the largest focus is a small concentration of shops and restaurants, bars and cafes at Oakwood Clock, but people also look towards suburban centres beyond the parish boundary, or to the city centre. There is a Church of England primary school, a council primary school, and a special school. There is a high concentration of homes providing nursing and residential care.

Oakwood Church began its life in 2013. Roundhay St John's CE Parish and Roundhay Methodist Church grew together through a first covenant in 1998. In 2006 the CE congregation moved to worship in the Methodist building, upon which a Sharing Agreement was established in 2007. A new covenant was agreed in December 2013 beginning a wholly united congregation with joint worship and mission. The congregation includes a mix of ages and church backgrounds, with some ethnic diversity. There are several active discipleship groups and a pastoral system for connecting with people and providing pastoral support. The church has groups for children and young people, supported by a partnership with Missional Generation (local youth work charity). The church actively engages with the local community in many ways, including running a luncheon club for older people, two weekly café mornings, a toddler group, and several social groups. The multi-purpose building includes a worship space, large hall, large meeting room and some upstairs rooms, and is busy all week with church run and other activities: some wholly external groups and others supported by the church, including ten uniformed groups sponsored by the church. The church employs a part time administrator to oversee the building use and to support the ministry and mission of the church.

- **A few bullet points or sentences describing the PCC's vision for mission in the area.**

Oakwood Church Council has been engaged with Mission Action Planning since 2015 and has reviewed priorities regularly since then. New priorities set in 2023 reflect these two aspects of our mission:

- Most mission activity is focused on the building and the considerable number of people who use it weekly. Maintaining and enlivening the worshipping life of the church at the heart of this community and through it inviting people to meet with Jesus is a priority. In the near future, we will be exploring how we might develop our worshipping life together, building on all that is good in our current patterns, trying new ideas, and seeing how different people are called to help in leading our worship forward.
- We support a number of local mission projects through the Methodist Church, the Church of England and other local organisations. We want to be more outward looking in our service to the communities around us, and in our sharing of faith and discipleship. In the near future, this priority will be about a community audit to listen to the communities around us and hear people's ideas and needs. Through this we will discern what God is calling us specifically to work on.

- A few photographs showing the people enjoying the life of the church;



Holy Communion Autumn 2022



SYNC youthgroup fundraising
in coffee after Sunday worship
April 2023



Youthwork – SYNC -
sleepover April 2023



Weekly Luncheon Club 2022