

The Anglican Church of Luxembourg

Lions & Lambs Report – 2013

- New group for Parents, Carers, Tinies and Tots that started in September 2013
- Meets on Tuesday mornings from 9.30-11am
- Open to all – many regulars are not members of the Anglican Church in Luxembourg; start-up advertised with BLC and AWCL Moms and Tots group
- Initially meetings held alternately at Jena Goebel's house in Mamer and Evelyn Sweerts' house in Hassel; with the Goebel family's departure to the States in February 2014 those meetings have moved to Claudia Granger's house in Rollingergrund
- Meetings follow a set pattern: set opening prayer, age-appropriate worship songs (lyrics booklet provided) with percussion provided by the children, a story from the New Testament, a simple craft or other activity and free play
- Everyone brings a piece of fruit to share as a snack for the children while the parents have a coffee or tea
- Assistant Chaplain, Andy Markey, led a training session for those attendees who had expressed an interest in leading on Jena's departure; this was a very positive morning for all
- Attendance varies due both to location and unforeseen circumstances (e.g. sick children) but averages about 5-7 mothers, 6-8 children; about 15 mothers are on the email list
- Children range in age from tiny baby to those attending 'précoce' part-time (4 yo)

Positives:

1. This is a friendly and welcoming group that has happily absorbed new members throughout the year – not 'cliquey'
2. The training session, which has resulted in a (small) pool of leaders to draw on
3. There have been no issues with the children, who get along nicely and play well
4. I feel the focus on the New Testament has been a really good decision

Going forward:

1. Location: Evelyn Sweerts' house will no longer be safe for meetings from September due to building works; the search for a new child-friendly meeting place is on-going
2. As the group has grown rather organically there is increasingly a need to improve communication; a Facebook group has been set up and is in 'trial mode'
3. An advertising push will be desirable at the start of the new school year, as well as developing links with the European Parish of Luxembourg

Evelyn Sweerts

Lions & Lambs Co-ordinator