United Kingdom's Unificationist Council of Communities Autumn 2017 Meeting

Jonathan Bateman October 14, 2017



We returned to the Nightingale centre, just down the road from the town of Bakewell, for the final Council of Communities meeting of 2017. This was the first time I could arrive before the meeting started so it was nice to settle in and prepare before the first evening's session.

Having attended for over a year now and been to most of the meetings, I can see how they have improved, how people in the communities can have direct input into the way the FFWPU UK is run, but also the way communities can learn from each other by emulating their best practices. This is my main motivation for being part of the Council of Communities.

Rather than being a spectator to the changes that are happening in our movement and watching from the side-lines I can actively play my small part. The UK movement has a great foundation and we all have the unique opportunity to be part of that history moving forward.

Although there have been particular themes to some of previous meetings the topics of discussion this time were diverse, ranging from local blessing events, budgets and the Annual Gathering Festival to discussing the FFWPU brand & Vision and the planning and preparation of a 40 – day giving joy campaign, hashtag ideas are welcome! Apart from the discussions and brainstorming, the fellowship that we share with each other during the weekend is always a highlight, whether that be an evening of music or games, or just enjoying the beautiful British countryside.



Moving forward we are always aiming to improve and I hope that I can do my best as deputy chair to make next Council of Communities in January 2018 even better.