

# Hearing the heart of God in healthcare:

## A doctors' weekend away for conversations:

March 16<sup>th</sup> - 17th 2019

### Report

This weekend retreat was held in the beautiful context of Hothorpe Hall, Leicestershire. It was attended by about 30 doctors of whom half were junior doctors in training. Ross Bryson (GP) and Derek Munday (retired GP) talked about the move of God through healthcare over the generations and the fact that today we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. John and Annie Hughes (pastoral leaders) urged us to live from our identity in Christ and to be responsive to the Holy Spirit in our everyday lives. Liz Bryson (Chaplain) facilitated a dedicated time for silent, creative reflection.

Some of the 'most important features' of the weekend given on feedback forms were:

- **GP:** *Talking and networking between more junior and more senior doctors; sharing across the generations.*
- **Senior hospital doctor:** *Conversation with individuals and in a small group; prophetic praying for one another; vision from speakers and love poured out; being a body of Christ together, therefore not being left alone in that ministry.*
- **Foundation doctor:** *Celebration of the fact we carry God's presence in us and into all spheres of life; the importance of nudges and being obedient to any potential whisperings of the spirit – leaning close to listen; the importance of spending time with God and listening intentionally. I really loved the diversity of participants across specialties and seniority.*
- **Foundation doctor:** *Reflection and silent prayer.*
- **GP:** *Chance to connect, pause, reflect and pray into where God is taking me and us collectively; being part of a bigger story, passing on the baton.*
- **Senior hospital doctor:** *Hearing from others about their faith in work; encouraging me to be more in line with Holy Spirit in my workplace; practical steps to make time for praying at work and not being afraid to pray for patients.*
- **Junior doctor:** *Sharing inspiring stories and the encouragement that came from that; space for silent individual time with God.*
- **Junior hospital doctor:** *Encouraging talking to older medics and hearing how God is working across the NHS.*
- **GP:** *The chance to hear each other stories; space to reflect and to be prayed for.*
- **Junior doctor:** *Envisioning for the future; time for reflection.*

Another weekend retreat for doctors is scheduled at Hothorpe Hall, March 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 2020.