

CHRIST CHURCH LEYTON

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December 2023

Incumbent:

Rev P Brentford
Vicarage at 52 Elm Road
Leytonstone
London
E11 4DW

Bankers:

Santander
Customer Service Centre
Bootle
Merseyside
L30 4GB

Independent Examiner:

Jason Foxwell, Independent-examiner.net
39 Enfield Road, Poole,
BH15 3LJ

CHRIST CHURCH LEYTON

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

Administrative Information

Christ Church is situated in Francis Road, Leyton, London, E10 6PL. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 52 Elm Road, Leyton, London, E11 4DW.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church Leyton has been registered with the Charity Commission. The charity registration no is 1127622.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:-

Incumbent & Chair:	Rev P Brentford*	
Clergy:	Rev D Webb	Licensed Minister & Deputy Warden
Wardens:	Mr Rob Pilling*	
	Mr Josh Field *	Deputy PCC Chair
Deanery Synod Reps:	Miss Helen Lyons	to 12/03/2023
	Mrs Sylvia Clovey	from 12/03/2023
	Ms Caz Rawlinson	from 17/07/2023
Elected members:	Miss Ann Anosike	Secretary
	Mrs Sylvia Clovey	12/03/2023
	Mrs Joan Ede*	Treasurer
	Miss Carol Harrison	
	Mrs Marion Knowles	
	Mrs Janice Mancktelow	
	Mr Geoff Norris	to 12/03/2023
	Mrs Clare Parker	
	Mr Rob Plutte	from 12/03/2023
	Ms Caz Rawlinson	to 17/07/23
	Mr Daniele Scaramuzza	from 12/03/2023
	Mrs Barbara Sweeting*	Women's Worker
	Mrs Helen Webb	to 12/03/2023
Co-opted members	None	
Electoral Roll Officer	Mr R Ede	

*Standing Committee Members

Structure, government and management

The method of appointment of Parochial Church Council members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and activities

Christ Church's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building of Christ Church Leyton, London E10 6PL.

Our Vision is to be a church that is true to our name, as Christ Church Leyton. We are Christ's Church with Jesus Christ and his words at the centre and heart of our church, we are passionate about Church and so we are a church family who seek to love each other like Jesus loved us, and we are passionate about Leyton (and Leytonstone) as we seek to reach out with the life-giving gospel of Jesus. We therefore want to *know Christ and make him known* wherever the Lord has placed us and our mission partners. This Vision underlies all our activities.

Achievements and performance

Church Attendance

At the heart of what we do lies our Morning Service each Sunday at 10.30am and our Evening Service at 6.30pm on the 2nd Sunday of each month, where we gather expectantly to hear God's voice through the Bible.

The AGM was held on 12/03/2023 following the morning service. All the reports had been circulated to the congregation before the meeting giving the opportunity to raise any questions either in person or beforehand via e-mail, etc. The regular congregation has remained fairly stable over the last year, with some newcomers joining and a few coming off our Electoral Roll following the covid pandemic. Of the current 99 people on the roll, most of the church family live locally or in the surrounding area. The average weekly attendance (in person), counted during October 2023, was 74 adults and 11 children for the morning service and 5 adults for the monthly evening service who had not also attended in the morning. We have continued to stream our Weekly Services on YouTube for those unable to get to the Church building.

The many ministries of the Church have also continued and developed during 2023. We thank all those who have worked so hard to provide these ministries – Spotlight (under 11s); Youth on Sundays for the 11-16s; Growth Groups; Women's & Men's Breakfasts; Toddlers (midweek); Crèche (on Sundays); English Conversation Club; pastoral care; and in so many other different ways.

Review of the Year

Reaching Out

If 2022 was a year of restarting ministries after the pandemic, 2023 was a year of consolidating. Our particular focus for the year has been on our Outreach with the gospel. With this in mind, particular encouragements to give thanks for are:

- Our Christmas services and events were well attended, with a good number of guests joining us who were also invited to our 'Try Church Sundays';
- Steady numbers of guests and visitors come in ones and twos on Sundays;
- Our free Toddlers and English Conversation Club continue to serve our local community and are widely appreciated;
- Door-to-door visiting in May to engage with local people in our parish;
- Our schools work with visits from different year groups from Newport and Dawlish primary schools and speaking at their Christmas/Easter assemblies;

- Women's breakfast goes from strength to strength, with a special Christmas event and Men's breakfast has been re-established;
- Most of all we are thankful for a servant-hearted, loving, welcoming, diverse and united church family.

Communication with the congregation and local community has been maintained throughout 2023 with invitations delivered to homes for Christmas and Easter, publicity outside the building, weekly news updates, our website and social media. We are grateful to the technical members of our congregation who continue to stream services, keep the website updated and produce publicity.

Building Up

We have also continued to build one another up as church family through our Sunday services, youth and children's activities, men's and women's breakfasts, and other areas of ministry. Growth groups continue to be central to our church life, as we have sought to grow in our certainty and be strengthened by the gospel to live it out and reach out (focusing on Luke's gospel and Romans). Training and support of our leaders and helpers has remained an ongoing priority. Our music and welcome teams have also been a key part of this as we sing praises, build one another up in song and welcome visitors from different backgrounds and regulars alike week by week.

Following the installation of our new Vicar in April 2022, this has been his first full year in the role. Whilst we were disappointed not to be able to recruit an assistant minister for 2023, we hope to be able to appoint someone to start in summer 2024. We often feel stretched as a church family, and so there is an ongoing need to pray for workers for the harvest field alongside identifying and training one another to serve in different ways (Matthew 9:38). We launched a Cultural Review with a survey of our church family at our Away Day to help with considering areas of strength and areas to grow in.

PCC

The full PCC met in person on 5 occasions during 2023 with an average attendance of 86%. This includes a meeting following the AGM on 12/03/2023, at which all the necessary PCC officer elections were made. The names of our PCC members was made public at our AGM and is available on request. The Standing Committee has been increased to 5 members and is made up of our Incumbent, 2 wardens, Treasurer and Women's Worker. **Alongside discussing our weekly ministries**, major issues discussed by the PCC include our Outreach, Cultural Review, **and** our response to the Prayers of Love & Faith. Practical issues discussed in more depth include our finances, fabric and a safeguarding review, all of which make our ministry possible.

Mission Partner Support

The Mission Partner Support Task Group had previously had the responsibility of proposing partners to which donations could be made. A link person for each of our main Mission Partners is in the process of being appointed to form a new group. PCC members have been encouraged to bring to the PCC meetings any causes that they feel are in need of support from the discretionary Mission Partner Support fund and it is open to any member of the congregation to suggest causes as well. The missionary giving for one year is based on 10% of the total giving, including grants received from the Josiah Trust, during the previous financial year. The list of partners recommended for support is circulated to the Josiah Trust as well as to the PCC for approval each year. Our 3 main Mission Partners for 2023 were [REDACTED] in Southern Europe; Graeme & Bequi Innes in Eastern Europe and Rob & Beth Plutte working in the UK.

The PCC also agreed that the 2023 Gift Day appeal should be to support Zoe Salkield (nee Webb), a member of the church family, who is serving amongst families and students as a Ministry Assistant at St Ebbe's in Headington, in the suburbs of Oxford. The money raised of £2542 is being used to support her with the cost of her Ministry training and accommodation.

Mission Partner Support was also sent to The Barnabas Fund (£1000); CEF Britain (£250) for the help of Rachel Ball with Toddlers; London Gospel Partnership (£250); ReNew (£500). The balance of the discretionary mission partner support was sent to [REDACTED] following a family bereavement to cover the cost of air fares and other urgent costs.

Fabric

A Quinquennial Inspection was held in October 2022 and the final report was provided to us in early December 2022. In particular it was noted that the roof and exterior brickwork was in a poor condition in some places and needs attention. We are very grateful for a PCC member who volunteered to take on oversight of the fabric works, with help when needed from other members of the PCC/congregation. The works completed in 2023 were:-

- Electrics – new leg added for heater circuit;
- Outside tap – leak repaired and new isolation valve;
- Repair to Elm Road toilet pan connector;
- Electrical works following EICR (Electrical Installation Conditions Report);
- Works from Quinquennial Report:-
 - Vestry window repaired;
 - Boundary wall inspected and being monitored for movement;
 - Roof works.

In response to police advice in relation to antisocial behaviour and with the agreement of PCC, we are in the process of applying for a CofE faculty and planning permission to install fencing with 2 gates in the side alleyway (one for church use and another for UK Power who need 24 hour access to the electric sub-station). In addition, we have sought to engage with homeless people, which is a growing concern locally.

Regular annual maintenance carried out in 2023 are as follows:-

- Lightning conductor inspection;
- Portable Appliance Testing (PAT);
- Fire Risk Assessment;
- Electrical Installation Conditions Report (EICR);
- Gutter clear;
- Heaters/gas appliance servicing.

Financial Review

A copy of the accounts for year end 31/12/2023 are at the end of this report. We continue to be grateful for the on-going support for the ministry at Christ Church from the Josiah Trust, an independent charity that supports Christian ministry in Leyton and partners with us in supporting a range of Christian biblical mission causes both in the UK and overseas. The financial situation is regularly reviewed with giving and expenditure figures being monitored monthly.

The way people give to the Church has seen a significant change in 2023. Due to uncertainties regarding the Prayers of Love & Faith (PLF), we have been advised by several members of the congregation that they will stop giving directly to the Church but continue to support the Ministry by giving to The Josiah Trust. The giving to Christ Church Leyton has therefore reduced in 2023 as follows:-

- Envelopes & Cheques – down 27.5%;
- Open Cash – up 30%;
- Standing Orders – down 9.4%.

Overall this is a 10.6% drop in giving. This of course has a knock on effect and the amount of gift aid claimed in 2023 is 13.4% down on 2022.

The FTG has monitored the financial situation throughout the year and the PCC receive copies of the monthly giving/expenditure report. Notes from FTG meetings are circulated prior to PCC meetings with details of any proposals which need approval.

We thank the Lord for the faithfulness of our congregation in continuing to support the Ministry at Christ Church in their service, prayers and giving. Prior to the AGM held on 13/03/2022, the simplified 2022 Church accounts were circulated. The congregation was advised that the full 2022 AR&FS were available on request.

The PCC made the decision to pause paying the Parish Share from March 2023 and asked the Essex and East London Good Stewards Trust (EELGST) to pause the payments they were making on our behalf. From March to July 2023 monthly donations continued to be made to the EELGST. From August 2023, the monthly paused Parish Share payments were retained in a designated fund by CCL. This fund held £26622.50 of paused Parish Share money at the end of 2023. The PCC will be considering the situation again for 2024 and consider how we move forward in this matter.

The Josiah Trust continued to support Christ Church Leyton in 2023. The Church was unable to recruit an Assistant Minister during 2023, so the PCC agreed to ask the Josiah Trust to pause their monthly ministry support grant of £3000 from May 2023 until it would be needed again for additional staffing costs.

The PCC has committed to putting the following amounts into the Fabric Funds of the Church each year:-

- Fabric Fund £5500
- Vicarage Fund £ 500
- Fabric Maintenance Fund £2000.

It was not possible this year to meet the commitment for the Fabric Maintenance and Vicarage funds due to the increased spending in the Fabric Fund.

The 2023 Fabric Fund spend totalled £14633 which includes the quinquennial works shown earlier in this report. This amount was covered by the PCC commitment of £5500 to the Fabric Fund and a further £9133 from the General Fund.

The Fabric Maintenance Fund had a carry forward amount of £1082 from 2022. The total amount of maintenance expenditure was £2719. This expenditure was covered by the carry forward (£1082) and only part of the PCC commitment at £1637.

The Vicarage Fund did not receive any part of the PCC commitment.

The Mission Partner Support giving for 2023 of £14725 was based on 10% of our 2022 giving income, gift aid and Josiah Trust grants. This amount was fully paid out in 2023 and details of the payments made are shown on Page 13 at Item 8.

The 2023 Gift Day appeal was held to raise funds to support Zoe Salkield (nee Webb) as she serves as a Ministry Assistant at St Ebbe's, Headington. The money raised (£2542) will go towards the cost of the training and accommodation costs.

We were advised by the PCC of St John's Walthamstow that they wished to make a £2000 contribution towards our 2023 Parish Share. The PCC were very grateful for their generosity. The PCC agreed that it would pay the 1% discount for regular monthly payments into the EELGST for 2023 to support its' charitable purposes..

NB: This situation has of course been affected by the PCC decision to pause Parish Share payments from March 2023.

The General Fund at 31/12/2023 is showing a deficit of £19793.89. This shortfall is mainly due to the changes in how people give to CCL and the Josiah Trust grants stopping from May 2023. This deficit is being covered by monies held within the designated Staff Salary & Parish Share payments. However this is not an ideal situation and the PCC will be discussing this matter in 2024.

We shall continue to praise God for His provision in 2023 and for the continued financial support we have received from the Josiah Trust and the congregation to enable the ministry at Christ Church to continue and we pray keep growing. We continue to update and encourage the congregation to regularly consider and review their giving, whilst being mindful of the cost of living crisis.

Overall the percentages for 2023 expenditure are as follows:-

- 45% of expenditure went on ministry costs at Christ Church (61% in 2022);
- 20 % on ministry costs elsewhere (17% in 2022);
- 35% on bills, overheads and fabric upkeep of the Church (22% in 2022).

Compared with 2022, the drop in ministry costs is due to the pausing of the Parish Share payments and no new staffing appointments. The percentage increase in bills, overheads and fabric upkeep of the Church is due to additional expenditure on:-

- Utilities – Gas and Electricity costs both rose by over 100%;
- Goods & Services and Consumables

Reserves and Funds

There is currently no Reserve Policy in place but this matter will be addressed in 2024. Where money is donated to the Church for specific items, these amounts are accounted for separately in Restricted Funds. Any money unspent is carried forward into the next year's accounts. These funds at the end of 2023 are:-

Restricted Funds

Hardship Loan Fund	Donations – Z Salkield (nee Webb)
Needy Fund	Donations – Shoeboxes (gift aid claim o/s)
Donations - R & B Plutte	Women's Book Group

Where money has been set aside by the PCC from general funds for particular purposes, these are held in Designated Funds which at 31/12/203 are:-

Designated Funds

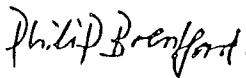
Parish Share – paused payments
Staff Salary Fund.

The following funds have been closed at 31/12/2023 due to all monies being paid out:-

Donations – M Harvey	Fabric Maintenance Fund
Donations – Other	Gift Day 2023

Approved by the PCC on 23rd January 2024 and signed on their behalf by Rev P Brentford (PCC Chairman & Incumbent).

Signed:



Date:

30/01/2024

**Independent Examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council
of Christ Church, Leyton**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

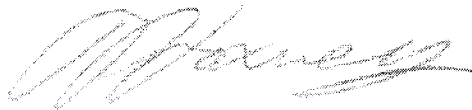
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Jason Foxwell FCCA FCIE

independent-examiner.net

39 Enfield Road, Poole, BH15 3LJ

Date: 19/02/2024

Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

	Note	General Fund £	Other Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
RECEIPTS					
Regular Giving					
Envs & Cheques		5115		5115	7056
Open Cash		2815		2815	2162
Planned Giving (SOs)		55789		55789	61554
Gift Aid recovered		14502		14502	16739
Total		78221		78221	87511
Staff Salaries & Costs	1	12000		12000	65350
Ministry Costs	2	221		221	344
Goods & Services	3	1495		1495	1686
Church Activities	4	1134	2542	3676	771
Other receipts	5	2003	2765	4768	10795
Total Receipts		95074	5307	100381	166457
PAYMENTS					
Parish Share		-37938		-37938	-59415
Staff Salaries & Costs	6	-1689		-1689	-22324
Ministry Costs	7	-3403		-3403	-3698
Mission Giving	8	-14725		-14725	-17992
Total		-57755		-57755	-103429
Church Utilities	9	-12915		-12915	-6879
Goods & Services	10	-15117	-8219	-23336	-24714
Church Activities	11	-3349	-2542	-5891	-1913
Governance Costs	12	-400		-400	-375
Other payments	13	-459	-2747	-3206	-9406
		-89995	-13508	103503	-146716
Excess of receipts over payments		4579		4579	27825
Deficit of payments over receipts			-7701	-7701	-8084
Transfer between funds		-33259	33259		0
		-28680	25558	-3122	19741
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 st Jan		8887	20326	29213	9472
End or previous year adjustment re unreconciled amounts					
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 st Dec		-19824.28	45914.86	26090.58	29213

Funds held

	Balance 1 st Jan 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers between funds £	Balance 31 st Dec 2023 £
General Fund	8886.69	95073.82	-90495.40	-33259.00	-19793.89
Staff Salary Fund	15000.00	0	0	0	15000.00
Hardship Loan Fund	1564.75	225.00	200.00	0	1589.75
Ladies Book Group	49.15	0	0	0	49.15
Z Salkeid support	0	150.00	-95.00	0	55.00
Needy Fund	2155.07	478.00	-50.00	0	2583.07
R & B Plutte Support	-10.00	1220.00	-1220.00	0	-10.00
Donations Shoeboxes	0	542.50	547.50	0	-5.00
Parish Share – paused	0	0	0	26622.50	26622.50
Following funds closed at 31/12/2023					
Donation M Harvey	485.00		-485.00		0
Donation – other	0	150.00	-150.00		0
Fabric Fund	0	0	-5500.00	5500.00	0
Fabric Mtce Fund	1082.00	0	-2718.50	1636.50	0
Gift Day 2023	0	2542.10	-2542.10		0

Fund balances at 31/12/2023		Total
General Fund		-19793.89
Designated Funds		
Parish Share Payments (paused at present)		26622.50
Staff Salary Fund		15000.00
Restricted Funds		
Hardship Loan Fund		1589.75
Donations – Shoeboes		-5.00
Ladies Book Group		49.15
Z Salkeid (nee Webb) – Training Ministry Support		55.00
Needy Fund		2583.07
R & B Plutte Support		-10.00
TOTAL MONIES HELD AT 31/12/2023		26090.58

Notes on receipts in accounts

	General Fund £	Other Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
1 Staff salary & costs income				
Josiah Trust	12000.00		12000	60000
Rent Contribution	0		0	5350
	12000.00		12000	65350
2 Ministry Costs Income				
Adult Ministry	49		49	34
Mother & Toddlers	127		127	190
Youth Ministry	45		45	120
	221		221	344
3 Goods & Services				
LoB Grant – new heaters 2022	1470		1470	0
Fabric Fund – Outside lighting				687
Fabric Maintenance Fund				999
Telephone rebate (change of provider)	25		25	0
	1495		1495	1686
4 Church Activities				
Away Day 2023	90		90	0
Bible Notes	62		61	100
Church Meals	773		773	444
Consumables				55
Evangelicals Now	209		209	123
Gift Day 2023		2542	2542	0
Women's Book Club				49
	1134	2542	3675	771
5 Other income				
Donations - other	587	150	1274	1561
Donations L Forty				1500
Donations R & B Plutte		1220	1220	1710
Donations Z Salkield (nee Webb)		150	-95	
Donations – Shoeboxes		542		
Energy Grant 2023	950		950	
Fees	459		495	928
Hardship Loan Fund		225	225	588
Hardship Loan Specific Appeals				2490
Interest	7		7	6
Needy Fund		478	478	2012
	2003	2765	4799	10795

Notes on expenditure in accounts

Note	General Fund £	Other Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
6 Staff salaries & costs exp				
Vicar's Expenses	-314		-314	-510
Associate Minister Salary				-12918
Associate Minister Expenses				-42
2 nd Assoc Minister – Rent/Moving				-7800
Women's Ministry Worker Exps	-1375		-1375	-1029
Payroll costs				-25
	<u>-1689</u>		<u>-1689</u>	<u>-22324</u>
7 Ministry costs				
Adult Ministry	-795		-795	-1077
Mothers & Toddlers	-397		-397	-493
Services	-538		-538	-922
Spotlight	-647		-647	-343
Youth Ministry	-1026		-1026	-863
	<u>-3403</u>		<u>-3403</u>	<u>-3698</u>
8 Mission Giving				
AWM	-3500		-3500	-3500
Mission Partner in Europe	-2225		-2225	0
Barnabas Fund	-1000		-1000	-1000
CEEC				-121
CEF Britain	-250		-250	-250
CPAS Ventures				-121
Crosslinks (GI)	-3500		-3500	-6250
Crosslinks (Ukraine aid)				-3000
LGP	-250		-250	-250
ReNew	-500		-500	-500
R Plutte	-3500		-3500	-3000
	<u>14725</u>		<u>-14725</u>	<u>-17992</u>
9 Church Utilities				
Electricity	-1945		-1945	-816
Gas	-7648		-7648	-2976
Insurance	-2420		-2420	-2321
Telephones	-352		-352	-363
Water	-550		-550	-403
	<u>-12915</u>		<u>-12915</u>	<u>-6879</u>

Note		General Funds £	Other Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
10	Goods & Services				
	Fabric Fund	-9133	-5500	-14633	-10356
	Fabric Fund – Maintenance		-2719	-2719	-918
	Fabric Fund – Insurance Claim				-999
	Vicarage Fund				-8000
	G&S	-3327		-3327	-1719
	Management Software	-574		-574	-442
	Photocopier rental	-839		-839	-839
	Print	-1244		-1244	-1441
		<u>-15117</u>	<u>-8219</u>	<u>-23336</u>	<u>-24714</u>
11	Church Activities				
	Away Day 2023	-263		-263	
	Bible Notes				-169
	Church Suppers	-848		-848	-544
	Consumables	-2058		-2058	-804
	Evangelicals Now	-180		-180	-173
	Gift Day 2020				-223
	Gift Day 2023		-2542	-2542	
		<u>-3349</u>	<u>-2542</u>	<u>-5891</u>	<u>-1913</u>
12	Governance Costs				
	Examiner's Fee	-400		-400	-375
		<u>-400</u>		<u>-400</u>	<u>-375</u>
13	Other payments				
	Donations				-981
	Donations Z Salkield (nee Webb)				
	Fees	-459			-218
	Hardship Loan Fund		-200	-200	
	Hardship Loan – Specific Appeals				-3295
	Needy Fund		-50	-50	-250
	Donation – L Forty				-1500
	Donation – R&B Plutte				-1720
	Donation – M Harvey		-485	-485	-1200
	Donation – Cornhill Student				-242
		<u>-459</u>	<u>-2747</u>	<u></u>	<u>-9406</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2023

	General Fund £	Other Funds £	Total 2023 £	2022 £
Santander Current Account	0	25759.65	25759.65	29037
Cash	0	330.93	330.93	176
	<u>0</u>	<u>26090.58</u>	<u>26090.58</u>	<u>29213</u>