THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHESTER, CHRIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1133808

Details

Other names	CHRIST CHURCH PCC, CHESTER
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2010-01-27
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Christ Church Mission House 31 Church Street Chester CH1 3JD
Phone	07443 584528
Email	admin@christchurchchester.com
Website	www.christchurchchester.com

Activities

Objects: Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

Activities: Regular public worship open to all.The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.The provision of a youth club with a Christian ethos.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1133808

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Cheshire West & Chester

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£124,755	£125,971	-	-
2023-12-31	£113,168	£119,862	-	-
2022-12-31	£94,895	£109,053	-	-
2021-12-31	£114,768	£107,724	-	-
2020-12-31	£116,223	£122,911	-	-

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1133808

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Anna Louise Leyden	Chair	2020-07-02
Andrew Wigglesworth		2019-04-28
Anna Hockley		2024-05-19
Calvin Hodgson		2024-05-19
Carys Addison		2023-04-23
DAVID JOHN CHIRGWIN		
David Anthony Jones		2022-05-22
Dino Siu Fai Leung		2024-07-15
Dr Mercy Ade		2025-05-11
Edward Huntley Newman		2021-05-09
JANET MARGARET PINNELL THORP MA		
Jonathan Aragon-Escobosa		2023-04-23
Kerry Wigglesworth		2025-05-23
Laura Elizabeth Hale		2022-05-22
Pauline Ann Jones OBE		2021-05-09
Rev Denise Noble		2024-07-01
Thomas Jay Cobb		2020-10-18
WENDY MARGARET PETO		

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1133808

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHESTER, CHRIST CHURC

England & Wales - Charity number 1133808

Accounts

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

The Parochial Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chester,
Christ Church

Registered charity 1133808

CHRIST CHURCH
CHESTER







Parish Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

Contents

	Pages
Statement of PCC's Responsibilities	3
Annual Report	4
Overview of the Year	5
Independent Examiner's Report	19
Financial Review of the Year	20
Accounting Policies	22
Statement of Financial Activity	24
Balance Sheet	25
Notes to the Accounts	26

Statement of Parochial Church Council's Responsibilities

We are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements we are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue.

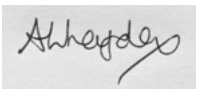
We are also responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records;
- safeguarding the PCC's assets;
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Public Benefit
The PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of religion for the Public Benefit" and have had regard to it in their administration of the church.
The PCC believes that by promoting the Christian faith it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual development, both for existing church members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers.
- Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:



Anna Leyden (Chair) 18th March 2025

Annual Report

Background of the PCC

Christ Church Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent and other clergy in promoting the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities of our church building and Mission House.

Membership of PCC

Membership of the PCC is ex-officio, co-opted or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules. The following people served for all or part of 2024:

Vicar	Rev'd Anna Leyden
Associate Minister Assistant Curate	Rev'd Glyn Jones (until 21/7/24) Rev'd Denise Noble (from 6/7/24)
Vice Chair of the PCC	David Chirgwin
Churchwardens	David Jones Andrew Wigglesworth
Deanery Synod Representatives	Susan Ibrahim Wendy Peto
Lay Reader Representative	Edward Newman (from 19/5/24)
Elected PCC Members	Carys Addison Jonathan Aragon-Escobosa David Chirgwin Thomas Cobb Achu Edison (from 19/5/24) Anna Hockley Laura Hale Calvin Hodgson (from 18/3/24) Veronica Johnston Pauline Jones Dino Leung (from 15/7/24) Edward Newman (until 19/5/24) Janet Thorp
Secretary Electoral Roll Officer	Wendy Peto Janet Thorp (until 19/5/24); Carys Addison (from 19/5/24)
Treasurer	Laura Hale (until 21/10/24); Edward Newman (from 21/10/24)
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Pauline Jones

Standing Committee

Standing Committee has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings (subject to directions given by the Council) and consists of Vicar/Chairperson, two Churchwardens, the Treasurer, and one other PCC member elected by the PCC (currently Susan Ibrahim). Standing Committee has met on an 'ad hoc' basis to consider Generosity Fund applications and carry out essential PCC business, with the approval of the PCC, between meetings.

Church Membership

Membership of the electoral roll stood at 115 on 19/5/2024 (of which 14% live in the parish). The PCC met every month during 2024 except August and December.

Overview of the year

It is impossible to do justice to a year of church life in just one or two pages so I'm not even going to attempt it! There have, as always, been challenges and difficult moments but the encouragements and blessings we've seen, and the number of people we want to thank, are too numerous to list. However, there were a few key events in the past year which aren't noted elsewhere in this Annual Report and must get a mention.

2024 was a year of many comings and goings as we said some sad farewells but also welcomed many new faces into the Christ Church family.

In July, Associate Minister, Glyn Jones along with his wife Raphaelle and daughter Betty moved to London, responding to God's call to plant a new church community there. Glyn has been an enormous blessing to Christ Church over many years, inspiring us with his love for Jesus, his heart for evangelism and his care for all people. So many people have stories to tell of the part Glyn and his family have paid in their faith journeys so we were extremely sorry to bid them farewell but also excited to see what God will do in and through them in this next phase of their ministry.





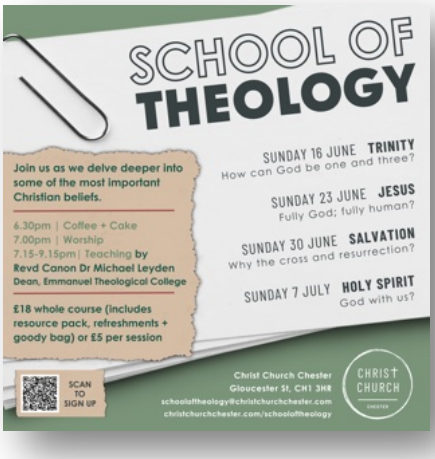


Job was right when he said "The Lord gives and the Lord takes away," (Job 1.21) and we were delighted to welcome Denise Noble as our Curate in July, just a couple of weeks before Glyn's departure. Denise is likely to be with us for around 3 years, working primarily on a Sunday and Monday. Denise has already become a valued member of the ministry team at Christ Church, blessing us with her wisdom, prayerfulness and servant heart.

In November, Ed Newman took the reins as Treasurer, taking over the role from Laura Hale. We are incredibly grateful to both Laura and Ed for using their gifts to faithfully serve Christ Church in this important role.

Back in 2023 we discerned together God's vision for Christ Church to be a community where we are learning to live for Christ; unite in Christ; and love like Christ. During that discernment process there emerged a desire for discipleship opportunities for people of all ages and stages of faith. To this end, in January we began an Alpha Course on Wednesday evenings, welcoming a good number of people who were new to Christian faith or wanted to explore more of who Jesus is.

Then in June we launched our first School of Theology, running for four weeks on Sunday evenings. School of Theology was open to all but aimed particularly at those who wanted to go deeper in their faith. Michael Leyden shared with us his expertise on the Trinity, Jesus, Salvation and the Holy Spirit. Each evening began with refreshments and worship followed by teaching and discussion. Over 50 people signed up, from Christ Church and other local churches, and there was a strong appetite to run another School of Theology in 2024.





In October, in a bid to better equip us to 'Love like Christ' six members of Christ Church took part in a two-day Mental Health First Aid course hosted by Chapter Mental Health in the Mission House. The sessions were tiring but incredibly helpful and it is hoped the group that completed the course will form the core of a 'Pastoral Care' group to be established in 2025.

Church members were also encouraged to grow in their discipleship and get further involved in church life through a Lenten sermon series on 'Generosity' and by reviewing their giving, both financially and in terms of time and gifts. We held a ministry fair in February and March during which the church was set up with different 'stalls' hosted by ministry area leaders which people visited to find out more about serving in those areas and express an interest in signing up. Following the ministry fair and sermon series there was an encouraging response to our 'Pledge Sundays' where everyone was invited to commit to serving and giving in the coming year.



PLEDGE FORM | TIME & TALENTS | LENT 2024

Please return on Sunday 10 or 17 March

Your Name _____ **Phone** _____

Email _____

Each and every one of us has a unique role to play in the life of Christ's Church. Please tick:

1) **the areas of church life where you would like to continue serving;**
2) **the areas where you'd be interested in serving.**

Ministry area	Continue to serve	Interest-ed	Ministry area	Continue to serve	Interest-ed
Worship			**Finance**		
Welcome team			Finance/banking team		
Tea and coffee			Grant applications		
Bible readings			Fundraising initiatives		
Intercessions					
PC / Projection			**Hospitality**		
PA / Sound			Catering		
Sidesperson			Bring & Share lunches		
Sacristan			Brunch services		
9.00am music team					
10.30am music team			**Maintenance/Fabric**		
			Church cleaning		
Children/Youth			Maintenance/decorating		
Tots+Tinies			Grounds maintenance		
Messy Church			Gardening		
Sunday Children's work					
Sunday Youth work			**Safeguarding Team**		

The church building saw some very welcome upgrades during the year, with a particular highlight being the addition of a new coffee station, thanks to a generous gift in memory of Lilian Morris. The coffee station was designed and built by Alec Spencer, with help from Rob Peto, and a dedicated team of helpers. In addition to greatly improving the aesthetic of the building the coffee station provides welcome storage and has improved the practicalities around hospitality.







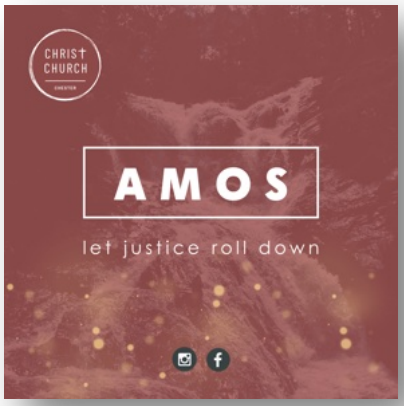
Do read the rest of this Annual Report where you will find out more about how God has been at work in many different areas of church life. We give thanks to Him for His faithfulness throughout 2024 and we place our trust in Him for the year ahead.

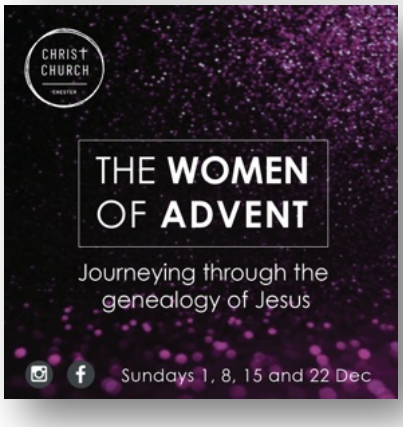
Rev Anna Leyden, Vicar

Worship Services
Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Report:

- As in recent years, in 2024 our usual pattern of services was a 9.00am more formal service (with Holy Communion each week) and a more contemporary and informal 10.30am service (with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month). Once a month, we held the Brunch service (interactive worship for all ages) at 10.30am and Contemplative Communion at 6pm.
- Over the course of the year, in addition to lectionary and seasonal readings we worked through a number of sermon series including a Lent series on generosity; a 10 week series on Paul's letter to the Romans; six weeks on Amos; and a four week Advent series on the women in Jesus' genealogy. In the Brunch Services, we focused on some likely and unlikely 'Heroes of the Bible.'
- Monday Prayer continued throughout the year, moving to the upstairs room in the Mission House for warmth and comfort. On average, it was attended by approx. 8-10 people per week.
- During December, it was a pleasure to work with the Salvation Army again for outdoor 'Community Carols.' Brio Bear – from Northgate Arena – also joined us and Tesco donated the mince pies, making it an increasingly 'community wide' event. Carols by Candlelight saw approximately 50% more people than the previous year.











9am Musical Worship

Coordinator: Tonya Chirgwin

Purpose: To lead people in worship through music, predominantly at our 9.00am congregation.

Report:

- Spring was marked by the celebrations of Holy Week and Easter, with worship covering the whole gamut of human emotions. Lucy played for the quiet, informal communion on Maundy Thursday, while Good Friday's Tenebrae-based service included congregational and reflective music played by Andrew, Stella C and me. Stella C's original setting of 'There is a green hill far away' in particular provided a moving commentary on the cost of God's love for lost humanity. As usual, our two congregations came together to share the joy of Easter Day, with rousing opening and closing hymns on the organ and a variety of worship songs led by the Music Group during the service.
- We said goodbye to two long-standing team members over the Summer, when both Ruth and Stella C moved to be nearer their families. Their rich and varied contributions to our worship are much missed and we wish them all the best as they settle in their new homes.
- In the Autumn I was privileged to play the organ at our usual joint service on Remembrance Sunday, accompanying the now-traditional hymns 'O God our help in ages past' and 'O God beyond all praising' (this to the well-known tune of 'I vow to thee my country'), while Music Group led sensitively-chosen songs and music around the Act of Remembrance.
- Winter came, bringing a busy Advent Sunday. Lucy played for the traditional 9am Communion, I accompanied the Celebrate and Remember Service (for those who had died in the last year, and earlier) in the evening, and rehearsals began for the Christmas Choir, once again organised and directed by Hannah. And what a Christmas it was! Although ravaged by injury and seasonal illnesses, the Choir delighted the congregation with arrangements of 'O come, O come Immanuel' and 'Mary's Boy-child' – two very different carols, one hauntingly mysterious, the other infectiously lively, but both performed with conviction and aplomb. Another highlight of the service was the beautiful piano improvisation provided by Hannah (at very short notice). The large congregation also enjoyed joining in a selection of well-known carols, accompanied by Andrew and Tonya on the organ. All in all the service was, as one of the regular attendees said, "one of the best". Illness intervened once again on Christmas Eve, but thankfully Andrew was able to step in to provide the music for both the Noisy Nativity and the Midnight Service (as well as playing on Christmas Day) – including a rousing performance of the 'Hallelujah Chorus' from Handel's 'Messiah' as a concluding voluntary.
- It remains only to express my gratitude to all the 9am Worship Team members, past and present, who have given their time and talents so faithfully to play for both regular and 'occasional' services through the year – God bless you, and here's to the next!

10.30am Worship Ministry

Coordinator: Hannah Thompson

Purpose: To lead people in Spirit-led worship through music, predominantly at our 2nd morning service.

Report:

- 2024 began with an encouraging start, 6 different worship leaders all with their own styles of worship leading our diverse congregation. Over the year a few of the leaders stepped down; big thanks to Ed for his hard work and his serving which continues in many other church ministries, and a thank you and farewell to Al and Glyn who left Chester but had served Christ Church diligently for many years. Later in the year, Jasmine joined the worship leaders team which has been a big blessing.
- Other musicians have also been recruited including a guitarist, drummer and keys player/singer. Big welcome and thank you to you!
- The Ministry Fair before the service at the start of March provided an opportunity for every serving team to have a station and share with others about what their team contributes to the running of church with the aim for recruitment of new team members. Several people came to our stall and discussed worship, also taking part in a fun musical quiz, God or Todd, with a couple of names added to the list!
- In May we hosted our worship team meeting, sharing in a time of sung worship, learning some new songs and reflecting on how we think musical worship has been going this year as well as new ideas going forwards. We had a small gathering who attended this meeting and many who could not attend provided their thoughts through feedback forms which were then discussed at the meeting, enabling lots of fruitful conversation.
- Towards the end of the year we still had many singers in the team but we were becoming short on bassist/guitarists/drummers which continues into the new year. Please pray with us as we wait on God to bring new life to the team particularly musicians playing these instruments, with a few conversations already happening. Watch this space!
- This year we have been able to replace some broken equipment with some future ideas of things to buy/assemble that may be useful for the logistics of leading worship on a Sunday. Continue to pray for wisdom for us as we look at prioritisation in our spending.
- The year ended with a collaboration of 9am and 10:30am worship in the Christmas services, as has featured at other key church dates across the year including Easter and Remembrance Day. Very grateful for the team this year and look forward to more musical worship in 2025.

Children's Ministry Overview

Coordinator: Lizzie Cobb
Purpose: To facilitate an environment where children can grow in their relationship with God, predominately through Sunday morning groups during the 10.30am service.

Crèche: under 3s
Report:

- We have an unsupervised creche for under 2s in the vestry. It has a livestream of the service and provides a space for parents to sit with young children during service if they'd like to. There are also sofas at the side of church for parents (and others) to sit more comfortably if they prefer.
- This year, we've had some informal feedback about the (low) temperature of the creche and have noticed that parents tend to use the sofa area at the side of church more regularly than the creche.

Children's Ministry: 3-11s
Coordinator: Lizzie Cobb
Report:

- 2024 has seen a large fluctuation in numbers in our children's ministry. We have continued with one group for 3-11s during our Sunday services.
- Over the year we have looked at a variety of topics. In September we undertook a series of sessions in order to 're-launch' children's ministry and give them a new name, logo and strap line. Children looked at what it meant to be a Christian, through prayer, the bible, church family and worship.
- Children came up with a variety of ideas for names and logos - the new name will be revealed in 2025!
- With returning leaders, we now have 3 Children's Ministry leaders. (One moved to being a crypt leader due to the need there). This works well as each leader does one per month, with the Brunch Service covering the other.
- We also have an abundance of helpers on a Sunday morning – it's been really encouraging to have so many people invested in our children's faith.
- Children enjoy worshipping, praying and crafting during the sessions as well as having fellowship with their friends.





Crypt Youth Group: 11+yrs
Coordinator: Michael Leyden
Report:

- Crypt met for Bible study, games and fellowship every other week during the 10.30am service in 2024.
- There were around 8 youth in total who attended the sessions, with a typical week averaging 4-6 people. We had three members from the younger group 'graduate' up to crypt which widened the age range to around 11-16 years old. We have worked hard to integrate everyone into the group and provide material that is suitable for all.
- Throughout the year we've gone through a variety of courses and topics such as what it means to pray with the 24/7 youth prayer course, looking at Christian themes in different films and what we can learn from them and much more. In addition we have continued to run more pancakes and pondering sessions where difficult topics and questions can be discused while eating tasty treats.
- To manage the capacity of the leaders, the schedule has remained at meeting twice per month with the youth staying in the service during the Brunch Service and one 'normal' morning service. We have been fortunate to have Ally join us as a leader, taking us to 5 in total, which has been a real blessing but we are always on the look out for more volunteers to join the team.
- Some of the leaders have been attending a course run by Youthscape to help those in youth leadership with planning sessions, understanding the issues faced by the youth today and more. The course has been a good help and we look forward to learning more as the course continues in 2025.

Tots+Tinies: 0-5s
Coordinator: Anna Leyden
Purpose: To provide a welcoming and nurturing space where young children and their parents/carers can be cared for, make new friends, and be introduced to the Christian faith. Tots+Tinies serves both the church congregation and wider local community.
Report:

- Tots+Tinies continued to meet on Thursday mornings during term time for friendship, tea and toast, play, craft, a Bible story, songs, and the 'prayer parachute'. We have seen an increasing number of people attending who do not have prior links to Christ Church or other local churches and it has been a pleasure to be able to share something of the love of Jesus with them.
- As always, the T+T family changed shape throughout the year, with many new faces coming through the doors. We also said goodbye to some families with children moving onto school or parents returning to work after parental leave.



- Pauline Jones, Wendy Peto and Sarah Krakowski stepped up to help tell the Bible stories, prayer parachute and lead a song for which Anna was extremely grateful.

Messy Church
Coordinator: Jodie Spencer & Anna Leyden
Purpose: To encourage the discipleship of children and families (both those who already attend church and those who do not) through creative and fun ways of exploring the Bible and Christian faith.

Report:

- Messy Church sessions took place termly in 2024. Many families are regular attenders, and it has been great to see some new families joining us too.
- Our Messy Church sessions have attracted both children and families of primary school aged children and also younger children and their families. A range of activities are planned that are appropriate and engaging for this wide age range.
- It has been a joy to see families enjoy spending time with/ learning about Jesus in these sessions and we are regularly asked 'When is the next Messy Church?' If enough volunteers are available, we hope to deliver Messy Church sessions bimonthly in 2025.
- Thank you to everyone who has helped with preparing and delivering these sessions and to everyone who attended.





Student Work
Coordinator: James Thompson
Purpose: To invest in the next generation of Christians through welcoming, pastoring, equipping, and sending out our university students.

Report:

- During 2024, the student team continued to provide regular student lunches with food from around the world.
- Our student community is small but diverse - we have a mixture of undergraduate, postgraduate and sixth form/college students. As a result our student community encompasses quite a wide age range.
- Some of our students have become more involved with serving at church on different teams, which has been great to see.
- During September 2024, the Christian Union Church Search visited us at the start of term and several first-year students came along to try Christ Church.

- We also have a link to the University chaplaincy through Michael Mills, who helps out there in the week and several students have come to Christ Church off the back of this.
- We have been blessed with a wonderful student team at Christ Church, consisting of both old and new faces. Thanks to everyone for their hard work in looking after and cooking for the students.

Connect Groups

Coordinator: Anna Leyden & Kerry Wigglesworth

Purpose: To provide regular gatherings of small groups, outside of a Sunday service context, where members of Christ Church can connect with God, connect with other church members and connect with their wider communities.

Report:



- Connect Groups remain an important part of life at Christ Church. They provide opportunity for Bible study, prayer support and friendship.
- Three Connect Groups met throughout 2024: in homes in Newtown, Helsby and one group in the Mission House. Each Connect Group followed a different syllabus, often studying a book of the Bible or following a particular theme/course e.g. the Prayer Course.
- During May and June, several Connect Groups studied the Romans course by the Bible Society in tandem with the sermon series we were following as a church.
- One group came to end during 2024 and there is need now for new Connect Group facilitators and hosts to enable this ministry to grow.

Drop In

Coordinator: Sue Ibrahim

Purpose: To open our church doors on Sunday afternoons, offering a warm and welcoming space for people facing homelessness and other vulnerable individuals.

Report:

- Drop In has seen a growing number of vulnerable and homeless people attending, largely due to the closure of other charities and agencies because of funding issues. As times get tougher, we anticipate the number of attendees to rise from 35-40 people per week to 40-45.
- Our Christmas dinner event was a great success, with 57 guests attending. Fifteen volunteers joined in, enjoying a festive meal with all the trimmings. Each guest received a gift containing chocolate and toiletries.
- The increase in guests at Drop In has been managed thanks to the dedication and commitment of our volunteers, who serve every week. In 2024, we welcomed a new volunteer, Tanya Whitehurst, to our team. Tanya has been a wonderful addition, taking on the quarterly rota to ensure sessions

are well-staffed and equipped with food. A new soup rota has also provided flexibility for volunteers to try new recipes all vegetable only.

- We continue to operate on a very tight budget and feel the impact of the cost-of-living crisis. However, generous grants from local businesses and employers have enabled us to keep our services running, thanks to Tesco Broughton Park, Belgrave Care, and Lloyds Banking Group.
- We will continue to serve our guests every Sunday afternoon, along with special events such as breakfasts, BBQs, and Christmas dinners whilst enjoying good conversation.
- We are looking to expand our services by collaborating with other charities to provide assistance with housing, benefits, and other day-to-day needs.
- We are the only service provider in the community offering food and drinks on a Sunday. However, the kindness, good conversation, and warmth experienced by our guests are perhaps even more valuable.







Warm Welcome Space

Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Purpose: To share the love of Jesus in a practical way by providing a warm and welcoming space for the whole community during the winter months.



Report:

- Our Warm Welcome Space launched in November 2022 and continued until the end of February 2024. Hot drinks, toast and snacks were available to all, as well as work spaces, newspapers, jigsaws and board games.
- Warm Welcome Space was attended by a small but committed group who appreciated the friendly conversation and company.
- We made the decision not to re-open the Warm Welcome Space in November 2024 due to small take up over the previous two years and the limited availability of volunteers. We were encouraged that through Drop In and the Salvation Army's Thursday lunch club there will still be points of contact available in Newtown for those who might otherwise be isolated.

Visiting Ministry

Coordinator: Veronica Johnston
Purpose**:** To enfold within the family of Christ Church the sick and housebound, through regular visits and the opportunity to share Holy Communion at home or in hospital.

Report:

- Visiting continued throughout the year to members of Christ Church community at home, in care homes and hospital.
- We are delighted to welcome back Ted Longman who with the help of his family is strong enough to join us again for worship in church. One member of our congregation wants to express grateful thanks to the cheery team of friends who transported her to fifteen days of hospital appointments.
- Several individuals attended a two-day Mental Health First Aid course with a view to setting up a Pastoral Team next year.
- It was with sadness that we said farewell to a longstanding member of our community, Caron Beckingham, who died in October. Our thoughts and our prayers are with Cassie and her family. Although Caron had been ill, in and out of hospital for many years, she continued to smile. When she was well enough to receive communion, our visits were enlivened by her wit and positive spirit. It was we who came away blessed and refreshed. We will miss her.

Maintenance

Coordinators: Andrew Wigglesworth & Rob Peto
Purpose: To look after the physical maintenance of the church building and Mission House, ensuring that they are safe, work according to the needs of the church and meet the standards they are required to by law.

Report:

- It has been another quiet year in the life of the fabric of the church with no major works undertaken or major issues cropping up within the church building which needed attending to.
- We held the usual two Maintenance Days, one in early spring and the other in late Autumn, where church members were encouraged to come along and assist with a number of necessary jobs including clearing gutters of leaves, cleaning the inside of the church, polishing the brass, fixing floor blocks and many other small jobs.
- We were blessed to have many volunteers arriving for the maintenance days, all helping out in a variety of ways. The number of volunteers meant we were able to achieve all that we set out to and more for which we are very grateful. We



are also particularly grateful for the team who made teas, coffees and bacon butties (vegetarian options included) for everyone, it would have been a much poorer day without them.

- We said goodbye to some fabric team members but welcomed more members who have been instrumental in helping out with jobs needed in between maintenance days and undertaking some of the demanding tasks. Thanks to all of them and the hard work that they put in in keeping the life of the church building going year on year.





Safeguarding

Coordinator: Pauline Jones

Purpose: To ensure measures are in place at Christ Church to protect everyone, but particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to promote their health and wellbeing.

Report:

- At Christ Church we seek to promote a safe environment, culture and activities in order to include a wide range of children, young people and adults. Everyone at Christ Church shares this responsibility, but not everyone is responsible for everything! We believe safeguarding is about how we treat each other and the quality of our relationships but we also seek to fulfil our responsibilities as laid down by the Church of England and Chester Diocese Safeguarding team. We believe and trust that safeguarding supports ministry and outreach rather than preventing or constraining it.
- I can confirm that Christ Church Chester PCC has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance'. As Parish Safeguarding Officer, I have regularly reported on safeguarding in the parish and safeguarding has been a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting.
- The following is Christ Church Chester PCC's statement, which reports on progress as required:

    - David McClenaghan kindly agreed to support safeguarding at Christ Church and undertook all required training modules, including leadership
    - Regular safeguarding meetings with Rev. Anna Leyden, and from April David McClenaghan, and myself were held.

- Seven people from the CC community undertook training and became Mental Health First Aiders
- In July I attended a moving and motivating Diocesan safeguarding service at the Cathedral
- In May the Diocese introduced Safeguarding Dashboards and Safeguarding Hubs to support parishes to comply with the Church of England's safeguarding policy and procedures.
- By the end of the year Christ Church had relatively few outstanding actions at Level 2 of the dashboard, related mainly to procedures for safer recruitment and people management.
- In October I attended the Parish Safeguarding Officers' network meeting, which was dominated by the Makin Review
- We are grateful to Thirty-one Eight for freely sharing their resources to support Safeguarding Sunday in November. On the day we focused on continuing the conversation to support an honest and open culture, where safeguarding is a positive expression of learning to love like Christ and live for Christ.
- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed for all eligible individuals and almost 100% of those eligible undertook the appropriate modules.
- We are again grateful to the Chester Diocesan safeguarding team who provided advice and guidance on a number of safeguarding incidents / concerns and general enquiries. These and other concerns / incidents were duly recorded.

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 26 to 42.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

   have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Dated: 22nd October 2025

L M Howson MAAT
Independent Examiner

Finansure Limited, 2 Sheppard Street, Brymbo, Wrexham, LL11 5FF

Financial Review of the year

The finance team consisted of nine members of the congregation, managing donations, book-keeping, payroll, general banking and treasury tasks. The team aims to provide transparency of figures for both PCC and the congregation, an efficient and simple giving programme and accurate budgeting information to the PCC to enable them to make decisions.

Related Party Transactions
No related party transactions to declare.

New Restricted Funds
No new restricted funds were created in 2024.

Designated Funds
No new designated funds were set up in 2024.

Income excluding new Designated Fund
During 2024, income was generated from individual giving, church fees, grants and rental of rooms. Net giving from the congregation during the year was £86,946, a 10.9% increase on 2023 (£78,361) and a positive increase – however, this still has not yet reached pre-Covid income levels (£110,785).

The Gift Aid reclaimable on giving in 2024 was £21,453 (£16,937 in 2023), which includes the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.

Grants were received from the following bodies in 2024 (see Note 1 in 'Notes to the Accounts') and are hereby gratefully acknowledged:

- MBNA Drop In & Community Work Grant
- Local Councillors' Member Budget Grants

Expenditure
Expenditure was £119,058 (£119,862 in 2023). The largest item of expense was the Parish Share, which was £68,169 (£64,923 in 2023).

Other than running costs, the further main areas of expenditure were on employee costs, insurance and maintenance for our buildings.

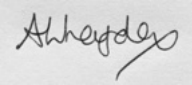
Outward Giving
In 2024, £3,650 (£3,350 in 2023) was set aside for Outward Giving and donated to several recipient charities. The following were all recipients in 2024.

- Teach Beyond
- The Salvation Army
- Chester University CU
- West Cheshire Foodbank
- Night Church Chester
- Foxhill Retreat Centre
- Vineyard 53 (Street Angels)

This Outward Giving is intended to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries, but in line with our values and goals. This money has supported several projects and individuals during the year.

The budget for 2025 has been set by the PCC and agreed at the February 2025 meeting.

Ed Newman (Treasurer) 11th March 2025



Anna Leyden (Chair) 18th March 2025

Accounting Policies

Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and SORP (effective January 2019).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities, to which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) Income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object. The funds may be expended on the specific object for which they are given. Any balances remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance of that fund.

Designated funds represent income which has been set aside for use for a specific purpose but are not legally restricted to be used for that purpose. Amounts identified as designated funds which are held in the general current account at the year-end were:

Vicarage Fund	£1,305
Renewed Space 3 Seed Funding (for Capital Building Projects)	£41,930
Cost of Living	£2,500
Tots and Tinies	£1,844
Warm Welcome Space	£782

Unrestricted funds are general funds that can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming Reserves

Planned giving collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised on an accruals basis at the end of the financial year and the appropriate amount is subsequently reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs.

Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,500 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

No cost information is available for the Vicar's house as it is deemed the property of the diocese.

All investments are held at market value at 31st December 2024.

Reserves Policy

The PCC have agreed on a reserves policy that is reviewed annually.
The reserves policy at the end of 2024 was set as follows:

- It is the policy of the church to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months' basic running costs which includes any salaries and contractual payments to staff.
- It is also our policy to hold £5,000 in reserves as a contingency against unexpected building-related expenses for the Mission House and the church building.

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ending 31st December 2024

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

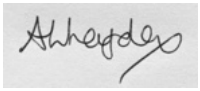
Statement of Financial Activities For the year ending 31st December 2024	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	**1**	113,303	1,345	114,648	103,351
Investment income	**2**	2,704	233	2,937	2,255
Incoming resources from charitable activities	**3**	7,171	0	7,171	5,591
Other incoming resources		0	0	0	1,971
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		123,177	1,578	124,755	113,168
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share	**4**	(68,169)	0	(68,169)	(64,923)
Church Activities	**5**	(48,287)	(5,620)	(53,907)	(51,589)
Grants payable	**6**	(3,650)	(245)	(3,895)	(3,350)
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		(120,106)	(5,865)	(125,971)	(119,862)
Transfers between funds			0	0	0
NET INCOME/OUTGOINGS BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS / (LOSSES)		**3,072**	**(4,287)**	**(1,215)**	**(6,694)**
Gains/(losses) on Investment Assets		638	0	638	2,371
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		3,709	(4,287)	(578)	(4,323)
BALANCES B/FWD 1st JANUARY		82,221	7,730	89,951	94,274
BALANCES C/FWD 31st DECEMBER		85,930	3,443	89,373	89,951

Balance sheet at 31st December 2024

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2024	Note	General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	8	29,386		29,386	27,964
		29,386	0	29,386	27,964
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	9,821		9,821	17,591
Cash at bank and in hand		51,466	3,443	54,909	46,889
		61,287	3,443	64,730	64,480
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - Amounts falling due in one year	10	(4,741)		(4,741)	(2,493)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		56,545	3,443	59,988	61,987
NET ASSETS		85,931	3,443	89,374	89,951
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted					
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	12	8,752		8,752	11,138
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	12	29,386		29,386	24,842
Designated Cost of Living Fund	12	2,000		2,000	2,500
Designated Warm Space Fund	12	782		782	782
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	12	41,930		41,930	40,514
Designated Alpha Fund	12	0		0	63
Designated Sunday Celebration Fund	12	0		0	(405)
Designated Tots & Tinies Fund	12	1,776		1,776	1,482
Designated Vicarage Fund	12	1,305		1,305	1,305
Restricted					
Congo Fund	13		50	50	50
Generosity Fund	13		21	21	67
Music and Worship Fund	13		337	337	337
Community Work Fund	13		0	0	140
Drop In Fund	13		2,463	2,463	2,397
Renovation Fund	13		572	572	4,739
		85,931	3,443	89,374	89,951

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 18th March 2025

and signed on behalf by:  Anna Leyden (Chair)

Notes for the Financial Statements for the Year ending 31st December 2024

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 1 - VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
Voluntary Income				
Individual Giving	85,601	1,345	86,946	78,361
Tax Recoverable	21,453		21,453	16,937
Grants Received	500		500	0
Legacies Received	5,000		5,000	0
Other Sundry Donations	150	600	750	500
Grants				
Drop In & Community Work			0	4,646
Warm Spaces			0	949
Robert Oldfield Charity - Children's work			0	108
MBNA grant			0	1,850
	112,703	1,945	114,648	103,351

NOTE 2 - INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
Bank interest receivable	1,919	233	2,152	1,504
Dividends from CCLA Investment Share Fund	784		784	751
	2,704	233	2,937	2,255

NOTE 3 - INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
Church Fees	2,589		2,589	943
Resource Sales	695		695	152
Room Hire	3,887		3,887	4,496

7,171	0	7,171	5,591

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 4 - Parish Share Paid

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
Parish Share	68,169		68,169	64,923
	68,169	0	68,169	64,923

NOTE 5 - CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
Church				
- Utilities	9,716		9,716	10,218
- Repairs & Maintenance	2,710		2,710	2,991
- Building Improvements	19	4,400	4,419	0
- Insurance (also covers MH)	4,989		4,989	4,816
- Altar & Service Resources	662	46	708	388
- Music including organ costs	1,244		1,244	1,555
- Clergy Expenses	723		723	236
- Sunday Refreshments	901		901	658
- Children / Youth / Student Work	64		64	261
- Training and conferences	1,846		1,846	28
- Warm Space expenses			0	145
- Fees Payable	637		637	877
- Miscellaneous Costs (see note 7)	2,752		2,752	4,867
Administration				
- Administration Wages	9,049		9,049	6,929
- Software / Web	2,120		2,120	1,398
- Bank charges	191		191	440
- Administration Sundries			0	943
- Telephone & Internet	169		169	587
- Independent Examiner's Fee (current year)	775		775	750
Vicarage				
- Council Tax	3,946		3,946	2,755
- Utilities	954		954	645
Curate				
- Housing Allowance			0	1,648
Mission House				
- Utilities	1,728		1,728	2,796
- Repairs & Maintenance	114		114	0
- Wages	2,710		2,710	2,290
Community Work				

- Drop-In expenses	101	1,034	1,135	2,882
- Tots & Tinies	83		83	376
- Other Community Work expenses	83	140	223	110
Total Church Activities	48,287	5,620	53,907	51,589

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 6 - GRANTS PAYABLE

Christ Church has an Outward Giving policy to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries by donating to projects in line with our values and goals. This includes the "Generosity Fund" which helps individuals with a specific need.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
Grants to other charities:	£	£	£	£
Donations to the Congo			0	600
PCC St John The Baptist	1,250		1,250	0
Teach Beyond	700		700	1,200
Vineyard 53	200		200	200
The Light College			0	200
Foxhil	200		200	0
Chester University CU	200		200	0
West Cheshire Foodbank	200		200	200
Salvation Army	200		200	200
Night Church	200		200	200
Grants to individuals:				
Special Offering fund gifts		245	245	0
Cost of living support fund gifts	500		500	0
Generosity Fund gifts			0	550
	3,650	245	3,895	3,350

NOTE 7 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
	£	£	£	£
Books and Resources	83		83	641
Publicity	156		156	459
Special Events (e.g. Alpha, Sunday Celebration)	1,924		1,924	1,334
Cleaning supplies, gifts and sundries	201		201	0
Equipment (e.g. for Office, Kitchen)	53		53	2,057
Other expenses	335		335	376
	2,752	0	2,752	4,867

NOTE 8 - INVESTMENTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted		
CCLA Investment Share Fund	29,386	27,964
	29,386	27,964

NOTE 9 - DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted		
Gift Aid receivable	4,460	12,577
Prepayments	5,361	5,014
	9,821	17,591

NOTE 10 - CREDITORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted		
Utility accruals	1,316	1,743
Independent Examiner fee accrual	775	750
Other Accruals	2,650	0
	4,741	2,493

NOTE 11 - OPENING BALANCES ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 01/01/2024 £
Unrestricted				
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	11,138			11,138
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	24,842			24,842
Designated Alpha Fund	63			63
Designated Cost of living support Fund	2,500			2,500
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	40,514			40,514
Designated Sunday Celebration	-405			-405
Designated Tots & Tinies Fund	1,482			1,482
Designated Vicarage Fund	1,305			1,305
Designated Warm Space Fund	782			782
Restricted				
Generosity Fund		67		67
Community Work Fund		140		140
Congo Fund		50		50
Drop-in Fund		2,397		2,397
Music and Worship Fund		337		337
Renovation Fund		4,739		4,739

82,221	7,730	0	89,951

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 12 - MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2024 £	2023 £
General Fund Bank Accounts etc.		
Balance brought Forward	11,138	20,920
Money paid in during the year (incl. interest)	116,115	107,100
Money taken out during the year	(119,102)	(116,882)
Transfers (to)/from other funds		
Balance at 31st December	8,152	11,138
General Fund CCLA Investment Shares		
Balance at 1st January	24,842	24,842
Increase/(decrease) in value of total Shares	4,544	
Balance at 31st December	29,386	24,842
Designated Alpha Fund		
Balance at 1st January	63	0
Money paid in during the year		63
Money taken out during the year	(63)	
Transfers (to)/from other funds		
Balance at 31st December	0	63
Designated Cost of living support Fund		
Balance at 1st January	2,500	2,500
Money paid in during the year		
Money taken out during the year	(500)	
Transfers (to)/from other funds		
Balance at 31st December	2,000	2,500

Designated RS3 Seed Fund		
Balance at 1st January	40,514	39,527
Money paid in during the year	1,416	
Money taken out during the year		
Receipt - Interest received during the year.		987
Balance at 31st December	41,930	40,514
Designated Sunday Celebration Fund		
Balance at 1st January	(405)	0
Money paid in during the year	590	760
Money taken out during the year	(185)	(1,165)
Receipt - Interest received during the year.		
Balance at 31st December	(0)	(405)
Designated Tots & Tinies Fund		
Balance at 1st January	1,482	0
Money paid in during the year	400	1,850
Money taken out during the year	(106)	(368)
Receipt - Interest received during the year.		
Balance at 31st December	1,776	1,482
Designated Vicarage Fund (created 2019)		
Balance at 1st January (as created)	1,305	1,305
Money paid in during the year		
Money taken out during the year		
Transfers from general funds		
Balance at 31st December	1,305	1,305
Designated Warm Space Fund		
Balance at 1st January (as created)	782	0
Money paid in during the year		949
Money taken out during the year		(167)
Transfers from general funds		
Balance at 31st December	782	782
Designated Mental Health Training		
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Money paid in during the year	150	
Money taken out during the year	(150)	
Transfers from general funds		
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Total Unrestricted Funds	85,663	81,376

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 13 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Renovation Fund	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1st January	4,739	4,577
Voluntary income received		
Gift Aid received		
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	233	162
Expenditure		
- Repairs and Renovation etc.	(4,400)	
Balance at 31st December	572	4,739
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	572	4,739

Community Work Fund	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1st January	140	0
Voluntary income received		
Grants received		250
Expenditure		
- Expenses for Drop-In food etc.		
- Other community work exps	(140)	(110)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund		
Balance at 31st December	0	140
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	0	140

Music and Worship Fund	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1st January	337	553
Voluntary income received		0
Less: Expenditure		(216)
Balance at 31st December	337	337
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	337	337

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 14 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS (contd.)

Generosity Fund	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1st January	67	0
Voluntary income received	0	
Less : Outward Giving	0	0
Less : Refreshments	0	0
Less : Altar & Service Resources	(46)	0
Plus : Transfer from general fund		67
Balance at 31st December	21	67
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	21	67

Congo Fund	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1st January	50	50
Voluntary income received		
Less : Outward Giving		0
Balance at 31st December	50	50
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	50	50

Special Offerings	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	245	
Less : Outward Giving	(245)	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Drop In Fund	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1st January	2,397	0
Donations received	1,100	500
Grants received		4,396

Less: Expenditure	(1,034)	(2,499)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund		
Balance at 31st December	2,463	2,397
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		
Balance at 31st December	2,463	2,397
Total Restricted Funds	3,443	3,423

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHESTER, CHRIST CHURC

England & Wales - Charity number 1133808

Accounts

CHRIST CHURCH
CHESTER

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

The Parochial Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chester, Christ Church



Parish Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Registered charity 1133808

Contents

	Pages
Statement of PCC's Responsibilities	3
Annual Report	4
Overview of the Year	6
Independent Examiner's Report	19
Financial Review of the Year	20
Accounting Policies	22
Statement of Financial Activity	24
Balance Sheet	25
Notes to the Accounts	26

Statement of Parochial Church Council's Responsibilities

We are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements we are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue.

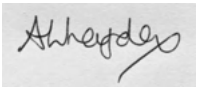
We are also responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records;
- safeguarding the PCC's assets;
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Public Benefit
The PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of religion for the Public Benefit" and have had regard to it in their administration of the church.
The PCC believes that by promoting the Christian faith it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual development, both for existing church members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers.
- Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:



Anna Leyden (Chair) 8th April 2024

Annual Report

Background of the PCC

Christ Church Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent and other clergy in promoting the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities of our church building and Mission House.

Membership of PCC

Membership of the PCC is ex-officio, co-opted or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules. The following people served for all or part of 2023:

Vicar	Rev'd Anna Leyden
Associate Minister	Rev'd Glyn Jones
Vice Chair of the PCC	David Chirgwin
Churchwardens	David Jones (from 16/6/23) Wendy Peto (until 16/6/23) Andrew Wigglesworth
Deanery Synod Representatives	Susan Ibrahim Wendy Peto (from 23/5/23)
Elected PCC Members	Carys Addison (from 23/5/23) Jonathan Aragon-Escobosa (from 23/5/23) David Chirgwin Thomas Cobb Hannah Giddings (until 23/5/23) Laura Hale Teresa Irwin (until 14/4/23) Veronica Johnston Pauline Jones Rosie Jones (until 23/5/23) Edward Newman Janet Thorp
Secretary Electoral Roll Officer Treasurer	Wendy Peto Janet Thorp Laura Hale
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Pauline Jones

Standing Committee

Standing Committee has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings (subject to directions given by the Council) and consists of Vicar/Chairperson, two Churchwardens, the Treasurer, and one other PCC member

elected by the PCC (currently Susan Ibrahim). Standing Committee has met on an 'ad hoc' basis to consider Generosity Fund applications and carry out essential PCC business, with the approval of the PCC, between meetings.

Church Attendance

Following a reduction in weekly attendance numbers after Covid and during the vacancy, it was good to see congregation numbers at the 10.30am service gradually increasing during 2023. 9.00am congregation numbers have remained fairly consistent. Numbers continue to vary significantly from week-to-week and the congregation remains quite transient with a number of members having moved on due to relocation, change in circumstances or local church moves (including some who decided to leave the Church of England). However, those moving on were outnumbered by new attendees in 2023 – including a significant number of babies born to congregation members. The numbers below are *not* averages for 2023: they show attendance in October, which are figures required by the Church of England.

Average October	2023		2022		2021	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
9am	0	23	0	25	1	29
10:30am	14	70	18	53	17*	59*
6pm	0	17	-	-	-	-
Total Attendance	**14**	**93**	**18**	**78**	**18**	**88**

Total attendance figures do not include the 6pm service because they only happen once a month.

The figures for 2022 above do not include Sunday 2 October where the pattern of services was different due to the Induction of Rev Anna Leyden.

Special Services	2023		2022		2021	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
Easter	15	96	25	105	25*	99*
Confirmation	-	-	7	84	-	-
Induction of Vicar	-	-	15	106	-	-
Community Carols	21	105	28	106	35	122
Candlelight Carols	15	104	7	91	3	88
Christmas Eve 4pm	27	63	25	45	19	39
Midnight	1	44	0	35	1	37
Christmas Day	11	67	13	67	17*	45*

* These services were both streamed online and held in person. The figures here record only the numbers of those attending in person.

Church Membership

Membership of the electoral roll stood at 118 in May 2023 (of which 12% live inside the parish). The PCC met every month during 2023 except for April, August and December.

Overview of the year

2023 was an exciting year in the life of Christ Church as we embarked on a process of discerning together God's vision for the future of the church.



To this end, May was set aside as a 'month of prayer' with weekly Morning Prayer, and also evening prayer meetings led by Connect Groups. On Saturday 13th May we gathered for a 12 hour 'Day of Prayer' with various interactive prayer stations helping us to engage in prayer for ourselves, the church, our local area and the wider world. The day was interspersed with Morning Prayer, Holy Communion and a time of informal sung worship and extempore prayer in the evening – along with lunch, cake and chips!



On Sunday 9th July, Peter Froggatt, the Director of Outreach for Chester Diocese, led us through a wonderful 'Vision Morning' where the whole church was invited to pray, worship and discuss together our hopes and dreams for the future of Christ Church. A team condensed the material from the day into a new vision statement which was agreed by PCC and presented to the congregation in September. The following was agreed as our new statement of vision and values, which will inform our priorities over the coming months and years:

We are Christ Church Chester. As our name suggests, we long for Jesus Christ to be at the heart of who we are and what we do. He is the "cornerstone" of the church. We are:

Learning to **Live for Christ; Unite in Christ; Love like Christ**

As we grow into this vision, we seek to:

- **Make the Bible, prayer and worship central to our lives as we follow Jesus**
- **Be guided by the Holy Spirit as we grow in the knowledge of God's love and truth**
- **Be a warm, welcoming and encouraging community, made up of all ages, backgrounds and stages of faith**
- **Share God's love through support and in practical ways**
- **See lives transformed by Jesus**

We are inspired by the words of Ephesians 2.19-22: *"You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit."*

Some other highlights from 2023 included:

- The appointment of two new members of staff: Alan Hooson (Facilities Officer) and Kerry Wigglesworth (Administrator). Kerry replaced Carys Addison who retired after 8 years in post. We remain incredibly grateful for Carys' faithful service and friendship to many.

- After six years' service, Wendy Peto passed on the mantel of Churchwarden to David Jones. Thank you so much Wendy for the care, time and commitment you have shown in this role – we are grateful to God for you.

- The successful launch of 'Sunday Celebration: The Brunch Service' and 'Contemplative Communion' services, initially on a trial basis but then adopted more permanently. Both services have been well-attended by regular members of Christ Church and newcomers/visitors.

- Working with 'Friends of the Earth' and Newtown residents for litter-picking and community gardening on 'The Big Help Out Day' (8th May) for the King's coronation (some of the team are picture below enjoying a well-earned cup of tea!). Since then we have continued to gather once a month to help look after the local area.

- We were awarded an Eco Church Bronze Award in recognition of the care we take of God's earth in different areas of our life and work. Many thanks to David Jones who led on this.

- A 'rebranding' exercise and new logo for Christ Church to coincide with the launch of the new Vision & Values statement.





Worship Services
Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Report:





- At the start of 2023 we launched two new style services, once a month, on a trial basis: *Sunday Celebration* aka the Brunch Service (interactive, all age worship, sitting around tables, with brunch) at 10.30am; and *Contemplative Communion* (a quiet, candlelit reflective service) at 6pm. Both services were very well-received and it was decided to continue with them on a monthly basis going forward, usually on the third Sunday of the month.
- On the other Sundays our usual pattern of services remained a 9.00am more formal service (with Holy Communion each week) and a more informal 10.30am service (with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month).
- Over the course of the year, in addition to lectionary and seasonal readings we worked through sermon series on Jonah; 'Being Christ's Church: Lessons from Ephesians'; 'Summer Psalms'; and a series unpacking our new vision statement: 'Learning to Live for Christ; Unite in Christ; Love like Christ.'
- During Holy Week we saw a significant increase in numbers on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday compared to recent years. It was a particular joy to see the worldwide church represented around the Maundy Thursday meal table with over half the congregation originating from outside the UK.
- In May, our 'Month of Prayer', we met on once a week in the morning and evening in church to pray together. Monday Morning Prayer then continued for the rest of the year, moving into the Mission House as the temperatures dropped in winter. We shared a 'Day of Prayer' on Saturday 13th May.





- During December, it was great to work with the Salvation Army again for outdoor 'Community Carols'. Both 'Community Carols' and 'Carols by Candlelight' the following week saw significant numbers of people who don't regularly attend church so it was a wonderful opportunity to share the gospel with them. In a change from our usual Christingle service, on Christmas Eve we had lots of fun (and lots of sugar!) retelling the story of Jesus' birth through the 'Chocolate Nativity'.





9am Musical Worship

Coordinator: Tonya Chirgwin

Purpose: To lead people in worship through music, predominantly at our 9.00am congregation.

Report:

- One of my personal highlights this year was being able to return to the organ bench on Good Friday, after three months spent convalescing from the emergency surgery I'd had the previous Christmas.
- A big thank you to Ruth and Lucy, who between them provided the 9am musical worship during my absence – and are now regular and much-valued members of the team, continuing to bless the congregation with their music at one or more of the services each month. It has also been a joy to have Andrew back on the organ bench whenever his flight schedule permits.
- Christmas saw the welcome return of the Choir, ably conducted by Hannah. Not only did they sing two items themselves; they also led the congregation very successfully in singing through a new version of 'O come all ye faithful' at various points in the service, using the worship song 'O come let us adore him' as the chorus.
- The Chocolate Nativity on Christmas Eve provided one lucky musician (me this year) with the opportunity to compete for the various sweet treats mentioned in the story (who knew so many chocolate bars were mentioned in the Bible?), and I was delighted to win a Star Bar: being an organist has its perks!
- After all that excitement it was good to share the playing at the Midnight Service with Stella, and to be reminded just how blessed I am to be part of a team of musicians who are so willing to use their gifts in the service of God and the church community.

10.30am Worship Ministry

Coordinator: Hannah Thompson

Purpose: To lead people in Spirit-led worship through music, predominantly at our 2nd morning service.

Report:

- 2023 brought new musicians to the worship team who have been a big asset on Sundays. A particular praise point has been the increase in worship leaders and backing vocalists serving at the 10:30am services. There are still some spaces for more instrumentalists for the next year, particularly bassists and drummers. Your continued prayers that God would be enriching the worship life of our church, including raising up more musicians, would be appreciated.
- In 2023 we launched worship team meetings for musicians currently serving, or interested in serving, in the 10:30am worship team at church. In total there were two of these, one in February and one in September. These evenings consisted of reflecting on the 10:30am worship at present, offering new ideas for the future, and spending time in musical worship together, particularly thinking about new songs we hoped to introduce at church. These evenings worked well and we hope to make them more regular next year and encourage more people to attend.
- The 10:30am team collaborated with the 9am worship ministry team on several occasions including at Easter, Remembrance Day and Christmas. Several team members also got involved in the Christmas choir which was led by the 10:30am coordinator, Hannah.
- This year the 10:30am team continued supporting the Brunch Services by choosing family-friendly songs including action songs to involve the whole congregation. We are grateful to all those who helped with actions as well as delivering the upbeat music!
- The month of May at Christ Church had a focus on prayer leading to a day of prayer on 13th May in which members of the team were able to lead an hour of prayer to conclude the day and lift up all of the prayers in praise and thanksgiving.



- This year has brought some technical challenges with the keyboard and an amplifier both needing repairs. In 2024 we hope to take inventory of all the equipment and instruments at Christ Church to see what is still working well and make note of any new resources that may be useful. As we look at the potential financial need in replacing broken or missing equipment (microphone stands/music stands, possibly drum cage etc.), we would appreciate your prayers for God to guide any plans for spending.

Children's Ministry Overview

Coordinator: Hannah Giddings (until Summer 2023); Anna Leyden
Purpose: To facilitate an environment where children can grow in their relationship with God, predominately through Sunday morning groups during the 10.30am service.

Crèche: under 2s

Report:



- We have an unsupervised creche for under 2s in the vestry. It has a livestream of the service and provides a space for parents to sit with young children during service if they'd like to. There are also sofas at the side of church for parents (and others) to sit more comfortably if they prefer.
- This year saw some new signage created for the crèche area to help promote it to parents.

Kids Group: 2-11s

Coordinator: Kerry Wigglesworth
Report:



- A few months into 2023, we were facing a significant lack of leaders and helpers for our main children's group. We were down to two leaders and a handful of helpers after different members of the team had stepped down or moved on over the course of the previous year.
- Therefore, action was taken! We held a Children's Ministry Celebration after church on a Sunday in early September. The gathering was open to anyone who cared about children's ministry at Christ Church, including parents, current leaders/helpers, and those interested in serving, praying or supporting children's ministry in another way. There was an encouraging turnout and the Mission House was bursting at the seams! Updates were shared, we prayed and there was the chance for people to sign up for 'taster sessions' where they could try out being a helper for a week to see how they found it.
- Off the back of this, we gained several new regular helpers and a wonderful new leader for our children's group. Praise God for how he has provided!
- During 2023, some of the topics covered on Sunday mornings have included: Genesis and the story of creation, key moments in the life of Jesus, a series focusing on our new vision and values as a church and an Advent series on the key female figures in the lead up to the incarnation.







Crypt Youth Group: 11+yrs
Coordinator: Michael Leyden
Report:



- Crypt met for games, Bible study and fellowship every other week during the 10.30am service in 2023.
- 2023 was a big change for Crypt as 4 new leaders joined the team (Mike, Claire, Sarah and Andrew), after the previous leaders stepped down unexpectedly.
- To manage the capacity of the leaders, the schedule was changed to meet twice per month with the youth staying in the service during the Brunch Service and one 'normal' morning service. This has worked on the whole but bringing in some more new leaders would be great in allowing us to meet more regularly.
- Throughout the year we've gone through a variety of courses and topics such as our identity in Christ, Youth Alpha and looking through the new vision statement of Christ Church and what it means for them as part of that body.
- It has been a year of getting to know one another better, playing lots of board games (One Night Werewolf proving particularly popular) but also going deeper with important questions and topics being discussed. Particularly popular are the pancakes and pondering sessions, where difficult topics and questions can be discussed while indulging in tasty toppings!

Tots+Tinies: 0-5s
Coordinator: Anna Leyden
Purpose: To provide a welcoming and nurturing space where young children and their parents/carers can be cared for, make new friends, and be introduced to the Christian faith. Tots+Tinies serves both the church congregation and wider local community.

Report:

- Tots+Tinies continued to meet on Thursday mornings during term time for friendship, tea and toast, play, craft, a Bible story, songs, and the 'prayer parachute'.

- The T+T family grew in 2023, with many new faces coming along, including lots of new babies. We said goodbye to a number of families with children moving onto school (although several came back for Messy Church) or parents returning to work after parental leave. On average, we had around 20 children per week, plus parents/carers.
- The Tots+Tinies team grew over the course of 2023, making week-to-week running much more manageable and allowing more time to spend with families but we continued to struggle to find people to cover the Bible story/prayer/song slot when Anna was unavailable.



Messy Church
Coordinator: Jodie Spencer & Anna Leyden
Purpose: To encourage the discipleship of children and families (both those who already attend church and those who do not) through creative and fun ways of exploring the Bible and Christian faith.

Report:



- Four successful Messy Church sessions took place in 2023. The numbers of families consistently attending has been encouraging and it has been great to see some new families joining us too.
- Our Messy Church sessions have attracted both children and families of primary school aged children and also younger children and their families. A range of activities are planned that are appropriate and engaging for this wide age range.
- A highlight of the year was our Christmas Messy Church celebration which included Christmas crafts, Christingles, singing and delicious party food!
- Thank you to everyone who has helped with preparing and delivering these sessions and to everyone who attended.

Student Work
Coordinator: James Thompson
Purpose: To invest in the next generation of Christians through welcoming, pastoring, equipping, and sending out our university students.

Report:

- 2023 has been a challenging year for student ministry at Christ Church. We went into the year with a good number of students regularly attending Sunday services.

- We have persevered with roughly monthly student lunches and these generally see 10-20 people coming along. However, we did not welcome as many new students in September 2023 as we hoped, despite having a number of new students come and visit Christ Church.
- Our student community is increasingly diverse. We have less undergraduate students than previously at Christ Church, therefore in total we have far more postgraduate students than undergrads. We have seen several new students studying Master's degrees, however as these last only one year normally, we have also seen a fair bit of turnover in the last couple of years.
- Consequently, our student community encompasses quite a wide age range. We have also welcomed a number of international students to Christ Church.
- A number of students have become more involved with serving at church on different teams, which has been great to see and is a real answer to prayer.
- We are continuing in supporting a couple of sixth formers from Christ Church who have recently left home for university.
- Our relationship with the Christian Union at Chester University has been more challenging this year with less of our students involved in CU. Our involvement still includes occasional visits from some of our team to speak at their weekly meetings, and we encourage our students to be part of CU when they can.
- We also have a link to the University chaplaincy through Michael Mills, who helps out there in the week and several students have come to Christ Church off the back of this.
- We have been blessed with a wonderful student team at Christ Church, consisting of both old and new faces. Thanks to everyone for their hard work in looking after and cooking for the students.
- Particular thanks to Helen and Clyde, who were wonderful servants of the student team for many many years at Christ Church. They were incredibly gifted at welcoming students and literally decades of students in Chester were impacted by their care and kindness. They have moved to a local church in North Wales, and we miss them very much, and wish them all the best.
- The latter months of 2023 were more challenging as we were short of helpers and struggled to organise our lunches. Please pray that we can find more helpers, and get better at including new helpers as part of the student team.
- Looking forward, we would like to improve at welcoming new students into the wider church community. Please pray that we can welcome more students, especially undergraduates, into Christ Church. We are also still thinking about providing teaching to help students navigate their time at university. Please pray for us as we discern how to do this well.

Connect Groups

Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Purpose: To provide regular gatherings of small groups, outside of a Sunday service context, where members of Christ Church can connect with God, connect with other church members and connect with their wider communities.

Report:

- Connect Groups remain an important part of life at Christ Church. They provide opportunity for Bible study, prayer support and friendship.
- Four Connect Groups met throughout 2023: in homes in Newtown, Saltney and Helsby and one group in the Mission House. Each Connect Group followed a different syllabus, according to the group's interest.
- During the Month of Prayer, each Connect Group took responsibility for an evening prayer meeting, offering their creative gifts to lead the rest of the church community in prayer for Christ Church and the local community.
- In August, Connect Group leaders met together to share best practice; to encourage one another; and to think collectively about the purpose of Connect Groups. Following this meeting, Kerry Wigglesworth agreed to take on the administration of Connect Groups (e.g. assigning new members to a group).





Drop In

Coordinator: Sue Ibrahim

Purpose: To open up our church space to provide a warm and welcoming environment on a Sunday afternoon for any homeless and/or vulnerable people.

Report:

- Drop In has seen an increasing number of vulnerable and homeless people attending, even seeing families and younger adults aged 17 coming along. As times get harder we anticipate the number to increase from 35-40 people per week to 40-45.
- Christmas dinner saw a massive increase in guests attending, with 69 people (84 including volunteers) enjoying Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and each guest receiving a gift containing chocolate and toiletries.
- Drop In has been able to facilitate the increase of guests due to the commitment and dedication of volunteers who give their time to serve each and every week. In 2023, we welcomed new volunteers Meriel, Casey, Liz, and Steve to the wonderful team. A new soup rota has allowed flexibility to for volunteers to try new things.

- We continue to run on a very tight budget, and feel the effects of the cost-of-living crisis. Generous grants from local businesses and employers have helped us continue the service.
- We will continue to serve our guests each Sunday afternoon and with special events such as breakfasts, BBQs and Christmas Dinners. We are looking to bring in other services to help with housing, benefits and other day-to-day services.
- We are the only service provider to the community serving food and drinks on a Sunday, but the kindness, good conversation and warmth experienced by guests is perhaps even more valuable.





Warm Welcome Space

Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Purpose: To share the love of Jesus in a practical way by providing a warm and welcoming space for the whole community during the winter months.



Report:

- Our Warm Welcome Space which launched in November 2022 continued until the end of February 2023, and then began again in November 2023 as the weather worsened. At the start of the year, we opened from 10am-2pm but when we re-launched in November we did so with new opening times of 12-3pm in response to visitor numbers and volunteer availability.
- Numbers were generally small but those who came along greatly valued the warmth, hospitality and friendship. Church members also appreciated the opportunity to make new friends and strengthen relationships.
- Everyone who attended was offered drinks, toast and biscuits. Daily newspapers and activities such as board games and jigsaws were on offer, as well as opportunity to chat or work.



Visiting Ministry

Coordinator: Veronica Johnston

Purpose**:** To enfold within the family of Christ Church the sick and housebound, through regular visits and the opportunity to share Holy Communion at home or in hospital.

Report:

- Visiting continued throughout the year to members of Christ Church at home, in care homes and hospital, including to a 97-year-old lady, recovering well and with a smile after her heart attack on Christmas Day.
- It was with sadness that we said farewell to members of our community who passed away in 2023: Bernard Evans, a former member of one of our connect groups, whose family still live in Gloucester Street; and Sheila Douglas, who had been sharing communion with us in Grosvenor Manor Care Home, after she became too frail to attend church. We miss Sheila's lovely voice in the Christmas Choir.

Maintenance

Coordinators: Andrew Wigglesworth & Rob Peto

Purpose: To look after the physical maintenance of the church building and Mission House, ensuring that they are safe, work according to the needs of the church and meet the standards they are required to by law.

Report:

- After another year at Christ Church, the building is still standing! It has been a quiet year in the life of the fabric of the church with no major issues cropping up within the church building needing to be attended to.
- We held the usual two Maintenance Days, one in early spring and the other in late Autumn, where church members were encouraged to come along and assist with a number of necessary jobs including clearing gutters of leaves, cleaning the inside of the church, fixing floor blocks and many other small jobs.
- It was encouraging to see that we had an increase in volunteer numbers this year compared to the previous one which meant we got round to many of the jobs we might not otherwise have had time to do, perhaps encouraged by the bacon butties made by some lovely church members!
- Thanks must go to the Fabric Team who are at the heart of what goes on in maintaining Christ Church. Their willingness to give up their time to see to the small issues which crop up is greatly appreciated and we would be much worse off without them!







Safeguarding

Coordinator: Pauline Jones

Purpose: To ensure measures are in place at Christ Church to protect everyone, but particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to promote their health and wellbeing.

Report:

- At Christ Church we seek to promote a safe environment, culture and activities in order to include a wide range of children, young people and adults. Everyone at Christ Church shares this responsibility, but not everyone is responsible for everything! We believe safeguarding is about how we treat each other and the quality of our relationships but we also seek to fulfil our responsibilities as laid down by the Church of England and Chester Diocese Safeguarding team. We believe and trust that safeguarding supports ministry and outreach rather than preventing or constraining it.
- I can confirm that Christ Church Chester PCC has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance'. As Parish Safeguarding Officer, I have regularly reported on safeguarding in the parish and safeguarding has been a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting.
- The following is Christ Church PCC's statement, which reports on progress as required:

    - Regular safeguarding meetings with Rev. Anna Leyden and myself were held.
    - The safeguarding action plan was approved by PCC in June 2022 and progress against the plan was reported at subsequent PCC meetings
    - Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed for nine individuals. We piloted use of a Basic check for our Facilities Officer
    - A Christ Church Safeguarding video was produced and shown at the two services on Sunday 12 March 2023
    - A note re PCC safeguarding requirements and responsibilities was produced and circulated to PCC members
    - Clarification was ultimately received from *Thirtyone:eight* and the Diocese re DBS requirements for Tots+Tinies team members. We now comply with the requirements
    - The Tots+Tinies team discussed safeguarding responsibilities at their team meeting
    - The Christ Church hire agreement document now covers safeguarding as specified by the Church of England
    - Person Specifications and Role Descriptions were drawn up for 15 Volunteer roles and approved as part of a light touch safer recruitment process at the March 2023 PCC meeting
    - An overview process (linked to the role descriptions and person specifications) for recruiting new volunteers was approved by PCC at the October meeting
    - Documentation for the Children and Young People's ministry was refreshed
    - We are again grateful to the Chester Diocesan safeguarding team who provided advice and guidance on a number of safeguarding incidents / concerns and general enquiries. These were duly recorded.

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 24 to 33.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

   have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Dated: 8th April 2024

L M Howson MAAT
Independent Examiner

Finansure Limited, 2 Sheppard Street, Brymbo, Wrexham, LL11 5FF

Financial Review of the year

The finance team consisted of eight members of the congregation, managing donations, book-keeping, payroll, general banking and treasury tasks. The team aims to provide transparency of figures for both PCC and the congregation, an efficient and simple giving programme and accurate budgeting information to the PCC to enable them to make decisions.

Related Party Transactions

Glyn Jones is a director of The Light College and Collective (formerly The Light Project), a Christian charity based in Chester. During the year, the PCC made payments to The Light College and Collective totalling £200. All relevant payments are discussed and authorised without input from the related parties concerned.

New Restricted Funds

No new restricted funds were created in 2023.

Designated Funds

New designated funds below were created to manage specific grants received by Christ Church to support community activities.

Tots And Tinies (Designated) Fund - Total Incoming resources of £1,850 were allocated from a successful grant application, very little has been spent against this fund to date, however there are plans for 2024.

Warm space - Warm Space (Designated) Fund - Total Incoming resources of £949 were allocated to this activity from a successful Council led grant. This will support this activity for 2-3 years.

Sunday Celebration - Sunday Celebration (Designated) Fund – this activity is funded by specific donations from the congregation. All resources are spent solely on Sunday Celebration services.

Income excluding new Designated Fund

During 2023, income was generated from individual giving, church fees, grants and rental of rooms. Net giving from the congregation during the year was £78,361 a 7% increase on 2022 (£73,350) and a positive increase, however this has not yet reached pre Covid income levels (£84,415).

The Gift Aid reclaimable on giving in 2023 was £16,937 (£14,097 in 2022), which includes the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.

Grants were received from the following bodies in 2023 (see Note 1 in 'Notes to the Accounts') and are hereby gratefully acknowledged:

- MBNA Drop In & Community Work Grant
- Warm Spaces Community Grant
- Robert Oldfield Charity - Children's work
- MBNA Tots and Tinies Grant

Expenditure

Expenditure was £119,862 (£109,053 in 2022). The largest item of expense was the Parish Share, which was £64,923 (£63,032 in 2023).

Other than running costs, the further main areas of expenditure were on employee costs, insurance and maintenance for our buildings.

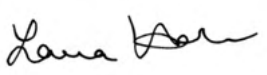
Outward Giving

In 2023, £3,350 (£4,392 in 2022) was set aside for Outward Giving and donated to several recipient charities. The following were all recipients in 2023. One payment was delayed and will show in 2024 (Ukraine).

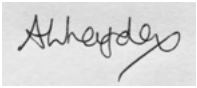
- Teach Beyond
- The Salvation Army
- The Light College and Collective
- West Cheshire Foodbank
- Night Church Chester
- Congo Churches Association
- Vineyard 53 (Street Angels)

This Outward Giving is intended to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries, but in line with our values and goals. This money has supported several projects and individuals during the year.

The budget for 2024 has been set by the PCC and agreed at the February 2024 meeting.



Laura Hale (Treasurer) 8th April 2024



Anna Leyden (Chair) 8th April 2024

Accounting Policies

Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and SORP (effective January 2019).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities, to which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) Income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object. The funds may be expended on the specific object for which they are given. Any balances remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance of that fund.

Designated funds represent income which has been set aside for use for a specific purpose but are not legally restricted to be used for that purpose. Amounts identified as designated funds which are held in the general current account at the year-end were:

Vicarage Fund	£1,305
Renewed Space 3 Seed Funding (for Capital Building Projects)	£40,514
Cost of Living	£2,500
Sunday Celebration	£(405)
Tots and Tinies	£1482
Warm Welcome Space	£782
Alpha	£63

Unrestricted funds are general funds that can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming Reserves

Planned giving collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised on an accruals basis at the end of the financial year and the appropriate amount is subsequently reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs.

Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,500 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

No cost information is available for the Vicar's house as it is deemed the property of the diocese.

All investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2021.

Reserves Policy

The PCC have agreed on a reserves policy that is reviewed annually.
The reserves policy at the end of 2022 was set as follows:

- It is the policy of the church to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months' basic running costs which includes any salaries and contractual payments to staff.
- It is also our policy to hold £5000 in reserves as a contingency against unexpected building-related expenses for the Mission House and the church building.

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ending 31st December 2023

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

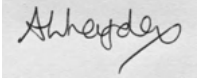
Statement of Financial Activities For the year ending 31st December 2023	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	**1**	98,205	5,146	103,351	88,675
Investment income	**2**	2,093	162	2,255	1,396
Incoming resources from charitable activities	**3**	5,591	0	5,591	4,824
Other incoming resources		1,971	0	1,971	0
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		107,860	5,308	113,168	94,895
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share	**4**	(64,923)	0	(64,923)	(63,032)
Church Activities	**5**	(48,764)	(2,825)	(51,589)	(41,629)
Grants payable	**6**	(3,350)	0	(3,350)	(4,392)
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		(117,037)	(2,825)	(119,862)	(109,053)
Transfers between funds		(67)	67	0	0
NET INCOME/OUTGOINGS BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS / (LOSSES)		**(9,244)**	**2,550**	**(6,694)**	**(14,158)**
Gains/(losses) on Investment Assets		2,371	0	2,371	(3,251)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(6,873)	2,550	(4,323)	(17,409)
BALANCES B/FWD 1st JANUARY	**11**	89,094	5,180	94,274	111,683
BALANCES C/FWD 31st DECEMBER		82,221	7,730	89,951	94,274

Balance sheet at 31st December 2023

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2023	Note	General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	8	27,964		27,964	24,842
		27,964	0	27,964	24,842
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	17,591		17,591	20,836
Cash at bank and in hand		39,159	7,730	46,889	53,132
		56,750	7,730	64,480	73,968
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - Amounts falling due in one year	10	(2,493)		(2,493)	(4,536)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		54,257	7,730	61,987	69,432
NET ASSETS		82,221	7,730	89,951	94,274
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted					
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	12	11,138		11,138	20,920
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	12	24,842		24,842	24,842
Designated Cost of Living Fund	12	2,500		2,500	2,500
Designated Warm Space Fund	12	782		782	0
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	12	40,514		40,514	39,527
Designated Alpha Fund	12	63		63	
Designated Sunday Celebration Fund	12	-405		-405	
Designated Tots & Tinies Fund	12	1,482		1,482	
Designated Vicarage Fund	12	1,305		1,305	1,305
Restricted					
Congo Fund	13		50	50	50
Generosity Fund	13		67	67	0
Music and Worship Fund	13		337	337	553
Community Work Fund	13		140	140	0
Drop In Fund	13		2,397	2,397	0
Renovation Fund	13		4,739	4,739	4,577
		82,221	7,730	89,951	94,274

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 8th April 2024

and signed on behalf by:  Anna Leyden (Chair)

Notes for the Financial Statements for the Year ending 31st December 2023

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 1 - VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Voluntary Income				
Individual Giving	77,861	500	78,361	73,350
Tax Recoverable	16,937		16,937	14,097
Other Sundry Donations	500		500	30
Grants				
Drop In & Community Work		4,646	4,646	0
Chester DBF - Energy grant			0	1,090
Warm Spaces	949		949	0
Robert Oldfield Charity - Children's work	108		108	108
MBNA grant	1,850		1,850	108
	98,205	5,146	103,351	88,783

NOTE 2 - INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Bank interest receivable	1,342	162	1,504	670
Dividends from CCLA Investment Share Fund	751		751	726
	2,093	162	2,255	1,396

NOTE 3 - INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Church Fees	943		943	1,853
Resource Sales	152		152	0
Mission House Room Hire	4,496		4,496	2,971
	5,591	0	5,591	4,824

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 4 - Parish Share Paid

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Parish Share	64,923		64,923	63,032
	64,923	0	64,923	64,923

NOTE 5 - CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
- Utilities	10,218		10,218	6,578
- Repairs & Maintenance	2,991		2,991	1,355
- Insurance (also covers MH)	4,816		4,816	4,340
- Altar & Service Resources	388		388	578
- Music including organ costs	1,339	216	1,555	1,591
- Clergy Expenses	236		236	424
- Sunday Refreshments	658		658	756
- Children / Youth / Student Work	261		261	594
- Training and conferences	28		28	671
- Warm Space expenses	145		145	0
- Fees Payable	877		877	536
- Miscellaneous Costs (see note 7)	4,867		4,867	2,902
Administration				
- Administration Wages	6,929		6,929	8,695
- Software / Web	1,398		1,398	1,505
- Bank charges	440		440	374
- Administration Sundries	943		943	376
- Telephone & Internet	587		587	425
- Independent Examiner's Fee (current year)	750		750	750
- Independent Examiner's Fee (prior year)			0	725
Vicarage				
- Council Tax	2,755		2,755	-64
- Utilities	645		645	24
- Maintenance			0	1,757
Curate				
- Housing Allowance	1,648		1,648	3,646
Mission House				
- Utilities	2,796		2,796	1,227
- Repairs & Maintenance			0	20
- Wages	2,290		2,290	221
Community Work				
- Drop-In expenses	383	2,499	2,882	1,256
- Tots & Tinies	376		376	0
- Other Community Work expenses		110	110	294
Parochial Work				
- Student work expenses			0	73
Total Church Activities	48,764	2,825	51,589	41,629

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 6 - GRANTS PAYABLE

Christ Church has an Outward Giving policy to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries by donating to projects in line with our values and goals. This includes the "Generosity Fund" which helps individuals with a specific need.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
Grants to other charities:	£	£	£	£
Donations to the Congo	600		600	600
Donations to Ukraine			0	600
Teach Beyond	1200		1,200	600
Vineyard 53	200		200	0
The Light College	200		200	0
Spider Project CIC Chester			0	200
The Light Project			0	200
Chester University CU			0	200
West Cheshire Foodbank	200		200	200
Salvation Army	200		200	200
Night Church	200		200	200
Leyland Methodist Church			0	50
Grants to individuals:				
Generosity Fund gifts	550		550	0
Other small confidential donations made			0	1,342
	3,350	0	3,350	4,392

NOTE 7 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£
Books and Resources	641		641	96
Publicity	459		459	1,241
Special Events (e.g. Alpha, Sunday Celebration)	1,334		1,334	0
Subscriptions (e.g. Link Up, Churches Together, Deanery Synod)			0	250
Cleaning supplies, gifts and sundries			0	130
Equipment (e.g. for Office, Kitchen)	2,057		2,057	338
Other expenses	376		376	847
	4,867	0	4,867	2,902

NOTE 8 - INVESTMENTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Unrestricted		
CCLA Investment Share Fund	27,964	24,842
	27,964	24,842

NOTE 9 - DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Unrestricted		
Gift Aid receivable	12,577	14,097
Prepayments	5,014	6,739
	17,591	20,836

NOTE 10 - CREDITORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Unrestricted		
Utilitty accruals	1,743	2,586
Independent Examiner fee accrual	750	750
Other accruals	0	1,200
	2,493	4,536

NOTE 11 - OPENING BALANCES ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 01/01/2022 £
Unrestricted				
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	20,920			20,920
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	24,842			24,842
Designated Cost of living support fund	2,500			2,500
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	39,527			39,527
Designated Vicarage Fund	1,305			1,305
Restricted				
Generosity Fund		0		0
Congo Fund		50		50
Music and Worship Fund		553		553
Renovation Fund		4,577		4,577
	89,094	5,180	0	94,274

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 12 - MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2023 £	2022 £
General Fund Bank Accounts etc.		
Balance brought Forward	20,920	37,107
Money paid in during the year (incl. interest)	107,100	91,930
Money taken out during the year	(113,501)	(109,187)
Transfers (to)/from other funds		1,070
Balance at 31st December	14,519	20,920
General Fund CCLA Investment Shares		
Balance at 1st January	24,842	27,367
Increase/(decrease) in value of total Shares		(2,525)
Balance at 31st December	24,842	24,842
Designated Alpha Fund		
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Money paid in during the year	63	
Money taken out during the year		
Transfers (to)/from other funds		
Balance at 31st December	63	0
Designated Cost of living support Fund		
Balance at 1st January	2,500	0
Money paid in during the year		2,500
Money taken out during the year		0
Transfers (to)/from other funds		0
Balance at 31st December	2,500	2,500
Designated RS3 Seed Fund		
Balance at 1st January	39,527	39,127
Money paid in during the year		400
Money taken out during the year		0
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	987	0
Balance at 31st December	40,514	39,527

Designated Sunday Celebration Fund		
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Money paid in during the year	760	
Money taken out during the year	(1,165)	
Receipt - Interest received during the year.		
Balance at 31st December	(405)	0
Designated Tots & Tinies Fund		
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Money paid in during the year	1,850	
Money taken out during the year	(368)	
Receipt - Interest received during the year.		
Balance at 31st December	1,482	0
Designated Vicarage Fund (created 2019)		
Balance at 1st January (as created)	1,305	3,061
Money paid in during the year		0
Money taken out during the year		(1,756)
Transfers from general funds		
Balance at 31st December	1,305	1,305
Designated Warm Space Fund		
Balance at 1st January (as created)	0	0
Money paid in during the year	949	
Money taken out during the year	(167)	
Transfers from general funds		
Balance at 31st December	782	0
Total Unrestricted Funds	85,602	89,094

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

NOTE 13 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Renovation Fund	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1st January	4,577	4,512
Voluntary income received		65
Gift Aid received		0
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	162	0
Expenditure		
- Repairs and Renovation etc.		0
Balance at 31st December	4,739	4,577
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	4,739	4,577

Community Work Fund	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received		0
Grants received	250	0
Expenditure		
- Expenses for Drop-In food etc.		(976)
- Other community work exps	(110)	(294)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund		1,270
Balance at 31st December	140	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	140	0

Student Work Fund	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received		0
Expenditure		
- Expenses (e.g. Student BBQ, weekend away)		(73)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund		73
Balance at 31st December	0	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Music and Worship Fund	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1st January	553	553
Voluntary income received		0
Less: Expenditure	(216)	0
Balance at 31st December	337	553
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	337	553

NOTE 14 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS (contd.)

Generosity Fund	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1st January	0	1,159
Voluntary income received		0
Less : Outward Giving	0	(1,342)
Plus : Transfer from general fund	67	183
Balance at 31st December	67	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	67	0

Congo Fund	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1st January	50	50
Voluntary income received		
Less : Outward Giving		0
Balance at 31st December	50	50
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		0
Balance at 31st December	50	50

Drop In Fund	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Donations received	500	
Grants received	4,396	
Less: Expenditure	(2,499)	
Plus : Transfer from General Fund		
Balance at 31st December	2,397	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		
Balance at 31st December	2,397	0

Total Restricted Funds	7,730	5,180

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHESTER, CHRIST CHURC

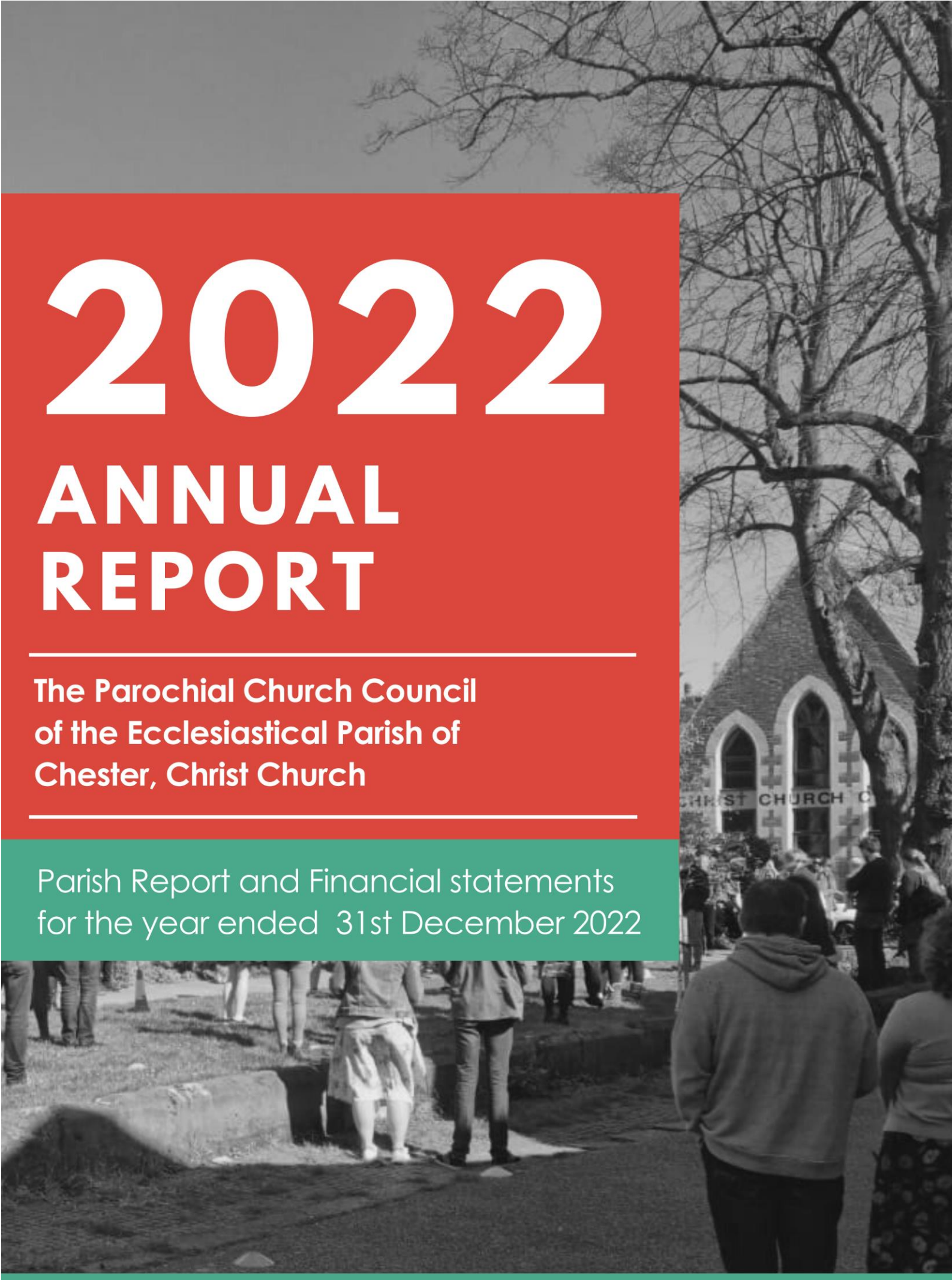
England & Wales - Charity number 1133808

Accounts

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chester, Christ Church

Parish Report and Financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022



Christ Church

Registered charity no. 1133808

Christ Church

Contents

	Pages
Statement of PCC's Responsibilities	3
Annual Report	4
Overview of the Year	7
Independent Examiner's Report	19
Financial Review of the Year	20
Accounting Policies	22
Statement of Financial Activity	24
Balance Sheet	25
Notes to the Accounts	26

Statement of Parochial Church Council's Responsibilities

We are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements we are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue.

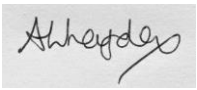
We are also responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records;
- safeguarding the PCC's assets;
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Public Benefit
The PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of religion for the Public Benefit" and have had regard to it in their administration of the church.
The PCC believes that by promoting the Christian faith it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual development, both for existing church members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers.
- Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:



Anna Leyden (Chair) 27 March 2023

Annual Report

Background of the PCC

Christ Church Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent and other clergy in promoting the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities of our church building and Mission House.

Membership of PCC

Membership of the PCC is ex-officio, co-opted or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules. The following people served for all or part of 2022:

Vicar	Rev'd Anna Leyden (from 2 October 2022)
Associate Vicar	Rev'd Ralph Kemp (until 3rd April 2022)
Associate Minister	Rev'd Glyn Jones
Curate	Rev'd Anna Leyden (until 2 October 2022)
Vice Chair of the PCC	David Chirgwin
Churchwardens	Wendy Peto Andrew Wigglesworth
Parish Reader Representative	Veronica Johnston (until 22nd May 2022)
Deanery Synod Representatives	Simon Schumann-Davies (until 29th January 2022) Susan Ibrahim (from 22nd May 2022) David Jones (from 22nd May 2022)
Elected PCC Members	James Cox (until 22nd May 2022) David Chirgwin Thomas Cobb Hannah Giddings Laura Hale (from 22nd May 2022) Veronica Johnston (from 22nd May 2022) Pauline Jones Rosie Jones Teresa Irwin (from 22nd May 2022) Timothy Longman Eli Mitchell (until 17th November 2022) Edward Newman Helen Parker (until 22nd May 2022) Will Steel (until 22nd May 2022) Janet Thorp
Secretary	Wendy Peto
Electoral Roll Officer	Janet Thorp
Treasurer	Tom Cobb (until 22nd May 2022) Laura Hale (from 17th October 2022)
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Pauline Jones

Standing Committee

This has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings (subject to directions given by the council) and consists of Vicar/Chairman, two Churchwardens, the Treasurer, and one other PCC member elected by the PCC (currently Susan Ibrahim). Our standing committee met a week before monthly PCC meetings until October 2022. Thereafter, Standing Committee has met on an 'ad hoc' basis to consider Generosity Fund applications and carry out essential PCC business, with the approval of the PCC, between meetings.

Church Attendance

In common with many churches, 2021 typical weekly attendance was below that of pre-pandemic services. This trend continued into 2022, with the vacancy process likely also having an impact on congregation numbers. A number of individuals, couples and families said goodbye to Christ Church due to moving house to other parts of the country and a small number also relocated to other local churches. However, alongside this, it was a joy to welcome a significant number of new people to the Christ Church community.

Christ Church was open for 'in person' services every Sunday in 2022. Until Summer 2022 the 10.30am service was also livestreamed via Facebook most weeks. The figures below do not include people who joined services online.

Average October	2022		2021		2020	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
9am / 9.30am	0	25	1	29	1	17
10:30am / 11am	18	53	17*	59*	11*	57*
2pm	-	-	-	-	20	20
Total Attendance	**18**	**78**	**18**	**88**	**32**	**94**

The figures for 2022 above do not include Sunday 2 October where the pattern of services was different due to the Induction of Rev Anna Leyden.

Special Services	2022		2021		2020	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
Easter	25	105	25*	99*	(online)	(online)
Baptism & Confirmation	7	84	-	-	-	-
Induction of Vicar	15	106	-	-	-	-
Community Carols	28	106	35	122	40**	120**
Candlelight Carols	7	91	3	88	-	-
Christingle	25	45	19	39	21	43
Midnight	0	35	1	37	1	28
Christmas Day	13	67	17*	45*	17*	47*

* These services were both streamed online and held in person. The figures here record only the numbers of those attending in person.

** Due to national lockdown restrictions, our carol service in 2020 was held on the grass outside the church building.

Church Membership

Membership of the electoral roll stood at 108 in May 2022 (of which 89% live outside the parish). The PCC met every month during 2022 except for April, August and December.

Overview of the year

There were a number of important events in the life of Christ Church in 2022. Final legal UK COVID restrictions were lifted early in the year and we were able to return to offering Holy Communion in two forms. Taking an abundance of caution, we now use the system of intinction. However, as confidence has been returning, the polycarbonate screen was removed during the summer and has not been needed since.

In April, we were sorry to say goodbye to our Assistant Vicar Ralph Kemp. He had been an integral part of Christ Church's leadership team since 2011, regularly preaching and leading services, being instrumental in securing several upgrades to the church building and Mission House, and overseeing our valuable and vibrant intern programme for many years. We wish him well.

Another change was that our baptisms were not held in the river Dee. Instead, in June, our then Curate, Anna led two completely different adult baptismal services - first a beautiful and profoundly moving liturgical service using our Victorian font; and second a service of Baptism and Confirmation with Bishop Mark where an Iranian member of our congregation was baptised by full immersion in a borrowed tank, and seven church members were confirmed.

In July we also said goodbye to our intern Hannah Derbyshire as she travelled to Romania to start her teaching job at Bucharest Christian Academy. Her quiz and curry fund raising evening was much appreciated and Christ Church is committed to sponsoring her in Romania for the next year.



Finally, on 2nd October, following a thorough advertising and interview process, we were able to celebrate the induction of our new vicar Rev'd Anna Leyden.

Anna has encouraged us to join the 'Warm Welcome Space' scheme and since November our Mission House has been open on a Monday for this purpose. This has been appreciated by various church members and local guests.

It only remains to be said that after the success of last year's joint outdoor Carol Service with The Salvation Army, we decided to repeat this. Carols were joyfully sung – with hot drinks & mince pies to warm a chilly evening. A week later the interior of the church was festooned with candles for our more traditional Carols by Candlelight service, before services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day celebrating what was true throughout 2022 and will be true in 2023 too: that Jesus is Emmanuel: 'God with us'.

Wendy Peto (Churchwarden)

Worship Services

Coordinator: Anna Leyden

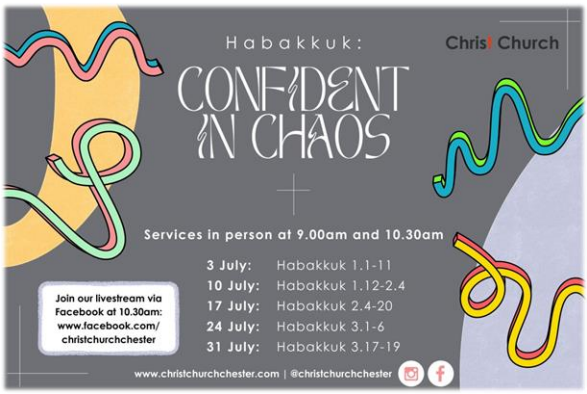
Worshipping God, our creator, sustainer and redeemer, is at the heart of our life together as a church so it was great to have some sort of 'normality' in our services of worship after so many disruptions caused by Covid.



- Our usual pattern of services was a 9.00am more formal service (with Holy Communion each week except the third Sunday of the month) and a more informal 10.30am service (with Holy Communion on the third Sunday of the month).
- The 10.30am service was live-streamed on Facebook for the first half of the year. The decision was made in the Autumn to cease live-streaming due to a depleted team and a decrease in the number of views as people were now back in church. We remain enormously thankful to the team who made live-streaming services possible, and all those who continue to look after the PC and other tech for church services.
- After a number of comments from people about missing the 'Worship@7' evening service which ran in termly six-week blocks before Covid, the service was re-introduced with a slightly different format from March-July. Those who attended expressed gratitude for the space to worship in an informal way, with lots of sung worship and space for prayer. Our first service focused on prayer for Ukraine and was particularly moving. Unfortunately, 'Worship@7' was not as well attended as hoped and as the team looking after the service were already stretched it was decided not to continue after the Summer. This decision may be reviewed in due course.



- Night Prayer (online on Wednesdays) drew to a close after most of those who attended regularly had now moved away from Chester and were no longer able to attend.
- Over the course of the year, we worked through a number of sermon series including: 'Colossians: Christ over all'; 'On your marks: the Five Marks of Mission'; a series on Acts after Easter; 'Habakkuk: Confident in Chaos'; 'Summer Psalms'; and 'Hello Jesus: Five weeks on encounters with Jesus.'
- A number of special services took place throughout 2022 including baptisms, a service to mark the Queen's Jubilee; 'Celebrate & Remember' (a service to remember those we love who have died); along with services for Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Easter, Ascension Day, Pentecost and Remembrance Sunday.





- The service of Baptism and Confirmation in June, for which we were joined by Bishop Mark, was a joyful celebration. It was fantastic to hear testimonies from some of the candidates about the work God had been doing in their lives.





- Our Christmas services were another highlight and received lots of positive feedback. It was a delight to work with the Salvation Army again for the outdoor service of 'Community Carols' and despite sub-zero temperatures there was a warm and worshipful atmosphere. Carols by Candlelight was also well-received and well-attended, with a large number of people who don't regularly come to church, having the opportunity to hear about God's love for them in Christ.







9.00am Musical Worship

Coordinator: Tonya Chirgwin

Purpose: To lead people in worship through music, predominantly at our 9.00am congregation.

Report:

- This has been a year of comings and goings for the 9am Worship Team, so rather than focusing on the music itself our report focuses on the much-valued team members who make this possible.
- In September we said a bitter-sweet goodbye to Andrew Love as he began his new life as a member of British Airways Cabin Crew. We were delighted that he had landed his dream job, but knew we, and all the congregation, would miss him greatly. As well as playing the organ and singing, he was also responsible for bringing the Air Cadets' annual Carol Service and Enrolment Ceremony to Christ Church and, of course, playing for it. This year Tonya found it a little daunting to take his place, but all went well, helped especially by organ tuning which had taken place earlier in the day! However, we were thrilled to welcome him back to play for the Midnight Service on Christmas Eve and we look forward to seeing him back at the organ when his flight duties allow.
- In October we said a very sad 'Adieu' to Ray Thorp, a loyal member of the Christ Church Composers Guild for many years, and a much-loved contributor to the worship in singing groups both small and large. He was particularly involved in helping plan – and occasionally conducting - the music of the Christmas Choir during Andrew Buchanan's tenure. He was a lifelong music lover and Tonya felt very privileged to play for his funeral.
- Happier notes were sounded when the organ was included in the instruments used to celebrate Anna's Institution and Induction; it was lovely to work with the 10.30am Worship Team to support the huge congregation in welcoming her to Christ Church, and we were happy to hear that the balance of traditional and more modern worship styles had been appreciated.
- We have also been delighted to welcome Ruth, who has been helping out on the piano for some time, and is now a regular contributor to our worship on Sundays. A huge thank you is owed to her for saving the day by playing (at very short notice) for the Christingle Service. The lack of notice was due to Tonya undergoing emergency surgery - just a week after beautifully leading the congregational worship at our Carols by Candlelight service! *(Tonya did not write this!)* Happily, Tonya is now making a good recovery.
- Special thanks are also due to Stella, not least for her contributions to the group during Holy Week and Easter, culminating in her arrangement of 'Thine be the Glory' for 6-handed piano and 'superband', which enabled the two Worship Groups to combine to end the Easter Day service with a real zing!

10.30am Worship Ministry

Coordinator: Rich Jones (until Oct 2022) / Hannah Thompson (from Oct 2022)

Purpose: To lead people in worship through music, predominantly at our 2nd morning service.

Report:

- After a long period of not being able to meet together in person for much of 2020/2021, it was a blessing to worship together in church every week in 2022, and for the congregation to join in singing God's praises (and without masks!).
- Hannah Thompson began leading the 10.30am Worship team in October, taking over from Rich Jones. Huge thanks to both Rich and Hannah!
- In addition to Sunday morning worship, the 10.30am team also took a leading role in 'Worship@7 services' in the first half of 2022, the baptism/confirmation service in June, Anna's induction in July, and the Christmas services, including the Christmas choir led by Hannah. It's been busy!



- The team was looking a little depleted after a number of people moved away from Chester in 2021. Unfortunately, we are still short of worship leaders which means the current team are quite stretched. Your continued prayers that God would be enriching the worship life of our church, including raising up new worship leaders and musicians, would be appreciated.
- In 2023, we plan to start regular worship gatherings for all musicians to meet to spend time together in reflection, planning and worship as we continue to seek God for the new year.

Childrens' Ministry Overview
Coordinator: Hannah Giddings

Purpose: To facilitate an environment where children can grow in their relationship with God, predominately through Sunday morning groups during the 10.30am service. Our children are in church for the morning tea and coffee break between the services and stay for the welcome, notices and first two or three songs of the 10.30am service, before heading out to their groups.

Crèche: under 2s
Report:

- We have an unsupervised creche for under 2s in the vestry. It has a livestream of the service and is a space for parents to sit with young children during service if they'd like to. There are also sofas at the side of church for parents (and others) to sit more comfortably during the service if they prefer.



Kids Group: 2-11s
Coordinator: Hannah Giddings
Report:

- We've seen some big changes in children's ministry this year yet we know that God is faithful. Several families have moved away for various reasons,

meaning we've had a reduction in children and lost parents who were leaders and helpers as well.

- It has made me reflect on children's ministry as a whole and think back to all the changes we have seen and how God has really grown the ministry over time from a small seed, which gives hope and encouragement going forward. We continued focusing on the five areas of mission: discipleship, worship, ministry, fellowship and evangelism, which we encourage all the groups to incorporate at various points over the year.
- We enjoyed a kids ministry BBQ during the summer months, a time for families to come together and for children to play.
- Over August and September we joined the two younger groups (Gems and Rock Solid) together to learn about parables of Jesus which went well and has now become a pattern going forward after further leaders stepped down towards the end of the year.

Crypt Youth Group: 11+yrs

Coordinator: Ben Bernard-Smith (until September 2022)

Report:

- Crypt met for games, Bible study and fellowship a few times a month for the first half of 2022, mostly during the 10.30am service.
- After Crypt leaders stepped down, sadly it was not possible to relaunch the group after the summer holidays.
- Towards the end of the year, the young people were invited to the Vicarage for pizza and to think together about what they'd like to do with Crypt in 2023. Michael Leyden has volunteered to coordinate the group next year, and assemble a team of leaders.

Tots & Tinies: 0-5s

Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Purpose: To provide a welcoming and nurturing space where young children and their parents/carers can be cared for, make new friends, and be introduced to the Christian faith. Tots & Tinies serves both the church congregation and wider local community.



Report:

- 'Tots & Tinies' continued to grow and flourish in 2022, with many new families coming along and new volunteers joining the team too. Most of those attending belong to Christ Church or other local churches, but leaflets were delivered to houses in the parish to spread the word and a few local residents not affiliated to a church have come along. It is a privilege to see the children growing and gaining confidence week-by-week, and to help them engage with the Bible story, prayer and worship in a toddler friendly way. It is also good to be able to offer parents/carers a coffee, a listening ear or just space to catch up or meet new people. Each session includes play time, a Bible story, song, the 'prayer parachute', craft, tea and toast.

Messy Church
Coordinators: Jodie Spencer / Lizzie Cobb (until late 2022)
Purpose: To encourage the discipleship of children and families (both those who already attend church and those who do not) through creative and fun ways of exploring the Bible and Christian faith.

Report:

- After re-launching post-Covid in August 2021, Messy Church met every other month throughout 2022.
- Numbers have varied from month-to-month but have been steadily increasing before a surge at the end of 2022 when we only just managed to feed everyone! It has been great to welcome a significant number of families from 'Tots & Tinies', along with their parents/carers/siblings. We are mostly reaching younger children and their families so have adapted the activities offered to make sure they are suitable.
- Each session begins with a variety of crafts, games and activities based on a Bible theme, followed by an interactive Bible story, a song and a prayer.
- Lizzie decided to step down to take some maternity leave at the end of 2022, but Jodie continues to lead into 2023, with support from Anna and a team of volunteers who help lead the craft tables and prepare food.

Student Work
Coordinator: James Thompson
Purpose: To invest in the next generation of Christians through welcoming, pastoring, equipping, and sending out our university students.

Report:

- 2022 was an encouraging year for student ministry at Christ Church. Praise God!
- We went into the 21/22 academic year with only a handful of students regularly attending - many third years left Chester and there was barely any intake of students into Christ Church over the years of the pandemic.
- In Jan 2022 we started regular student lunches after Sunday morning services. These were much appreciated - with around 8-10 students attending.
- From Sept 2022 we have been hosting student lunches every other Sunday during term time. There are now 12-15 students coming to enjoy food & fellowship.
- Our student community is currently very diverse. We do have a few undergraduate students. However, postgraduate students outnumber our undergrads. Most postgraduates are doing Masters degrees, though we do have a couple of PhD students! Consequently, our student community encompasses quite a wide age range. We have also welcomed a number of international students to Christ Church.



- Recent graduates and young people in other situations, e.g. sixth form or college students, are also welcome to join our student community.
- We have a good relationship with the Christian Union at Chester University and one of our undergraduate students is currently on the committee with the CU. Our involvement has also included occasional visits from our team to speak at their weekly meetings.
- We have a link to the University chaplaincy through Michael Mills, a retired vicar in our congregation, and a number of students have come to Christ Church as a result of conversations with Michael.

Voluntary Internship Programme
Purpose: To develop young people in leadership in the context of church ministry.

Report:
Due to staffing changes and the period of vacancy at Christ Church, the internship programme has been suspended for this year. The PCC will review this in 2023.

Connect Groups (and Re-Connect Groups)

Connect Groups

Coordinator: Anna Leyden
Purpose: To provide regular gatherings of small groups, outside of a Sunday service context, where members of Christ Church can connect with God, connect with other church members and connect with their wider communities.
Report:

- Connect Groups continued to meet in 2022, although some were still struggling the effects of Covid.
- Four Connect Groups were meeting at the beginning of 2022, but one ceased to meet in the Autumn. Plans were in place for this group to re-launch, after some re-envisioning in January 2023.
- A new group, led by Shirley Krakowski, started in July and has grown and flourished.
- 'Reconnect Groups': one-off social gatherings to help the church community re-connect after being forced apart by Covid, continued in the first half of 2022 with individual congregation members offering to host and organise a variety of events. The Wednesday Walk, organised by Ruth Southall, has since become a regular monthly event.
- Connect Groups remain an important part of life at Christ Church with those who are members appreciating the opportunity for learning and studying the Bible alongside others and for the supportive relationships that are built through the groups.

Drop In
Coordinator: Sue Ibrahim
Purpose: To open up our church space to provide a warm and welcoming environment on a Sunday afternoon for any homeless and/or vulnerable people.

Report:

- As the cost-of-living crisis hits the whole country, at Drop In we are seeing an ever-increasing number of vulnerable and homeless people attending our session. Up to 35-40 people attend each week.
- Christmas dinner saw a massive increase in guests with 59 people enjoying a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. Due to donations from the Christ Church congregation we were able once again to give each guest a gift containing chocolate and toiletries.



- Drop In has been able to accommodate the increase of guests due to the commitment and dedication of each and every volunteer who gives their time to serve each week. Our expanded soup rota has allowed flexibility to serve, enabling volunteers to try new things.
- In 2022 we welcomed Teresa and Neil as new leaders to the session taking on the supervision of the session on a rota basis. They have been volunteering with us for over 5 years and are a true blessing to Christ Church Drop In.



• We have also welcomed new volunteers Mark, Paddy, Liz, Steve, Magdelene, Jack, Claire, and soup makers, Brigid, Andy, Claire, Teresa I, Liz M, Sarah.

• As we continue into 2023 normal service will resume: we will continue to serve our guests and keep them as our number one priority planning BBQs, breakfasts and due to our donations, we are looking forward to being able to offer more services within the community.

• We are the only service provider in Chester to serve hot/cold food and drinks on a Sunday. Our continued service is enabling us to see lives restored through Jesus and focus on making this happen in the Lord's house as we serve our guests with kindness, good conversation and warmth.

- Our WhatsApp group continues to be a great source of communication for the entire Drop In Volunteer team. It enables us to give good advice and guidance when required from volunteers or guests.
- All this would not be possible without the gift of giving from a fabulous team of volunteers.

Warm Welcome Space

Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Purpose: To share the love of Jesus in a practical way by providing a warm and welcoming space for the whole community during the winter months.

Report:

- To support the local community and church members during the cost of the living crisis of 2022, Christ Church opened a 'Warm Welcome Space' from



10am-2pm on Mondays from the start of November. The plan was to offer a warm space to anyone who needed it every Monday until the end of February 2023.

- A team of volunteers was easily assembled to welcome people, make tea and toast, and offer conversation and support. People came along for company, warmth, food, or simply a change of scenery when working from home.
- Parish residents received a leaflet about the Warm Welcome Space through their letterboxes and expressed gratitude that the Mission House was open for this purpose. The number of people attending from outside the church community was small, although it did grow and those who came along spoke highly of the warm welcome they received.
- It was also a blessing for volunteers and church members who had opportunity to make new friends and build relationships.
- We were very pleased to receive funding from the local council and a private donor to help fund the Warm Welcome Space.

Visiting Ministry

Coordinator: Veronica Johnston

Purpose**:** To enfold within the family of Christ Church the sick and housebound, through regular visits and the opportunity to share Holy Communion at home or in hospital.

Report:

- Visiting which had been suspended during the periods of lockdown was resumed in 2022, although booking was still needed at some care homes and visitors were required to mask and wear protective aprons. The most significant aspect of visiting this year has been a faithful team of drivers who ensured that one of our younger members was never without a visit throughout his six weeks in Liverpool Heart and Lung Hospital.
- It was with sadness that in 2022 we said farewell to members of the Christ Church family: Irene Owen, an established member of this community brought up worshipping at Christ Church; and Edna Maughn who had been sharing communion with us at home after she became too frail to attend church.
- We are all grieving with Janet Thorp, the death of her devoted husband of 50 years, Ray. Throughout that time, Ray served Christ Church faithfully in a variety of ways, particularly in the 9am music team. We miss his smile, his mischievous wit, and his presence at Janet's side in the front pew.

Maintenance

Coordinators: Andrew Wigglesworth, Chris Giddings, Rob Peto

Purpose: To maintain the fabric of our buildings.

Report:



- 2022 was a quiet year in the life of maintaining the fabric of the church with no major projects undertaken. The focus was instead on performing the various regular duties we do to keep the church building healthy.
- These were primarily done through the three maintenance days we had in the year where church members were encouraged to come along and assist with various jobs including: clearing gutters of leaves, fixing floor blocks and many other smaller jobs.
- The excellent deputy wardens have been working hard in between maintenance days, answering the calls from any tired parts of the church buildings that needed tending to.



• Unfortunately, we've been down on numbers attending maintenance days this year which has reduced our capacity, so we are always keen to get new people coming along to help out. These days are a great way to meet new people, they are always good fun and there are jobs suitable for people of all ages and abilities. Plus they're always fuelled by numerous bacon butties, biscuits, teas and coffees!

- The main focus in September was readying Christ Church ahead of Anna's induction. Thanks to a good turn out, we were able to make the church look very presentable - cleaning some areas that hadn't been touched in years! Particular thanks go to Nellie for organising the repainting of the ceiling above the baptistry.
- Finally I'd just like to put out an official thank you to James Cox who left Christ Church to move to Cumbria this year with his family. He was a maintenance team stalwart for many years and always kept spirits up with his hard work and his humour. We miss him, Hannah and the rest of his family greatly!

Safeguarding

Coordinator: Pauline Jones

Purpose: To ensure measures are in place at Christ Church to protect everyone, but particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to promote their health and wellbeing.

Report:

- At Christ Church we seek to promote a safe environment, culture and activities in order to include a wide range of children, young people and

adults. Everyone at Christ Church shares this responsibility, but not everyone is responsible for everything!

- We believe safeguarding is about how we treat each other and the quality of our relationships but we also seek to fulfil our responsibilities as laid down by the Church of England and Chester Diocese Safeguarding team. We believe and trust that safeguarding supports ministry and outreach rather than preventing or constraining it.
- I can confirm that Christ Church Chester PCC has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance'. As Parish Safeguarding Officer, I have regularly reported on safeguarding in the parish and safeguarding has been a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting. The following is Christ Church PCC's statement, which reports on progress as required:

    - Regular safeguarding meetings were held involving Wendy Peto in her capacity as a Churchwarden during a vacancy period, and Rev. Anna Leyden in her capacity as Curate and subsequently Incumbent, and myself as Parish Safeguarding Officer.
    - The Safeguarding Action Plan was approved by PCC in June 2022 and progress against the plan was reported at subsequent PCC meetings
    - Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed for eleven individuals, including one who was checked twice (for two different roles). With one exception, all PCC members are now checked at Enhanced Level. We piloted use of a Basic check for one individual on the Drop-in rota.
    - A Volunteer Driver Agreement was approved by PCC at the March meeting.
    - A designated safeguarding folder was established on Christ Church Share Point, which is now used for storage of password protected confidential files. A designated filing cabinet was identified for storage of confidential declaration forms and registration documents for children and family groups.
    - Person Specifications and Role Descriptions were drawn up for 15 Volunteer roles. They will be taken to the February 2023 PCC meeting to be approved as part of a 'light touch' safer recruitment process.

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 24 to 32.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

   have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Dated: 6th April 2023

L M Howson MAAT
Independent Examiner

Finansure Limited, 2 Sheppard Street, Brymbo, Wrexham, LL11 5FF

Financial Review of the year

The finance team consisted of seven members of the congregation, managing donations, book-keeping, payroll, general banking and treasury tasks. The team aims to provide transparency of figures for both PCC and the congregation, an efficient and simple giving programme and accurate budgeting information to the PCC to enable them to make decisions.

Related Party Transactions

Glyn Jones (Evangelist) and David Chirgwin (PCC member) are directors/trustees of The Light Project, a Christian charity based in Chester. During the year, the PCC made payments to The Light Project totalling £200. All relevant payments are discussed and authorised without input from the related parties concerned.

New Restricted Funds

No new restricted funds were created in 2022.

Designated Funds

One new designated fund was created in 2022. This fund is specifically to support parishioners during the Cost of Living Crisis and is named as such. This was created in response to a donation of £2000 late in 2022 and has not been used yet.

Income excluding new Designated Fund

During 2022, income was generated from individual giving, church fees and rental of rooms. Net giving from the congregation during the year was £73,350 a 13% decrease on 2021(£84,148) this is also a significant decrease from pre Covid 2019 (£84,415).

The Gift Aid reclaimable on giving in 2022 was £14,097 (£16,008 in 2021), which includes the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.

Grants were received from the following bodies in 2022 (see Note 1 in 'Notes to the Accounts') and are hereby gratefully acknowledged:

- Dr Robert Oldfield Charity
- Chester Diocese Energy Grant

Expenditure

Expenditure was £109,053 (£107,724 in 2021). The largest item of expense was the Parish Share, which was £63,032 (£61,643 in 2021).

Other than running costs, the further main areas of expenditure were on employee costs, insurance and maintenance for our buildings.

Outward Giving

In 2022, £5,150 (£5,050 in 2021) was set aside for Outward Giving and donated to several recipient charities. The following were all recipients in 2022.

- Teach Beyond
- The Salvation Army
- Chester University Christian Union
- Spider Project CIC
- The Light Project t/a The Light College and Collective
- West Cheshire Foodbank
- Night Church Chester
- Congo Churches Association
- Ukrainian support charities

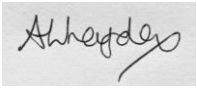
Requested grants to individuals (£1,342) was higher than in 2021 (£1,068).

This Outward Giving is intended to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries, but in line with our values and goals. This money has supported several projects and individuals during the year.

The budget for 2023 has been set by the PCC and agreed at the February 2023 meeting.



Laura Hale (Treasurer) 27th March 2023



Anna Leyden (Chair) 27th March 2023

Accounting Policies

Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and SORP (effective January 2019).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities, to which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) Income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object. The funds may be expended on the specific object for which they are given. Any balances remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance of that fund.

Designated funds represent income which has been set aside for use for a specific purpose but are not legally restricted to be used for that purpose. Amounts identified as designated funds which are held in the general current account at the year-end were:

Vicarage Fund	£1,305
Renewed Space 3 Seed Funding (for Capital Building Projects)	£39,527
Cost of Living	£2,500

Unrestricted funds are general funds that can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming Reserves

Planned giving collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised on an accruals basis at the end of the financial year and the appropriate amount is subsequently reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs.

Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan Parish

Share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,500 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

No cost information is available for the Vicar's house as it is deemed the property of the diocese.

All investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2021.

Reserves Policy

The PCC have agreed on a reserves policy that is reviewed annually.
The reserves policy at the end of 2022 was set as follows:

- It is the policy of the church to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months' basic running costs which includes any salaries and contractual payments to staff.
- It is also our policy to hold £5000 in reserves as a contingency against unexpected building-related expenses for the Mission House and the church building.

Christ Church

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ending 31st December 2022

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Chester, Christ Church

Statement of Financial Activities For the year ending 31st December 2021	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	1	88,675	0	88,675	106,109
Investment income	2	1,331	65	1,396	784
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	4,824	0	4,824	7,559
Other incoming resources		0	0	0	316
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		94,830	65	94,895	114,768
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share	4	(63,032)	0	(63,032)	(61,643)
Church Activities	5	(41,629)	0	(41,629)	(42,663)
Grants payable	6	(3,050)	(1,342)	(4,392)	(3,418)
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		(107,711)	(1,342)	(109,053)	(107,724)
Transfers between funds		(183)	183	0	0
NET INCOME/OUTGOINGS BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS / (LOSSES)		**(13,064)**	**(1,094)**	**(14,158)**	**7,044**
Gains/(losses) on Investment Assets		(3,251)	0	(3,251)	3,379
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(16,315)	(1,094)	(17,409)	10,423
BALANCES B/FWD 1st JANUARY	11	105,409	6,274	111,683	101,260
BALANCES C/FWD 31st DECEMBER		89,094	5,180	94,274	111,683

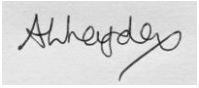
Christ Church

Balance sheet at 31st December 2022

The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Chester, Christ Church

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2021	Note	General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	**8**	24,842	0	24,842	27,367
		24,842	0	24,842	27,367
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	**9**	20,836	0	20,836	20,355
Cash at bank and in hand		47,952	5,180	53,132	65,932
		68,788	5,180	73,968	86,287
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - Amounts falling due in one year	**10**	(4,536)	0	(4,536)	1,971
NET CURRENT ASSETS		64,252	5,180	69,432	84,316
NET ASSETS		89,094	5,180	94,274	111,683
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted					
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	**12**	20,920		20,920	37,107
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	**12**	24,842		24,842	27,367
Designated Cost of Living Fund	**12**	2,500		2,500	0
Designated COVID-19 Fund	**12**	0		0	(1,253)
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	**12**	39,527		39,527	39,127
Designated Vicarage Fund	**12**	1,305		1,305	3,061
Restricted					
Congo Fund	**13**		50	50	50
Generosity Fund	**13**		0	0	1,159
Music and Worship Fund	**13**		553	553	553
Renovation Fund	**13**		4,577	4,577	4,512
		89,094	5,180	94,274	111,683

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 27th March 2023

and signed on behalf by:  Anna Leyden (Chair)

Notes for the Financial Statements for the Year ending 31st December 2022

NOTE 1 - VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
Voluntary Income				
Individual Giving	73,350		73,350	84,148
Tax Recoverable	14,097		14,097	16,009
Legacies			0	5,000
Other Sundry Donations	30		30	0
Grants				
Robert Oldfield Charity - Children's work	108		108	109
Chester DBF - Energy grant	1,090		1,090	0
Congo link			0	-300
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme			0	1,143
	88,675	0	88,675	106,109

NOTE 2 - INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
Bank interest receivable	605	65	670	101
Dividends from CCLA Investment Share Fund	726		726	683
	1,331	65	1,396	784

NOTE 3 - INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
Church Fees	1,853		1,853	2,315
Church Hire			0	173
Mission House Room Hire	2,971		2,971	5,071
	4,824	0	4,824	7,559

NOTE 4 - Parish Share Paid

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
Parish Share	63,032		63,032	61,643
	63,032	0	63,032	61,643

NOTE 5 - CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
Church				
- Utilities	6,578		6,578	2,999
- Repairs & Maintenance	1,355		1,355	820
- Building improvement			0	600
- Insurance (also covers MH)	4,340		4,340	4,097
- Altar & Service Resources	578		578	438
- Music including organ costs	1,591		1,591	869
- Clergy Expenses	424		424	302
- Sunday Refreshments	756		756	332
- Children & Youth Work	594		594	526
- Training and conferences	671		671	408
- Internship Programme			0	2,009
- Fees Payable	536		536	1,216
- Miscellaneous Costs (see note 8)	2,902		2,902	5,128
Administration				
- Administration Wages	8,695		8,695	8,627
- Software / Web	1,505		1,505	1,368
- Bank charges	374		374	493
- Administration Sundries	376		376	170
- Telephone & Internet	425		425	1,064
- Independent Examiner's Fee (current year)	750		750	725
- Independent Examiner's Fee (prior year)	725		725	250
Vicarage				
- Council Tax	-64		-64	2,216
- Utilities	24		24	776
- Maintenance	1,757		1,757	0
Curate				
- Housing Allowance	3,646		3,646	4,747
Mission House				
- Utilities	1,227		1,227	692
- Repairs & Maintenance	20		20	0
- Cleaning Wages	221		221	1,145
Community Work				
- Drop-In expenses	1,256		1,256	534
- Other Community Work expenses	294		294	106
Parochial Work				
- Student work expenses	73		73	6
Total Church Activities	41,629	0	41,629	42,663

NOTE 6 - GRANTS PAYABLE

Christ Church has an Outward Giving policy to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries by donating to projects in line with our values and goals. This includes the "Generosity Fund" which helps individuals with a specific need.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
Grants to other charities:	£	£	£	£
Donations to the Congo	600		600	1,250
Donations to the Ukraine	600		600	0
Teach Beyond	600		600	0
Friends of the Earth			0	200
Spider Project CIC Chester	200		200	200
The Light Project	200		200	200
Chester University CU	200		200	100
West Cheshire Foodbank	200		200	400
Salvation Army	200		200	0
Night Church	200		200	0
Leyland Methodist Church	50		50	0
Grants to individuals:				
Other small confidential donations made		1,342	1,342	1,068
	3,050	1,342	4,392	3,418

NOTE 7 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
	£	£	£	£
Books and Resources	96		96	151
COVID-related (including streaming)			0	422
Publicity	1,241		1,241	349
Special Events (e.g. Alpha, Banquet)			0	4,026
Subscriptions (e.g. Link Up, Churches Together, Deanery Synod)	250		250	180
Cleaning supplies, gifts and sundries	130		130	0
Equipment (e.g. for Office, Kitchen)	338		338	0
Other expenses	847		847	0
	2,902	0	2,902	5,128

NOTE 8 - INVESTMENTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted		
CCLA Investment Share Fund	24,842	27,367
	24,842	27,367

NOTE 9 - DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted		
Gift Aid receivable	14,097	15,346
Prepayments	6,739	3,542
	20,836	19,692

Restricted	2022 £	2021 £
Gift Aid receivable Team Building/Thank You Fund	0	300
Gift Aid receivable Shaws Leaving Fund	0	363
	0	663
	20,836	20,355

NOTE 10 - CREDITORS

Unrestricted	2022 £	2021 £
Gas/Electricity/Water/Rates	2,586	1,146
Independent Examiner fee	750	725
Other accruals	1,200	100
	4,536	1,971

NOTE 11 - OPENING BALANCES ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 01/01/2022 £
Unrestricted				
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	37,107			37,107
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	27,367			27,367
Designated COVID-19 fund	(1,253)			(1,253)
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	39,127			39,127
Designated Vicarage Fund	3,061			3,061
Restricted				
Generosity Fund		1,159		1,159
Congo Fund		50		50
Music and Worship Fund		553		553
Renovation Fund		4,512		4,512
	105,409	6,274	0	111,683

NOTE 12 - MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	2022	2021
	£	£
General Fund Bank Accounts etc.		
Balance brought Forward	37,107	29,684
Money paid in during the year (incl. interest)	91,930	110,387
Money taken out during the year	(106,681)	(100,457)
Transfers (to)/from other funds	1,070	(2,507)
Balance at 31st December	23,426	37,107
General Fund CCLA Investment Shares		
Balance at 1st January	27,367	23,305
Increase/(decrease) in value of total Shares	-2,525	4,062
Balance at 31st December	24,842	27,367
Designated Cost of living support Fund		
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Money paid in during the year	2,500	0
Money taken out during the year	0	0
Transfers (to)/from other funds	0	0
Balance at 31st December	2,500	0
Designated COVID-19 Fund		
Balance at 1st January	(1,253)	(830)
Money paid in during the year	0	0
Money taken out during the year		(423)
Transfers (to)/from other funds	1,253	0
Balance at 31st December	0	(1,253)
Designated RS3 Seed Fund		
Balance at 1st January	39,127	39,127
Money paid in during the year	400	0
Money taken out during the year	0	0
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	0	0
Balance at 31st December	39,527	39,127
Designated Vicarage Fund (created 2019)		
Balance at 1st January (as created)	3,061	2,650
Money paid in during the year	0	0
Money taken out during the year	(1,756)	0
Transfers from general funds		411
Balance at 31st December	1,305	3,061
Total Unrestricted Funds	91,600	105,409

NOTE 13 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2022	2021
Renovation Fund	£	£
Balance at 1st January	4,512	5,112
Voluntary income received	65	0
Gift Aid received	0	0
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	0	0
Expenditure		
- Repairs and Renovation etc.	0	(600)
Balance at 31st December	4,577	4,512
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	4,577	4,512

	2022	2021
Community Work Fund	£	£
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	0	0
Grants received	0	0
Expenditure		
- Expenses for Drop-In food etc.	(976)	(424)
- Other community work exps	(294)	(106)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	1,270	530
Balance at 31st December	0	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

	2022	2021
Student Work Fund	£	£
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	0	0
Expenditure		
- Expenses (e.g. Student BBQ, weekend away)	(73)	(6)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	73	6
Balance at 31st December	0	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

	2022	2021
Music and Worship Fund	£	£
Balance at 1st January	553	553
Voluntary income received	0	0
Less: Expenditure	0	0
Balance at 31st December	553	553
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	553	553

NOTE 14 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS (contd.)

	2022	2021
Generosity Fund	**£**	**£**
Balance at 1st January	1,159	1,159
Voluntary income received	0	0
Less : Outward Giving	(1,342)	0
Plus : Transfer from general fund	183	0
Balance at 31st December	0	1,159
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	0	1,159

	2022	2021
Congo Fund	**£**	**£**
Balance at 1st January	50	0
Voluntary income received		50
Less : Outward Giving	0	0
Balance at 31st December	50	50
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	50	50

	2022	2021
Shaw Leave Fund	**£**	**£**
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received		1,785
Less: Expenditure		(2,219)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund		71
Balance at 31st December	0	(363)
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		363
Balance at 31st December	0	0

	2022	2021
Team Thanks Fund	**£**	**£**
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received		1,200
Less : Outward Giving		(1,072)
Less : Transfer to General Fund		(428)
Balance at 31st December	0	(300)
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations		300
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Total Restricted Funds	5,180	6,274

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHESTER, CHRIST CHURC

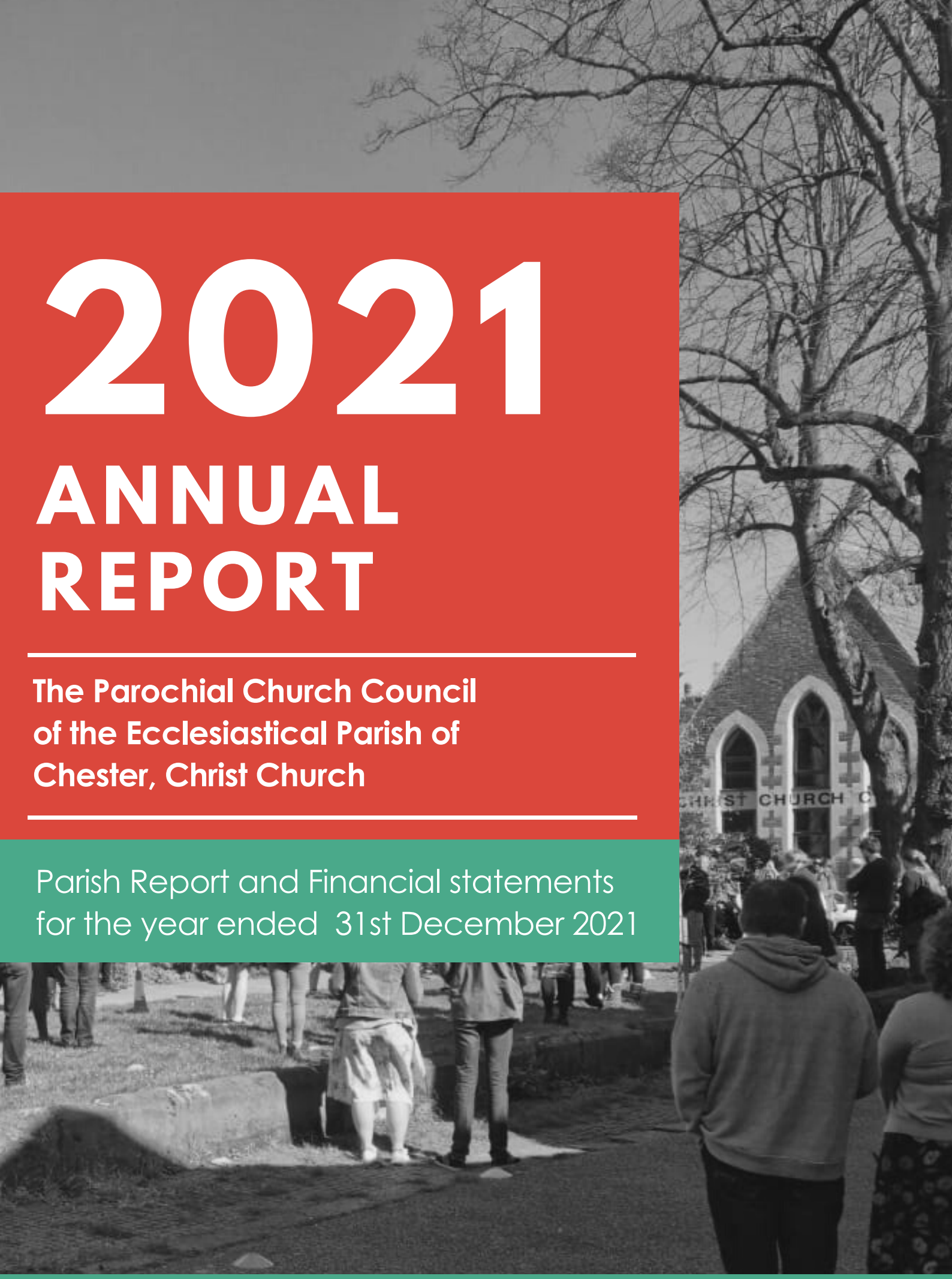
England & Wales - Charity number 1133808

Accounts

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chester, Christ Church

Parish Report and Financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021



Registered charity no. 1133808

Christ Church

Contents

	Pages
Statement of PCC's Responsibilities	3
Annual Report	4
Overview of the Year	7
Independent Examiner's Report	21
Financial Review of the Year	22
Accounting Policies	24
Statement of Financial Activity	26
Balance Sheet	27
Notes to the Accounts	28

Statement of Parochial Church Council's Responsibilities

We are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements we are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue.

We are also responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records;
- safeguarding the PCC's assets;
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

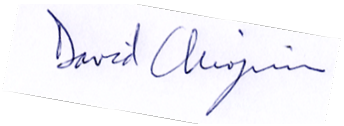
Public Benefit

The PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of religion for the Public Benefit" and have had regard to it in their administration of the church.

The PCC believes that by promoting the Christian faith it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual development, both for existing church members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers
- Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

On behalf of the PCC



David Chirgwin (Vice Chair) 10th May 2022

Annual Report

Background of the PCC

Christ Church Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent and other clergy in promoting the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities of our church building and Mission House.

Membership of PCC

Membership of the PCC is ex-officio, co-opted or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules. The following people served for all or part of 2021:

Vicar	Rev'd Graham Shaw (until August 2021)
Associate Vicar	Rev'd Ralph Kemp
Evangelist	Rev'd Glyn Jones
Curate	Rev'd Anna Leyden
Vice Chair of the PCC	Mr David Chirgwin
Church Wardens	Mrs Wendy Peto Mr Andrew Wigglesworth
Parish Reader Representative	Mrs Veronica Johnston
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Peter Heenan (until June 2021) Mr Simon Schumann-Davies
Elected PCC Members	Mr James Cox Mr David Chirgwin Mr Thomas Cobb Dr Hannah Giddings Mrs Pauline Jones (from 9th May 2021) Mrs Rosie Jones Mr Timothy Longman Mr Eli Mitchell Mr Edward Newman (from 9th May 2021) Mrs Helen Parker Mr Will Steel Mrs Janet Thorp Dr Raymond Thorp (until 9th May 2021) Miss Amy Walker (until 9th May 2021)
Co-opted PCC Member	Mrs Pauline Jones (until 9th May 2021)
Secretary	Mrs Wendy Peto
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Janet Thorp
Treasurer	Mr Tom Cobb (from 9th May 2021) Mr David Chirgwin (until 9th May 2021)
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Pauline Jones

Standing Committee

This has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings (subject to directions given by the council) and consists of Vicar/Chairman, Lay Vice-Chair, Associate Vicar, Curate, Wardens, and Treasurer. Our standing committee has met, when necessary, a week before monthly PCC meetings this year.

Church Attendance

In common with many other churches, typical attendance in 2021 was below that of pre-pandemic services. Anecdotally, it appeared that whilst a relatively small number had left the Christ Church community, a significant number of people were attending Sunday services with less frequency than before the pandemic. In addition, Christ Church continues to have a high proportion of the congregation in their 20s and 30s, many of whom are in transitional stages of life and so attendance figures continue to fluctuate.

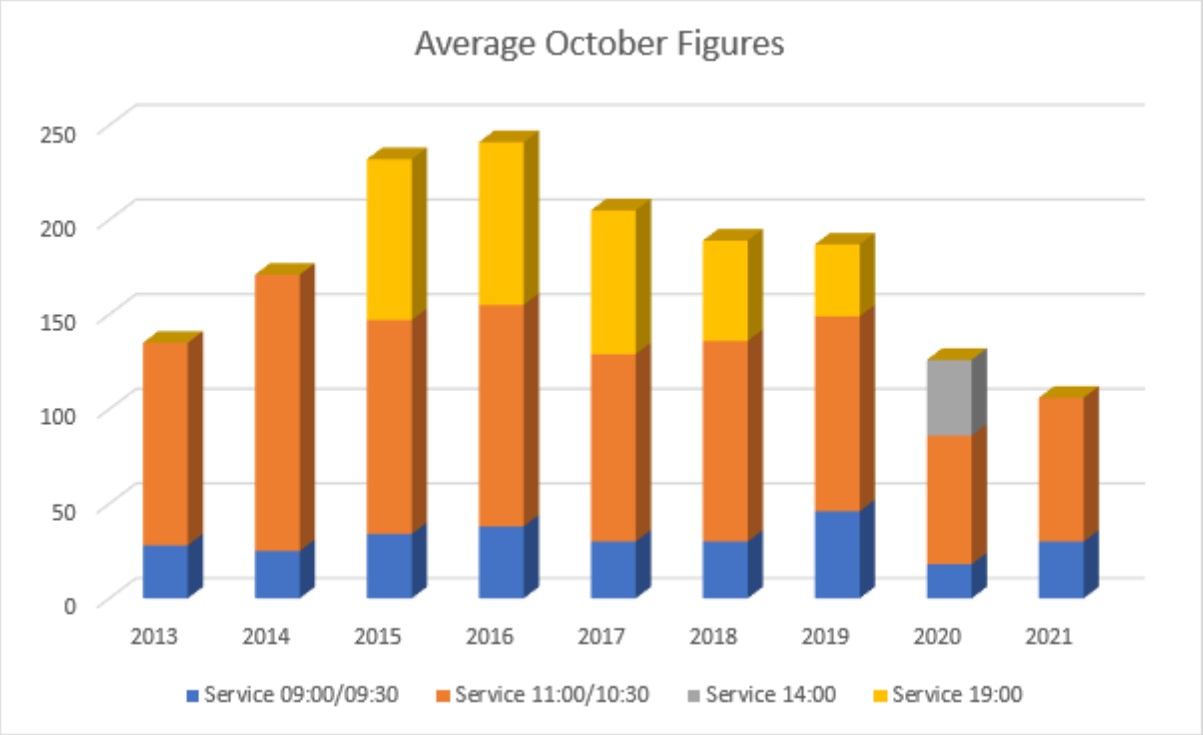
During 2021, there were a number of Sundays when services could not take place in person owing to Covid. Throughout the year, the 10.30am service was livestreamed via Facebook. The figures below do not include people who joined services online.

Average October	2021		2020		2019	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
9am / 9.30am	1	29	1	17	4	42
10:30am / 11am	17*	59*	11*	57*	21	82
2pm	-	-	20	20	-	-
7pm	-	-	-	-	0	38
Total Attendance	**18**	**88**	**32**	**94**	**25**	**172**

Special Services	2021		2020		2019	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
Easter	25*	99*	(online)	(online)	20	126
Community Carols	35	122	-	-	-	-
Carols	3	88	40**	120**	17	143
Christingle	19	39	21	43	33	80
Midnight	1	37	1	28	2	37
Christmas Day	17*	45*	17*	47*	20	64

* These services were both streamed online and held in person. The figures here record only the numbers of those attending in person.

** Due to national lockdown restrictions, our carol service in 2020 was held on the grass outside the church building.



Church Membership

Membership of the electoral roll stood at 121 in October 2021(of which 90% live outside the parish). The PCC met every month during 2021 except for April, August and December. Some of these meetings were held 'virtually' over Zoom.

Overview of the year

After the onslaught of the global pandemic of 2020 and its impact on church activities (and energy levels!), we had high hopes for 2021 and a return to "normal". As it happened, 2021 was full of twists and turns, some challenging and some greatly encouraging. God remained constant and faithful throughout, as He always does, but that's not to say it was all easy!

After almost 10 years at Christ Church, our Vicar Graham, his wife Anna and their children, Barney, Daniel and Ruth, left Christ Church in August to move closer to family in Guildford. Their final weekend was filled with pizza, ice-cream, bouncy castles and quite a few tears! We are so thankful for Graham and Anna's ministry to us over the last decade and we miss them a lot, but they have left us in good stead for the future.





As always, it is not possible to record here all that has happened at Christ Church over the year, and to acknowledge everyone who has worked so hard to ensure that Christ continues to be made known in Newtown. However, a few of the most significant events for the church community, aside from the Shaws' departure, included:

- Our Curate, Anna, was ordained priest at Chester Cathedral on June 19th. Due to Covid restrictions, numbers were limited again but a small number from the Christ Church community were able to join the service in person.



- On October 5th, around 40 leaders from the Christ Church community gathered together at The Firs School for a 'Joshua Day'. We worshipped, prayed, talked together, and listened to feedback from the congregation as we tried to discern where God is leading us next and what sort of person our next Vicar might be. It was a really encouraging day, with a profound sense of unity and shared vision to move forwards in mission as a church.



- Ed Newman, a former intern, was licensed as a Reader at Chester Cathedral on October 9th. It was great to be able to celebrate this next step in Ed's vocational journey and his invaluable ministry among us.





- After a fantastic outdoor Carol Service in 2020, we doubled-up on the Carols in 2021 with an outdoor 'Community Carol Service' and also an indoor 'Candlelit Carol Service'. It was great to see so many people from the local community there, and a delight to work with the Salvation Army whose brass band played at the outdoor service.





Worship Services

Coordinator: Graham Shaw (until August 2020) / Anna Leyden (from August 2020)

After meeting in-person for the first Sunday of January, the difficult decision was taken to, once again, suspend in-person worship services, following Covid guidance from the government. Thanks to our (always wonderful, but now also experienced!) tech team the move to online-only was relatively smooth. Each week, a small team gathered in the Mission House to livestream a 10.30am service of worship which others joined on Facebook.





- Our first service back together in the church building was a 9.00am Holy Communion for Palm Sunday, followed by a 10.30am All-Age Communion for Easter Sunday. The church was full to the rafters on Easter Day, with people even sitting on the grass outside to watch the service on their phones. It was a wonderful celebration of the resurrection of Jesus and so special to be back together again.
- Thankfully, services were able to continue in-person for the rest of the year with a 9.00am and 10.30am service most weeks, with the 10.30am service also streamed online. Various restrictions were put in place to make it possible to meet together safely (e.g. social distancing, contact tracing, wearing masks,

no refreshments), some of which it was possible to ease over the course of the year.

- The monthly Family Service, which started in 2020 to help keep families in touch during lockdowns, continued on Sunday afternoons (some in person and some on Zoom, according to the Covid situation) until the summer when we decided to move back to weekly children's groups alongside the 10.30am service.
- Over the course of the year, we worked through a number of sermon series, including series on Christ our hope, discipleship, Jesus' resurrection appearances, Nehemiah, the Seven Signs in John's Gospel.

9.00am Musical Worship

Coordinator: Tonya Chirgwin

Purpose: To lead people in worship through music, predominantly at our 9.00am congregation.

Report:

Organist's Journal, Stardate Sunday 4th April 2021: Easter Day

"…it was very moving, playing for the most joyful service of the year and seeing the nave and both side aisles as full as social distancing would allow of people all joyful to be back in church again, mostly for the first time since Christmas…"

That probably tells you all you need to know about worship at Christ Church in 2021! But, in case you'd like a little more detail from the 9.00am Team, 2021 was the year when:

- Worship became fully congregational again
- The 9.00am congregation was able to resume sung worship, through (first) the reintroduction of participative hymns (two per service) then (later in the year) the gradual return of the sung liturgy. It was tremendously heartening to realise that people still remembered how the tunes went!
- A simple and moving Good Friday service was enhanced by Stella Coussell's solo rendition of 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?'
- Christ Church was blessed with not one, but two Carol Services, the first held jointly with the Salvation Army and much enriched by their band – a great help in the open air, and a brilliant way of bringing the service to the wider community – and the second including the Christmas Choir, with participants from both 9.00 and 10.30am communities, ably led by Hannah Thompson.
- The Christingle Service had an unexpected addition to its usual five traditional carols in the form of 'Jingle Bells', played at the end of the service.
- The 'Midnight' service on Christmas Eve returned to its traditional time (the clue's in the name, give or take half an hour) and we managed to stay awake long enough to complete the joyful task of leading the congregational carols and providing music for the more reflective parts of the service. A special shout-out to Andrew Love, whose concluding voluntary, the famous Toccata by Widor, made sure that everybody was wide enough awake to get home safely! It was a fitting end to a year when we really were "glad when they said…let us go to the house of the Lord" 😊



10.30am Worship Ministry
Coordinator: Rich Jones
Purpose: To lead people in worship through music, predominantly at our 2nd morning service.
Report:

- CV-19 resulted in some restrictions again in the last year but at least singing has been permitted. Whilst services continue to be broadcast live, they were at least broadcast from the church building, with the congregation present! We continue to look for ways to enhance the online experience as from a music perspective it currently remains limited.
- The year saw several worship leaders leave the team including Catrin who has now moved to University, Antonia who has moved to Bristol, and Joash who has decided to focus greater energies on his local church as well as his role as a Special Constable. These have each left a significant gap and we miss them, but we have been blessed by Hannah Thompson who has joined the team as an experienced worship leader, and who has brought lots of enthusiasm!
- We have enjoyed getting musicians involved again for the latter half of the year. It's been great to play together.
- Your continued prayers that God would be enriching the worship life of our church, including raising up new worship leaders and musicians, would be appreciated.

Childrens' Ministry Overview
Coordinator: Hannah Giddings
Purpose: To facilitate an environment where children can grow in their relationship with God, predominately through Sunday morning groups during the 10.30am service. Our children are in church for the morning tea and coffee break between the services and stay for the welcome, notices and first two or three songs of the 10.30am service, before heading out to their groups.
Report:
Crèche: under 2s

- We have an unsupervised creche for under 2s in the vestry, which has recently been spruced up with fairy lights and bunting. It has a live stream of the service and is a space for parents to sit with young children during service if they so wish. There are also sofas at the side of church for parents (and others) to sit more comfortably during the service if they prefer.



Gems: 2-5yr olds
Coordinator : Hannah Giddings
Report:

- This group just keeps growing! We love singing songs with Rocksolid before going to have bible stories and craft and play together each week. We have an established group of leaders and a wide base of parent helpers to support our youngest group. We have been following the Scripture Union Bubbles resource to structure our sessions and aim to pray over our youngsters each week.

Rock Solid: 6-10yr olds
Coordinator: Stacey Sanson
Report:

- Rock Solid is the Christ Church provision for children in KS1 and KS2. From around age 5/6 to around age 10/11, allowing flexibility for children to move when they are ready and together with friends.
- Rock Solid currently has ten regularly attending children on the register, and a team of 10 adults split into leaders and helpers who lead in teams of two around once a month each.
- We have a worship time with the Gems group during Sunday morning sessions, followed by a quiz and teaching time with prayer, followed by playtime, which has developed to be largely Lego and board game based.
- We taught the stories Jesus told (parables) until Christmas. Past series includes the miracles Jesus performed, The fruits of the spirit, and God's armour, during which we made a cardboard suit of armour. We occasionally follow the congregation service series when doing so is age-appropriate, and as such, during covid lockdowns we followed along with the service teaching on unsung heroes. However, the overwhelming success of our covid provision was undoubtedly the 'What's in the bible' DVDs which the children really enjoyed and engaged well with. In planning Rock Solid, we aim for the children to have a firm foundation from which they can move out and explore their faith. As such, we think it is important for every session to include prayer, the active use of the bible, so the children understand where the stories they are learning come from, and the opportunity to build relationships with us leaders that are safe and fun so that the children can ask questions and share worries.
- Rock Solid sang at the carol service and shared one of their favourite worship songs with the congregation. The children in Rock Solid have valued these experiences; even those who have been too shy to appear actively involved have responded well to being folded into and valued in the church congregation. Moving forward, we would like Rock Solid to be more than just a Sunday morning provision. We held a Rock Solid families BBQ in the summer of 2021 and there are plans to have a Rock Solid day out, though this has been delayed for various reasons. Making this happen is the main short-term aim in progressing Rock Solid in 2022 to deepen fellowship and friendships in the group.

Crypt Youth Group: 10+yrs
Coordinator: Anna Shaw (until August 2021) Ben Bernard-Smith (from August 2021)
Report:

- Our 10 plus youth group still feels fairly new in some respects, it's incredible to think it's been running now for three years, and even when kids move on, new ones seem to be joining all the time. What started out as two 11 year olds and an older teenager with learning difficulties has now become a full group of young people. God has been good to us.

- Whilst they are a mix of maturities and a mix of desires to be there at all, they are certainly starting to ask questions about God and faith, and whether with family or alone, they are reading their bibles and/or picking up on things away from the group that they then bring back into the discussion.
- As well as the Sunday morning group, where we would usually follow the passages in the church's sermon series and play some games, we also enjoyed a new bi-weekly Sunday evening group called Pudding and Pondering where we encouraged the youth to ask their deeper 'pondering' questions about God and Christianity, and we discussed them, as well as eat cake and other treats. We also started showing them The Chosen, the TV series about Jesus' life and ministry.
- We've also been doing socials which has been great fun, going on walks and days at activity centres. Most recently, we took them to see 'The Most Reluctant Convert' at the cinema, a film about the life and conversion of CS Lewis.
- As they grow older, we're intrigued to see where they go in their faiths, or maybe move towards a faith for the first time, asking and answering more questions. Whilst the weekend away was to be a yearly thing, with Covid, we weren't able to do it last year, or this year, so our plan is to do another next year, as well as more socials. Extended times with them seem to be the best way for them to delve deeper into God's word and ideas of faith and life with God. Covid also stopped us from having the group start serving in church, but we've now started to encourage them to be on welcome team, and one of the group has recently helped lead worship for the first time. We trust God will use our efforts to speak to these kids and bring them into a relationship with Him.

Tots & Tinies: 0-5s
Coordinator: Anna Leyden
Purpose: To provide a welcoming and nurturing space where young children and their parents/carers can be cared for, make new friends, and introduced to the Christian faith. Tots & Tinies serves both the church congregation and wider local community.
Report:
In October, we launched 'Tots & Tinies', a new group for babies/toddlers and their parents/carers. We had a 'trial run' with families from Christ Church for the first two weeks before opening up to the wider public in November. The decision to launch a baby/toddler group was fuelled by: 1) a growing number of babies/toddlers at Christ Church; 2) need in the local area after several groups elsewhere had not reopened since Covid restrictions eased; 3) a desire to get to know and serve local residents, and to share the love of Jesus with them.

- Each session includes a Bible story, song and the 'prayer parachute', along with plenty of play time and a craft… oh, and lots of tea and toast!

- By the end of 2021, we had approximately 12-15 children attending each week, mostly families from Christ Church or other local churches. In 2022, we hope to focus on reaching out to those who are not regular church-goers, and expanding the team of volunteers.





Messy Church

Coordinators: Jodie Spencer & Lizzie Cobb

Purpose: To encourage the discipleship of children and families (both those who already attend church and those who do not) through creative and fun ways of exploring the Bible and Christian faith.

Report:

- Christ Church Children's team launched the first Messy Church event in March 2020 on a Saturday afternoon just before lockdown. This was received well, and several new families attended who had not previously been to a Christ Church service. Subsequently some of the Messy Church team were able to put together 'craft packs' with a story which they then delivered once a month during lockdown to the families that had come to the first event – these surprise packages were welcomed by children and parents alike!
- We ran a second 'Messy Church' event as part of the Christ Church Summer Camp in August 2021, with many church families inviting friends along. We intend to run Messy Church every two months going forward on a Saturday afternoon at 4pm, we have a growing team of helpers, and our next event is in November. This is part of the children's ministry team outreach to the community, and we are encouraging children to invite their friends along to hear about Jesus.
- We have also for the first time held a 'light party' for families as a Halloween Alternative, which again was well received by a mix of church families and their friends.



Connect Groups (and Re-Connect Groups)
Coordinator: Anna Leyden
Purpose: To provide regular gatherings of small groups, outside of a Sunday service context, where members of Christ Church can connect with God, connect with other church members and connect with their wider communities.
Report:

- Five regular Connect Groups were meeting at the beginning of 2021, but one ceased to meet in the summer. A number of people joined groups over the year, but some others also left largely due to changing family commitments or 'Zoom fatigue' (it was necessary for much of the year to meet online on Zoom).
- In addition to the regular Connect Groups, we ran two short courses: 'The Unanswered Prayer Course' in the Spring Term and 'The Wellbeing Journey' in the Summer Term. Both courses were well-attended and fruitful.
- In 2021, we also launched 'Reconnect Groups': one-off social gatherings to help the church community re-connect after being forced apart by Covid. Individual congregation members offered to host and organise events and lots of people got on board. Reconnect events included: walks; tea and cake; a trip the zoo; pub trips; a Bonfire Night party; model painting workshops; a camping trip and many more. They proved a really valuable way to help people to reconnect and make new friends and will continue into 2022.
- We were also blessed to receive a donation as a 'thank you' to those who contributed so much to keep the church going during the trials of 2020. This donation was distributed amongst the various ministry teams who were consequently able to enjoy a variety of social activities together.

Drop-in
Coordinator: Sue Ibrahim
Purpose: To open up our church space to provide a warm and welcoming environment on a Sunday afternoon for any homeless and/or vulnerable people.
Report:

- 2021 was a year of trial and error and as in 2020, we continued to serve guests a Packed Lunch Grab & Go service while observing strict distancing measures. Food was served from behind a Perspex screen for most of the year, but as restrictions eased, we resumed normal service, inviting guests into the church building once more. This provided a warm and safe place to eat, along with fellowship and good conversation.
- The Drop In WhatsApp group proved to be a great communication tool for liaising with volunteers and ensuring that there were enough people to greet and serve the guests each week.
- As normal service continues, our guests will remain our priority and now that we are able, we plan to treat them to social events such as our famous Drop In BBQs and breakfasts.
- Drop In continues to be the only Sunday service provider for the homeless and vulnerable in our local community and in the whole of Chester, serving hot and cold food. Donations from a local supermarket are gratefully received and distributed each week.

- Drop In volunteers work extremely hard to ensure all guests are greeted and served with kindness, offering advice when asked and a listening ear where needed.



Host Team
Coordinator: Amy Walker
Purpose: To provide a warm welcome to Christ Church, predominantly in our 10.30am service, paying particular attention to newcomers.
Report:
The Host Team continued to welcome people to the 10.30am service at Christ Church throughout 2021 (or, at least, the times when the church was open!). The role of the Host Team developed throughout the year, to take into account the changing requirements related to Covid (e.g. needing to take contact details for those in attendance; asking people to wear a face covering; showing people to seats etc.) and we are really grateful to the Host Team volunteers for being so flexible and adapting to accommodate the necessary changes.

Maintenance
Coordinators: Andrew Wigglesworth, James Cox, Chris Giddings, Rob Peto
Purpose: To maintain the fabric of our buildings.
Report:

- It's been lovely to be back in Christ Church more in the last year and the maintenance requirements of the church have gone back more to normal. We have had two maintenance days (fuelled by numerous bacon butties) to keep the grounds around the church tidy and the gutters clear, as well as a bit of work in the church to keep everything going.
- The excellent deputy wardens have been working hard in between maintenance days, answering the calls from any tired parts of the church buildings that needed tending to.
- We had our Quinquennial inspection at the end of 2021 by Purcell architects which didn't highlight any immediate major issues with the church building, which was great news. Some more minor problems were noted, and we are pleased that we have begun to resolve those. One minor repair required urgent attention, and this was resolved within a few days of it being brought to our attention.

- We are also both sad and excited for deputy warden James Cox who has got a job as a gardener recently in Cumbria. He is still around the church but in a much reduced capacity and we already miss his hard work and humour!





Projection and Sound Systems
Coordinator: Dan Price
Purpose: To provide effective visual and sound projection in our services.
Report:

- This year has so far been far less eventful, thankfully! Consequently, this report will be much shorter than the last one! As the country largely recovers from the pandemic, church life has been returning to a more familiar set up. For the PC team we have welcomed two new members; Claire Harris and Rachel Whitehead who have been great assets. As always new members are welcome to join and there is comprehensive training until people feel confident.
- Following on from the previous report, church services returned to the building itself from the Mission house. The internet issues were addressed using a wired connection and this seems to be far more stable. This has enabled the livestream team to continue offering online services.
- There has been little change in terms of the PC except for updating the welcome loop with safety information regarding the relaxion of certain Covid rules and new sermon series. We continue to use Easyworship to show the Bible reading for both services which has been appreciated.
- We were very grateful for the generous donation that allowed our team to enjoy a social time together. In the end we voted for Haute Dolci at Cheshire Oaks for posh desserts which, speaking as a pudding person, was a great experience!

Marriage Preparation Course
Coordinators: Rob and Wendy Peto
Purpose: To enable couples to explore and appreciate their different viewpoints and family dynamics. Also to equip them to resolve differences as they enter married life together.
Report:

- In spite of lockdowns, three weddings took place at Christ Church in 2021- Martin and Deborah Woodhall in June; Jack and Alice Croft in August and Jamie and Emily Woods in September.

- As with 2020, we were sadly unable to host a pre marriage course at Christ Church. However, we continued to recommend the online course offered by Holy Trinity Brompton.
- Matty & Antonia Chadder were finally able to have their 'big celebration' renewing their vows, one year on, with friends and family, on a glorious sunny day at a local hotel last July.





Renewed Space 3



Purpose: To renew the physical space of our church building, in line with our vision statement.
Report:
As a result of the pandemic and the vacancy, the Renewed Space project has been put on hold. A key factor in this is that a number of key grant bodies have stopped accepting applications during the pandemic. We are, however, looking forward to this project continuing when it is able to do so.

Safeguarding

Coordinator Pauline Jones
Purpose: To ensure measures are in place at Christ Church to protect everyone, but particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to promote their health and wellbeing.
Report:
At Christ Church we seek to promote a safe environment, culture and activities in order to include a wide range of children, young people and adults. Everyone at Christ Church shares this responsibility, but not everyone is responsible for everything! We believe safeguarding is about how we treat each other and the quality of our relationships but we also seek to fulfil our responsibilities as laid down by the Church of England and Chester Diocese Safeguarding team. We believe and trust that safeguarding supports ministry and outreach rather than preventing or constraining it.

- I can confirm that Christ Church Chester PCC has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance'. As Parish Safeguarding Officer, I have regularly reported on safeguarding in the parish and safeguarding has been a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting. The following is Christ Church PCC's statement, which reports on progress as required:-

- Brigid Murphy and Tim Longman stood down from the safeguarding team this year. We are very grateful for their significant contribution to safe practice at Christ Church.
- 40 people, the vast majority of all those engaged in regulated activity, completed the appropriate level of safeguarding training offered by Chester Diocese, including two at leadership level.
- Three people involved in regulated activity were checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) through the Thirty-one Eight on-line system. Another was checked through the DBS Up-date Service.
- We are very grateful to the Chester Diocesan safeguarding team who provided advice and guidance on a number of safeguarding incidents / concerns and a number of general enquiries. These were duly recorded.
- I attended the Children and Young Peoples Ministry Leads meetings (and a meeting of Crypt leaders) to pick up on any issues and to encourage leaders and helpers to apply their training to Christ Church and to learn from one another.
- A regular safeguarding meeting involving Rev Anna Leyden, Wendy Peto (Churchwarden) and myself was initiated to check progress against the action plan and to discuss any concerns and how we are managing any incidents.

Sidespeople
Coordinator: Wendy Peto, Brigid Murphy
Purpose: To help establish the right atmosphere in church through effective administration immediately before and after the services.
Report:

- It has been a year of gradually getting back to some form of normality within church, and everyone has been very patient with the constantly changing rules. We would like to give special thanks to the teams of sidespeople who always remain cheerful, willing and reliable. It makes the coordinator's job much easier.
- Thanks to a generous gift from the church, the teams were treated to a much-deserved thank you outing. The 9.00am team enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea and chat at the Bluebell in Great Barrow, and the 10:30am team had a lovely boat trip along the river - in spite of the rain, they managed to have a picnic and enjoy the views and the company.

Student Work
Coordinator: Hannah Derbyshire (until Sept 2021) James Thompson (from Sept 2022)
Purpose: To invest in the next generation of Christians through welcoming, pastoring, equipping, and sending out our university students.
Report:

- The Student Ministry remains an integral part of the church's vision and mission and we continue to be committed to the present and future students of Christ Church.
- Like lots of churches, we have felt the impact of a decline in student numbers especially since March 2020.
- This has been felt more widely and poignantly since the start of lockdown. The news of the pandemic meant student numbers were smaller as many returned home and to their home churches. Student numbers have remained

low, as in 2020, and, as a result, there were fewer engaging with Christ Church.

- However, the success of the "God on Mute" and "Wellbeing" courses in Spring 2021 saw the engagement of students past and present. Many reported the encouragement these courses provided, particularly as a place to speak vulnerably about faith and personal issues, plus the impact of COVID on these things.
- The aim of the Student Ministry in 2022 is to take a personal approach with students in the church, while limited, it remains important to support and encourage our students in their university journey.

Visiting Ministry

Coordinator: Veronica Johnston

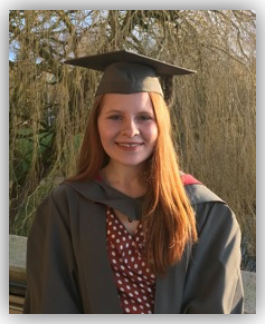
Purpose**:** To enfold within the family of Christ Church the sick and housebound, through regular visits and the opportunity to share Holy Communion.

Report:

- Covid continued to impact on this ministry until late in the Spring and beyond. Home visits which ended in March 2020 were tentatively and briefly resumed during the Summer 2021, although Care Homes doors remained closed for most of the time. As far as possible, visits were replaced by occasional telephone chats, supplemented again for those unable to access online worship, by letters and printed prayer booklets reflecting our current sermon themes.
- Outside these groups there were others in our congregations who experienced loneliness. Everyone missed personal contact and, though Zoom meetings worked well to bring people together, the telephone became a lifeline for many.
- It was with sadness that in 2021 we said farewell to much loved members of the Christ Church family: 94-year-old Eva Smith, a staunch advocate of the homeless community through our Drop-In, and David Rose, affectionately known to many of us as Pops. We were all shocked and saddened by the death of Mark Townend, husband of Sarah and daddy of Oliver; Mark had blessed our online services so generously with the gift of his time and his technical expertise.

Voluntary Internship Program

Purpose: To develop young people in leadership in the context of church ministry.



Report: The wonderful Hannah Derbyshire finished her year as Christ Church's intern in the summer of 2021. We are really grateful to her for all she has contributed to Christ Church during this time, especially leading our work with students.

There were two expressions of interest but no applications for the Internship Programme which was due to begin in September 2021. It is believed this was due to the combination of only a very small student community remaining at Christ Church and the effects of Covid. The Internship Programme was advertised in church but given the uncertainty around the shape of 2021/2022 due to Covid and also the vacancy it was decided not to have a big "push" to recruit interns. This decision will be reviewed in 2022.

Christ Church

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 26 to 35.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

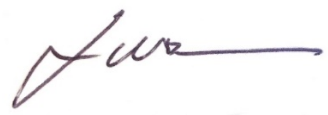
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

   have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



…….

Dated 13th May 2022

L M Howson MAAT
Independent Examiner

Finansure Limited, 2 Sheppard Street, Brymbo, Wrexham, LL11 5FF

Financial Review of the year

The finance team consists of six members of the congregation, managing donations, book-keeping, payroll, general banking and treasury tasks. The team aims to provide transparency of figures for both PCC and the congregation, an efficient and simple giving programme and accurate budgeting information to the PCC to enable them to make decisions.

Related Party Transactions

Glyn Jones (Evangelist) and David Chirgwin (PCC member) are directors/trustees of The Light Project, a Christian charity based in Chester. Rosie Jones (PCC member) is a part-time employee of The Light Project. During the year, the PCC made payments to The Light Project totalling £200. All relevant payments are discussed and authorised without input from the related parties concerned.

New Restricted Funds

Two new restricted one-off donations were received in 2021 which were assigned to restricted funds:

- Shaw Leave Fund, to thank Rev'd Graham Shaw for his time as Vicar. The fund was split between the cost of a 'leaving party' and a donation to the family to help with moving and settling into a new home.
- Thank You Fund, to thank the staff and various ministry teams that supported the running of the church during Covid-19 through small social / team building activities for the respective teams.

The Shaw Leave Fund was spent and the remainder of the Thank You Fund was transferred to the General Fund, as agreed with the donor. The Vicar Sabbatical Fund, created in 2020, was rolled over (due to several Covid-related postponements) and used in November 2021 with £91.70 remaining that has similarly been transferred to the General Fund for 2022, as agreed with the donor.

Full details are shown in Note 14 in "Notes to the Accounts".

Designated Funds

No new designated funds were created in 2021.

Figures excluding New Restricted Funds

During 2021, income was generated from giving, church fees and rental of rooms. Net giving from the congregation during the year was £84,148, a 3.9% decrease on 2020 (£87,525) but comparable to 2019 figures (£84,415).

The Gift Aid reclaimable on giving in 2021 was £16,008 (£16,795 in 2020), which includes the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme, and some Gift Aid claimed retrospectively from previous years.

Grants were received from the following bodies in 2021 (see Note 1 in 'Notes to the Accounts') and are hereby gratefully acknowledged:

- Dr Robert Oldfield Charity

- Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

Expenditure was £107,724 (£122,911 in 2020 which included £5,390 from the StoryHouse fund). The largest item of expense was the Parish Share, which was £61,643 (£61,184 in 2020).

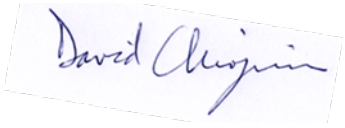
Other than running costs, the further main areas of expenditure were on employee and intern costs as well as insurance and maintenance for our buildings.

Outward Giving

In 2021, £5,050 (£5,000 in 2020) was set aside for Outward Giving, of which £3,418 was able to be donated with several previous recipient charities (e.g., Newton Gardener, Chester Street Pastors etc.) not operating in 2021 and therefore not accepting / requesting donations. Requested grants to individuals (£1,068) was also lower than in 2020 (£1,591).

This Outward Giving is intended to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries, but in line with our values and goals. This money has supported a number of projects and individuals during the year.

The budget for 2022 has been set by the PCC and agreed at the May 2022 meeting.



David Chirgwin (Vice Chair) 10th May 2022

Accounting Policies

Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and SORP (effective January 2019).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities, to which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) Income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object. The funds may be expended on the specific object for which they are given. Any balances remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance of that fund.

Designated funds represent income which has been set aside for use for a specific purpose but are not legally restricted to be used for that purpose. Amounts identified as designated funds which are held in the general current account at the year-end were:

Vicarage Fund	£3,061
Renewed Space 3 Seed Funding (for Capital Building Projects)	£39,127

Unrestricted funds are general funds that can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming Reserves

Planned giving collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised on an accruals basis at the end of the financial year and the appropriate amount is subsequently reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs.

Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,500 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

No cost information is available for the Vicar's house as it is deemed the property of the diocese.

All investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2021.

Reserves Policy

The PCC have agreed on a reserves policy that is reviewed annually.
The reserves policy at the end of 2021 was set as follows:

- It is the policy of the church to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months' basic running costs which includes any salaries and contractual payments to staff.
- It is also our policy to hold £5000 in reserves as a contingency against unexpected building-related expenses for the Mission House and the church building.

Christ Church

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ending 31st December 2021

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

Statement of Financial Activities For the year ending 31st December 2021	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	1	102,411	3,698	106,109	108,728
Investment income	2	784	0	784	921
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	7,559	0	7,559	6,352
Other incoming resources	4	316	0	316	222
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		111,070	3,698	114,768	116,223
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share	5	(61,643)	0	(61,643)	(61,184)
Church Activities	6	(35,819)	(6,844)	(42,663)	(56,636)
Grants payable	7	(3,418)	0	(3,418)	(5,091)
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		(100,880)	(6,844)	(107,724)	(122,911)
Transfers between funds		(2,096)	2,096	0	0
NET INCOME/OUTGOINGS BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS / (LOSSES)		**8,094**	**(1,050)**	**7,044**	**(6,688)**
Gains on Investment Assets		3,379	0	3,379	1,492
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		11,473	(1,050)	10,423	(5,196)
BALANCES B/FWD 1st JANUARY	12	93,936	7,324	101,260	106,456
BALANCES C/FWD 31st DECEMBER		105,409	6,274	111,683	101,260

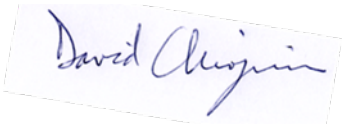
Christ Church

Balance sheet at 31st December 2021

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester, Christ Church

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2021	Note	General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	9	27,367	0	27,367	23,305
		27,367	0	27,367	23,305
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	19,692	663	20,355	21,228
Cash at bank and in hand		60,321	5,611	65,932	60,125
		80,013	6,274	86,287	81,353
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - Amounts falling due in one year	11	(1,971)	0	(1,971)	(3,398)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		78,042	6,274	84,316	77,955
NET ASSETS		105,409	6,274	111,683	101,260
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted					
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	13	37,107		37,107	29,683
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	13	27,367		27,367	23,305
Designated COVID-19 Fund	13	(1,253)		(1,253)	(830)
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	13	39,127		39,127	39,127
Designated Vicarage Fund	13	3,061		3,061	2,651
Restricted					
Congo Fund	14		50	50	0
Generosity Fund	14		1,159	1,159	1,159
Music and Worship Fund	14		553	553	553
Renovation Fund	14		4,512	4,512	5,112
Team Thanks Fund	14		0	0	0
Vicar Sabbatical Fund	14		0	0	500
		105,409	6,274	111,683	101,260

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 10th May 2022

and signed on behalf by:  David Chirgwin (Vice Chair)

Notes for the Financial Statements for the Year ending 31st December 2021

NOTE 1 - VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
Voluntary Income				
Individual Giving	81,113	3,035	84,148	88,925
Tax Recoverable	15,346	663	16,009	17,145
Legacies	5,000	0	5,000	0
Other Sundry Donations	0	0	0	32
Grants				
Robert Oldfield Charity - Children's work	109	0	109	109
Chester DBF - COVID support	0	0	0	2,000
HMRC JRS grants	0	0	0	241
Congo link	(300)	0	(300)	276
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	1,143	0	1,143	0
	102,411	3,698	106,109	108,728

NOTE 2 - INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
Bank interest receivable	101	0	101	280
Dividends from CCLA Investment Share Fund	683	0	683	641
	784	0	784	921

NOTE 3 - INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
Church Fees	2,315	0	2,315	3,658
Church Hire	173	0	173	45
Mission House Room Hire	5,071	0	5,071	2,649
	7,559	0	7,559	6,352

NOTE 4 - OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
Trading Income	306	0	306	93
Miscellaneous	10	0	10	129
	316	0	316	222

NOTE 5 - Parish Share Paid	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
Parish Share	61,643	0	61,643	61,184
	61,643	0	61,643	61,184

NOTE 6 - CHURCH ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
Church				
- Utilities	2,999		2,999	3,157
- Repairs & Maintenance	820		820	7,064
- Building improvement		600	600	0
- Insurance (also covers MH)	4,097		4,097	4,037
- Altar & Service Resources	438		438	289
- Music including organ costs	869		869	1,319
- Clergy Expenses	302		302	153
- Sunday Refreshments	332		332	75
- Children & Youth Work	526		526	216
- Training and conferences		408	408	892
- Internship Programme		2,009	2,009	7,229
- Fees Payable	1,216		1,216	1,695
- Ops Coordinator Wages			0	5,298
- Miscellaneous Costs (see note 8)	1,837	3,291	5,128	3,955
Administration				
- Administration Wages (general)	8,627		8,627	8,051
- Administration Wages (Congo Link)			0	587
- Software / Web	1,368		1,368	1,004
- Bank charges	493		493	401
- Administration Sundries	170		170	271
- Telephone & Internet	1,064		1,064	1,267
- Independent Examiner's Fee (current year)	725		725	450
- Independent Examiner's Fee (prior year)	250		250	0
Vicarage				
- Council Tax	2,216		2,216	2,702
- Utilities	776		776	712
- Maintenance			0	12
Curate				
- Housing Allowance	4,747		4,747	2,322
Mission House				
- Utilities	692		692	691
- Repairs & Maintenance			0	853
- Building improvement			0	0
- Cleaning Wages	1,145		1,145	1,243
Community Work				
- Drop-In expenses	110	424	534	384
- Other Community Work expenses		106	106	7
Parochial Work				
- Student work expenses		6	6	65
Trading				
- Trading Costs			0	235
Total Church Activities	35,819	6,844	42,663	56,636

NOTE 7 - GRANTS PAYABLE

Christ Church has an Outward Giving policy to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries by donating to projects in line with our values and goals. This includes the "Generosity Fund" which helps individuals with a specific need.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
Grants to other charities:	£	£	£	£
Donations to the Congo	1,250		1,250	1,250
West Cheshire Food Bank	400		400	200
Friends of the Earth	200		200	0
Spider Project CIC Chester	200		200	0
The Light Project	200		200	200
Chester University CU	100		100	0
St Peter's Plemstall			0	1,250
Chester Street Pastors			0	200
Night Church			0	200
Newtown Gardener			0	200
Grants to individuals:				
Other small confidential donations made	1,068		1,068	1,591
	3,418	0	3,418	5,091

NOTE 8 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
	£	£	£	£
Books and Resources	151		151	55
COVID-related (including streaming)	422		422	2,007
Publicity	349		349	342
Special Events (e.g. Alpha, Banquet)	735	3,291	4,026	105
Subscriptions (e.g. Link Up, Churches Together, Deanery Synod)	180		180	180
Cleaning supplies, gifts and sundries			0	538
Equipment (e.g. for Office, Kitchen)			0	89
Student Weekend Away			0	430
Christmas Expenses (incl. Lights Switch-On event)			0	209
	1,837	3,291	5,128	3,955

NOTE 9 - INVESTMENTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Unrestricted		
CCLA Investment Share Fund	27,367	23,305
	27,367	23,305

NOTE 10 - DEBTORS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Unrestricted		
Gift Aid receivable	15,346	16,790
Prepayment - Insurance	3,542	3,388
Prepayment - Subscriptions & Licences	703	146
Prepayment - Roof Alarm	101	99
	19,692	20,423
Restricted		
Gift Aid receivable Team Building/Thank You Fund	300	0
Gift Aid receivable Shaws Leaving Fund	363	0
Gift Aid receivable Community Work Fund	0	5
Gift Aid receivable Generosity Fund	0	250
Gift Aid receivable Vicar Sabbatical Fund	0	100
Prepayment - Intern training	0	450
	663	805
	20,355	21,228

NOTE 11 - CREDITORS

	2021	2020
Unrestricted	£	£
Gas/Electricity/Water Bills	1,146	426
Independent Examiner fee	725	450
Other accruals	100	200
Curate Housing accrual	0	2,322
	1,971	3,398

NOTE 12 - OPENING BALANCES ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 1/1/2021 £
Unrestricted				
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	29,684			29,684
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	23,305			23,305
Designated COVID-19 fund	(830)			(830)
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	39,127			39,127
Designated Vicarage Fund	2,650			2,650
Restricted				
Generosity Fund		1,159		1,159
Vicar Sabbatical Fund		500		500
Music and Worship Fund		553		553
Renovation Fund		5,112		5,112
	93,936	7,324	0	101,260

NOTE 13 - MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2021	2020
	£	£
General Fund Bank Accounts etc.		
Balance brought Forward	29,684	32,996
Money paid in during the year (incl. interest)	110,387	110,057
Money taken out during the year	(100,457)	(108,470)
Transfers (to)/from other funds	(2,436)	(4,899)
Balance at 31st December	37,178	29,684
General Fund CCLA Investment Shares		
Balance at 1st January	23,305	21,172
Increase/(decrease) in value of total Shares	4,062	2,133
Balance at 31st December	27,367	23,305
Designated COVID-19 Fund		
Balance at 1st January	(830)	0
Money paid in during the year	0	0
Money taken out during the year	(423)	(830)
Transfers (to)/from other funds	0	0
Balance at 31st December	(1,253)	(830)
Designated RS3 Seed Fund		
Balance at 1st January	39,127	38,999
Money paid in during the year	0	0
Money taken out during the year	0	0
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	0	128
Balance at 31st December	39,127	39,127
Designated Vicarage Fund (created 2019)		
Balance at 1st January (as created)	2,650	2,255
Money paid in during the year	0	0
Money taken out during the year	0	(12)
Transfers from general funds	411	407
Balance at 31st December	3,061	2,650
Total Unrestricted Funds	105,480	93,936

NOTE 14 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Renovation Fund	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1st January	5,112	5,090
Voluntary income received	0	0
Gift Aid received	0	0
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	0	22
Expenditure		
- Repairs and Renovation etc.	(600)	0
Balance at 31st December	4,512	5,112
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	4,512	5,112

Community Work Fund	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	0	20
Grants received	0	0
Expenditure		
- Expenses for Drop-In food etc.	(424)	(384)
- Expenses for Community Lunches	(106)	(7)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	530	366
Balance at 31st December	0	(5)
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	5
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Student Work Fund	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	0	0
Expenditure		
- Expenses (e.g. Student BBQ, weekend away)	(6)	(495)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	6	495
Balance at 31st December	0	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Music and Worship Fund	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1st January	553	553
Voluntary income received	0	0
Less: Expenditure	0	0
Balance at 31st December	553	553
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	553	553

NOTE 14 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS (contd.)

Internship Programme Fund	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	0	3,600
Less: Expenditure	(2,009)	(7,229)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	2,009	3,629
Balance at 31st December	0	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Generosity Fund	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1st January	1,159	0
Voluntary income received	0	1,000
Less : Outward Giving	0	(91)
Balance at 31st December	1,159	909
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	250
Balance at 31st December	1,159	1,159

Congo Fund	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	50	0
Less : Outward Giving	0	0
Balance at 31st December	50	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	50	0

Vicar Sabbatical Fund	2021 £	2020 £
Balance at 1st January	500	0
Voluntary income received	0	400
Less: Expenditure	(408)	0
Transfer to general funds	(92)	0
Balance at 31st December	0	400
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	100
Balance at 31st December	0	500

NOTE 14 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS (contd.)

Shaw Leave Fund	**2021** **£**	**2020** **£**
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	1,785	0
Less: Expenditure	(2,219)	0
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	71	0
Balance at 31st December	(363)	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	363	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Team Thanks Fund	**2021** **£**	**2020** **£**
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	1,200	0
Less : Outward Giving	(1,072)	0
Less : Transfer to General Fund	(428)	0
Balance at 31st December	(300)	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	300	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Total Restricted Funds	6,274	7,324

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHESTER, CHRIST CHURC

England & Wales - Charity number 1133808

Accounts

CHRIST CHURCH 2020

Parish Report and Financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020



The Parochial Church Council
Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Chester

Christ Church

Registered charity no. 1133808

Christ Church

Contents

	Pages
Administrative Information	3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of PCC's Responsibilities	5
Annual Report	6
Financial Review of the Year	22
Accounting Policies	24
Statement of Financial Activity	26
Balance Sheet	27
Notes to the Accounts	28

Administrative Information

Vicar	Rev'd Graham Shaw
Associate Vicar Evangelist Curate	Rev'd Ralph Kemp Rev'd Glyn Jones Rev'd Anna Leyden
Vice Chair of the PCC	Mr David Chirgwin
Church Wardens	Mrs Wendy Peto Mr Andrew Wigglesworth
Deputy Church Wardens	Mr James Cox Mr Chris Giddings Mr Rob Peto
Parish Reader	Mrs Veronica Johnston
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Peter Heenan Mr Simon Schumann-Davies
Parish Assistant	Mrs Janet Thorp
Elected PCC Members	Mr James Cox Mr David Chirgwin Mr Thomas Cobb Dr Hannah Giddings Mrs Pauline Jones Mrs Rosie Jones Mr Timothy Longman Mr Eli Mitchell Mr Ed Newman Mrs Helen Parker Mr Will Steel Mrs Janet Thorp
Electoral Roll Officer Treasurer Secretary Parish Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Janet Thorp Mr David Chirgwin Mrs Wendy Peto Mrs Pauline Jones
Principal Address	Christ Church Mission House, Church Street, Newtown, Chester, CH1 3JD

Christ Church

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 26 to 34.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

   have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



…….

Dated 9th June 2021

L M Howson MAAT
Independent Examiner

Finansure Limited, 2 Sheppard Street, Brymbo, Wrexham, LL11 5FF

Statement of Parochial Church Council's Responsibilities

We are required under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements we are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue.

We are also responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records;
- safeguarding the PCC's assets;
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Public Benefit
The PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of religion for the Public Benefit" and have had regard to it in their administration of the church.
The PCC believes that by promoting the Christian faith it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual development, both for existing church members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers
- Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

On behalf of the PCC



……Rev'd Graham Shaw (Vicar)

…18th May 2021……

Christ Church

Annual Report

Introduction

2020 was the year no one could have predicted. The global pandemic and responses to it, including the national lockdowns, had a significant impact on the activities of the church during the year. All of what is included in these accounts is written in the light of the pandemic.

It is not possible to record here all that has happened at Christ Church over the year, and especially the herculean effort that many have put in to respond to the pandemic. We are immensely grateful to all those have worked so hard to help us quickly orientate all aspects of our church life to enable as many people as possible to continue to engage with the church community. Particular thanks for this go to Alec Spencer, who was employed as our 'Operations Coordinator' for the first half of the year, and also to the team who worked hard behind the scenes to enable us to stream our worship services.

Background of the PCC

Christ Church Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent and other clergy in promoting the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities of our church building and Mission House.

Membership of PCC

Membership of the PCC is ex-officio, co-opted or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as members:

Vicar	Rev'd Graham Shaw
Associate Vicar	Rev'd Ralph Kemp
Evangelist	Rev'd Glyn Jones
Curate	Rev'd Anna Leyden (From 2nd July 2020)
Vice Chair of the PCC	Mr David Chirgwin
Church Wardens	Mrs Wendy Peto Mr Andrew Wigglesworth
Parish Reader Representative	Mrs Veronica Johnston
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Peter Heenan Mr Simon Schumann-Davies (from 18th Oct 2020) Dr Raymond Thorp (until 18th Oct 2020)
Elected PCC Members	Mr James Cox Mr David Chirgwin Mr Thomas Cobb (from 18th Oct 2020) Dr Hannah Giddings Mrs Anna Hockley (until 18th Oct 2020) Mrs Rosie Jones Mrs Jo Longman (until 18th Oct 2020)

	Mr Timothy Longman (from 18th Oct 2020) Mr Eli Mitchell (from 18th Oct 2020) Mrs Brigid Murphy (until 23rd April 2020) Mrs Helen Parker Mr Will Steel Mrs Janet Thorp Dr Raymond Thorp (from 18th Oct 2020) Miss Amy Walker
Co-opted PCC Member	Mrs Pauline Jones (From 23rd April 2020)
Secretary	Mrs Wendy Peto
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Janet Thorp
Treasurer	Mr David Chirgwin
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Brigid Murphy (until 23rd April 2020) Mrs Pauline Jones (From 23rd April 2020)

Standing Committee

This has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings (subject to directions given by the council) and consists of Vicar/Chairman, Associate Vicar, Wardens and Treasurer. Our standing committee has met, when necessary, a week before monthly PCC meetings this year.

Church Attendance

With a high proportion of our congregation aged 18-30, many of whom are in transitional seasons of life, our attendance figures continue to fluctuate. Each year we say farewell to a large number of students, as well as others moving on to new jobs elsewhere, and they are often (but not always) replaced by new students and others moving to the area. We continue to see ourselves as resourcing the wider kingdom of God by blessing, and then sending out members of our congregation.

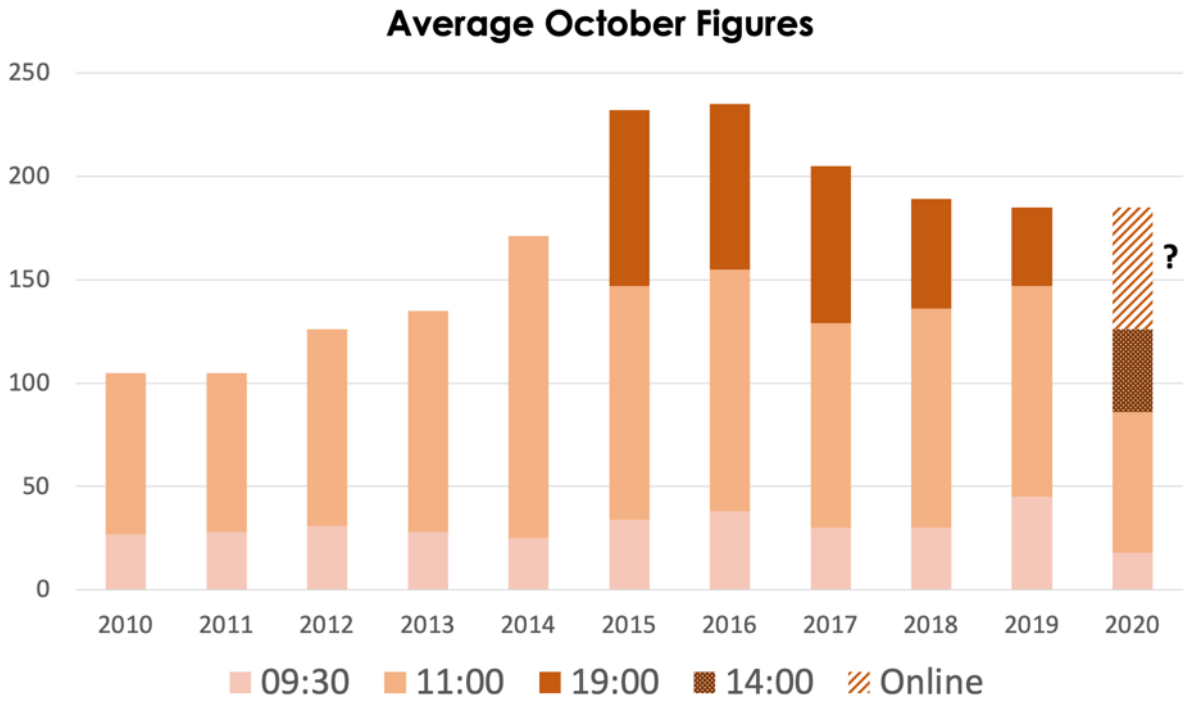
There is also a large level of uncertainty around the attendance figures for 2020. We believe that a lot of congregation were able to access our streamed services online, but it is almost impossible to know exact numbers. Hence, the below graph is an estimate for 2020, but with a high degree of uncertainty!

Average October	2020		2019		2018	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
9am / 9.30am	1	17	4	42	1	29
10:30am / 11am	11*	57*	21	82	16	90
2pm	20	20	-	-	-	-
7pm	-	-	0	38	0	53
Total Attendance	**32**	**94**	**25**	**172**	**17**	**172**

Special Services	2020		2019		2018	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
Easter	(online)	(online)	20	126	(no data)	(no data)
Carols	40**	120**	17	143	9	131
Christingle	21	43	33	80	23	51
Midnight	1	28	2	37	0	39
Christmas Day	17*	47*	20	64	16	73

* These services were both streamed online and held in person. The figures here record only the numbers of those attending in person.

** Due to national lockdown restrictions, our carol service in 2020 was held on the grass outside the church building.



Church Membership

Membership of the electoral roll stood at 116 in October 2020 (of which 90% live outside the parish). The PCC met every month during 2020 except for April, August and December. Most of these meetings were held 'virtually' over Zoom.

Overview of the year

As said above, it is not possible to record here all that has happened at Christ Church over the year. In the rest of this report you will read some highlights from the wide variety of ministries we are involved with. Each of them aims to see our vision fulfilled: 'Seeing lives restored through Jesus, in a renewed space, as we have fun together'.

However, highlights include:

- Joshua Day
  In September 2019 a team from Christ Church began an 18-month long course (provided by Chester Diocese) called 'Lead Academy' which is helping us as a church think through how to better live out our vision. One of the things to grow out of this was a 'Joshua Day', held in February 2020, before the pandemic. This was a gathering together of about 30 of those in leadership roles at Christ Church to look together at some of the Lead Academy material.



- Ordination of Anna Leyden
  In July 2020 we were immensely blessed to have Anna Leyden join the team at Christ Church for her curacy. Due to the pandemic, her ordination was postponed to the autumn. Anna was ordained at Chester Cathedral on Saturday 24th October, and it was a great joy to be able to celebrate with her the following day at Christ Church where we watched a recording of the service from the previous day.



- Carol Service
  In December regulations changed so that, while we could not sing together indoors, we were allowed to sing together outdoors. Hence, to enable us to sing together we held a 'socially distanced carol service' on the grass outside the church building. A large proportion of those present were members of the community who did not usually come to Christ Church. We were privileged to be joined by the new Bishop of Chester, Bishop Mark Tanner, who spoke at the service. The service was made all the more special because, despite raining for most of the day, the rain stopped for the service itself!



Worship Services

Coordinator: Graham Shaw

During the first 2 months of 2020, the church services at Christ Church were held 'as normal', with both a 9:30am and 11:00am service taking place each Sunday. From March onwards the pattern of our Sunday worship changed a number of times as we responded to the various different national lockdowns, as well as varying localised restrictions:

- For most of March to June we 'streamed' one online live service each Sunday at 10:30am. This was streamed from people's homes.
- In July these online services were complemented by 3 Sunday 9am communion services held in the building. Thanks to Ralph Kemp for leading and enabling these quietly joyful services to happen. This facilitated us being able to publish the Banns of marriage for couples getting married in September and October. In August we streamed online pre-recorded Sunday services.
- In September, following national government and Church of England guidance, the church was again open for public worship. We held a 9am and 10:30am service each Sunday, with the later service continuing to be streamed online from within the church building. This pattern continued for the rest of the year, with the exception of November. During November's 2nd national lockdown the building was again closed for public worship. During this time we provided a live streamed service, this time from the church building rather than from people's homes.

9 / 9:30am Musical Worship

Coordinator: Tonya Chirgwin

Purpose: To lead people in worship through music, predominantly at our 9.00am congregation.

Report:

- 'Flexibility', 'adaptability' and 'learning curve' are the words that best sum up the team's experience of 2020.
- During the course of the year we have, singly and together, faced the challenges of learning to play to camera (as many takes as you like, but it needs to be right when you've finished!); changing the proportion of hymns to non-vocal music (4 hymns a fortnight to 1 hymn a month, but a total of 15-20 minutes of other music, once a month); editing music videos and overlaying words on them (easy when you know how); accompanying absent congregations (just plain WEIRD); accompanying solo singers and duetting children (not forgetting social distancing); leading outdoor congregational carols from inside the church (what do you mean, you can't actually hear the organ out there?) and outdoor carols outside the church (especial thanks to Ruth Southall!), being ready to play at 0900 rather than 0930 (ouch!) - and, last but (probably) not least, producing a Covid risk assessment for the church piano, the organ and all who come anywhere near them (not part of the regular syllabus for music exams)...



- With every change to the series of lockdowns the need for music has changed, which has kept us on our toes (and our heels, and our fingertips), and none of the major church festivals have had the same

requirements as the year before. However, if we have succeeded in helping just one person move a little closer to God, or find comfort (or even joy) amidst all the bewilderment of a year like no other, the effort will have been more than worth it. And even if not, maybe some of the out-takes will find their way onto 'You've been Framed'...

10.30 / 11am Worship Ministry
Coordinator: Rich Jones
Purpose: To lead people in worship through music, predominantly at our 2nd morning service.
Report:

- "Well, it's fair to say 2020 has been a year where the worship leading team have had to learn some new skills!! Worship has been led in so many different ways! Whether that be pre-recording songs on video or broadcasting live via Facebook; including music synced to videos of wildlife and even two musicians overlaid on to one video - we have learnt who can do tech! This is without mentioning the weirdest format we've experienced, which is leading a congregation who aren't allowed to sing! This has not been without its challenges!
- The year has brought many draws on the time of the worship leading team, not least Antonia who has been working flat out as a nurse helping keep the country going, and Joash who has been in training to be a police special constable!
- Your prayers for the team and that God would be providing new team members in the coming year would be valued. The team has mourned playing with multiple band members and hearing the church full of many voices praising God together; however, we trust that in God's timing this privilege will be returned to us and that when it is it will be all the more special.
- As a team we pray that God will be starting something new and fresh as we move forward from what has felt like a bit of an emergency stop during this season. All that remains to be said is a big thank you to Al, Catrin, Alec, Joash, Tash, Antonia, Emily, Ruth and all the others who with God's help have made everything possible in the last year!"

Children's' Ministry Overview
Coordinator: Hannah Giddings
Purpose: To facilitate an environment where children can grow in their relationship with God, predominately through Sunday morning groups during the 10.30am service.
Report:

- Discipleship, Evangelism, Fellowship, Worship and Serving others.
  These are the five areas we have been trying to develop as a Children's Ministry team over the past few years.
  In a time before lockdowns and restrictions, March 2020 saw us launch our first ever Messy Church event which was a great opportunity to invite friends and families from outside church community to come and join us in fun crafts, bible story and worship time followed by a meal together! It was an exciting event and the messy church team was subsequently able to stay connected with these families during the first lockdown by delivering monthly packages filled with stories and craft and activity ideas for families to do and share

together at home. We hope and pray we can develop this ministry further as restrictions ease in 2021.

- It's been lovely to have our curate Anna Leyden involved in children's ministry since July and with her input and support we have started up a monthly family service for church families. We have been looking at 'Children in the Bible' and it has been great to meet socially distanced in church for services in the afternoon and they have continued via Zoom for lockdown 2 (and 3)! It's been a wonderful way to help children and families with younger children stay connected throughout this year and has provided opportunity for some of the youth to serve by doing some of the tech and creating our fun quizzes! It was lovely to finish the year with a Christingle service altogether in church as well.
- Sunday groups have managed to keep going in some form for most of 2020 and we've welcomed several new children and families as well. We've certainly benefitted from technology and imagination this year as a children's ministry team!
- Gems (2-5yr olds) have been getting stories and prayers every week – initially via pre-recorded videos from the leaders, but we switched to Zoom meet ups where we all can worship and dance together too, as well as have a bible story! [Rock Solid (6-10yrs) and Crypt (10yrs+) each have their own reports – please see below!]
- 2020 has been a challenging time for many families with extra pressures from having to do school and work from home, in general it has been difficult for parents to engage with virtual church in a meaningful way, but we are grateful to the leaders and parents involved in children's ministry who have worked so hard to help children, youth and parents remain connected to Christchurch and community throughout this year. God is good and we really should stop being so surprised at how He keeps doing so much more than we can ever ask or imagine! He is faithful!

Rock-Solid

Coordinator: Stacey Sanson

Report:

- What have we been doing?
  When we were meeting in person, we would lay out the room with hoops to maintain social distancing and offered pre-wrapped snacks and hand gel. We started each session by playing children's worship with dancing but not singing. We started learning the books of the Bible mainly to fill the space that used to be filled with play, normally with an adult playing the role of clown while teaching it. This was loved by some of the children, and ignored by others as anything with children generally is. We spent the bulk of the session watching the DVD series 'What's in the Bible' which has been a massive success. Once we went back into lock down, we continued delivering this session via e-mail, sending out about 3 songs via YouTube link, the DVD session for that week and a home video continuing the books of the Bible. The children who are joining in with this are now up to Song of Songs. We have also run an 'Among Us' social and a worship dance party over Zoom which in general appealled to the opposite ends of our group.
- How have the children been? We have managed to have erratic contact with all our regular families, and from what we can see the Rock-Solid

children seem to be well (in the context of their current situation) and happy to be back at school. Those who have participated in the emailed sessions have given good feedback, some have stated that there are parts of the emailed session they do not do because they do not enjoy it, but as each of those conversations has favoured or disliked a different part of the content, I have continued to send it all so people can decide how to use it best. Some families have said they simply do not have the time and energy to engage in both adult worship and children worship on a weekly basis and have favoured engaging in the less regular family services.

- How have the leaders been? Some of my leaders really struggled when we were leading face to face as they were carrying a heavy covid burden in the workplace and covid safe Sundays were harder work. However the online session can only really be delivered by myself so, other than the socials which we try to run with multiple leaders online, my leaders have mostly had a break which they have benefitted from, and the workload has been well within my capability as I deliver the session to my own children as I plan it.
- Moving forward? As we move forward, I am going to try to encourage some of my more reliable helpers to consider moving into a leader role as we currently have 3 leaders, which is manageable as we only deliver Rock-Solid 3 times a month now that the family service is running, and our leaders have agreed that a once-a-month rota works best. However, it would be good to have people ready to step up to cover illness or eventual progression of our current leaders into different roles. I have also been updating the paperwork after conversations with Pauline to ensure we are following the best safeguarding practice possible and hoping to organise a good birthday rota so that each child can receive a birthday card to build further the sense of being a loved part of the church.

Crypt Youth Group
Coordinator: Anna Shaw
Report:

- Crypt has had a really good year, despite the pandemic! Meeting space has been an issue when face-to-face was allowed (we overcame this with sitting around outside church on the grass...), but our young people have been mostly happy to move online and some of the more fringe members have become regulars thanks to the digital access. We have held weekly sessions in one form or another throughout where we have played some games (Scattergories, Pictionary and scavenger hunts have been favourites) and then have a short study of the same Bible passage that has been covered in the main Sunday service.
- We have also had fun with some socials: online pizza making and eating (!), a socially distanced picnic and wide game evening when this was permitted in July (remember those heady days...!?), Codenames, Among Us and an escape room. It has been a real joy to meet together and encourage one another this year.

The Family Service

Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Purpose: Originally to provide an 'in-church together' experience for families.

Report:



- October 2020 saw the launch of our new Family Service, once a month on Sundays at 2.00pm. The idea arose due to the growing number of young families at Christ Church and their desire to worship together and keep in touch with one another during the pandemic.
- We met in church twice and on Zoom once in 2020. The Family Service is aimed particularly at primary aged children and their families, with a Bible story, action song, craft, prayers, and an interactive quiz based on the theme for the service (currently, 'Children from the Bible').
- It has been well attended and well received by Christ Church's families and our hope is to see the Family Service grow and develop as Covid restrictions (hopefully!) ease during 2021.



Connect Groups

Coordinator: Anna Leyden

Purpose: To provide regular gatherings of small groups, outside of a Sunday service context, where members of Christ Church can connect with God, connect with other church members and connect with their wider communities.

Report:



- Five Connect Groups continued to operate during 2020, meeting in peoples' homes to begin with but then moving online to Zoom when lockdown restrictions came into force. When it was possible to meet outside, one group even took to meeting around a fire pit!
- As with many aspects of church life, not being able to meet in person felt like a real loss and online engagement has not always been as consistent, but Connect Groups have continued to be a major source of pastoral and prayer support for their members, as well providing opportunity to study the Bible together. We ran two additional short-term Connect Groups during Advent.

Drop-in

Coordinator: Sue Ibrahim

Purpose: To open up our church space to provide a warm and welcoming environment on a Sunday afternoon for any homeless and/or vulnerable people.

Report:

- 2020 certainly was a challenging year for all. Throughout the Pandemic it was difficult to continue serving the homeless and other vulnerable members of the community and also keep within government guidelines, but due to hard work by all, we managed.
- Volunteers were able to provide a 'Packed Lunch Grab & Go Service' whilst observing strict distancing measures, serving food from behind a Perspex screen, keeping both our guests and volunteers safe.
- Each week, two volunteers served sandwiches, crisps, water, a chocolate bar and a piece of fruit, and behind the scenes we had a volunteer collecting the sundries and another making the sandwiches ready for collection. We managed all this on the Sundays we were permitted to open during lockdown, and we set up a WhatsApp group to ensure all volunteers were kept in the loop as to what was and wasn't happening.
- The main focus was to ensure our guests received food on the days other services were unable to provide and we are so happy that we managed to achieve this.
- Our guests remain our top priority as we hopefully move back to normal service in the near future. All our Drop In volunteers are eager to get back to serving the community again in 2021…

Host Team

Coordinator: Amy Walker

Purpose: To provide a warm welcome to Christ Church, predominantly in our 10.30am service, paying particular attention to newcomers.

Report:

- The Host Team has had different roles over the past year as the pandemic has resulted in the way church has 'met' being ever-changing. When church has been fully open, we have continued to be a welcoming presence at the beginning, end and during the service by normal means.
- When church has been opened under restrictions, Host Team have played a vital role in ensuring that safety guidelines have been followed. This has included taking 'track and trace' details, reminding people to hand sanitise on arrival, ensuring masks are worn and ensuring that people maintain social distancing etc.
- When services have moved online, Host Team members were a welcoming presence online by commenting in the FB live chat. (This moved to a formal rota for 'online hosting' in 2021.)'
- Challenge: Finding ways to 'welcome' people into our community when smiles are hidden, physical contact is prohibited and many of the ways we simply show love have been restricted.
- Encouragement: Guests who have attended online services have commented on feeling welcomed still.

Maintenance

Coordinators: Andrew Wigglesworth, James Cox, Chris Giddings, Rob Peto

Purpose: To maintain the fabric of our buildings.

Report:





- Maintenance at Christ Church has been a quiet year all things considered in 2020. With church being shut for much of the year, and then when in church socialising with teas and coffees not being allowed, the church has needed less work done to keep it ship shape than it would normally do.
- Maintenance hasn't stopped completely, however, with 2 maintenance days happening at the start and end of the year to keep the grounds around the church tidy, the gutters clear, and pews standing. The maintenance work done at church is supported by our crack team of deputy wardens without whom I'm sure the church would fall down on day 1!
- One of the exciting things to happen this year was the pointing done on the masonry on the southeast porch as well as some of the buttresses on the south side thanks in a large part to the hard work of Deputy Warden James Cox. The masonry has been in a bad state for some time and getting worse the longer it went untouched, so it was great to see the work get done and how good it now looks.
- We look forward to the coming year when hopefully more maintenance will be required as that will mean a busy and active church!

Projection and Sound Systems

Coordinator: Dan Price, Tim Cox

Purpose: To provide effective visual and sound projection in our services.

Report:

- 2020 was a year I hasten to say was unprecedented in more ways than one! I hope we don't have to say that word again! The start of the year for the PC team was relatively uneventful and then the first lockdown hit! The 10:30am service was moved online and people like Mark Townend were instrumental in enabling a livestream service to go ahead via Facebook. As this new service format continued, I set up a temporary rota for a Facebook moderator to facilitate comments and provide song lyrics during the online summer months.
- As we looked to welcome people back to the church building, we had to ensure everything was 'Covid secure'. A welcome loop on the screen was first introduced earlier in the year but now included slides on Covid precautions such as social distancing and good hygiene practices. This helped the congregation be familiar with the new set up and reassure them on safety measures in place. I had to ensure the team complied with all the new regulations and it was decided for the PC member to cover both services on their day to reduce transmission.
- To help avoid the congregation sharing and handling the pew Bibles we now show the Bible reading on screen using the new Easyworship software.

- Other steps included setting up a WhatsApp group for the PC/worship team to communicate worship songs needed for the service which has worked well and continued since.
- The team shrunk during this period losing Mike, Kat and Laura but has gained Kerry Wigglesworth with others interested in joining. The tech team as a whole has grown as new technology has been introduced to facilitate online services. These exciting changes have brought with it challenges and frustrations at times as technology often does! One issue has been an unstable internet connection as it travels wirelessly from the Mission House to the church building. This caused occasional interruptions to the broadcast, but with some frantic (but professional) adjustments backstage, online services have continued each week. In 2021 we are planning to put a wired connection in from the Mission House to the church which we hope will resolve these issues.
- To address the unreliable internet connection, it was decided to move all the equipment to the Mission House as we entered lockdown 3.0. This has worked very well and allowed for a more stable and smooth connection. When the time comes to move back to the church building, we hope to sort the internet issues potentially through a wired connection direct from the Mission House.
- The pandemic has forced us to rethink how we conduct church but positively has introduced a new dimension to our outreach. The online capabilities have seen people from other countries connect and become part of the Christ Church community, demonstrating God's grace amidst challenging circumstances.

Marriage Preparation Course

Coordinators: Rob and Wendy Peto

Purpose: To enable couples to explore and appreciate their different viewpoints and family dynamics. Also to equip them to resolve differences as they enter married life together.

Report:

- In common with so much else in the world, the weddings at Christ Church had to change and adapt to the dreadful circumstances of 2020. Happily, Rob and I were able to host one pre wedding supper at the start of the year and David & Ruth's wedding just snuck through in early March.
- As we all started to do so much more online, Holy Trinity Brompton launched their online pre marriage course which we appreciated being able to recommend to all our young couples.
- Antonia & Mattie were then thrilled to be able to keep their date of 10th July. Their family were wonderful and reset the pews at Christ Church to account for social distancing. Rob & I were delighted to be able to offer them the use of our garden as an impromptu outdoor wedding reception venue!



- Christ Church opened its doors for some very special eucharistic services in July to enable the banns for three September weddings to be read.
- Our Churchwarden, Andrew was pleased to find that he did not count toward the restricted guest numbers when he & Kerry married and set the pace as September started.
- Heidi & Kieran were married later in the month, and finally, Tobi was able to use Christ Church grounds for 3 socially distanced BBQs as a part of his stag celebrations before he and Miriam were married at the end of September.
- As always, all the weddings were such a source of joy and we felt very blessed that everyone's plans were eventually able to be accommodated.







Renewed Space 3



Purpose: To renew the physical space of our church building, in line with our vision statement.
Report:

- As a result of the pandemic, the Renewed Space project has been put on hold. A key factor in this is that a number of key grant bodies have stopped accepting applications during the pandemic. We are, however, looking forward to this project continuing when it is able to do so.

Safeguarding

Coordinator Pauline Jones
Purpose: To ensure measures are in place at Christ Church to protect everyone, but particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to promote their health and well being.
Report:
I confirm that Christ Church Chester PCC has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance'. I as Parish Safeguarding Officer, have regularly reported on safeguarding in the parish and safeguarding has been a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting. The following is Christ Church PCC's statement, which reports on progress as required:-

- In April I was co-opted to PCC and took on the role of Lead Parish Safeguarding Officer. Brigid Murphy and Tim Longman kindly agreed to remain part of the Safeguarding team.
- The pandemic meant I was unable to access more formal induction / training from the Diocese so, with Graham and the team's support, I inducted myself in to the world of safeguarding in an Anglican context. Differentiating policies, procedures and responsibilities across the parish, the diocese, nationally and with 'Thirty:one Eight' was challenging but afforded an opportunity to begin to understand what is in place at Christ Church and

where further measures are needed. (1. Thirtyone:eight. Is a UK safeguarding charity ... The inspiration behind the name comes from Proverbs 31:8 which says: 'Speak out on behalf of the voiceless, and for the rights of all who are vulnerable' (CEV).

- As I gained clarity Alec Spencer ensured that safeguarding arrangements are clearly visible on the web site and produced the required display of safeguarding contacts and of how to get help with safeguarding issues outside of Christ Church.
- In order to prepare for supporting ministry team recruitment with Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, I developed a set of guidance documents, which raised a number of issues to be worked through by the PCC. The guidance was then used to support my first DBS check, which went to plan and from which further tweaks were made to the guidance.
- One response to issues raised was that virtually all PCC and some other church members undertook safeguarding basic awareness on-line training.
- In September I attended a Children's Ministry team meeting and produced a risk assessment for the re-opening of the Sunday childrens' groups
- As part of the Church of England Past Cases Review 2 in the Records Office, I reviewed our PCC minutes from 1940 to 1973. This served to set Christ Church in its historical context and showed just how far we have come!
- Following the report that came out in October regarding the Church of England's catastrophic failures to protect children from abuse Christ Church clergy sought to inform and involve church members in our approach to safeguarding.
- One safeguarding incident, brought to Graham's attention, was managed and duly recorded.
- At the end of the year guidance on taking, storing and sharing images was produced and added to the web site.

Sidespeople
Coordinator: Wendy Peto, Brigid Murphy
Purpose: To help establish the right atmosphere in church through effective administration immediately before and after the services.
Report:

- It was wonderful to be able to greet people in person when we reopened for a series of 9.00am communion services in July. However, in addition to welcoming smiles (which of course had to be masked) there was now the requirement to use hand sanitiser and also to register everyone's track and trace details, plus of course the usual responsibility of recording the numbers of worshippers and lighting the candles.
- In September, the welcoming team picked up these duties for the 10.30 services and the 9.00am service sidespeople finished off their duties for the first part of the morning, by sanitising the pews ready for the 10.30am service. Also of course, everyone was encouraged to be socially distanced as they chose where to sit.

Student Work

Coordinator: Hannah Derbyshire

Purpose: To invest in the next generation of Christians through welcoming, pastoring, equipping, and sending out our university students.



Report:

- The Student Ministry remains an integral part of the church's vision and mission and we continue to be committed to the present and future students of Christ Church.
- In January 2020, the annual Weekend Away took place. This is always a poignant and exciting opportunity to encourage new friendships and engage in fellowship while deepening our understanding of God together.
- Like lots of churches, we have felt the impact of a decline in student numbers especially since March 2020.
- This has been felt more widely and poignantly since the start of lockdown. The news of the pandemic meant student numbers were smaller as many returned home and to their home churches. As a result, there were fewer engaging with Christ Church.
- However, the success of the "Start the Week" event from September to November 2020 saw the engagement of thirteen students at its peak as we reflected on the message of the Prayer Course 1 together. Many reported the encouragement it provided as they were unable to meet as a CU or in groups within government guidelines outside of the event.
- The aim of the Student Ministry in 2021 has been to take a more personal approach and focus on the individual and what they need instead of attempting a weekly screen-requiring event.

Visiting Ministry

Coordinator: Veronica Johnston

Purpose**:** To enfold within the family of Christ Church the sick and housebound, through regular visits and the opportunity to share Holy Communion.

Report:

- Lockdown in March made a huge impact on this ministry. Visits had to end, leaving vulnerable individuals without personal, face to face contact with friends at church, a listening ear, someone to pray with, someone to laugh with. In the few cases where it was possible, visits were replaced by regular telephone chats.
- Another potentially isolated group arose, those unable to access Christ Church worship online. Telephone conversations did help in this case, supplemented by letters and printed prayer booklets reflecting our current worship themes.
- Outside these groups there were others in our congregations who experienced loneliness. Everyone missed personal contact and, though Zoom meetings worked well to bring people together, the telephone became a lifeline for many.
- Remarkably, there were not deaths within the congregation as a result of Covid. It was, however, with sadness that in 2020 we said farewell to much loved members of the Christ Church family: Margaret Gittins, a faithful communicant member of Christ Church for all her 85 years. Philip James, a wonderful, brave and determined young man who had joined Christ Church

following participation in the Alpha Course, and had his wedding here a few years ago. We were shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Michelle Jennings, who helped at Drop-In. Both congregations mourned the loss of Lilian Morris, Carys' lovely mum.

Voluntary Internship Program
Purpose: To develop young people in leadership in the context of church ministry.
Report:





- For the first half of 2020 Shona Hookham, Dion Turnbull and Tobi Fagbemi completed the second half of their internship years.
- Starting in September 2020, Hannah Derbyshire joined the staff team as our intern for 2020/21.
- Throughout the year they have all been involved with many different aspects of church life including children's ministry, Alpha and student work, as well as being given an opportunity to preach and lead during our Sunday worship services.

Financial Review of the year

The finance team consists of treasurer (David Chirgwin) and book-keeper (Carys Addison). The team aims to provide transparency of figures for both PCC and the congregation, an efficient and simple giving programme and accurate budgeting information to the PCC to enable them to make decisions.

Related Party Transactions

Glyn Jones (Evangelist) and David Chirgwin (PCC member) are directors/trustees of The Light Project, a Christian charity based in Chester. Rosie Jones (PCC member) is a module leader at The Light Project. During the year, the PCC made payments to The Light Project totalling £200. All relevant payments are discussed and authorised without input from the related parties concerned.

New Restricted Funds

Two restricted donations were received in 2020 which have been assigned to Restricted funds:

- Generosity Fund, to support local organisations and individuals who have a link to our parish and have a specific financial need.
- Vicar Sabbatical Fund, to enable a restorative break or retreat for the vicar.

Full details are shown in Note 14 in "Notes to the Accounts".

Designated Funds

The Designated StoryHouse fund, which was created in 2019, held money from church rental by the StoryHouse theatre group, who used the church as a rehearsal space during Spring/Summer 2019.

This fund was used in 2020 to employ an Operations Co-ordinator for a temporary period. This role included supporting Covid preparations and generally assisting the vicar with administrative and organisational tasks. All money in the fund was spent, and the fund was closed in 2020.

Figures excluding New Restricted Funds

During 2020, income was generated from giving, church fees and rental of rooms. Net giving from the congregation during the year was £87,525 which showed a 3.7% increase on 2019 (£84,415).

The Gift Aid reclaimable on giving in 2020 was £16,795 (2019 £17,836), which includes the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme, and some Gift Aid claimed retrospectively from previous years.

Grants were received from the following bodies in 2020 (see Note 1 in 'Notes to the Accounts'), and are hereby gratefully acknowledged:

- Dr. Robert Oldfield Charity
- Chester Diocese Board of Finance
- HMRC Coronavirus JRS

Expenditure was £122,820 incl. £5,390 from the StoryHouse fund (2019 £117,823). The largest item of expense was the Parish Share, which was £61,184 (2019 £59,692).

Other than running costs, the further main areas of expenditure were on employee and intern costs as well as insurance and maintenance for our buildings.

Outward Giving

In 2020, £5,000 (2019 £4,600) was set aside for Outward Giving, which was all distributed during the year.
This is intended to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries, but in line with our values and goals. This money has supported a number of projects and individuals during the year. In addition, as another form of Outward Giving, Christ Church has provided administration support to the Chester Diocese Congo Link, assisted by grants from:

- Chester Diocese Board of Finance
- St. Mary's, Upton

which are hereby gratefully acknowledged.

The budget for 2021 has been set by the PCC and agreed at the February 2021 meeting.



…… Rev'd Graham Shaw (Vicar)

…18th May 2021…..

Accounting Policies

Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and SORP (effective January 2019).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities, to which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) Income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object. The funds may be expended on the specific object for which they are given. Any balances remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance of that fund.

Designated funds represent income which has been set aside for use for a specific purpose but are not legally restricted to be used for that purpose. Amounts identified as designated funds which are held in the general current account at the year-end were:

Vicarage Fund	£2,651
Renewed Space 3 Seed Funding (for Capital Building Projects)	£39,127

Unrestricted funds are general funds that can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming Reserves

Planned giving collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised on an accruals basis at the end of the financial year and the appropriate amount is subsequently reclaimed from HM Revenue Customs.

Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,500 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

No cost information is available for the Vicar's house as it is deemed the property of the diocese.

All investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2020.

Reserves Policy

The PCC have agreed on a reserves policy that is reviewed annually.
The reserves policy at the end of 2020 was set as follows:

- It is the policy of the church to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months' basic running costs which includes any salaries and contractual payments to staff.
- It is also our policy to hold £5000 in reserves as a contingency against unexpected building-related expenses for the Mission House and the church building.

Christ Church

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ending 31st December 2020

Statement of Financial Activities For the year ending 31st December 2020	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	**1**	103,353	5,375	108,728	110,775
Investment income	**2**	900	21	921	872
Incoming resources from charitable activities	**3**	6,352	0	6,352	14,395
Other incoming resources	**4**	222	0	222	947
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		110,827	5,396	116,223	126,988
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share	**5**	(61,184)	0	(61,184)	(59,692)
Church Activities	**6**	(48,521)	(8,115)	(56,636)	(55,134)
Grants payable	**7**	(5,000)	(91)	(5,091)	(4,600)
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		(114,705)	(8,206)	(122,911)	(119,425)
Transfers between funds		(4,491)	4,491	0	0
NET INCOME/OUTGOINGS BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS / (LOSSES)		**(8,369)**	**1,681**	**(6,688)**	**7,563**
Gains on Investment Assets		1,492	0	1,492	3,269
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(6,877)	1,681	(5,196)	10,832
BALANCES B/FWD 1st JANUARY	**12**	100,813	5,643	106,456	95,624
BALANCES C/FWD 31st DECEMBER		93,936	7,324	101,260	106,456

Christ Church

Balance sheet at 31st December 2020

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2020	Note	General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	9	23,305	0	23,305	21,172
		23,305	0	23,305	21,172
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	20,423	805	21,228	23,607
Cash at bank and in hand		53,606	6,519	60,125	65,755
		74,029	7,324	81,353	89,362
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - Amounts falling due in one year	11	(3,398)	0	(3,398)	(4,077)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		70,631	7,324	77,955	85,284
NET ASSETS		93,936	7,324	101,260	106,456
PARISH FUNDS					
Unrestricted					
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	13	29,683		29,683	32,996
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	13	23,305		23,305	21,172
Designated COVID-19 Fund	13	(830)		(830)	0
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	13	39,127		39,127	38,999
Designated StoryHouse Fund	13	0		0	5,391
Designated Vicarage Fund	13	2,651		2,651	2,255
Restricted					
Community Work Fund	14		0	0	0
Generosity Fund	14		1,159	1,159	0
Internship Fund	14		0	0	0
Music and Worship Fund	14		553	553	553
Renovation Fund	14		5,112	5,112	5,090
Student Work Fund	14		0	0	0
Vicar Sabbatical Fund	14		500	500	0
		93,936	7,324	101,260	106,456

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on … 18th May 2021 …..

Signed on behalf by: The Rev'd Graham Shaw (Vicar):… ……..

Notes for the Financial Statements for the Year ending 31st December 2020

NOTE 1 - VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
Voluntary Income				
Individual Giving	83,905	5,020	88,925	88,783
Tax Recoverable	16,790	355	17,145	19,002
Legacies	0	0	0	1,000
Other Sundry Donations	32	0	32	0
Grants				
Robert Oldfield Charity - Children's work	109	0	109	109
Chester DBF - COVID support	2,000	0	2,000	0
HMRC JRS grants	241	0	241	0
Chester DBF - Congo Link	176	0	176	1,012
Total ID - Drop-In	0	0	0	100
Listed Places of Worship - Organ Repair	0	0	0	670
St. Mary's Upton - Congo Link	100	0	100	100
	103,353	5,375	108,728	110,775

NOTE 2 - INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
Bank interest receivable	259	21	280	268
Dividends from CCLA Investment Share Fund	641	0	641	604
	900	21	921	872

NOTE 3 - INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
Church Fees	3,658	0	3,658	4,922
Church Hire	45	0	45	6,062
Mission House Room Hire	2,649	0	2,649	3,411
	6,352	0	6,352	14,395

NOTE 4 - OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
Trading Income	93	0	93	825
Miscellaneous	129	0	129	122
	222	0	222	947

NOTE 5 - Parish Share Paid	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
Parish Share	61,184	0	61,184	59,692
	61,184	0	61,184	59,692

NOTE 6 - CHURCH ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
Church				
- Utilities	3,157	0	3,157	4,585
- Repairs & Maintenance	7,064	0	7,064	801
- Building improvement	0	0	0	2,236
- Insurance (also covers MH)	4,037	0	4,037	3,920
- Altar & Service Resources	289	0	289	459
- Music including organ costs	1,319	0	1,319	1,451
- Clergy Expenses	153	0	153	487
- Sunday Refreshments	75	0	75	947
- Children's Work	216	0	216	268
- Training and conferences	892	0	892	2,297
- Internship Programme	0	7,229	7,229	9,578
- Fees Payable	1,695	0	1,695	2,334
- Ops Coordinator Wages	5,298	0	5,298	0
- Miscellaneous Costs (see note 8)	3,525	430	3,955	5,076
Administration				
- Administration Wages (general)	8,051	0	8,051	7,317
- Administration Wages (Congo Link)	587	0	587	567
- Software / Web	1,004	0	1,004	0
- Bank charges	401	0	401	0
- Administration Sundries	721	0	721	1,753
- Telephone & Internet	1,267	0	1,267	1,149
Vicarage				
- Council Tax	2,702	0	2,702	2,594
- Utilities	712	0	712	567
- Maintenance	12	0	12	145
Curate				
- Housing Allowance	2,322	0	2,322	0
Mission House				
- Utilities	691	0	691	834
- Repairs & Maintenance	853	0	853	528
- Building improvement	0	0	0	1,752
- Cleaning Wages	1,243	0	1,243	1,390
Community Work				
- Drop-In expenses	0	384	384	1,075
- Other Community Work expenses	0	7	7	209
Parochial Work				
- Student work expenses	0	65	65	157
Trading				
- Trading Costs	235	0	235	658
Total Church Activities	48,521	8,115	56,636	55,134

NOTE 7 - GRANTS PAYABLE

Christ Church has an Outward Giving policy to bless what God is doing beyond our ministries by donating to projects in line with our values and goals. This includes the "Generosity Fund" which helps individuals with a specific need.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2020	TOTAL 2019
Grants to other charities:	£	£	£	£
West Cheshire Food Bank	200	0	200	250
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	0	0	0	250
Chester University CU	0	0	0	250
Chester Street Pastors	200	0	200	350
The Light Project	200	0	200	250
Night Church	200	0	200	250
Donations to the Congo	1,250	0	1,250	1,500
St Peter's Plemstall	1,250	0	1,250	0
Newtown Gardener	200	0	200	0
Grants to individuals:				
Other small confidential donations made	1,500	91	1,591	1,500
	5,000	91	5,091	4,600

NOTE 8 - MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2020	TOTAL 2019
	£	£	£	£
Books and Resources	55	0	55	355
Publicity	342	0	342	324
Cleaning supplies, gifts and sundries	538	0	538	1,089
Equipment (e.g. for Office, Kitchen)	89	0	89	1,567
Student Weekend Away	0	430	430	784
Special Events (e.g. Alpha, Banquet)	105	0	105	296
Christmas Expenses (incl. Lights Switch-On event)	209	0	209	481
Subscriptions (e.g. Link Up, Churches Together, Deanery Synod)	180	0	180	180
COVID-related (including streaming)	2007	0	2,007	0
	3,525	430	3,955	5,076

NOTE 9 - INVESTMENTS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Unrestricted		
CCLA Investment Share Fund	23,305	21,172
	23,305	21,172

NOTE 10 - DEBTORS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Unrestricted		
Gift Aid receivable	16,790	17,118
Prepayment - Insurance	3,388	3,359
Prepayment - Subscriptions & Licences	146	535
Prepayment - Roof Alarm	99	0
Prepayment - Generosity Fund	0	124
	20,423	21,136
Restricted		
Gift Aid receivable Community Work Fund	5	5
Gift Aid receivable Church Renovation Fund	0	1,116
Gift Aid receivable Generosity Fund	250	0
Gift Aid receivable Vicar Sabbatical Fund	100	0
Prepayment - Intern training	450	1,350
	805	2,471
	21,228	23,607

Christ Church

NOTE 11 - CREDITORS

	2020	2019
Unrestricted	£	£
Gas/Electricity/Water Bills	426	732
Independent Examiner fee	450	450
Curate Housing accrual	2,322	0
Expense claims for vicar etc	0	992
Other miscellaneous invoices	0	36
Fee to Grant Consultant (Designated RS3 Seed)	0	1,740
Expense claims for maintenance (Designated Vicarage)	0	53
Other accruals	200	53
	3,398	4,002
Restricted		
Community work expense claims (Drop In)	0	75
	0	75
	3,398	4,077

NOTE 12 - OPENING BALANCES ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 01/01/2019
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted				
General Fund (Bank accounts etc.)	32,996			32,996
General Fund (CCLA Investment Shares)	21,172			21,172
Designated RS3 Seed Fund	38,999			38,999
Designated StoryHouse Fund	5,391			5,391
Designated Vicarage Fund	2,255			2,255
Restricted				
Community Work Fund		0		0
Internship Fund		0		0
Music and Worship Fund		553		553
Renovation Fund		5,090		5,090
Student Work Fund		0		0
	100,813	5,643	0	106,456

NOTE 13 - MOVEMENT ON UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2020	2019
	£	£
General Fund Bank Accounts etc.		
Balance brought Forward	32,996	36,006
Transfer to create Vicarage Fund on 1st January	0	(2,400)
Balance at 1st January	32,996	33,606
Money paid in during the year (incl. interest)	110,057	111,684
Money taken out during the year	(108,470)	(104,116)
Transfers to other funds	(4,899)	(8,178)
Balance at 31st December	29,684	32,996
General Fund CCLA Investment Shares		
Balance at 1st January	21,172	17,299
Increase/(decrease) in value of total Shares	2,133	3,873
Balance at 31st December	23,305	21,172
Designated COVID-19 Fund		
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Money paid in during the year	0	0
Money taken out during the year	(830)	0
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	0	0
Balance at 31st December	(830)	0
Designated RS3 Seed Fund		
Balance at 1st January	38,999	40,624
Money paid in during the year	0	0
Money taken out during the year	0	(1,740)
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	128	115
Balance at 31st December	39,127	38,999
Designated StoryHouse Fund (created 2019)		
Balance at 1st January	5,391	0
Money paid in during the year	0	5,410
Money taken out during the year	(5,393)	(20)
Transfers from general funds	2	0
Balance at 31st December	0	5,391
Designated Vicarage Fund (created 2019)		
Balance at 1st January (as created)	2,255	2,400
Money paid in during the year	0	0
Money taken out during the year	(12)	(145)
Transfers from general funds	407	0
Balance at 31st December	2,650	2,255
Total Unrestricted Funds	93,936	94,766

Christ Church

NOTE 14 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

Renovation Fund	**2020** **£**	**2019** **£**
Balance at 1st January	5,090	1,142
Voluntary income received	0	4,368
Gift Aid received	0	50
Receipt - Interest received during the year.	22	16
Expenditure		
- Repairs and Renovation etc.	0	(1,602)
Balance at 31st December	5,112	3,974
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	1,116
Balance at 31st December	5,112	5,090

Community Work Fund	**2020** **£**	**2019** **£**
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	20	20
Grants received	0	100
Expenditure		
- Expenses for Drop-In food etc.	(384)	(1,075)
- Expenses for Community Lunches	(7)	(209)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	366	1,158
Balance at 31st December	(5)	(5)
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	5	5
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Student Work Fund	**2020** **£**	**2019** **£**
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	0	0
Expenditure		
- Expenses (e.g. Student BBQ, weekend away)	(495)	(941)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	495	941
Balance at 31st December	0	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Music and Worship Fund	**2020** **£**	**2019** **£**
Balance at 1st January	553	553
Voluntary income received	0	0
Less: Expenditure	0	0
Balance at 31st December	553	553
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	553	553

NOTE 14 - MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS (contd.)

Internship Programme Fund	**2020** **£**	**2019** **£**
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	3,600	3,500
Less: Expenditure	(7,229)	(9,578)
Plus : Transfer from General Fund	3,629	6,078
Balance at 31st December	0	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	0	0
Balance at 31st December	0	0

Generosity Fund	**2020** **£**	2,019 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	1,000	0
Less : Outward Giving	(91)	0
Balance at 31st December	909	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	250	0
Balance at 31st December	1,159	0

Vicar Sabbatical Fund	**2020** **£**	2,019 £
Balance at 1st January	0	0
Voluntary income received	400	0
Less: Expenditure	0	0
Balance at 31st December	400	0
Plus : Debtor Tax recoverable on gift aided donations	100	0
Balance at 31st December	500	0

Total Restricted Funds	7,324	5,644