



**Financial Statements and Associated Reports
for 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023
presented to the Annual Parochial Church
meeting held on 28th April 2024.**



Index to the Financial Statements Year ended 31st December 2023

1. Vicar's Report
2. Independent Examiners' Report
3. Financial Accounts
4. PCC Report
5. PCC Secretary's Report
6. Church Warden's Report
7. Boomerang Report
8. Electoral Roll Report
9. Safeguarding Report
10. Magazine Report
11. Deanery Synod Report
12. Music Report
13. Café Generate Report
14. Trinity Tots Report
15. Fundraising/Social Events Report
16. AED Defibrillator Report
17. Junior Church
18. Ignite Youth Club

1. Vicar's Report

Rev'd Paul Neville, Vicar's Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
(APCM) Sunday 28th April 2024
Following Jesus, Serving our Community.

Welcome to Holy Trinity with St Mark APCM, and thank you for joining us, I would like to thank you all for this opportunity to gather together to reflect, as we look back over the past year and to give thanks to God for all that we have done in His name and for His glory in this church and the wider parish.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting – (APCM) is a legal requirement where the PCC present financial accounts and reports from all departments of our church and where we are reminded of our purpose and calling as the church in this community, that is...

The church is called to be pastoral – to look after the individual people; to be evangelistic – to tell people the Good News and invite them to accept it; to be social – to help the poorer members of society, and those suffering from racial, economic and other forms of injustice; and to be ecumenical – to encourage good relations with other Christian denominations.

This is my eleventh APCM and it continues to be a real blessing to be part of the Church here at Holy Trinity with St Mark. We are the 'body of Christ' and we all have a part to play in making the 'body' function and fulfill our calling and purpose under God.

The past year has been both a huge blessing and challenge for us as a church, and I deeply appreciate all the hard work and tireless commitment of my churchwardens, the PCC, the wider team and the rest of the church family for all their love and support. I am deeply grateful to you all.

Rev John

I would like to mention my deep gratitude to John and Thelma for the ministry they have shared with us all the past year and after such a traumatic time, it is great to see John back on form. Thank you especially to Thelma for the work she does at the foodbank and Gener8 lunch club.

Rev Jane

It has been a blessing to have Rev Jane as our Curate, the past year has been a challenge for her, getting to know us and having both family and personal illness to manage as well as a full-time role as Chaplain to North Tees hospital. I am sure that the wider church has appreciated her musical gifts as well as her preaching, leading and pastoral care.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

Churchwardens

Once again I would like take the opportunity to thank my churchwardens Gemma and David. You have continued to be a real blessing to work with over the past year. I am grateful to you both for the huge contribution you make to the daily running of the church, we have dealt with some very important issues together during the past year and you have both shown real wisdom and support in dealing with those issues. I have full confidence in you both as we continue to share the leadership of our church.

PCC Secretary

Doreen has yet again been a great asset to the smooth running of the church and also to me personally. Our meetings are always recorded well and the business conducted in a thoughtful and pastorally caring way. Doreen has faithfully served as our PCC Secretary for 17 years and has decided this year to hang up her Dictaphone. On your behalf I would like to thank Doreen for the years of faithful service to God and His church and the way you have assisted both me and my predecessor Sue. Doreen also was our Baptism coordinator for many years before Connie and Heather took over.

Baptism Ministry

Thank you to Connie and Heather for the way you have worked together in both co-ordinating and visiting our baptism families. It is so helpful and encouraging when others from the church are sharing in this ministry – I know that the families appreciate the way you welcome and help them when they contact the church.

Finance and Stewardship

Thank you to Mike Blake for another year as Treasurer and for the careful and conscientious way you look after the church's finances and for preparing our year end accounts which you have as part of this document.

There is no doubt about it that getting through Covid19 and all the associated issues was a very real challenge financially, but I am pleased to see that we have (thank God) come through it together. As the cost of living continues to increase, so it does for the church and the constant struggle to ensure that the increasing running costs are met each month. It is a necessity for us all to reflect and re-consider our giving to ensure that we all share in both the blessings of the church and a generous response to the joy of giving.

I want to thank you the church family for your financial offerings which enable us to have a wonderful and thriving church. I firmly believe that a church that gives generously is a church that has true faith at its centre and knows the blessing of God. Money is always a difficult subject for the church to talk about but it is part of my responsibility as your Vicar to ensure that you are fully informed regarding the church 'house keeping' budget and the Christian principles of giving to your church generously. Generous giving never goes unrewarded and true discipleship takes giving seriously.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

The biblical principle is that we bring our tithes and offerings to God through the church. We give the first of what have not the residue of what we have left. We are living in uncertain times in the Church of England, and too many people don't understand how the Church of England works. It is the generous giving of Christians each week that make it possible for us to have a real presence in every community in our land.

This is a marvellous achievement, which costs 1.3 million pounds a day. What we give contributes to making sure that we have our national established church continue to be a real presence in every place for future generations.

If you would like to consider your giving through a planned giving scheme or through the bank where we can attract gift aid, please speak to Sue Gordon our Church Administrator and Giving Officer. Thank you once again for your generosity.

PCC – Parochial Church Council

Thank you to the PCC and the great team you are, our meetings are always very well attended, and conducted in a good-hearted way. The PCC has yet again proven to be a committed representative group, elected by you the wider church, and I am pleased to report that they have fulfilled their responsibility to you all and God in a prayerful and caring way. It is such a joy to be part of a PCC team who care for one another and serve with care and commitment. We couldn't even begin to imagine that at the beginning of last year that we would experience such a challenging issue due to a flood in the church which devastated almost the entire contents of the building. September 10th, I received a call from Jo Ford Leadbeater at 7am telling me that the church was completely flooded. I arrived in haste only to have the news confirmed. Boomerang staff were very kindly already working hard mopping up the huge amount of rainwater that had come in through the poorly designed guttering which runs internally across the width of the building. I made an appeal through What's App and a team swiftly arrived to help. It became instantly apparent that there was a lot of damage. The new kitchen of only 3 weeks was damaged extensively, new appliances full of water, ceilings had collapsed in the kitchen, toilet and vestry. Light fittings had collapsed damaging the Loo and hand basin in the Toilet. Rainwater had found its way under the maple floor of the main church space and was beginning to show signs of twisting due to the water ingress. Store cupboards were damaged and their contents thrown out, 11 skips of damaged goods were removed from church. EIG Insurance were notified and a claim set up. Woodgate and Clarke assessors were appointed to assist in assessing the damage and advising what was best to do. I quickly realised that the necessary repair was extensive and expensive. I had no option but to take control and be my own project manager and so I got to work negotiating with Woodgate & Clarke, the diocese and EIG Insurance. I was praying and hoping that we could get the repair work done in order that we could re-open for Christmas – few believed it possible including Woodgate & Clarke. After many weeks of closure, attending St Paul's each Sunday morning, warmly welcomed by Rev Paul Arnold and working non stop with many contractors on site, and pushing really hard, the church re-opened in time for Advent Sunday.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

The work wasn't completed but enough to help us resume worship etc. The church almost had everything renewed and with a cost of around £200,000 we were looking good and ready for Christmas. I want to thank Gemma and David (Church Wardens) the PCC and all those who worked tirelessly to get the church open again. There were so many great people that went above and beyond to help us, and I am deeply grateful. Holy Trinity School kindly allowed us to run Boomerang in school for the duration of the closure. I must also thank my wife Christine for her support during the ridiculously long hours I spent working on getting the church fixed and re-open.

Licensed Lay Ministry

Thank you to Connie, for your very valuable ministry during the past year. I am fully in support of all forms of lay ministry and enjoy sharing the ministry of preaching and leading worship with you. Connie has served us in her ministry for many years and with a wider role in the diocese as warden of Lay ministry. You have been a real blessing to me personally. It is important to say that if there is anyone in the wider church who feels that they may be interested in Reader ministry, please come and see me or give me a call.

Children and young people's ministry

The pandemic was an unprecedented experience for us all and had a huge affect on most people. The lock downs and aftereffects were all encompassing. The church across the diocese and the country is still recovering from the aftermath. It seems that Children and Young people were casualties as well, working amongst children and youth work has suffered across the board. The work with children and young people is still not what it was before Covid. We are working hard to encourage young families to come back to church, but the progress has been slow. We are now seeing signs of little green shoots amongst our children and young people. Junior Church has resumed, coordinated by Val Robinson and supported by a committed team. Ignite is also run and supported by a team of volunteers each Friday night. Thank you to you all.

Worship

Post Covid, we had to look at new ways of worshipping, especially music and hymns. We decided to engage with a new format called 'Ising' a computer-based hymnal with words we project on screens and with musical accompaniment, which has been a blessing in an unexpected way. We have recently re-introduced the music group to lead and play once a month, usually at the All-Age Service. Thank you to our singers, David, Anne, Pat, Val and both Gemma and Mark for running Audiovisuals.

Electoral Roll

Thank you to Kathryn Kennedy who looks after the Electoral Roll and membership.

Holy Trinity with St Mark

Holy Trinity , St Mark & Ian Ramsey C of E schools

Once again we have been working hard to gently get back to where we were before Covid. The reintroduction of Collective Worship in church is working well and with members of the congregation attending on a Tuesday morning is always encouraging. We hold a full school Eucharist once a month as part of an overall plan. We had 10 young people take their first Holy Communion last Easter.

We have re-established a positive link and developing relationship with St Marks, celebrated at 3 back-to-back Christingle services last Christmas, and it was wonderful to have them join us in church. Ian Ramsey have undergone a change with them joining Northern Lights Academy Trust. As a result, the Trustees re-instated the Ex-officio role of the Incumbent of the parish and so I accepted the invitation to take my role on the governing body. The 3 meetings we have had so far are very welcoming and encouraging.

Area Dean

Last year was my 5th year as Area Dean, a role that I am only just beginning to settle into. It is a privilege for me to serve here as your Vicar but also have the responsibility of a wider deanery role. The deanery of Stockton as a result has become more and more important to me personally. I believe that unity is a very important aspect of our calling and the sharing in ministry across many churches is a good witness to our society.

Summary

There are many others that deserve recognition, and I'm sure that I will have forgotten some. So thank you to all those who make Holy Trinity with St Mark a good place to belong to. I feel deeply privileged to be your Vicar and look forward to the years ahead and all that we will do together, that we may grow in faith and love of God and in number. Our priority for the foreseeable future must be church growth, developing Discipleship and nurturing each other in the faith, and the ministry among children and young people.

My hope and prayer is that you catch the vision of a church that grows in its generosity, is active in service and committed to spreading the good news of Jesus with confidence to our community, which is what Jesus commanded the first disciples to and who calls us now to do the same.

I would like to remind you of the words of Jesus... from Matthew's Gospel chapter 5: 14ff "you are the light of the world, a city on a hill cannot be hidden".

Let us pray and commit ourselves to shine as a light in the world, for Jesus sake.

Rev P Neville
Vicar

2. Independent Examiner's Report

HOLY TRINITY WITH ST MARK INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the notes to the accounts.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 14S(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Church as required by section 130 of the act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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

SIGNED:

.....


DATE:

.....


3. Financial Accounts

**HOLY TRINITY WITH ST MARK
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023**

INCOMING RESOURCES	2023			2022
	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	
A. Voluntary Income/Receipts				
1. Tax Efficient Planned Giving	35,635		35,635	27,588
3. Collections at Services	5489		5489	8604
			41,124	36192
4. All other donations, inc. Special Appeals, Kitchen, Bibles etc.	28359		28359	372
6. Gift Aid Recovery	8,929	0	8929	8844
7. Legacies	1,571	0	1571	30319
8. Grants including Youth Support/Community/Lottery & SBC	1,000	10,000	11,000	12,561
	39859	10000	49859	52096
Total Voluntary Income			90,983	88,288
B. Activities for Generating Funds				
9. Gross income from Fund Raising activities/events	4,269		4269	4289
Income from Investments				
10. Dividends and Interest	3192		3192	522
Church Activities				
11. Statutory fees retained by PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	442		442	482
12. Gener8 Luncheon Club	1,768		1768	2,785
12.1 Children and Youth Work, Tots & Ignite	3,610		3,610	6,215
12.2 Gross Income from Boomerang (childcare provision)	15,714		15,714	11,850
12.3 Gross Trading income (Hall letting, Parish mag, Book stall)	1,695		1695	5,492
	30690	0	30690	31635
C. Other Income				
Settlement, Church Ins., DBF transfers of Reserves			0	0
A+B+C Total Incoming Resources			121,673	119,923

3. Financial Accounts

HOLY TRINITY WITH ST MARK
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

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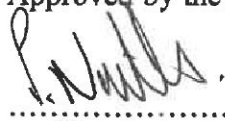
	2023	2023	Total	2022
	Unrestricted	Designated		
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Cost of generating income				
17 Fundraising activities	5410		5410	4663
Church activities				
18 Mission and donations	187		187	173
19 Parish share	40000		40000	37800
20 Salaries, wages, honoraria	6523		6523	4952
21 Clergy and staff expenses	11342		11342	7335
	58052	0	58052	50260
Church expenses				
23 Church running expenses	7084		7084	8765
24 Utility Bills	5648		5648	4050
25 Cost of trading (Lettings, Parish magazine etc.)	409		409	113
	13141		13141	12928
Major capital expenditure				
28 Church building - Entrance pathway repairs, Kitchen units, appliances, redecoration	2328		2328	7258
	21411		21411	
	23739		23739	7258
23.1 Governance costs	1739		1739	698
Other outgoing resources/payments				
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	102081	0	102081	75807

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	9900	8800	8000	8000	8026
Bank current account	50305	55472	27523	9449	10722
Petty Cash in hand	20	24	24	47	194
Durham Board of Finance account	73436	40243	39699	39699	60498
Total	133661	104539	75246	57195	79440

Notes on funds

Designated funds represent fundraising for a St Mark's capital fund is held with the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance. The fund is unrestricted and regarded by the PCC as for use to support the parish.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and signed on their behalf.



(Minister for Holy Trinity with St Mark)



(PCC member)

5 MARCH 2024

(Date)

Independent Examiner:

Mr J Gates
105 Upsall Grove
Fairfield
Stockton on Tees

Date: 1 MARCH 2024

4. PCC Report

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held 14th May 2023

1 Welcome Chairman Rev'd Paul Neville welcomed everyone and opened the Meeting with Prayers

There were 21 people in attendance.

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – held on 3rd April 2022 were read and approved and signed as a true record.

With Barbara Porritt resigning as Church Warden we need to elect new Church Wardens.

3 Election of Church Wardens:

Mrs Gemma Robson:- (Proposed by Sue Gordon, seconded by Antony Stewart)

Mr David Patterson:- (Proposed by Sue Gordon, seconded By Judith Muir)

All were in favour.

They were duly elected at the Meeting.

Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 14th May 2023

1 Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – held on 3rd April 2022, were read, approved and signed as a true record.

2 Matters Arising –

Deanery Synod: with both Barry Winter and Ivor Cassell having to resign due to Health Problems we need another Deanery Synod representative. We have one Deanery Synod representative in Tony Stewart but 1 more would ensure we have 2 reps on Deanery Synod.

We are allowed 3, but if we have 2 that would be great.

Appointments in the future could be Deanery Synod's decision. Deanery Synod is supported by a Standing Committee, which are members selected from Synod to the Standing Committee. A Standing Committee and Synod are both needed for the church to function. Synod meets once a month on a Monday, in the evenings and there are about 9 meetings in a year.

Christine Neville volunteered to be a Deanery Synod Representative. Proposed by Christine Robertson, seconded by Barbara Porritt. All were in favour.

This is subject to the agreement of the Diocese.

3 Presentation of Annual Accounts – Church Accounts:

The Accounts were accepted after they had been ratified by the PCC at their last meeting. A big thank you to Mike for all the work he puts in to being Treasurer. Mike is not an accountant and has done the job very well. After all Mike has had to deal with this year with Health Issues in the family, succession planning has to be considered. It would be helpful if someone could assist Mike with the Treasurer's Job. Mike would show the person or persons how to do what is needed and train them in what is required. It showed in the accounts how things have improved this year from last year.

We are still underpaying our Parish Share, which is Holy Trinity with St. Mark's financial contribution to enable us to have a full time clergy appointment.

4 Election of Deputy Church Warden's :

Barbara Porritt volunteered to take on the role of Deputy Church Warden, Proposed by David Patterson, seconded by Connie Robinson.
All were in favour.

5 Church Report – This is in the End of year Booklet you all have, but most of all it's Rev'd Paul's time to thank everyone who helps to make Holy Trinity with St. Mark's Church run so smoothly. A very big thank you to Thelma and Rev'd John Hearn who stepped in when he was needed. Also thank you to Jane Easterby, who has been with us for a little while and is settling in very well.

There were 129 names on the Electoral Roll.

After Prayers Rev'd Paul closed the APCM.

Holy Trinity with St. Mark's PCC (1st PCC Meeting)

The next PCC Meeting is on the 19th June 2023 at 7pm. Doreen will send a list of the PCC Meeting dates to the PCC ASAP.

Election of Treasurer & Secretary

Mike Blake indicated he was happy to continue as Treasurer.

It was proposed by Christine Robertson, seconded by David Patterson.

All were in favour.

Doreen Crinson agreed to continue as PCC Secretary.

Proposed by David Patterson, seconded by Val Robinson.

All were in Favour.

Rev'd Paul closed the Meeting after Prayers were said.

5. PCC Secretary's Report

2023 started off in the usual way with 9 PCC Meetings taking place throughout the year. In the latter part of the year we had to close due to flooding in the Church. During this time we were invited to worship at St. Paul's Church, Newtown.

Throughout the year the PCC discussed many topics relating to the smooth running of Holy Trinity with St. Mark's Church. We still operate a 3 year rolling programme, which means you join the PCC for 3 years and then come off for a year, then you can rejoin the PCC again if you wish. This enables everyone to get the chance to experience the running of the Church.

Anyone who is on Deanery Synod, Safeguarding Officer, A Reader, Church Warden and Deputy Church Warden are automatically on the PCC. The Treasurer and the Secretary are elected each year.

Members of the PCC at 2023

Reverend Paul Neville	Priest in Charge
Reverend Jane Easterby	Curate
Eb Adekunle	
Kelly Adekunle	Safeguarding Officer
Michael Blake	Treasurer
Doreen Crinson	Secretary
Barbara Darling	
Mark Kennedy	Automated External Defibrillator Contact
Bruce Merrick	Deanery Synod
David Patterson	Church Warden
Shirley Perkins	
Barbara Porritt	Deputy Church Warden
Christine Robertson	
Connie Robinson	Reader
Val Robinson	
Gemma Robson	Church Warden
Tony Stewart	Deanery Synod
Doreen Crinson	Secretary

Doreen Crinson
PCC Secretary

6. Church Warden's Report

It's a privilege to serve you all as church warden for another year and I have enjoyed working alongside David and the support he has brought.

We have enjoyed our traditional church fayres at Easter, in the summer and at Christmas, which were all a success.

The church had a great start to the year but unfortunately in September we suffered a flood when the bad weather caused the drains to flood into the Church leaving a devastating situation where our new kitchen, disabled toilet and vestry needed replacing along with lots of resources and the whole flooring in the main hall. This was a mighty task and took a lot of time and effort in replacing, resourcing and communication with the insurance and tradesmen. Thank you to Rev Paul who led this mission of a task, I tried to support this as much as I could. The church remained closed for 7 weeks and we worshipped in St Paul's for this time. We were so thankful to be back open in time for Christmas so we could celebrate the Birth of Christ together.

Our What's Ap group is a great way of reaching out to our church family and sharing prayers. This continues to be a success.

We thank Rev Jane for her time here with us and John and Connie for leading our services so passionately.

Sue for being a hardworking friendly face in the office. Her hard work doesn't go unnoticed.

Mike for all the time he puts into our finances. Ann, Pat and David for the music. Mark for helping with the screens.

Our team of junior church leaders who put time and effort into making sure our children are learning the Gospel on a Sunday morning.

The whole of the PCC and Doreen our secretary who will be missed. Our prayers remain with lots of our church family who are missed so dearly. Here's to another blessed year and faithful year.

Gemma Robson Church Warden

7. Boomerang Report

We have had yet another very busy year.

The activities we provide are planned around the children's interests, this holds their attention longer and escalates their learning.

We include festivals and celebrations in our planning and adapt the learning to meet the children's individual needs, eg their age. One thing most children have in common is that they like to get dirty, we do a lot of sensory activities, slime, playdough, gloop to name a few, these are always popular.

We have taken the children on many walks and bus trips, for some children it was their first time on a bus. Outdoor play is a firm favourite for the children, they have a chance to run, climb, build and experience all weathers. We have laid artificial grass so the children can access outside every day.

We are looking forward to the nicer weather so we can fully utilise our lovely outdoor area.

In April we will be celebrating 20 years of Boomerang!

Jo Ford
Boomerang Manager

8. Electoral Roll Report

The number of names presented to the A.G.M. on May 14th 2023 was 129 a decrease of 1 on the previous year.

Kathryn Kennedy

9. Safeguarding Report

1) Report Details

Period of 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023

Submitted by Kelly Adekunle (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Date: 11 January 2024

2) Disclosures

0 x Disclosures

1 x Concern for welfare raised and reported.

3) Policy / Procedure

The safeguarding policy is displayed on the church notice board. Incident forms are kept in the church office.

4) Contact Information

Details for Kelly Adekunle PSO (Telephone: 07595 711814) can be found on the church website and notice board.

5) Training

All staff & volunteers are up to date with the relevant training for their role. To be reviewed early 2024.

Kelly Adekunle

Parish Safeguarding Officer

10. Magazine Report

As I reported last year, we have not been able to issue a magazine because we can no longer send them out via the schools. In 2023 we published 6 issues of News, Views & Dates for your Diary.

These pamphlets are delivered by hand to a list of members of the Church plus others who are not on the list but were, before covid. Coming regularly to Church. (Not everyone is on social media) and this is a way to let everyone know we are still here!

Thank you to everyone who delivered them and to all who gave me articles for the publications.

Please keep the articles coming in to either myself annedaly111@gmail.com or to Sue at the office holytrinitywithstmarkoffice@gmail.com

Anne Daly

11. Deanery Synod Report

Stockton Deanery Synod is a group of representatives from every parish in the Stockton area, and all clergy (vicars, curates and open to retired clergy) and meets 4-5 times per year.

The aim is to provide a link between parishes, sharing things we do well and things we struggle with, and tackle bigger issues such as what our Deanery Plan is – this covers what our mission is across Stockton either together or as separate parishes and where we appoint our clergy.

2023 meetings focussed on children and young people, growth, and ended with a Vision Day in the autumn where we looked at what we need to go to help our churches grow and thrive. Discipleship was a big theme from this meeting and something we will take forward into 2024.

Lucy Falcus

Lay Chair Stockton Deanery

12. Music Report

We continue to use I sing on a Sunday morning as part of our worship. This gives us the opportunity to play music with voices and words for us to sing along to.

On a second Sunday our worship group leads worship with Rev Paul, Margaret, Rev Jane, David, Ann and Pat.

We use pro presenter to display services onto the screens each week. We added a new screen to the back of the church which helps whoever is leading the service to follow. I look forward to further developing our worship by adding new songs to learn as a congregation.

This year we will be replacing our sound system to enable us to control the sound in the church quickly and smoothly.

Thank you to everyone who is involved in our music and Mark for helping with the screens and setting up on a Sunday morning.

Gemma Robson

13. Café Generate Report

Generate, like all activities in Church, was reprehensively affected by the September flooding. At this point it should also be noted that attendance at Generate was falling – it had been necessary to increase prices – as will be appreciated by all “housewives”. Costs at the Supermarkets has increased enormously and also costs to produce, we believe we kept these increases to a minimum.

Since return to “Church Function” Generate has struggled – we are always here Thursdays 12 noon until 1.15 pm. There is nothing more rewarding to eat and chat (even gossip) to build our Church family functioning at full pelt.

Thanks must go to all our volunteers, bakers, shoppers, taxi service and kitchen maids. Challenges remain but we will overcome and offer a warm welcome.

NB We are personnel short on some teams. Volunteers would be welcome.

Barbara Burns

14. Trinity Tots Report

Well what a year!!

Thursday mornings started really well, a pleasure to welcome lots of new Mums, Dads carers and grandparents all getting to know each other over a cup of tea or coffee and where many friendships have been made.

It’s always a joy to see familiar faces and their families in Church on a Sunday morning as their young ones are being baptised.

Once again we had our summer party with inflatables which was loved by all.

After our summer break with a new kitchen awaiting came the flood and unfortunately there was no more tots that year.

Grateful thanks to Kathryn and Shirley for all their hard work and commitment and to Heather and Thelma for stepping in when needed.

Lets hope this year is a good one.

Barbara Porritt

15. Fundraising/Social Events Report

2023 – Challenging time. Some events had to be cancelled (i.e. Yorkshire afternoon tea.

Easter coffee morning – Easter egg tombola was generously supported, for the first time the cake stall was not quite so well represented. Usual coffee mornings were well supported. The Evening Family Quizz was as usual well supported with a Faith Supper.

We now must concentrate our efforts in re-establishing our family and local activities. The Fundraising Committee has re-convened and provided a programme for next six months. We look forward to seeing you all.

Barbaa Burns

16. AED – Defibrillator Report

The AED has been active with *The Circuit*, the national website to assist AED use, since 27/09/22.

Since the beginning of 2023, I have received four emails from *The Circuit* saying that the AED may have been used.

The dates of these were: 04/03/23

22/03/23

15/08/23

25/11/23

After following up on all of these emails, it was found that the AED was never used in all of the cases. Since being active from 27/09/22, the AED has never been used on a person.

In July, I established The Church's AED *What's App* group. The members are myself, Gemma Robson, Eb Adekunle and David Patterson. The main function of this group is to keep in contact in case I am unable to administer the AED due to when I am on holiday or if I am ill.

The AED usually has a *Status Check* every 1-3 weeks. The AED and the cabinet are cleaned every 4 weeks.

Mark Kennedy

17. Junior Church Report

Twenty one children have attended Junior Church over the past year. We follow the Roots Magazine curriculum, which involves listening to a bible reading and then discussing the passage, at an age-appropriate level. The children then take part in an activity which supports their learning; this may be a craft activity, some art work, a game, or a dramatic interpretation of the reading. The sessions usually open and/or close in prayer.

There are currently ten adult volunteers who help with Junior Church. As a church, we are very fortunate to have such a strong and dedicated team, and I would like to thank them for all the effort they have put in over the year. Four of the team have completed the Bishop's Certificate in Ministry to Children, which is a terrific achievement.

Val Robinson

18. Ignite Youth Club

What an amazing church we have, and this extends to our fantastic community and the children who attend Ignite.

Before the flood in the church, we regularly had 40-50 children in attendance each week. Since the return in January, unfortunately we don't have as many children but those who attend do so on a weekly basis and are a great bunch. They really appreciate what we do for them, and they also bring joy to us.

On a weekly basis, we enjoy music, football, crafts, games as well as the occasional Karaoke. As a church family, we should all pull together to mention what we offer to those who we know with school children of year 3 and above. It is great fun and also brings out the best in the children who attend.

We could not run the youth club without the incredible help and support of those who help out on a regular basis for which I can't thank you enough but in particular Gemma and Paul who run Ignite along with myself. We are always looking for extra help so if you feel that you could give up a couple of hours once every few weeks then please let us know.

Here's to another great year ahead of us.

David Patterson

