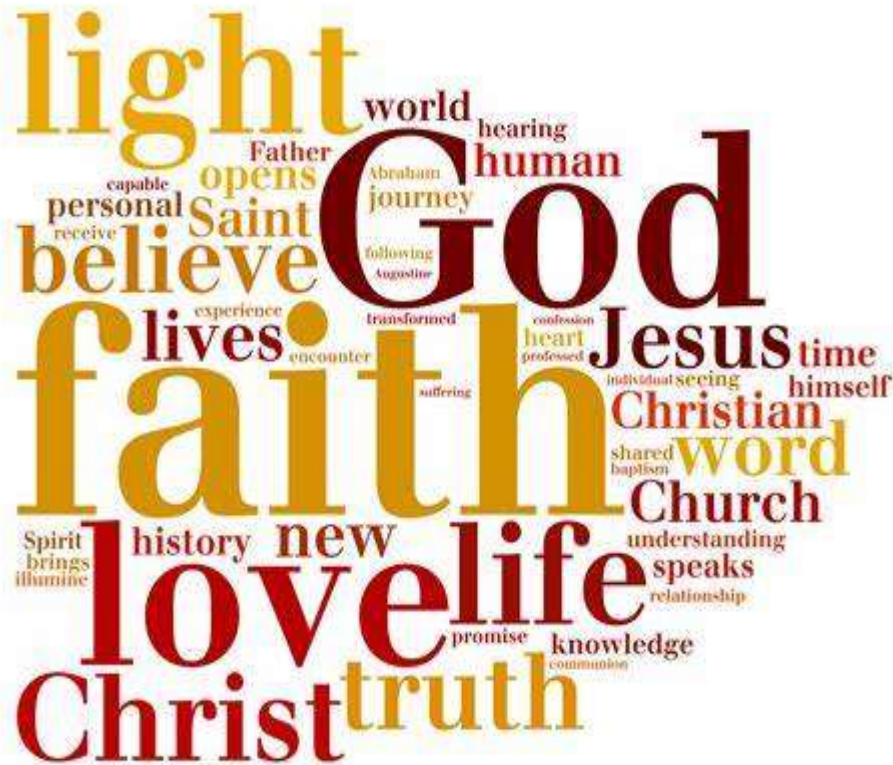


The Mission Area of Mold

The Annual Report of the Mission Area Conference

for the Year Ending December 2023



Mission Area Vision

To proclaim the Gospel of Christ and the beliefs of the Christian faith, to maintain the worship of God, and to inspire in all persons a love for Christ, a passion for righteousness, and a consciousness of their duties to God and their fellow human beings. We pledge our lives to Christ and covenant with each other to demonstrate His Spirit through worship, witnessing, and ministry to the needs of the people of these churches and our communities. We will work together across all churches within the Mission Area to develop a collaborative approach to mission and worship which supports the wider community.

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF MOLD MISSION AREA FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

CHARITY NAME: Mold MISSION AREA

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1176095

REGISTERED: 5th December 2017

MOLD MISSION AREA is situated in: The Archdeaconry of Wrexham within the Diocese of St Asaph

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS: 4 Pen y Coed, Nannerch, Mold, CH7 5RS

Mold Mission Area is made up of the following 11 Churches:

- St Mary the Virgin, Cilcain
- Holy Trinity, Gwernaffield
- St Berres, Llanferres
- St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch
- St John the Evangelist, Rhydymwyn
- Ss Eurgain & Peter, Northop
- St Mary's, Nercwys
- St Mary's Treuddyn
- Christ Church, Pontblyddyn
- St Mary the Virgin, Mold
- St James', New Brighton

THE MISSION AREA CONFERENCE (MAC)

The MAC Trustees for 2023/24 were as follows:

Lay Mission Area Leader: Mr Kevin Weston

Clergy:

- Rev'd Canon Martin Batchelor, Mission Hub Leader, Vicar of Mold & Northop
- Rev'd Dan Morgan, Mission Hub Curate
- Rev'd Daniel Stroud, Rector of the Bro Famau Group of Churches
- Rev'd Adrian Johnson, Assistant Curate, Bro Famau Group of Churches (resigned June 2023)
- Rev'd Jeanette Wilkes, Vicar of Treuddyn, Pontblyddyn & New Brighton (appointed July 2023)
- Rev'd Kathy Stewart, Vicar of Nercwys

Mission Area Warden: Mrs Melanie Morgan Crendon

Licenced Readers: Dr Wendy Shillito, Miss Dawn Wolstenholme

Pastoral Chaplain: Mr Ken Massey

Mission Hub Youth Worker: Mrs Esther Andrews

Ordinand: David Dobbs

MISSION AREA CONFERENCE MEMBERS AS AT THE MISSION AREA VESTRY ON 29TH MARCH 2023

Representing St Mary's, Cilcain – Mrs Amanda Griffiths and Mrs Kathleen Mason

Representing Holy Trinity, Gwernaffield – Mr Peter Davies

Representing St Berres, Llanferres – Mrs Daryl Austin and Mr Michael Cordiner

Representing St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch – Mrs Lindsey Wilding and Mr David Wright

Representing St John, the Evangelist, Rhydymwyn – Mrs Elizabeth Thomas and Mrs Marion Watts

Representing St Mary's, Nercwys – Mr Ken Bickerton and Sue Sawyer

Representing Christ Church, Pontblyddyn – Mrs Anne Jones and Miss Melanie Morgan Condren

Representing St Mary's Treuddyn – Mrs Susan Hellen and Mr Matthew Taylor

Representing St Mary, the Virgin, Mold – Mr Clive Briscoe and Mrs Helen Briscoe

Representing St James', New Brighton – Mr Adrian Maguire & Mrs Susan Maguire

Representing Ss Eurgain & Peter, Northop – Mrs Delyth Roberts and Mrs Gillian Neath

Mission Area Administrator & Treasurer: Mrs Geraldine Sanders

Mission Area Gift Aid Officer: Mrs Susan Hellen

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Church in Wales is governed by its Constitution, set up under section 13(1) of the Welsh Church Acts 1914, as amended from time to time by its Governing Body. The MISSION AREA CONFERENCE is not a body corporate. Its composition, procedures and powers are regulated by the Constitution, which provides that before assuming office, every member must sign a declaration that he or she will be bound by the Constitution.

The Constitution provides that the members of the MISSION AREA CONFERENCE shall be: The Incumbent, Vicars and Assistant Curates; two Church Wardens, one appointed by the Incumbent and one elected at the Annual Vestry Meeting (AVM); two Sub-wardens for each Church where there is more than one Church in the MISSION AREA, one appointed by the Incumbent and one elected at the AVM; Up to 25 lay members elected at the AVM; co-opted Secretary and Treasurer (if not already ex-officio or elected); and up to 7 further co-opted members. Lay, communicant persons over the age of 16 may be entered on an Electoral Roll (subject to certain conditions) and all such persons, so entered, are entitled to vote and to stand for election.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC BENEFIT

As required by the Charities Act 2011, the MISSION AREA CONFERENCE has given due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission in respect of the operation of the public benefit requirement. The activities undertaken to fulfil the MISSION AREA Conference's purposes for the public benefit are described and detailed hereunder. The Church in Wales is a Province within the Anglican Communion and seeks to advance the Christian religion through world-wide mission. It is the responsibility of the MISSION AREA CONFERENCE and the Incumbents to work together and co-operate in all matters of concern and importance to the MISSION AREA for the

promotion of the mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical in the MISSION AREA. The MISSION AREA CONFERENCE is responsible, inter-alia, for the MISSION AREA budget and all expenditure thereunder, the care and maintenance of Church fabric and of the Churchyards, and for any action or other matter referred to it in accordance with the Constitution and is the normal channel of communication between the people of the MISSION AREA and the Diocesan Bishop.

THE MISSION AREA CONFERENCE PROVIDES A BENEFIT TO THE PUBLIC BY:

- a) The provision of regular public worship
- b) The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- c) Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved
- d) Teaching of Christianity through sermons and small groups
- e) Taking of Assemblies in local schools
- f) Promotion of Christianity through staging of events and services, and distribution of literature
- g) The provision of a youth club with Christian ethos
- h) Promoting the whole mission of the Church in Wales in aiding community cohesion through provision of activities for older people, mothers and toddlers and other specific groups

The Structure of the Mission Area (MAC)

The Trustee Board (MAC) are responsible for all matters concerning the running of the Mission and meet on a quarterly basis. Any matter requiring action between meetings is done via email as are matters relating to the following Sub-committees.

The Property Sub-committee has delegated powers to oversee property matters including strategic planning for property, faculties, and Quinquennial inspections and is made up of the clergy and at least one other representative from each church. This committee is led by the Mission Area Leader (MAL), aided by the Mission Area Administrator (MAA), and meet on a quarterly basis to share best practice and report to the MAC.

The Finance Sub-committee is made up of the clergy and all the church treasurers and has delegated powers to oversee finance matters including strategic financial planning, MA share allocation, investments, grant applications and shared MA expenses. This committee is led by the Mission Area Treasurer (MAT), aided by the MAL and meets on a quarterly basis to share best practice and report to the MAC.

The Shared Ministry Team (SMT) is made up of the clergy, licenced readers, pastoral chaplain and mission hub youth worker, and has delegated powers to oversee ministry matters including provision of church services, fresh expressions, chaplaincy, youth and children's ministry, pastoral and bereavement care etc. The SMT meet on a monthly basis and is led by the MAL (aided by the MAA/MAT) and report to the MAC.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Lay Mission Area Leader and Mission Area Warden Report

A Last Beatitude

And blessed are the ones we overlook;
 The faithful servers on the coffee rota,
 The ones who hold no candle, bell or book
 But keep the books and tally up the quota,
 The gentle souls who come to “do the flowers”,
 The quiet ones who organise the fête,
 Church sitters who give up their weekday hours,
 Doorkeepers who may open heaven’s gate.
 God knows the depths that often go unspoken
 Amongst the shy, the quiet, and the kind,
 Or the slow healing of a heart long broken
 Placing each flower so, for a year’s mind.
 Invisible on earth, without a voice,
 In heaven their angels glory and rejoice.

M Guite

In November 2022; Archdeacon Andy asked if I would consider being a lay Mission Area Leader. It only involves around two hours per week. ☺ The role is one of a facilitator.

So I looked it up: “someone who helps to bring about an outcome (such as learning, productivity, or communication) by providing indirect or unobtrusive assistance, guidance, or supervision”.

I agreed and hope that I haven’t facilitated too badly for you in 2023!

Looking back over the last few years it is very clear that “Being a Mission Area” involves us all in the journey. We began as very separate churches, who felt called to work together. At first that was described as churches only coming together to do the things they couldn’t do on their own. Which was a good description and a good place to start but we are reaching a time where the churches do as much as possible together and only do the things we can’t do together on their own. Looking back over the past year I can see many instances where the Mission Area came together to work for the good of all. Not least in the way services are provided across all our Churches.

Becoming a united group of churches where decisions are made collaboratively between clergy and lay and shared with the whole group has taken time. However, I do believe that we are on the right track. The small sub committees (Finance, Buildings and Shared Ministry Team) which together form the support for the Mission Area Conference, work really well, with humour, reflection and a sense of collegiality.

On a stormy weekend in November 2021 we were fortunate to gather in “Top Church” with Bishop Gregory and see the formation of the Mold Hub. What an excellent way to leave the pandemic behind us. Thanks to the geography of our Mission Area, the Hub is indeed the centre of the wheel formed by our eleven Churches.

The Hub encompasses all ages, our usual services, youth work, small groups, new services, Emergence etc., community support, outreach to Mold Schools, holiday clubs and Alpha courses.

We continue to maintain regular worship in all our Churches, and most are open every day for personal prayer and reflection. Special services such as Crib and Carol Services at Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, Easter and Remembrance and All Souls Services in November are well attended and indicate a general need within society to link our secular world with an Omnipotent Being. Pastoral Care is provided across the Mission Area by clergy and pastoral assistants.

Within the Shared Ministry Team, the Rev'd Emma Dale and Rev'd Adrian Johnson left for new pastures and we wish them well. The Rev'd Dan Morgan was ordained Priest in June 2023, his achievement was celebrated with a combined MA service where people gathered to congratulate him as we worshipped and afterwards shared refreshments. In July we welcomed the Rev'd Jeanette Wilkes for the parishes of New Brighton, Pontblyddyn and Treuddyn.

We also welcome David Dobbs our new Ordinand.

Our thanks to Ryan Denton for the excellent cover when Esther was on leave.

Our Worship Leaders and Pastoral Assistants continue to increase in numbers and there will be further courses.

Thanks to the 1450 year celebration for St Asaph the Shared Ministry Team were able to travel and reflect on retreat in Eryri for a couple of days. It was beautiful; yet I lost my sole!

In 2023 the pulpit swaps have returned and will continue. Perhaps in 2024 we could have a choral swap?

A sincere thank you to Martin, Dan, Daniel, Jeanette, Kathy, Dawn, Esther, Wendy and Ken.

Our church treasurers pay as many bills as possible from the centre. This includes The Mission Area Share, Insurance, Parsonage Water rates, Church Music Licences, and the Salary for the Mission Area Administrator and Treasurer; this works really well.

In January we welcomed Geraldine Sanders to the new combined role of Mission Area Administrator and Treasurer. Our thanks to Sue Churm and Emily Clarke-Jones for seamlessly passing all the information from 2022.

Our thanks to Geraldine for her support and guidance given to our Mission Area.

Children and young families continue to be catered for in several different ways. The two church schools in our Mission Area federated in 2019 and now operate under the guidance of one executive head teacher. We are fortunate to have people within our Churches willing to give time to work as School Governors, and we are grateful to them.

Our thanks to the Messy Church Team for their wonderful contribution on behalf of our youngsters.

All our churches have been working to become Dementia friendly.

As always, we would like to convey our thanks to every member of our MA for all they do.

Sincerely

Kevin Weston.

Mel Morgan

Lay Mission Area Leader.

Mission Area Warden

Church reports

St Mary's Church Treuddyn

Worship in St Mary's Treuddyn has settled into a regular rhythm since July 2023 with 2 Eucharists, one morning prayer which was led by Paul Dendy our reader and an all age informal morning worship which is suitable for families, we are going to concentrate on building up all of our services to involve more people from the local community.

The church is open daily from 10am to 3pm, and from comments in the visitors book we can see that people regularly visit the church.

We have provided Baptism, Wedding and Funeral services throughout the year, and in the future, we need to work harder at maintaining contact with those who come into church for those occasional offices.

Ysgol Parc y Llan came into church for their Christmas Concerts this year, we are working on building better relationships between both schools and the church. The vicar is on the governing body of Ysgol Parc y Llan, and has been into school to do assemblies. These relationships will hopefully be built on in the future.

St James' Church New Brighton

The church has held many fund raising events throughout the year, usually a coffee morning and one other event, for example afternoon tea, cheese & wine, hot pot supper, St David's Day Welsh evening. The events have been very well attended by Church members, people from the village and members of Mold Church. The hall is well used for community events.

We have good links with the local Junior School. They have visited three times this year on one of which the children sang and "signed" every one of their songs to a packed Church.

The local drama group are still using the Church Hall, the Mothers' Union hold their monthly meetings there and the MU Diocese board of trustees hold their meetings once every quarter. The Church and hall are regularly used for the Mission Area Messy Church, because it is a very flexible space.

Of the planned improvements to the Church a new kitchen water heater and a de-humidifier for the Church were purchased. Meetings have been held with the Diocesan church inspector, Ryan Marsh, to discuss the heating needs of the Church. The recommendation is to have under pew heating in the Church, this will be priced and discussed further.

The discovery group prayer and Bible study has gone from strength to strength, with an average of 8 people attending each week.

Christ Church Pontblyddyn

The rota has settled into a pattern of 2 Communion services per month, one Morning Prayer and one informal all age worship.

Fundraising continued this year with a very successful Duck Race held at the Cricket club which we held in partnership with St Mary Treuddyn, and our regular coffee mornings have also been well

attended, We held several 'special' services during the year, including the commissioning service for the new Worship Leaders in the Mission Area led by Archdeacon Hayley Matthews, an Advent joint Service of light, and, for the first time in quite a few years, a Crib Service on Christmas Eve which was well attended.

In light of this we are going to arrange some more special services throughout the year. We have been working together with St Mary, Treuddyn and St James New Brighton with several joint services.

Christ Church is a re-ordered church and the space is very flexible with chairs instead of pews. We have held several sessions of the Mold MA Messy Church, and the space is also great for meetings and courses. Going forward we are going to hire out our space.

Revd Jeanette Wilkes, Vicar of Treuddyn, Pontblyddyn & New Brighton

St Mary's Church Nercwys.

The church members have achieved much over the past year and it was pleasing to note that all work on the disabled toilet/ kitchen extension has now been paid off and VAT reclaimed. We are now more able to offer refreshments after the services and have events such as the strawberry tea. The children from the local primary school have been invited in every term for a service.

We have continued to foster strong links with the school including offering Open the Book.

The church made a commitment to open the church daily from May until late October between 10-4pm and it was pleasing to read comments in the visitor's book from passers-by.

The church offers Holy Communion twice monthly alternating with Morning Prayer. There is also a family half hour service on the first Sunday of the month. During the week there is morning prayer on a Tuesday which is followed by coffee and chat when members of the community come along.

Nercwys is the smallest community in the Mold Mission Area but offers a caring and supportive community committed to the upkeep of the Grade II listed building and encouraging of outreach and preaching the good news.

Revd Kathy Stewart, NSM Vicar.

Bro Famau Group of Churches

Dear Friends

The previous few years have seen a significant amount of transition in our churches. We have been through the uncertainty of lockdowns and COVID, leadership transitions in wardens and curates, a change of schedule, and all the usual and occasional markers of the church year. It feels as if, however unsettled the world may be, that we are settling back into a more normal pattern of being.

At present we are engaging with every school in our patch. We have renewed our relationship with Ysgol y Foel in Cilcain, are continuing (and hopefully in the process of strengthening) our relationship with Ysgol Bro Famau, are looking forward to continuing to work with Ysgol Nannerch and its new head, and are still promoting Messy Church throughout the group and the mission area. It has also been a year with a significant number of baptisms. Along with the newly formed Pastoral Care group we hope to follow up with baptism families with invitations to continue to engage with the church.

With a recent run of pastoral issues recently, we are fortunate to have started a new pastoral care

committee. This group is focused on a variety of pastoral issues: follow up with baptisms, weddings, and funerals; pastoral visiting; welcome of newcomers to villages, and regular prayer for our churches and villages. With so many dealing with health issues at present, it is good to have such committed and caring people helping us to look after each other.

Attendant with many health issues is a significant number of funerals and burials. I have conducted, I believe, 65 funerals and burials in the past year and I know Wendy has taken some as well. Though many of them have sadly been for our own parishioners, many are simply those who live in our area and over whom we are given the cure of souls. Further, these services are often avenues into the church for those who are seeking, and we have had several join our regular congregations following the funeral of a loved ones. It must be said that there is something compelling about proclaiming life in the face of death.

Fortunately, we have also had a significant number of weddings as well, and I am hopeful that a more regular following-up with the newlyweds will help share the good news we have to offer with them effectively.

Our biggest change of the last year was the revamping of our worship schedule to regularise worship times across the group. Though it has not been entirely without hicccough, i think the stabilisation will bear fruit. One of the most important factors in making it easy for people to attend church and lowering the threshold to get them through the door is having services at regular times, so I am hopeful that this will help us as we move forward.

While I have not yet crunched the numbers entirely, cursory glances indicate that our attendance across the group is roughly back at (or even in some cases above) 2019 attendances. It must be said that this is significant given the dramatic challenges faced by so many churches and other voluntary organisations during this time. That we have managed to hold the line in the face of such difficulty is a testament to the work and witness of everyone within our communities. As we are fortunate to be receiving a full-time stipendiary curate this summer who will serve with us for the next three years, I fully expect us to not only hold the line but resume our pre-covid trend of growth not only in faith and spirituality, but also in numbers.

This brings me to my most significant point. None of these things happen but for the faithful and dedicated service of all of you. Given the realities of the new church, the size of the Bro Famau Group, and the ever increasing amounts of administrative... work... required by the powers-that-be, I view my role here as rector and vicar as one that should be focused on enabling and empowering the ministries of our members. Every Christian has a vocation and ministry, not only those in collars, and it should be the role of the church to help foster faithful discipleship and service in every Christian.

That you have all risen to the significant challenge set before you is a testament to your faith and perseverance. Long may it continue. I am immensely grateful to everyone for the work that they do to further the mission and ministry of the church, to care for the broken and hurting places we see in the world around us, and to help themselves and others to be better followers of Christ.

There have been many who have been ready to write the church's obituary for decades now, but our God has a habit of breathing new life in to that which is dead. So long as we are here to keep the flame of faith alive, the church's witness will continue, and one day the faith will once again burn as a beacon in this country.

Thank you to each and every one of you for all that you do in prayer, in contemplation, in work and service, and in worship. It is an honour and a joy to serve the Kingdom of God in this place.

Blessings,

Daniel Stroud, Rector, Bro Famau Group of Churches

St Mary's Mold

Thanks to my colleagues, the churchwardens, church committee and all involved in the life of the church who enable the church to keep working during the year.

You will see from this report that we were very active, but also our involvement in Parkfields community centre, through Cytun, the Mission Area and the wider community.

Worship at St Marys continued with our 8am and 11am Sunday services, together with the Wednesday midweek service. In March a new contemporary service began at 5pm each Sunday. Gradually during the year this service has grown to an average of 20 people. However it should be noted that all our services saw an increase in numbers, with the average each week increasing from 49 in January to 62 by December 2023.

Special services for Holy Week were held, as well as for Harvest, All Souls, the Civic Remembrance Sunday service and services for Advent and Christmas. We hosted some Mission Area services including Rev Dan Morgan's' first Eucharist after he was ordained as a priest in July.

In 2023 we officiated at:

Baptisms	15
Weddings	6
Funerals	16

Children/ Youth work were further developed, with a number of activity mornings held on a Saturday and a Film morning, as well as a Holiday Club during Easter. We continued to build on our links with local primary schools, with regular assemblies in school and services in church. Mold Alun began a cross curriculum project based on St Marys for year 7 in line with the new curriculum for Wales.

We ran 2 alpha courses during the year. Both hosted by The Gathering.

A variety of social events were held during the year, including an organ recital by Ian Tracey, hymns and pimms and strawberry tea.

Ss Eurgain & Peter, Northop

Thanks to my colleagues, the churchwardens, church committee and all involved in the life of the church who enable the church to keep working during the year.

It continues to be a good year for Northop Church and I am amazed amazing how well everyone works for the benefit of the church. It was all very encouraging. Rev'd Dan was priested this year and we are very fortunate in having him in our church, together with Ken and Dawn. The highlight of the year was the evening farmer's harvest service, which was very well supported. The children's activities taking place on Saturdays have also been very successful as have the mid-week services, showing a way forward to support the community

The faculty and quotations are in place to repair the church clock and we should see the positive outcome in 2024.

The graveyard is now full for burials but is still open for cremated remains.

Rev'd Canon Martin Batchelor, Vicar of St Mary's Mold and Ss Eurgain & Peter, Northop

Messy Church Annual Report for 2023.

There has been a strong commitment from a dedicated group of people from around the mission area who meet to plan, set up and invite children with their carers to Messy Church.

The Mission area covers 11 different churches and during this year we have used 3 churches in Gwernaffield, New Brighton and Pontblyddyn which provide the facilities required to hold Messy Church i.e. Space, kitchen and toilet and a good vacuum cleaner.

There were 9 sessions organised over the year with the following themes, The presentation of Christ in the Temple, Frozen, Easter crafts, Pentecost, the great picnic on Bailey Hill, Jonah, Harvest, messy money and Christingle.

Each session offered up to 6 crafts ideas which always included biscuits or cakes to decorate, after an hour we move into a worship quieter space for a story, talk about the crafts, a song and a prayer. We then return to go the main area which has been miraculously tidied and prepared for everyone to enjoy the food prepared for us.

We put information on our facebook page about events and always receive lovely comments and pictures from those who participated.

Messy Church is a free provision for all and is financially supported by the mission area.

The Messy Team

Dr Wendy Shillito, Cath Yeardly, Viv Craig, Caroline Ballard-East, Revd Jeanette Wilkes, Revd Kathy Stewart

Mold Mission Hub Report

Hub Leader overview

During 2023 we built on the previous years work. It has been encouraging to see all our congregations grow. As a hub team we have been fortunate to have been mentored by Lead Academy, an organisation working under the auspices of St Padarns. Through quarterly meetings they have helped us develop our strategy and keep focussed on our purpose. Their support has been invaluable.

During the year we started Emergence, our new contemporary service which is slowly growing, and Alpha continues to have a positive effect. We have discussed future plans to do with developing our churches welcome and how we invite people to services and events, and this has included

improving our website www.stmarysmold.org and social media presence especially on Facebook and Instagram.

Rev Canon Martin Batchelor

Emergence

The purpose of **Emergence** is to develop a weekly St Mary's Church service for those who wouldn't come to the more traditional morning or midweek services. Especially those who have little or no experience of church.



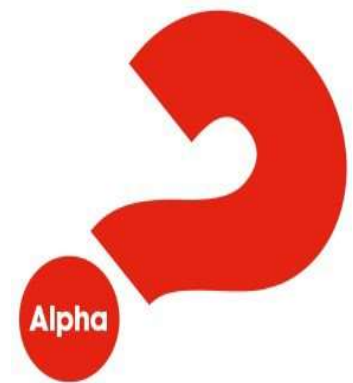
The feel of the service is informal and relaxed. The liturgy mainly takes the form of, some simple prayers and a block of worship songs released in the last 10 years led by a contemporary worship band.

There is preaching, often with interaction and discussion, also some- times opportunities for people to receive individual prayer.

Emergence started on 12th March 2023 and it has run most Sundays since. There was an initial flurry of interest before settling to a regular group of people in the summer, with steady growth since.

Alpha

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith for people of any faith or no faith at all. It runs for 11 weeks and comprises of video presentations and discussion times. It includes an Alpha Day which is the highlight of the course for most people



We have hosted two Alpha series in 2023 in The Gathering café in Mold, attended by a mixture of church and non-church people. Feedback is that Christians have grown in their faith, and non-Christians have come to a place of active faith.

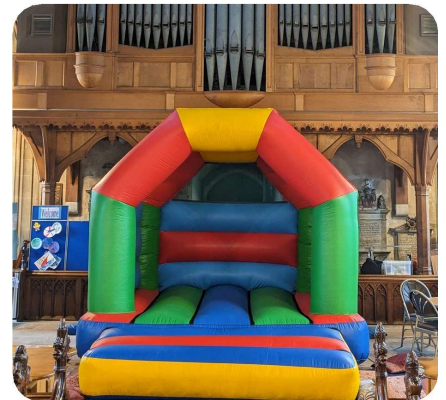
The third series is now underway and the goal is to run three per year with increasing numbers of non- Christians attending as word spreads.

Schools work

Our presence in local schools is going from strength to strength. Esther is now in both Mold Alun and Maes Garmon twice a week, holding pastoral referral sessions for students who may be struggling. In addition, she attends the lunchtime club in Mold Alun once a week. Esther is also planning a two week 'mini curriculum' for RVE lessons following the Easter holidays in the Alun. All Y7 students will have a lesson on prayer the first week, followed by a Prayer Spaces experience in the school hall during week 2. In 2022, this was a great success and encouraged the most wonderful conversations with young people about faith, spirituality and belief. Martin leads an assembly once a week at Ysgol Bryn Gwalia where the children are always delighted to see him. We hope that there is scope to increase what we are offering pastorally in Maes Garmon, whilst developing relationships and inviting young people/families to our events and services.

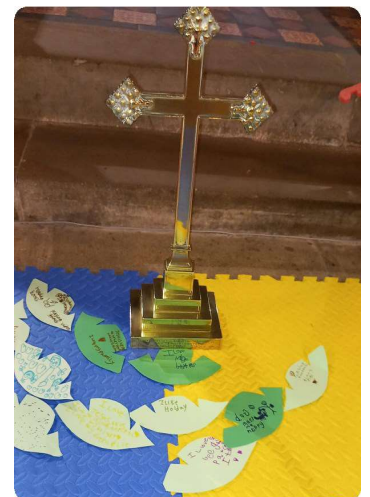
Church-based children and families work

Our craft mornings/afternoons in both Mold and Northop are flourishing. We had 50 people attend at Northop in February this year, with many families signing up to be kept informed about future events.



We are planning another craft morning in Mold for March, and also have a screening of 'Wonka' coming up for families on February 24th.

Esther is planning an Easter holiday club from March 25th – 27th, for children aged 5 – 11. This will be lots of fun, biblically based and will hopefully! - not only attract children to attend, but also enable to continued development of a children/youth work team at St. Mary's. We are planning to make this very low cost to be as accessible to families as possible. Toast for breakfast and a packed lunch will also be provided.



Youth work

Early in 2023 we began a small youth group at St. Mary's. We meet every 2 weeks after the Emergence service for pizza, hot chocolate, cakes, games and discussion. As our social media presence builds and presence in the schools deepens, we will keep inviting more young people to join us in our adventure of faith.

Financial Review

The receipts and payments for the year, and the assets and liabilities at the year-end are shown in the statements of accounts which accompany this report.

Reserves Policy

The MISSION AREA CONFERENCE aims to retain a balance of unrestricted "free" reserves to provide working capital, and to meet any future shortfalls in receipts or unexpected payments, at least equal to 9 months payments. The unrestricted reserves amount detailed below is in line with this policy.

APPROVED by the MISSION AREA Conference at the Mission Area Vestry on 4th April 2024

and signed on its behalf by



Mr Kevin Weston
MISSION AREA LEADER

MISSION AREA ACCOUNTS
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>						
Donations and legacies	212,895	22,525	16,080	-	251,500	215,929
Income from charitable activities	26,196	-	10,024	-	36,220	41,182
Other trading activities	84,239	(1,979)	119	-	82,379	69,743
Investments	2,001	1,667	6,342	-	10,009	4,888
Other income	5,000	172,056	-	-	177,056	15,412
Total income	330,332	194,268	32,564	-	557,164	347,154
<i>Expenditure on:</i>						
Raising funds	7,193	-	-	-	7,193	4,315
Expenditure on charitable activities	315,461	63,115	36,566	-	415,142	399,247
Other expenditure	5,000	124	-	-	5,124	2,020
Total expenditure	327,654	63,239	36,566	-	427,459	405,582
Gains / losses on investment assets	55,796	914	6,162	-	62,872	(3,073)
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	58,473	131,943	2,160	-	192,577	(61,501)
<i>Transfers</i>						
Gross transfers between funds - in	93,620	82,405	106,463	-	282,488	121,087
Gross transfers between funds - out	(125,243)	(77,352)	(79,894)	-	(282,489)	(121,087)
Year end adjustment re Bro Famua	-	280	-	-	280	-
<i>Other recognised gains / losses</i>	-	-	9,503	-	9,503	-
Net movement in funds	26,850	137,276	38,231	-	202,358	(61,501)
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>						
Total funds brought forward	169,537	109,028	247,245	-	525,810	587,311
Total funds carried forward	196,387	246,304	285,476	-	728,168	525,810

Represented by

Unrestricted

General fund	196,387	-	-	-	196,387	169,537
--------------	---------	---	---	---	---------	---------

Designated

Boiler Fund	-	-	-	-	-	11,842
Cilcain Show Account	-	9,796	-	-	9,796	139
Reorder	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gwernaffield Reordering	-	10,045	-	-	10,045	18,765
Messy Church etc	-	1,000	-	-	1,000	696
Mission Area Development Officer Salary	-	-	-	-	-	7,521
Mold Bro Famau Group	-	(1,616)	-	-	(1,616)	-
Mold Fabric Fund	-	(15,873)	-	-	(15,873)	22,099
Mold Work with Children	-	425	-	-	425	-
Nercwys Investment	-	10,930	-	-	10,930	15,235
New Brighton new boiler & heating system	-	5,430	-	-	5,430	4,783
Northop Fabric Fund	-	32,118	-	-	32,118	21,048
Pontblyddyn Fabric Fund	-	510	-	-	510	510
Rhyd r/ordering designated	-	-	-	-	-	5,003
St Berres Fabric Fund	-	20,179	-	-	20,179	-
St Mary's Northop Hall, General	-	-	-	-	-	(192)
St Mary's Mold Reordering Fund	-	171,756	-	-	171,756	-
Treuddyn Donald Beckett Trust Fund	-	1,604	-	-	1,604	1,579

Restricted

Agency collection	-	-	-	-	-	10,413
Bro Famau Group	-	-	-	-	-	345
Church Flowers & Festival Dec Fund	-	-	-	-	-	4
Ciclain Fabric Fund	-	-	88,337	-	88,337	83,637
Fabric Fund	-	-	-	-	-	1,752
Gwernaffield Churchyard restricted	-	-	1,920	-	1,920	3,011
Gwernaffield Flower Guild	-	-	355	-	355	355
Mold Examination Fee	-	-	240	-	240	-
Mold Hub	-	-	19,798	-	19,798	-
Mold Retreat	-	-	188	-	188	-
Mold MA Share	-	-	9,657	-	9,657	-
Mold Salary and Expenses	-	-	13,971	-	13,971	-
Messy Church etc	-	-	753	-	753	244
Mold Fabric Fund	-	-	28,642	-	28,642	23,429
Nannerch Churchyard	-	-	4,435	-	4,435	3,949
Nercwys Chancel Repair	-	-	3,316	-	3,316	-
Nercwys Churchyard	-	-	1,441	-	1,441	1,372
Nercwys War Stock	-	-	2,000	-	2,000	1,558
Northop Churchyard Fund	-	-	64,317	-	64,317	97,045
Northop Clock Fund	-	-	360	-	360	-
Northop Grammar School Fund	-	-	11,792	-	11,792	11,803
Pontblyddyn Charitable Church Purposes	-	-	8,539	-	8,539	-
Pontblyddyn Churchyard Maintenance Fund	-	-	603	-	603	579
Rhydymwyn Churchyard Fund	-	-	1,027	-	1,027	3,026
Rhydymwyn Fabric Fund	-	-	5,252	-	5,252	-
Rhydymwyn Toddlers	-	-	872	-	872	-
St Berres Church Flowers	-	-	44	-	44	-
St Berres Churchyard Fund	-	-	(2,477)	-	(2,477)	-
St Mary's Mold Chancel Repair	-	-	1,560	-	1,560	-
St Mary's Mold Community Café	-	-	400	-	400	-
St Mary's Mold Warm Hub	-	-	3,495	-	3,495	-
Treuddyn Chancel Repair Fund	-	-	9,503	-	9,503	-
Treuddyn Churchyard Account	-	-	5,136	-	5,136	4,721

MISSION AREA ACCOUNTS
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

		As at 31/12/2023	As at 31/12/2022
Fixed assets			
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	6431: Miss Irene Vaughan Trust	6,096	5,773
Christ Church Pontblyddyn	6431:E Taylor Trust	8,539	-
St Mary's Church Treuddyn	6431:Chancel repair fund	9,503	-
Holy Trinity Church Gwernaffield	6434: Long Term Investment	680	680
Saint Berres	6434: Other investments COIF accumulation	-	16,552
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6434: Long term investment	-	67,271
St Marys Nercwys	6434: Long term investment	3,316	15,235
St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch	6434: Long term investment	6,210	6,867
St Marys Nercwys	6434: Long term investment	12,930	
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6434: Long term investment	12,479	
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6434: Long term investment	5,779	
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6434: Long term investment	36,413	
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6434:Chancel repair fund	1,560	
St Mary's Cilcain	6534: Other Investments	-	85,107
Total Fixed assets		103,505	197,486
Current assets			
Christ Church Pontblyddyn	6501: Current Account	3,939	8,111
Holy Trinity Church Gwernaffield	6501: Current Account	14,930	29,461
Mold Mission Area	6501: Current Account	67,923	62,154
Saint Berres	6501: Current Account	7,704	20,367
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6501: Current Account	159,634	806
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	6501: Northop/Northop Hall current a/c 3791	15,559	707
St James' Church	6501: Current Account	5,574	4,338
St John the Evangelist Rhydymwyn	6501: Rhydymwyn Current Account	16,371	16,413
St Mary's Church Treuddyn	6501: Current Account	6,922	7,185
St Mary's Cilcain	6501: Current Account	1,674	5,176
St Marys Nercwys	6501: Current Account	16,038	15,097
St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch	6501: Current Account	37,964	5,893
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	6502: Churchyard current a/c 5417	3,965	1,958
St John the Evangelist Rhydymwyn	6502: Bro Famau Group Current Account	-	119
St Mary's Church Treuddyn	6502: Treuddyn Churchyard account	5,136	4,853
St Mary's Church Treuddyn	6503: Donald Beckett Trust Fund account	1,604	1,581
St Mary's Cilcain	6504: Cilcain Show (Barclays)	9,796	9,589
Holy Trinity Church Gwernaffield	6505: Deposit Account	5,194	5,012
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6505: Deposit Account	-	17,133
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	6505: Northop Deposit a/c COIF04C	215	206
St James' Church	6505: Deposit Account	5,030	4,783
St John the Evangelist Rhydymwyn	6505: NS&I Deposit Account	240	240
St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch	6505: Deposit Account	38	37
St Mary's Cilcain	6506:95 Day Business Notice Account	88,337	-
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6506: Building Account	791	778
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	6506: Churchyard Deposit a/c COIF03C	53,763	88,867
St John the Evangelist Rhydymwyn	6506: NS&I Churchyard Account	1,027	1,026
St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch	6506: NS&I Investment	1,247	-
Saint Berres	6506: Savings Account	20,179	-
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6507: 49 Club	17,464	16,091
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	6507: Fabric Deposit a/c COIF02C	33,364	36,738
Saint Berres	6507:Savings Account	10,086	-

Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	6508: Grammar School Deposit a/c COIF01C	12,354	11,835
Holy Trinity Church Gwernafield	6590: cash in hand (flower guild)	155	155
Saint Berres	6590: Cash in hand	44	4
St James' Church	6590: Cash in hand	22	-
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	6590: Cash in hand	288	288
St John the Evangelist Rhydymwyn	6590: Cash in hand	91	169
Mold Mission Area	Z05: Accounts Receivable	-	60
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	Z05: Accounts Receivable	-	874
Total Current assets		624,663	377,869
Liabilities			
Christ Church Pontblyddyn	Z04: Accounts Payable	-	106
Mold Mission Area	Z04: Accounts Payable	-	47,990
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	Z04: Accounts Payable	-	198
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	Z04: Accounts Payable	-	1,250
Total Liabilities		-	49,545
Net Asset surplus (deficit)		728,168	525,811
Reserves			
Christ Church Pontblyddyn	Excess / (deficit) to date	- 4,172	- 1,466
Holy Trinity Church Gwernafield	Excess / (deficit) to date	- 14,349	6,288
Mold Mission Area	Excess / (deficit) to date	5,661	444
Saint Berres	Excess / (deficit) to date	799	3,579
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	Excess / (deficit) to date	128,080	- 15,353
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	Excess / (deficit) to date	- 21,093	- 8,705
St James' Church	Excess / (deficit) to date	1,506	- 248
St John the Evangelist Rhydymwyn	Excess / (deficit) to date	424	- 107
St Mary's Church Treuddyn	Excess / (deficit) to date	13	- 4,292
St Mary's Cilcain	Excess / (deficit) to date	- 66	- 6,214
St Marys Nercwys	Excess / (deficit) to date	828	- 29,513
St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch	Excess / (deficit) to date	32,074	- 2,842
Christ Church Pontblyddyn	Z01: Starting balances	8,004	9,471
Holy Trinity Church Gwernafield	Z01: Starting balances	35,308	29,021
Mold Mission Area	Z01: Starting balances	14,223	13,779
Saint Berres	Z01: Starting balances	36,923	33,185
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	Z01: Starting balances	103,043	122,450
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	Z01: Starting balances	144,836	154,218
St James' Church	Z01: Starting balances	9,122	9,369
St John the Evangelist Rhydymwyn	Z01: Starting balances	17,730	17,836
St Mary's Church Treuddyn	Z01: Starting balances	13,619	17,911
St Mary's Cilcain	Z01: Starting balances	99,872	104,716
St Marys Nercwys	Z01: Starting balances	30,332	59,414
St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch	Z01: Starting balances	12,798	14,862
Saint Berres	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	290	160
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mold	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	3,285	- 4,054
Ss Eurgain & Peter's Church, Northop	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	1,573	- 677
Mold Mission Area	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	47,762	-
Christ Church Pontblyddyn	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	8,645	-
St John the Evangelist Rhydymwyn	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	- 424	-
St Mary's Church Treuddyn	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	30	-
St Mary's Cilcain	Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	-	1,371
St Marys Nercwys	Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	1,124	431
St Michael & All Angels, Nannerch	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	588	778
St Mary's Church Treuddyn	Z03:Gains/(losses) on reval of fixed assets	9,503	-
Mold Mission Area	Z10:Adjustment re Bro Famau	278	-
Total Reserves		728,168	525,811

Represented by Funds

Unrestricted	196,387	171,925
Designated	246,304	112,986
Restricted	285,476	240,899
Endowment	-	-
	728,168	525,811

MISSION AREA ACCOUNTS
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at: 31 December 2023

Class and nominal code	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Last year
Fixed assets						
6431 : Miss Irene Vaughan Trust	-	-	6,096	-	6,096	5,773
6431: E Taylor Trust	-	-	8,539	-	8,539	-
6431: Chancel Repair	-	-	9,503	-	9,503	-
6434 : Long Term Investment	43,303	23,409	12,655	-	79,367	105,228
6434 : Other	-	-	-	-	-	1,377
6534 : Other Investments	-	-	-	-	-	85,107
Total	43,303	23,409	36,793	-	103,505	197,486
Current assets						
6501 : Current Account	120,208	152,420	81,604	-	354,232	175,721
6502 : Churchyard current a/c 5417	-	-	3,965	-	3,965	1,958
6502 : Treuddyn	-	-	5,136	-	5,136	4,721
6503 : Donald Beckett	-	1,604	-	-	1,604	1,581
6504 : Cilcain Show	-	9,796	-	-	9,796	9,589
6505 : Deposit Account	4,926	5,792	-	-	10,717	27,412
6506 : Building Account	-	-	791	-	791	1,018
6506 : Savings Account	-	20,179	-	-	20,179	-
6506 : Churchyard	-	-	53,763	-	53,763	88,628
6506 : 95 day notice	-	-	88,337	-	88,337	-
6506 : NS&I Churchyard Account	-	-	1,027	-	1,027	1,026
6506 : NS&I Investment	-	-	1,247	-	1,247	-
6507 : 49 Club	17,464	-	-	-	17,464	16,189
6507 : 35 day notice	10,086	-	-	-	10,086	-
6507 : Fabric Deposit a/c COIF02C	-	33,104	260	-	33,364	36,640
6508 : Grammar School	-	-	12,354	-	12,354	11,835
6532 : Quoted Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
6532 : Quoted investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
6590 : Cash in hand	402	-	44	-	446	461
6590 : cash in hand (flower guild)	-	-	155	-	155	155
Z05 : Accounts Receivable	-	-	-	-	-	934
Total	153,084	222,895	248,683	-	624,662	377,869
Liabilities						
Z04 : Accounts Payable	-	-	-	-	-	49,545
Total	-	-	-	-	-	49,545
Net total assets	196,387	246,304	285,476	-	728,167	525,811

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Mold Mission Area Conference

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Mission Area Conference (MAC) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The MAC considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- 2) which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(Name) Lois Anne Hughes (Date) 02/04/24

(Qualification, if any) FMIAAT

(Address) 25 Grosvenor Road

Wrexham