

Annual General Meeting

28th March 2023

Book of Reports



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Office Holders, Leaders and Team Coordinators 2022-23

Minister: Rev Bernard Fidler

Serving Elders: Val Cannon (2021) Peter Hollander (2018)
David Cobb (2018) Caroline Camp (2019)
Chris Wilson-Sharp (2019) Janet Wilson-Sharp (2019)
Jonathan Hollander (2020)

Church Secretary: Caroline Camp (from 2020)

Treasurer: Peter Hollander **Gift Aid:** Janet Wilson-Sharp
Offering: David Cobb

Administrator: Alice Wilson-Sharp

Safeguarding: Sue Wenham Deputy (vacant)

Authorised for Weddings: **DBS checks:** Malcolm McIntyre

Church Flowers: Mark Camp Catriona McIntyre

Fabric Team

David Spires Robert Deakin Hugh Marsh Peter Hollander

Church Representatives

Synod Val Cannon

Christians Together in Canterbury Sue Marsh

Christian Aid Vacancy

Food Bank Kate Bassett

Street Pastors (Andrew Pantling)

World Day of Prayer Caroline Camp

Small Group Leaders

Life Groups Val Cannon (in church, Tuesday afternoons)
Bernard Fidler (on Zoom, Wednesday evenings)

Men's Group: Mark Camp Malcolm McIntyre Jonathon Hollander

Church and worship rotas: Chris Wilson-Sharp

Preaching rota: Val Cannon

Sound desk and technical support: Jonathan Hollander

Prayer Ministry Team

Leader: Chris Wilson-Sharp

Church Website

Coordinators: David Cobb Alice Wilson-Sharp Jonathan Hollander

Oasis Café Team

Leaders: Patricia Hollander Sue Wenham

Church Cleaning

Team led by Sue Wenham Donald MacDonald

Stewarding Groups

Group 1 Dina Beukes
Group 2 Margaret Ashdown
Group 3 David Spires
Group 4 Peter Hollander

Littlebourne chapel Peter Hollander Jonathan Hollander

MINISTER'S REPORT

Dear friends,

Last year's report I started with reflecting on the end of Covid, and at that time the news of invasion of Ukraine was very recent. Now we are a year further on and fighting is still continuing in the Ukraine and it does not seem to be a war that will finish quickly. But in respect to last year for the church 2022 has been less eventful. But the society around us has seen a lot of changes.

We've had three prime ministers in this time. The queen passed away and Prince Charles became King. The 'mini-budget' had major implications for society, economy and our financial well-being. With the war in the Ukraine, we are now all used to higher gas and electricity prices, but I am sure that most of us feel that we have less money left over at the end of the month, and some of us find it more difficult to make ends meet.

We also have seen a further secularisation of society, and possibly a hardening of hearts in our society. People seem to be less tolerant of one another and of each other's view. Everyone seems to be on the defensive and different Christian views are not welcomed at all by some very vocal groups, often accompanied with assertive or aggressive language.

With all of this, it is not easy to be a Christian and proclaim the good news of Christ in society! But this is what Christ calls us to do at our 'frontlines'; the term we have learned from our journey with LICC (London Institute of Contemporary Christianity).

But for me it feels that 2022 was a preparation year for us. We started a number of initiatives in 2021 which have grown more mature during 2022. We have continued, under the leadership of Peter, Jonathan and Patricia Hollander, to worship at Littlebourne. We are very thankful that this year (2023) we hope to receive the two new Littlebourne friends into membership. It also has been a training ground to learn more about how to lead services and preach on Mark and now Acts. Although the impact has been small numerically, I think it has spiritually made a lot of difference and we have made friends from Littlebourne's St Vincent Church.

The Men's group has also flourished and we started to meet more frequently, and in the middle of the year, while I was on sabbatical, I was pleased to learn that Jonathan had started a Bible Study on Romans for this group, which has been well attended. But the social aspect has also been good, with a Chinese meal and board games amongst other things. I would especially like to thank Mark and Malcolm for their leadership.

We have continued to open the church on Wednesday lunch times for passers-by and employees from Whitefriars to come and find a quiet space in our church. Although we have not seen many people making use of that, we still feel that we should keep on doing this.

Another initiative that has had a boost last year was our Prayer Ministry group. There is a separate report, but over 2022 we have grown in number and confidence, which has resulted in the Lord sending us more people in 2023 to receive prayer ministry. We are grateful that God has used us in this way to help people come to terms with past trauma or current difficult circumstances. This ministry received another boost in that the Dunamis Fellowship of Britain and Ireland (DFB&I) asked us if we could host the Advanced Course for Healing and Deliverance at St Andrews during June and July. We were able to invite quite a few Christians from other fellowships to taste what this was like and as a result two more people joined our prayer ministry group. Of course, members of the prayer ministry group also

joined in with the training and all received certificates of attendance! It also resulted in the DFB&I wanting to run a full Dunamis Project series of conferences at St Andrews starting in 2024. This is a series of six conferences over three years aimed to help Christians to receive more from the Holy Spirit and to learn to cooperate with him. In the autumn of 2023, we hope to host an Ignite day: a taster day for Dunamis Project.

We have continued our relationship with Favour House Church and Pastor King James, and we have had many successful Healing Wings praise and prayer for healing sessions on the first Saturday of the Month.

And of course, I have had my sabbatical! It was good to be away for a bit from St Andrews and Sandwich and apart from the walking it also allowed me to attend worship services at different churches in Canterbury, from the Cathedral to Emmanuel Church and City Church. It is good to see that the Christian faith is still strong in Canterbury in the other churches! You can also see a report of my sabbatical in this book of reports.

It does feel that a number of things that we have prepared for in 2022 are now to come to fruition. I especially value our “Dwelling in His Presences” prayer and praise meetings that we have started together with King James on Thursday lunch times. It is good to gather with Christians of different churches and spend time with them in God’s presence. He has really blessed these sessions. I am sorry that due to other commitments I have not been able to attend as much as I would have liked, but I can recommend to everyone!

So let us continue to hold fast on what we have learned in our series of Revelations. Whatever turmoil the world may bring: Jesus Christ is the Alpha and the Omega, and he has everything in his hands. Therefore, let us also continue to run the race for Jesus in this year.

God bless you all.

Revd Bernard Fidler

SABBATICAL REFLECTIONS

Experience

I am not sure how can I can summarise the experience of this Pilgrimage Walk. As I said in the introduction, I wanted to do this during my sabbatical as I have never been on such a long walk before. Other people have experienced pilgrimage as a deeply spiritual experience. I must admit that I have not experienced this time in this way, mainly because I was mostly very tired! Walking with a heavy rucksack was more strenuous than I had expected. This became the focus of each day - how could I walk as quickly and easily to my destination, so that I could take off my backpack and put my feet up!

Having said this, it does not mean that I did not enjoy this time. I find that walking allows my mind to be freer and focusing on each step in front of me helps my mind to be quieter, and my thinking less frantic, or jumping from one topic to another. Often there I have no conscious thoughts, as I am focusing on the rhythm, the route, the directions and the destination of that day.

I discovered that I am not a person that thinks deeply during walking. I know that others pray during walking, but I think I need more a time of focus and no activity or being in a group.

Did I therefore not experience God in this time? Maybe not consciously, but I was aware of many occasions where he has gone before me or alongside me. Situations where somehow

issues were resolved before I became aware of them; a kind of guiding along. The kind where we notice God in hindsight, but not at the time!

But there have also been times where I needed to push ahead. Where it may have been easier to give up, but where I needed to push through myself. For instance, when I wanted to take the bus on the way to Winchester, but after a rest and a time of prayer, I felt strong enough to carry on.

In this part I wanted to highlight some of these experiences and reflect a bit on them. The second part is the actual blog I kept during this time.

Preparation

Just a few words on preparing for the journey. This also took more time than I expected. It consisted of three parts: 1) Planning the journey, 2) Arranging accommodation and 3) Acquiring equipment.

At the beginning of the year, I started with the planning. Fortunately, the route is planned in detail by the British Pilgrimage Society for the Old Way (Southampton to Reading), and the Confraternity of St James (CSL) for the St James' Way (Reading to Southampton). Both these routes were divided up in easy chunks, but I needed to be sure that every evening I was going to be in a place where accommodation was available. This meant quite a few hours planning with Outdoor Active, which allows to upload the GPX files (GPS Exchange Format). Both organisations have these available, which allows you to see the route on maps on-line or on the phone for planning and navigation. This made this exercise a lot easier! But I still had to divide the route up into chunks that I thought would be possible for me to achieve during a day. Sometimes only 10 miles at other times 17 miles. In total I walked for 15 days, on average 13.2 miles per day, 17 miles maximum, and 8.5 miles for the half days. I did not plan to walk on Sundays as that was going to be my rest day. But as I did not have transport I had to walk then as well, but shorter distances and without a back pack.

Hospitality

The one thing that amazed me most this trip, was the way that people offered hospitality on this journey. On the stretch between Southampton and Canterbury there were quite a few Churches offering Sanctuary. They advertised on the British Pilgrimage web site that people can stay overnight in the church. They had minimum facilities like toilets and kitchens. The other option was to ask churches if I could stay overnight with them. They may not have had those minimum facilities, but if they didn't my Sabbatical Supervisor assured me that often members of churches would not mind offering hospitality in their homes.

This was certainly true. In total I stayed with 12 host families, in 7 Sanctuary Churches for 10 nights (every weekend I was in a Sanctuary Church, so three extra nights) and then I organised 5 nights in paid accommodation). All the host families offered dinner and breakfast. Not only did it not cost me a lot, but the hospitality they offered was gratefully received.

It has to be said that most people offering hospitality were well off and either retired or at the end of their careers. Most had a leadership role in the churches I had contacted (Church Warden, Stewards. Lay Preachers or other leadership functions), although some were 'just' regular congregation members, but even if they were, they were active members of the churches that they belonged to. All were very friendly, accommodating, and even caring. Especially those occasions that I came to them wet, dirty and tired. And they often offered to dry things for me or even wash things for me. Without this aspect of the pilgrimage, it would have been a totally different experience.

Also, the sanctuary churches offered great hospitality. Of course, I would have to cater for myself and make an evening meal and breakfast, but often the kitchen facilities were enough to be able to heat up a ready meal and make cereal and a hot drink in the morning. Most were welcoming in a way that made me feel connected to them in one shape or form, but there were a few churches where the experience was a bit more ‘transactional’.

But even the paid hospitality turned out to be more than I expected. The range varied from being in a youth hostel like accommodation, and a traveller’s hut, to Airbnb and one hotel. I had also planned to stay in a Youth Hostel, but I had not picked up that I had to have a photo id (and in my case as EU citizen a passport) in order to check in. They made this very clear with emails and text messages, but by then I was on my way and could not make amends. I had especially not taken anything with me, in case I lost it! As I sometimes leave things behind that made sense.

Fortunately, I was able to rebook to an Airbnb. The hosts there were so hospitable that they offered to do washing for me, shared meals with me and even took me shopping for the next day! This was over and above what was required and expected. But it was very nice!

It is through other people I discovered God caring for me. And that made me think of my own practice of hospitality and of the Church’s practice of hospitality. Especially when hospitality means giving of our time and resources to maybe the less interesting people. Or the people we find it difficult to be with. This is not yet fully crystallised in my thinking and action but God has given us individually and corporately so many resources. How can we share those resources with others and what is the cost for us.

As a pilgrim guest I am actually quite easy to give hospitality to. I am staying a limited and defined period of time. Due to the nature of my role and my purpose I am perceived to be interesting. I am a good listener and am willing to hear other people’s views, stories and circumstances. I am not too demanding and happy and thankful for all that my hosts have provided me with. After that I am gone again – maybe pleasant memories of being with my hosts, but life continues, as my journey continued.

In church settings this is different. The people that we meet we may meet on a regular basis. We may give of our time and resources, and then we find that they come back again. And we have to give more time and more resources. Some people connected to our congregation are really in very difficult situations: loneliness, ill health, poverty, lack of housing. Not things that are easily resolved but things that need more time and attention. Some of them can be very demanding and are not conscious of our boundaries or may deliberately test them. Some of them can take our efforts for granted: this is what the Church does (or at least should do).

How can we provide hospitality to them? How can we be sure that we are OK and not give too much. Or is the fear of us giving too much, stopping us from engaging with people who need us? In the end Jesus gave us his all – are we not his disciples and should we not follow him in this as well?

Challenges

Of course, there have been challenges during the course of the pilgrimage. Overall, however, due to careful planning, all the arrangements worked out, the places to stay, the route to take, which I had planned and requested beforehand. There was only one accommodation where I needed final confirmation during the pilgrimage itself.

I sometimes wonder if I should have been braver and have relied more on God and the people in the places that I visited at the time of arrival. But I do not think I am brave enough to set out on a week’s or a 3 week’s journey without careful planning! But the nature of the

pilgrimage would be totally different, as well as the challenges.

But at this time the challenges seem to be more benign, but fall into a number of categories: obstacles, weather, physique and accommodation.

Firstly obstacles: In general, most of the roads and footpaths were easily accessible, but there were occasions where the path was there but totally overgrown. Fortunately, I could clear most paths with my walking pole, but there were occasions where the path was so overgrown, that I could not go through and had to find an alternative route. That is always a bit nerve-racking as I did not know how to join with the path further on. On one occasion the path on the way to Worting was fully overgrown, and I could only walk on the golf course which ran alongside it. Golfers are often very well attired and me in my scruffy and sweaty outfit stood out a bit. Furthermore, I was worried about being challenged, as I had not paid! And then I could join the footpath again at the end of the golf course, or make my way to the entrance, and walk a long way around. Fortunately, near the boundary of the golf course there was an opening to the path again, and I could wrestle my way through the brambles to get through onto a normal path again.

Another big obstacle as one my way to Houghton. First of all, fallen trees blocked the path. It was also a rainy day and the tidal river was high and the path ran parallel to the river and the ground was very wet. Fortunately, there was a boardwalk, and after navigating two fallen trees, by sliding my backpack on the boards underneath the trees, I got to a bit where the boardwalk stopped. The only thing remaining was what looked like a pond overgrown with brambles. I was probably only 15 minutes away from my accommodation, but I had to go back, navigating the trees again and the back to the main road. By this time, it was rush hour, so donning my Hi-Viz jacket I walked about 1.5 miles on a very busy main road. I was very glad when I arrived.

Weather. It is said that there is no bad weather, only bad clothing. And that may be true, but it is much nicer to walk in the sun, or even in the dry. Every blog entry has also an overview of the weather of that day, as it is very important. Mostly the weather was very nice or quite good. But some days rain makes the day very hard. The story above is an example, but my first rainy day was on my walk to Alresford, north of Winchester. The day started nice, but then the weather turned from hot sunny weather to more autumnal. That meant that I was not prepared clothes wise when the rain started, and had to put on my rain gear for the first time. So, I got quite wet, including my boots. After that the weather cleared but walking in wet boots alongside quite boring roads and paths, including a long drover path, which was straight and paved with loose stones, did not do my feet any good. This resulted in quite severe blisters, which did not help my resolve to continue on the next day!

Physique. I have already mentioned the blisters, which kind of stayed with me for the rest of the walk. They did heal, but my feet were more sensitive, and because my boots did not quite fit (which I only noticed when the blisters formed on that day, before they were quite comfortable), walking did become more tiring and slower.

I had practised beforehand but, how can you train your body to walk 6 days a week? In hindsight I should have had a rest day in the middle of the week, but that would have added to the duration of the trip and the cost of accommodation. As a result of walking 12-17 miles my body got quite sore and tired. This does not help with being able to accommodate other challenges, so I did find that I had to discipline myself to continue walking very day!

Answered Prayer

People always ask if the Pilgrimage has been a ‘Spiritual Experience’. And as I said before

this has not been the case for me as much. I think that my spiritual experiences are always based in a group setting with other people. But that does not mean that I have not felt the presence of God, especially in the form of answered prayer.

The first time was on the day after the walk to Alresford, on my way to Winchester. I found myself at the church of Kings Worthy, and I was very tired and my feet hurt. The day was beautiful and the weather was good. I just felt the tiredness of the previous day. And I found here the temptation of the bus! At the church was a bus stop and my trusty phone informed me that if I took the bus here, I would be in Winchester in half an hour! So, I sat there for a while, deciding what to do. Unsure what to do, I prayed. And after about half an hour's rest, I came to the conviction to continue the walk. I would have hated it if I had not done the full walk, especially at the beginning. I do not know if this conviction came from God, but I do know that the prayer helped to make my mind up and gave me the energy and determination to continue.



The second time was not so much of one where I had verbalised a prayer. On Monday 12 September I was at Apuldrum south of Chichester. I had a good day with the congregation on Sunday morning and then the open-air service of the United Church in Winchester. But this morning I could just lock the door behind me and go. Unlike other times, there was no-one to see me off. Most other times I left from a home, or I said goodbye to the people at the church, sometimes even sharing in morning prayers. But this time there was no one. And I commented on that to myself, and felt a bit lonely. As you can read in the blog post in detail, I met another person on the road. But the answer to prayer (even though I had not prayed it) is that God provided that encounter, almost to reassure me that I was not alone, there are other people and that he is with me.

The final one I want to highlight is on 22 Sep on the way from Battle to Winchelsea: “I have been struggling with my backpack, couldn't quite find the right fit, especially on my shoulders and after that many days they started to get sore. I had already prayed to ask Jesus for some relief. And then sometime today when I put my backpack on again, my shoulders hurt again. So, I prayed again. And somehow my body readjusted itself. My back straightened, and my shoulders were pushed back. It was as if God was saying, your posture is wrong. Do not slouch forwards, but put your back straight and shoulders back and it helped! It now feels easier to carry, when I remind myself to straighten my back and my shoulders. Thank you, Jesus!” This is the first time that I have had a real bodily experience of an answer to prayer!

There have been other times as well, but these are the main ones that I recall. Maybe perhaps on the walk to Lympne, where it was forecast to rain all day long, and as I had had a wet day the day before, I prayed that it would stay dry. To my surprise the rain hovered in the channel all day long, but never came inland...

Current affairs

There have been a number of remarkable current affairs that happened while I was walking which coloured the whole pilgrimage in a remarkable way. The first was the death of Queen Elizabeth II and the second was the ‘Mini-budget’.

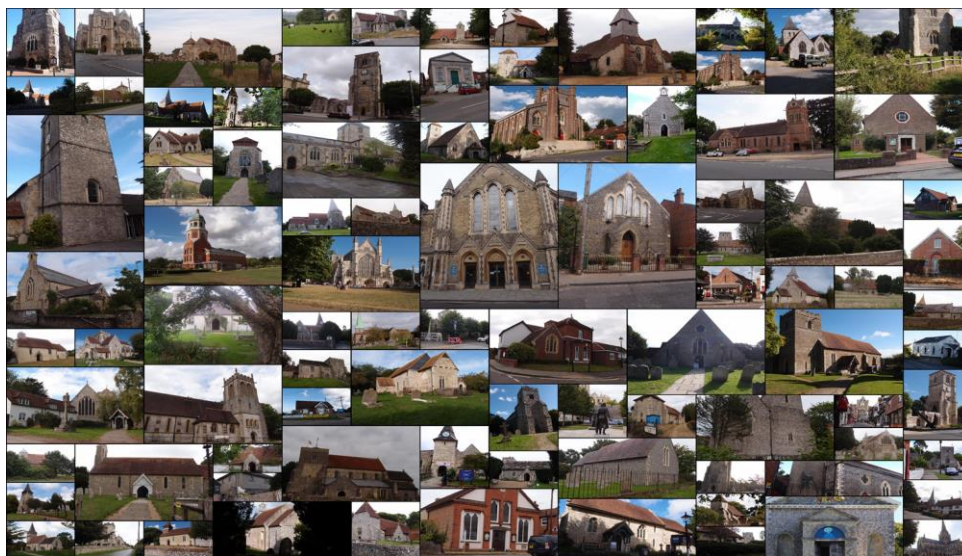
On 8 September 2022, I walked from Hamble to Wickham. And I was going to meet my host in Titchfield to walk together to Wickham, where his wife would pick us up. It was nice to

walk for a bit with somebody! But in the car the radio was on and it was full of announcements that the Queen was very ill and family was called to go to Scotland. When we came home, we watched the news that she had passed away. From that time on until the funeral on the 19 September, which was the bank holiday of the funeral, everywhere there were signs of the country in mourning. All the churches that were open had books of condolences, and as I saw many churches on my route, I could have signed a book of condolences many times. The day of the funeral was a beautiful day walking the Seven Sisters with loads of tourists and students from abroad. Most English people were watching TV at home!

And the on 23 September the Mini-budget was introduced, starting off economic uncertainty and the fall of Liz Truss's government. In my blogs you do not read much of that, but it did colour my experience. While I was walking all this was taking place and I could in a way be distant from it, but because of the news on my phone very involved. The day after I had a long conversation with a gentleman on the way to Lymington, ranging from Brexit, immigration and the Archbishop of Canterbury. He was very much of the view that there are too many immigrants and refugees, and he did not like the archbishop as he promoted the UK taking refugees in! We agreed to disagree but had a good exchange of views. At least it made this bit of the walk go quicker! Was there a relation between the two views? All about harking back to a time where the UK had control over its own country, but with globalisation there are now more forces, both economically and people coming to the UK that may make the country feel like a strange country to some of its citizens.

Churches are struggling with that too, as in the midst of this there is also a faith crisis and church attendance is dropping, churches are closing and society is increasingly more secular and alien to especially the churches with traditional ways of worship or traditional way of believing.

Churches I was not going to write much about churches, but the last comment made me



reconsider. I have seen many churches during my walk, especially as it is pilgrimage route and it visited a lot of churches. The vast majority of them are Anglican, old buildings with long histories and traditions.

I slept in quite a few and most had been upgraded with modern conveniences and one even had underfloor heating.

But are these churches, buildings and congregations, representative of the Christian faith? It seems that society has moved on, but the church has remained in a separate era, especially the church as non-churched people see them - old traditional buildings. But in the main cities there are other forms of church that do not rely so much on buildings, they meet in schools and universities, have a more modern approach to worship, media and social media. But they are not visible when I do a pilgrimage like this. It is the old buildings and the traditional congregations that are open for visitors. Not that many people come to them either any more. So, are they also islands of a day gone by in a society that has moved on? Have they become museums or some even mausoleums?

How does the URC and the church respond to that? Do we still need all these buildings to have a vibrant faith, or do we need to find different ways to meet together and be open to society?

Blogging

A final word of blogging or journaling. I am still not a natural diarist. I found it quite difficult every evening to compose a blog and to write something meaningful. Taking photos helped me to remember as well as write the blog. I could also have used better technology, but I wanted to use something that was free and Google Blogger is free. Unfortunately, the phone app is not very user-friendly or stable and a number of times I had written something only for me to lose all the contents.

Ending

I did not want to write a conclusion. Life also does not have a conclusion at the end. But something ends, the pilgrimage ends and life continues. For me this period has good, it was good to be away from my daily responsibilities, and good to meet with so many Christians along the way offering hospitality. It was good to refresh my mind and my soul, although my body can still feel tired! And it has given me a new energy and new focus on being a minister, and perhaps a new urgency that the Church needs to change to bring Christianity to the current people of England and the West.

Bernard Fidler

CHURCH SECRETARY'S REPORT

Behold! I make all things new. Revelations 21 v5. This year has been a time where we have seen life return to normality following the difficulties experienced during the pandemic. Our services are held both in the church building and on Zoom and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jonathan again for his expert technical knowledge and skills in making hybrid services possible. We now have a regular monthly praise and worship service "Healing Wings" with Favour House Church in the church building on the first Saturday of the month. I would also like to thank Mark, Jonathan and all those involved in the installation of the new projector, speakers and updates to the Wi-Fi system, which have considerably enhanced our church life both in the church building and on Zoom.

We have two Life Groups meeting: one in person, other on Zoom (see page 14 for report). The time of prayer on Saturday mornings on Zoom is also continuing.

The prayer Ministry group now meets on Friday afternoons in church. See page 13 for a full report. Services at Littlebourne are continuing (see page 15). There is also a continuing prayer meeting on Tuesday evenings on Zoom for the work at Littlebourne.

We were blessed with resources provided by Alice for Advent and by Alice and Chris for the week of New Year prayer. We were able to meet in church together with King James of Favour House church from Wednesday to Saturday in the first week of the New year for a time of prayer and praise. Full details can be found on page 16 of these reports. As a result of this time of prayer, there is a time of prayer and worship jointly with Favour House Church at St Andrews on Thursdays from midday to 1pm until the end of the year.

In March 2022 Avril Leyton's time as Youth and Children's worker came to an end. I should like to take this opportunity to thank Avril for her hard work and dedication over the past 3.5 years.

Alice has been working three days a week as normal. Many of the groups who hire our rooms have continued and there are new bookings and an unending stream of enquiries about bookings. We are very grateful to Alice for the weekly newsletter she produces with details of services and other events both in other churches and of interest in Canterbury, and the many other administrative tasks, which she carries out.

During the year we were delighted to welcome Alice Wong into church membership. We rejoiced in the marriage of Joanna Hollander to Tim Samuel in December 2022. We also mourned the passing of Esther Squirrel in September 2022 and Klara Deakin in February 2023.

So, as we look forward to what the year ahead will bring, let us reflect on the words of the Caleb prayer: *O High King of Heaven, Have mercy on our Land. Revive your People. Send the Holy Spirit for the sake of the lost, the least and the broken. May your kingdom come to our nation In Jesus' mighty name.*

Caroline Camp

PRAYER MINISTRY

In 2022 we continued with the Prayer Ministry team. It was a year that we trained one another. We completed reading the book "Let Jesus heal your hidden wounds, cooperating with the Holy Spirit in Healing Ministry" by Brad Long and Cindy Strickler and we started to read the book "Healing Care, Healing Prayer, helping the broken find Wholeness in Christ" by Terry Wardle. We meet on Friday afternoons and if we do not have a prayer ministry appointment, we pre-read a chapter of these books and discuss this together in our meeting. In this way we have learned a lot from these books, but also from each other. A number of our team were able to attend the Dunamis Conferences, and learn more, especially from The healing Ministry of Jesus and the Spiritual Warfare events. We also spend time praying for each other and helping each other to meet with Jesus by imaging oneself in a picture with Jesus. We have seen especially emotional and spiritual healing.

Also, a number of the team attended the Dunamis Interim Course for Healing and Deliverance, which helped a lot to gain practice in prayer ministry.

We have also decided to do three monthly Communion and Prayer Ministry worship services on the first of the month in 2023. As I write we have had two of these and I believe people have been blessed by these.

In 2023 we have found that God has blessed our Ministry as a number of people from St Andrews and from outside have come forward for Prayer Ministry. This year alone, we have had seven prayer ministry sessions, for five people. We often find that people like to receive a second session. We like to use the Prayer Room at St Andrews, but also, we have had a team go to the home of the person wanting to receive prayer ministry.

I include below a description that comes from the Dunamis Fellowship of Britain and Ireland, whose model for prayer ministry we follow, about what happens in a typical prayer ministry session. If you are interested in becoming part of the team or if you are interested in receiving prayer ministry yourself, please contact me. We would like to have some more men on the team, as men often need as much prayer ministry and women do!

Bernard Fidler

What happens during a prayer ministry session

The client arrives and is welcomed by the team (usually 3 people, but sometimes husband and wife). They enable you to feel at ease.

The session begins and is wrapped in prayer as the whole session is kept under the leading of the Holy Spirit, with frequent pauses to check direction by the team. Often, the Lord has prepared the way, and there is a general understanding of the issues for prayer.

It's important to know that you can stop the session or pause, at any time and you are welcome to bring a friend to support you if desired.

Of course, prayer ministry can involve facing painful and difficult issues and situations which can be challenging and emotional, but knowing that at all times one is surrounded by the acceptance, love and power of the Lord Jesus and our ministering brothers and sisters is enabling and comforting.

One has to put trust in those ministering, as well as the Lord, that they are addressing what is necessary to find freedom. This may include a need for prayers of repentance, forgiveness, confession, thanks or blessing. You are helped to find the right words to pray when needed.

There is much opportunity for the Holy Spirit to minister His love, mercy and healing, restoring power in this 'safe' place.

When all sense that enough has been accomplished for that session, there are final prayers of sealing and completing.

Each client is given advice about holding onto their healing as the enemy likes to steal and destroy it. It's important to do all you can to keep every door shut to the enemy so he is unable to find easy access into your life.

Sessions are normally no more than a maximum of 2 hours. The prayer minister will usually contact you shortly after the ministry session to see if you are OK.

Source: Dunamis Fellowship of Britain and Ireland (<https://www.dunamis.org.uk/what-we-do/healing/>)

LIFE GROUPS

This year has been a year of change, even though life has returned to normal after the pandemic. Linda Cawsey has moved to Margate and so her Life Group has ceased. Val's group meets in person in church on Tuesday afternoons and Bernard's Life Group meets virtually on Zoom on Wednesday evenings.

The meetings are based on the Bible reading of the preceding Sunday and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Val for providing the questions for our Life Group meetings.

Life Group meetings normally open with prayer and begin with an ice breaker – something more light hearted to try and get people talking. This is then followed by a worship song on U-Tube, followed by reading of the Bible passage. The question sheet has usually been sent out in advance, so that participants have time to think about the questions posed. A time of discussion takes place in response to the questions given. There is then a time of prayer for the concerns people raise and the meeting closes with the Grace.

If you are not yet part of a Life Group and would like to join one, either on Tuesday afternoons in person or virtually on Zoom on Wednesday evenings, we shall be pleased to welcome you.

Caroline Camp

SONBEAMS TODDLER GROUP

We give thanks for all the work Avril Leyton has done for the years she led the Sonbeams mothers and toddlers group and the children's work. Since April volunteers from Sonbeams have run the group on Thursday mornings, and this continues to be the case. During the year the numbers have been relatively steady, so that it is not too busy nor too quiet. It is hoped that, with the input from Christians in the group, the activities (story time and singing time) will have more of a Christian content in the future.

It has been a God send that the group is able to continue as is a safe and enjoyable activity for the mums, grandparents, carers and children who attend, many of whom are from other countries.

Peter Hollander

LITTLEBOURNE CHAPEL

The chapel has been open on Sunday afternoons for church services since Easter 2021. The congregation has not grown in 2022 but the times of worship are much appreciated by those who do attend. The preaching in 2021-22 was the whole of Mark's Gospel, followed by the Psalms of Ascent and since last Spring, beginning at Acts 1, the Acts of the Apostles, reaching chapter 12 presently.

The chapel continues to be well used by a mothers and toddlers group, childminders, Pilates and for children's birthday parties. Shrove Tuesday was celebrated with pancakes.

Littlebourne has a monthly news sheet delivered to all homes and there has been the opportunity to provide a Gospel message from the Chapel, alongside one from St Vincent's on the front page. Please pray that the Good News is able to touch the hearts of those in the village who don't know Jesus and join the Tuesday evening prayer on Zoom.

Peter, Patricia and Jonathan Hollander

NEW YEAR PRAYER

Our New Year Prayer theme was, 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty. Zechariah 4:6

There was the opportunity to use a daily prayer guide for the week, which had prayer and worship alongside each other, looking at further examples of where great things were accomplished by the work of the Holy Spirit. There was the opportunity for daily corporate prayer and worship, led by King James from Favour House Church. Littlebourne Prayer on Tuesday evening and the Saturday morning Zoom also prayed into the themes from the prayer guide for those days.

We concluded the week with Lyndall Bywater speaking on Zechariah 4, particularly verse 10 which says, "Who dares despise the day of small things..." Zech. 4:10

Her message was very timely for us as a fellowship, stressing the importance of 'small things' that we do which cause God to rejoice. Big building projects start with one small brick, then another brick, then another and so on. It is an accumulation of small things put together over time.

She said that we do not need to try to be bigger or mightier. Jesus uses little things to do much: seed and grain become a harvest, a mustard seed becomes a tree, yeast becomes risen bread, olives become oil that create a bright light for Christ.

Our building bricks for 2023... (so far!)

- continuing with a weekly lunchtime prayer watch, in connection with Favour House Church.
- holding monthly prayer ministry services.
- exploring the development of a chaplaincy ministry for Whitefriars.

Alice Wilson-Sharp & Christine Wilson-Sharp

OASIS CAFÉ

We have seen customer numbers increase considerably over the last twelve months, with every one of our four working days getting busier and busier. This could be due in no small part to the excellent value for money that Oasis gives, as we continue to keep our prices as low as possible, enabling more people to enjoy a coffee or light lunch without breaking the bank. We see this as vitally important as the cost of living continues to rise with little prospect of it slowing

down in the foreseeable future. That being said, we have had to make some adjustments to our prices, with more to come, as we too have to pay more for our supplies. Customer satisfaction remains undiminished, and many of our 'regulars' not only come back, but encourage friends and family to patronise us as well.

Our staff Christmas celebration at the Golden Lion was enjoyed by all who were able to attend. We are already booked in for this year!

We have been pleased to once again offer workplace experience to students from Canterbury College - one of the highlights of last year was being recognised by the college with an 'Excellent Employer' award! New members of staff have joined the team, whilst others have stepped back from frontline duties, although Linda Cawsey still pops up behind the counter on a regular basis. Laura Bassett has also been helping out when her health permits. One of our most loyal and long-standing members of staff, Chris Couch, is standing down from the Thursday team, but will still be with us on Tuesdays and Fridays. While we're on the subject of staffing, Thursdays and Fridays as well as being busier than ever, are very short-staffed, so please pray that more people will come forward and be prepared to commit to either of these days, so that Oasis can continue to open on four days of the week.

Prayer, prayer and more prayer are at the heart of all we do in Oasis, as we continue to serve our customers in the name of Jesus and for his glory.

In 2022 Oasis café was able to be open all year now that Covid restrictions have eased, this has meant that our profits have gone back up. In 2022 our profit was £11,575.62. This was made up of £4,183.16 Cash and £7,392.46 in Visa Credits. Our charitable efforts have raised £70 for Red Nose Day via cake sales and £107.65 for Macmillan again via cake sales. We also raised £177.65 for the Poppy Appeal. We are not profit driven but we like to cover our costs and pay into the church so that the heating, lighting, hot water, Wi-Fi etc are paid for. Please pray that we are 'prophet' lead and able to offer more than just food.

Sue Wenham & Patricia Hollander

KIDZ KLUB

With great reluctance, the trustees of the charity decided to end its Saturday morning klub after the summer term because of lack of volunteers. With the numbers of children, there had to be sufficient adults on site. The numbers of volunteers shrank and it became unviable to continue safely within the guidelines expected of a charity involved in children's work. The trustees give thanks to the United Reformed Church Southern Synod who supplied funding for an additional year, but this money has been returned because of the closure of the charity's activities.

Peter Hollander

MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

The Men's Social Group restarted after Easter 2022 with a May evening walk around Littlebourne and afterwards at The Evenhill, but inclement weather cancelled our proposed Church Garden barbeque in July.

After the summer holiday break, we restarted in October with a very successful film night showing "14 Peaks: Nothing is Impossible" about a group of Nepali Sherpas tackling all the highest peaks in the Himalayas in a concentrated month of high altitude climbing. It gave a new meaning to the phrase "endurance and running a race without looking back" and included some stunning high mountain scenery photography.

We also introduced a regular men's Bible study programme in October run by Jonathan Hollander looking at the Book of Romans. This is going well with lots of lively discussion.

Then we had the always popular take away Chinese meal in November, a very successful indoor board games night in December after Christmas and another film night showing the "Banshees of Inisherin" in January; a challenging film in a broad West Coast of Ireland brogue, which nevertheless took 4 awards at the recent BAFTAs

Finally, this month we had a very successful joint evening with Favour House Church with real Nigerian food and beer and an interactive talk afterwards by King James on Nigeria and Christian Leadership. The food was interesting to say the least, some excellent like the chicken and fried plantain and other dishes like the pepper soup, offal stew and steamed cassava, more of an acquired taste, I think.

Going forward we have an Easter themed evening at the end of March, a Canterbury Cathedral evening visit in May and a proposed barbeque in July, weather permitting. The regular Bible studies will also run until August. We will then restart in September/October with the 2023/24 programme.

Mark Camp and Malcolm McIntyre.

CANTERBURY STREET PASTORS



Canterbury Street Pastors

St Andrew's Church
Annual Report 2023

Team News

Personnel continues to be stable, although we have had a few losses to the team due to various reasons. God still provides enough people to keep our patrols going, allowing us to be present on the streets of Canterbury. We still have an average of between 15-20 Street Pastors and 5-6 Prayer Pastors.

We have now added 2 new trustees to the leadership team, meaning that we now have a total of 5 trustees on board.

Last October (2022), we trialled a new shift pattern for the patrols, meeting at an earlier time of 8.30pm and going out on patrol from 9pm until around 2am. The patrols have seen an increase in encounters and faith chats, but the timing of patrols is something we will review as the warmer weather comes around the corner.



We were sad to hear of the loss of Maureen Brunt, one of our dear Street Pastors, who served both in Herne Bay and Canterbury. She will be remembered fondly.

Church Support

The year 2022 saw a good number of visits to the churches in Canterbury, once we were able to meet again in person and worship together. We reached around 12 different churches with varied responses. It was a great experience to see other fellowships within the Canterbury area. We are looking to go back to those churches again this year and visit new ones we haven't yet reached. We are grateful for the support churches in prayer, finances, and personnel.

Community Funding

This last year has been a busy and fruitful year for us. Back in March-April, we applied for the 'Safer Streets' funding awarded by the Home Office and organised by Kent Police. The remit was the reduction of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) as part of the Canterbury 'Community Safety Partnership.' This was a joint bid for 10 different projects and initiatives, with a grand total of around £700,000 awarded for the whole project. Canterbury Street Pastors were awarded around £17,000 for our part of the bid for an 18-month period, with the opportunity for match funding with our volunteers and leadership team.

This has enabled us to get new supplies, equipment and marketing, alongside enough funds to recruit 10 new volunteers. This pays for coaching, uniforms and additional training. We were also able to employ a new engagement officer, to assist both the trustees and our coordinator with recruitment, funding, and marketing. In December we were able to employ Helen Jones as our new engagement officer. She has become a valuable part of the team. This funding will enable us to increase patrol sizes and hopefully put out 2 teams on a Saturday night to cover both early and later times. As the city grows with new developments on the fringes of the city centre, we hope to cover a wider range in the city.

Community Engagement

With the bid funding, we have gained new compatriots in the community by being a part of the 'Community Safety Partnership' and the 'Purple Flag' accreditation. 'Purple Flag' awards cities for their safe night-time economies and Canterbury has now been awarded this accreditation for the 11th year in a row. There is also the 'Best Bar None' scheme in the city, which monitors and awards the pubs and clubs for their attention to safety and due diligence. This means Canterbury Street Pastors are in the midst of these groups and continue to be a constant presence in the city. Put another way, we are keeping God in the middle of the night-time economy and we are in the midst of keeping Canterbury safe on a Saturday night.

We also attend the freshers' fayres at the 3 universities and attend the community hubs in the city, which are put on by the 'Safety Partnership', universities and other partners. The police and council speak highly of us and our involvement in the night-time economy. As a 'Safer Streets' project, we are able to be a part the new 'SafeZone' app and the new 'Safer Streets' partners' website. We are a constant presence in the community – and remain focused on keeping Christ in the picture as we continue to be a witness.



The Year 2023 and Beyond

We are hopefully building a bigger and better organisation, through the hard work of the whole team – from the team patrols to prayer support; from the coordinator to the trustees and leadership team. The continued support of local churches and community engagement is crucial as we increase our teams. Since lockdown we have worked hard to create a firm foundation on which to build. With extra funding to help build the team of tomorrow, we hope to keep God on the streets through the team and give a helping hand, a listening ear and a strong shoulder to those who need it. We are excited about the future of Canterbury Street Pastors and – with so many different roles and ways to get involved – we continue to look for people to walk that journey with us.

Contact - Andrew Pantling, Coordinator, Canterbury Street Pastors.

coordinator@canterburystreetpastors.org to find out more!



Andrew Pantling

GLOBAL CAFÉ (FRIENDS INTERNATIONAL)

As a church we support the work of Friends International, who work among the international student community in Canterbury, by hosting a Global café on our premises every Saturday night.

Every Saturday during Global Café we offer drinks and snacks for students, and we also offer board games, table tennis, pool and badminton. It has been fantastic to see the café flourish this year and we regularly get about 30-40 international students, asylum seekers and international professionals visiting every Saturday. Each evening has a theme - for example

Iranian themed night, Pancake night, table tennis tournament just to name a few. At the end of each evening, we would read a Bible passage and have a short discussion around the tables on the theme of the passage. This social event and the other social events we run during the week like volleyball, English club and walks help us build relationships and to invite students to our weekly meal and a Bible study where they can learn more about Jesus. This year we have seen a Malaysian student become a Christian and many others coming along to our events from India, Iran, Pakistan, Portugal, Latvia, Ukraine and many other countries. Many of them end up visiting local churches and Christian Union events. Thank you for your support and for providing such a fantastic venue for us!

If you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer at one of our events or support the international student ministry by prayer or by hosting students for a meal, please, contact our staff worker Baiba.Strause-Kalmere@friendsinternational.uk

Please pray for:

- Recruitment of more members for FI Branch prayer group meeting 4x a year - we need a rep from URC who has a passion for cross-cultural mission work;
- Recruitment of students for Reach discipleship year for next year!
- Pray for our weekly events and especially weekly evangelistic Bible study with a meal in a British home
- Planning for annual Canterbury Summer International Outreach based at SMB premises -from 3rd-9th July 2023.! We are currently recruiting local volunteers who could provide B & B for week or two for outreach team members, people to bake cakes, lend bikes or sponsor a team member.

Baiba Strause-Kalmere

OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS

It is a real privilege, as OAC Kent Director/Evangelist, every Wednesday, to be reaching out in the town centre with a team of 10 others (outside of Fenwicks near McDonalds) with my paintboard and box of tracts, reaching out in a friendly manner to those in town with the 'Good News'. Unity in the Lord and His Gospel no matter what church we are from is a powerful witness.

Many have been reached with the Good News this past year with some now believing along with many hundreds of tracts and Bibles taken with gratitude. I continue to build ongoing friendships with many local shop workers, school kids, security staff, refuse collectors, delivery riders, homeless, etc. Thank you for your valuable prayers in continuing with this ministry.

I also continue to evangelize throughout Kent and south London 4/5 times every week, plus preach at Speakers Corner every other week. I run a teaching of Evangelism/Apologetics Zoom meeting every other Friday night from 8-11pm. I preach once a month in a prison near Maidstone and will be once again taking teams to evangelise in Israel, Greece and Germany over the Spring/Summer. My website has some photos attached that 'paint a thousand words' -www.acts1043alive.com

Dave Workman

CANTERBURY CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH(CCCC)

--updates from Apr 2022 to March 2023

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matt. 28:19-20 ESV).”

We give thanks to the Lord for gathering our Chinese people in the UK, a country that has sent tremendous missionaries all over the world, including China, in the past two hundred years. We need to be inspired by this great love from God and go out to spread the gospel to all nations.

Sunday worship

After last Easter, we discontinued our online streaming service. It has been taking up too much of our co-workers' time to operate the system. Additionally, we hope that brothers and sisters can come together to worship God on Sunday. Currently, the number of attendees on Sundays is around 30, including both adults and children.

Over the past decade, the number of Cantonese speakers in the UK has decreased, as there has been no new immigration from Hong Kong. Many churches have shifted their focus to Mandarin-speaking groups since numerous Chinese people from mainland China have moved to the UK.

However, in the past two years, many new immigrants from Hong Kong have come to the UK due to political reasons. They are all Cantonese speakers. Last year, a new immigrant family joined our church. The wife was able to attend our Sunday service and fellowship because she could understand Mandarin, but the husband was unable to join due to language barriers. We plan to set up simultaneous interpretation during our Sunday service soon to assist Cantonese speakers in joining our service. We also hope to start a Cantonese service in the future if God brings more Cantonese speakers to us. This is our prayer, and we require that God's will be fulfilled.

Children Ministry

The current average number of children attending Sunday worship is around 10-15, including both youth and kids. Last summer, the Children's Ministry organised a pizza party for all the children and their families in the garden. The event was a success, with great fellowship and communication.

However, there are still many children outside of the church, and we have a strong desire to reach out to these families. We had hoped to run a Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer but unfortunately, we do not have enough co-workers to organize it. As a result, we have decided to postpone the plan until next summer so that we have sufficient time to prepare. We pray that God will open the door for us and provide us with the necessary resources to reach out to these children and their families.

Bible study groups

We currently have five Bible study groups that meet regularly every week. There is a Cantonese-speaking group that meets on Thursdays, a sisters' group that meets on Tuesday morning, a Grace Fellowship made up of members who run restaurants that meets on Wednesday morning, a family group that meets on Friday night, and a student fellowship that also meets on Friday night. Additionally, we recently reinstated a brothers' fellowship that meets on Tuesday night. The average attendance for each group is around 5-6 members, and they study different books of Scripture. We can sense the deep desire of our brothers and sisters to delve into God's Word, and we pray that God would strengthen them through His Word.

Discipleship ministry

Since last October, we have started a Bible reading group where we lead our brothers and sisters to read one chapter per day. We also provide them with some interpretive guidance for each daily chapter. So far, we have finished reading the four gospels, Acts, Romans, and we are currently reading 1 Corinthians. We plan to continue reading until we have completed the entire Bible. Our prayer is that God will help them build themselves up in His holy words.

In March, we started a Bible study training program. Seven sisters and one brother have joined us for a total of nine weeks, with each session lasting one and a half hours. We practice interpreting Scripture together, learning and growing in our understanding of the Bible.

In addition to our current activities, we are also planning to open an online Sunday school for adults. We will start with the basics of theology, followed by an introduction to the New Testament, Old Testament, and other related topics. We recognize the importance of seeking God's guidance in all our endeavors and will pray for His direction as we move forward with this new initiative.

Outreach events

Over the past year, we have organised three evangelical events: the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, Christmas, and the Chinese New Year. The average attendance for these events was around 110, including both adults and children. We are thankful to God for His mercy and grace, as He added to our numbers those who were being saved. In particular, we are overjoyed that four sisters accepted Jesus as their Savior and Lord in these events, and another couple accepted Jesus as their Savior and Lord during our visitation efforts.



Picture: the Christmas event.



Picture: Chinese New Year gathering.

Conferences organized by COCM ([COCM | Chinese Overseas Christian Mission \(COCM\)](#))

COCM organizes various conferences with the aim of helping churches cultivate their members. CCCC has always encouraged brothers and sisters to attend these camps. During last Easter, we had one student attend the Mandarin student camp and three students attend the Cantonese student camp. Additionally, four families attended the summer family camp. We thank God that through these camps, they have come to know Him better.

Change in church leadership

In the past ten years, our Chinese church did not have our own pastors. We thank God that He moved COCM to help us and continually sent different missionaries to pastor God's sheep. We thank Yunhai and Gabby for dedicating themselves to CCCC for over four years and continually praying for God to raise up local co-workers to serve. Frank and Amy have lived in Canterbury for over ten years, faithfully contributing themselves to God's house. Frank has almost completed his theological education. Frank and Amy have also joined COCM as missionaries. They have been assigned by COCM to serve as pastors in CCCC. Yunhai and Gabby have been assigned to the new venue, Portsmouth Chinese Church. May God bless their path ahead! COCM has also appointed Rev. Grace Liu as the senior pastor to lead the church.

We are grateful to God that St. Andrew Church has supported us for so many years and provided such a nice place for us. We pray that God blesses St. Andrew Church to be a channel of His grace and love, to bless even more people.

Grace Liu

COCM missionaries ministering in CCCC

Notes to the Accounts - Year ended 31st December 2022

Income

Freewill offerings were slightly over budget as were letting of premises receipts. Oasis café receipts were on budget

The café contributed £11,000 to the church funds.

Donations for specific purposes - Vaughn & Au Goodchild £1307, Daniel Gitau £4604, Canterbury Schools Work Trust £1452, Amy & Kody Friesen £1490, Sabbatical Gifts £625. Total £9478.

Expenditure

Electricity bills over the past few years have been quite high. In the winter months the underfloor heating peaks at over £1600 for a month - that's £400 per week. The contract is fixed to 31 March 2024, with 18.1p/kWh day and 11.343p/kWh night which was average for the UK.

However present rates are double these old fixed rates.

We have spent less on church maintenance and repairs than expected, but after 22 years things are needing replacement.

Most expenses are close to budget apart from cleaning where we have had to get in cleaners for toilets given the building use during the week.

Result

There was a surplus of £25,957 compared to a deficit of £14777 for 2021. However if the insurance claim is excluded there would be a deficit of £758

Insurance Claim

A claim was been lodged with our insurers for loss of income from lettings and the café due to Covid over the March 2020 to July 2021 period. It was estimated a year ago at £27,000, and £26,715 was paid out.

Budget

Budget offerings for 2023 are down because of donors no longer with us.

The estimated total church electricity for the full year 2023 is likely to be about £15,000. Since we let out the premises, turning off the heating isn't really an option. Hopefully we will break even in 2023.

St Andrew's URC Canterbury
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 2022

	Results for the year ended 31st December 2022		Budget Projection 2022	Results for the year ended 31st December 2021
		Variance		
INCOME				
Freewill Offerings	57,550	(2,550)	55,000	57,659
Covenant/Gift Aid Tax Recovery	13,517	(2,517)	11,000	10,645
Hall & Premises Lettings (incl Flat £6000 & L'brne £1493)	25,093	(5,093)	20,000	15,504
Oasis Cafe Receipts	20,066	(66)	20,000	11,175
Littlebourne Offerings	1,570	(70)	1,500	830
Other Receipts see below	1,014	(14)	1,000	3,035
Insurance claim - loss of rental and café income 2020-2021	26,715	285	27,000	0
Grants due from URC - ½ projector & ½ Littleb'ne toilet floor	9,193	(1,193)	8,000	11,820
Capital Reserve Account Interest	144	(113)	31	18
Donations for Specific purposes see note 2	9,478	(4,478)	5,000	8,740
Total Income	£ 164,341	£ (15,810)	£ 148,531	£ 119,428
EXPENDITURE				
Ministry and Mission	41,076	0	41,076	41,076
Ministerial Expenses	2,972	28	3,000	3,084
Welfare Fund - Income £1965 paid £2450	485	(485)	-	830
Church Cleaning	3,925	(1,925)	2,000	2,118
Electricity Gas & Water	12,377	3,623	16,000	11,046
Administration and Office Expenses	13,143	(143)	13,000	13,877
Church Insurance	7,200	0	7,200	5,775
Furniture & Fittings - new projector & audio equipment	17,229	(5,229)	12,000	480
Manse Expenses	4,976	1,024	6,000	6,810
Payments To Christian Workers	4,200	0	4,200	4,200
Courses, Teaching Aids & CCL Licence	929	(179)	750	818
Catering Supplies	682	(482)	200	92
Church Repairs	6,617	5,383	12,000	18,950
Children's & Youth Work	684	316	1,000	706
Oasis Cafe Payments	9,075	(75)	9,000	5,287
Other (Garden, Bank Charges, Scone Sch etc)	968	32	1,000	879
Donations - specific - see above donations - note 2	9,478	(4,478)	5,000	8,740
Youth and Family Worker	2,369	31	2,400	9,437
Total Expenses	£ 138,383	£ (2,557)	£ 135,826	£ 134,205
Surplus / (Deficit) of Income over Expenditure (Normal Transactions)	£ 25,957	£ (13,252)	£ 12,705	£ (14,777)
Transfer from Littlebourne Fund				1,273
Surplus / (Deficit) of Income over Expenditure (after transfers from L'brne Fund)	£ 25,957	£ (13,252)	£ 12,705	£ (13,504)
Excluding Insurance claim - we would have a deficit of £758				
Other Receipts Photocopies £312; URC investment income £438, Sonbeams £264				
Other Expenses Bank Charges £566, Garden £76, Wreath £35, Scone School £266, keyboard £25				

St Andrew's URC Canterbury
Balance Sheet at 31st December 2022

BALANCE SHEET

	<u>Balance Sheet</u> <u>At 31st December 2022</u>	<u>Balance Sheet</u> <u>At 31st December 2021</u>	<u>Balance Sheet</u> <u>At 31st December 2020</u>
Cash at Bank	61,966	45,433	51,003
Cash in Hand Oasis Float	250	250	250
Investments held by Southern Synod	15,682	19,011	17,780
Creditors and Accrued charges Gas £80, Electricity £1799, NEST £55, Bank Ch £65	(2,788)	(1,929)	(795)
Rent Deposit received £500 Held by Tenancy Deposit Scheme	(500)	(500)	(500)
Debtors & Prepayments - URC Repair Grants claimed £9193	16,059	5,776	13,849
HMRC gift aid £6333, Tenancy Deposit Scheme £500,			
<u>Total Assets</u>	£ <u>90,670</u>	£ <u>68,041</u>	£ <u>81,587</u>
Represented by			
General Fund brought forward	49,030	62,534	71,017
Transfer (to) / from Specific Funds – Church Maintenance Legacy			
- Littlebourne 4 Villages Sponsorship		1,273	(1,273)
Surplus / (Deficit) for period	25,957	(14,777)	(7,210)
General Fund carried forward	£ <u>74,987</u>	£ <u>49,030</u>	£ <u>62,534</u>
Funds held by Southern Province	£ <u>15,682</u>	£ <u>19,011</u>	£ <u>17,780</u>
<u>Total Funds</u>	£ <u>90,670</u>	£ <u>68,041</u>	£ <u>81,587</u>
Creditors Mission payments due £774, Gas £80, Electricity £1799, NEST £55, Bank Ch £65, Key deposit £15			

St Andrew's URC Canterbury

Budget for 2023 Income and Expenditure Account

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[illegible]

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
ST ANDREW'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CANTERBURY
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

I have carried out an independent examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022. I confirm that these accounts are in accordance with the books and records of the church and that they show the church's financial position at 31st December 2022

John M Ayrd

Canterbury Kent

29 October 2023