



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

18 March 2025



Book of Reports

Contents	Page
Office Holders, Leaders and Committee Members 2024 - 2025	3-4
Annual Reports:	
Minister's Report	5-6
Church Secretary's Report	7
Prayer Ministry	8
Life Groups	8
Sonbeams	9
Littlebourne Chapel	9
New Year Prayer	10
Oasis Café	10-11
Men's Groups	11
Women's Groups	12
<i>The Chosen</i>	12
Global Café	13-14
Canterbury Chinese Christian Church	14-15
Favour House Church	16
Canterbury Street Pastors	16

Office Holders, Leaders and Team Coordinators March 2025

Minister:	Rev Bernard Fidler	
Serving Elders:	Jonathan Hollander (2020) Cheryl Faulds (2023) Peter Hollander (2024)	Val Cannon (2021) Alice Wong (2024)
Church Secretary:	Val Cannon	
Minute Secretary	Caroline Camp	
Treasurer:	Peter Hollander	
Gift Aid:	Janet Wilson-Sharp	
Administrator:	Alice Wilson-Sharp	
Safeguarding:	Sue Wenham	Deputy: Rev Bernard Fidler
Authorised for Weddings:	Linda Cawsey	
DBS verifiers:	Malcolm McIntyre	Val Cannon
Church Flowers:	Mark Camp	Catriona McIntyre

Fabric Team

David Spires	Robert Deakin	Hugh Marsh	Peter Hollander
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Church Representatives

Synod	Val Cannon
Christians Together in Canterbury	Cheryl Faulds
Food Bank	Kate Bassett
Street Pastors	Andrew Pantling
World Day of Prayer	Cheryl Faulds

Small Group Leaders

Life Groups Val Cannon (in church, Tuesday afternoons)
Caroline Camp (on Zoom, Wednesday evenings)

Men's Group: Mark Camp Malcolm McIntyre Jonathan Hollander

Women's Groups: Cheryl Faulds Patricia Hollander

Church and worship rotas: Chris Wilson-Sharp

Preaching rota: Val Cannon

Sound desk and projector: Jonathan Hollander Ryan Konkolewski
Adriana Fidler-Boutkan Janet Wilson-Sharp

Prayer Ministry Team

Leader: Revd Bernard Fidler

Church Website

Coordinators: Alice Wilson-Sharp Jonathan Hollander
Facebook: Cheryl Faulds

Oasis Café Team

Leaders: Patricia Hollander Sue Wenham

Church Cleaning

Coordinator: Sue Wenham

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,

2025 has started differently this year than other years. I think that if you are not a Christian life is very uncertain at the moment. And even for us as Christians, knowing where our hope is, it is also uncomfortable.

With the change in government in the USA international politics seems to change very dramatically. We still have a war in Ukraine, there is no tentative cease fire between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. Sudan has become a hotspot for war. The USA is threatening to increase tariffs on Europe and the UK and threatening not to support Ukraine financially any more. The UK and the EU are speaking about increasing defence spending, whilst most economies are struggling with a higher inflation, cost of living and if government spending is going up, taxes are probably also needing to be raised as well. And that will affect us all. The question many people are thinking, but not asking, will there be another war? So what is God saying to the Churches in these uncertain times?

In 2025, we have also started our year with listening to God what he has for St Andrews specifically. During this time, we heard that He wanted us to step up in our relationship with him, and also in order for us to listen to him, we may need to surrender something. So as I write this at the beginning of Lent, we are about to start with an early hour of prayer every Wednesday in Lent and to surrender a bit how we do our services on Sunday morning. By the time you read this you may have experienced one or both of these things, so it would be good to have feedback. Not only on what you think of it, but also how God has been speaking to you during these times.

This year we continued with our Friday afternoon Prayer Ministry sessions. In the middle of the year we did not have many people who wanted to receive prayer ministry, but late 2024 and early 2025 we have been quite busy. And it is really good to see that people have been really helped in their lives and their relationship with God as a result of these sessions. Due to confidentiality, we cannot share any of this, but we have had a few testimonies during Sunday services that you may have heard. So if you do have something that is bothering you in your life, or if you find that you are not as close to God as you used to be, or as you want to be, please contact me, and I am quite happy to talk about that a bit more.

We also carried on with the Communion and Prayer Ministry Services, where we invite the congregation to bring things before our Lord for healing, forgiveness and restoration. We may need to rethink that, as I found that during the recent services the take-up has not been as good as I had hoped. So, please also let me know what you think of these services and how we can improve them, or if they fulfil a need for you personally.

Every month I continued to lead an assembly at Littlebourne School. This has been good to

do, fun as well as a bit of trepidation each time. I believe the children and teachers are enjoying it as well. But it has been good to bring something from God or the Bible to the school.

Last year we had the first two events of the Dunamis track at St Andrews, one in April and one in November. These have been two really good events. I know that this is quite an investment in time and energy for people, as they run from Wednesday morning to Sunday morning. And your first inclination may be that you do not really have time for this. My experience is though, that once people have attended, they want to come again and make the time for it. It is sound Biblical teaching on the Holy Spirit, together with practising in small groups, but also making new friends and good times of worship. The next one is in April (9-13) and you can still sign up.

In the context of Christians together in Canterbury I have continued organising monthly leaders' lunches. We are now coming together in different churches/locations in Canterbury and these have been times when leaders can share what is going on with their churches and helping us to discuss what we can do together. It has also been a great support for those who were able to attend. As part of Christians Together in Canterbury, we hosted a night of prayer by the National Day of Prayer organisation led by Pastor Jonathan Oloyede on the Friday before Pentecost, and then there was a celebration in the Baptist Church on Pentecost Sunday evening. Following this there was an outreach day in Dane John Park planned, but because it was raining all day, everyone moved into St Andrew's. This was an excellent day of worship, evangelism and getting to know each other better.

In the wider URC, last year was the year that East Kent Synod Area (EKSA) and the West Kent and East Sussex Synod Area (WKESSA) joined together to become the Kent and Sussex Synod Area (KESSA). John Ellis and I were co-leading this year, but by the end of the year I stepped down as Co-leader so that John Ellis is now the KESSA Leader. This also means that I have stepped down from being on the Synod Council, but I carried on being a member of the KESSA Pastoral Committee (together with Val Cannon), and I am still a member of the Synod Trust.

The other work I do for the KESSA is that I have been supporting Broomfield URC (now very small), with leading a monthly Sunday afternoon café style service.

So 2025 turned out to be as busy as any other year. But my hope and prayer for St Andrews in 2025 is that Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, will equip us further to reach out to people who do not yet know Christ, beyond our church walls and activities. And that through that we continue to bring glory to our Lord Jesus Christ and God the Father.

Blessings – 5 March 2025 – **Revd Bernard Fidler**

CHURCH SECRETARY'S REPORT

I have been pleased to review and assemble the reports on the past year, and also to see signs of new growth in the congregation in the early months of 2025. We are very blessed with our church building in the centre of Canterbury, with Bernard supported by Adriana leading our ministry and fellowship and with Alice as our wonderful Administrator, who contributes so much to the spiritual life of the church and the pastoral wellbeing of the fellowship as well as liaising with all our outside contacts for booking enquires and ensuring that everything in the building runs smoothly. Our Treasurer Peter and Fabric Team leader David keep us fully informed and take good care of what needs doing both now and in the coming months.

Jonathan has now completed his 5-year term on the eldership, and it has been good to see him grow spiritually in that time and increase his contribution to preaching and leadership, including shared responsibility for Littlebourne. It has been a great joy for us to welcome Chelsea to our fellowship and to celebrate their wedding in May 2024, followed just 2 days ago by the birth of baby Charlotte. We have also greatly appreciated the willingness of Ryan to assist on the sound desk, which means that Jonathan can have more freedom to enjoy and build his new family.

Most of the regular activities and outstanding events of the year are covered in the annual reports and in Bernard's Minister's Report, and you will also be interested to read in the last four reports about the other flourishing ministries that use our building to the glory of God. However, the priority in my mind at the moment is for us to build up a sense of "every member ministry" in our fellowship. That has already started through the "two-minute testimony" time in our morning services and the freedom to contribute, pray and share together in the simplified format of the Lent services that have just begun. It is good that those who are currently joining us on Zoom have also been able to add their contributions.

We have been encouraged to welcome new people to our congregation in the last year or so, including Nomena, Josephine, Ryan, Valeria, Deli and more recently Hannah, as well as Joyce who has been on placement with us as part of her training and has been accompanied by her father Charles and son Lee. We will soon be organising a meeting over coffee after church to encourage more people to take up church membership as part of their Christian commitment to our fellowship.

We have been inspired by our Day of Prayer in November and our New Year Prayer in January to think of new ways in which we can reach out with the Good News of Jesus to the people around us and to introduce them to faith and discipleship. We have an exciting year ahead, and look forward to what God will do as we follow in His ways.

Val Cannon

PRAYER MINISTRY

This year we continued with our Friday afternoon Prayer Ministry sessions. In addition to providing prayer ministry sessions, we have been training each other by reading a book together: "Deep Wounds, Deep Healing" by Charles Craft. We are now nearly at the end of this book. We also have practical training sessions where we engage in prayer ministry for members of the team. But this allows others in the team to practise the different roles in prayer ministry.

In the middle of the year, we did not have many people who wanted to receive prayer ministry, but in late 2024 and early 2025 we have been quite busy.

If you are interested in prayer ministry or want to be part of the team, please come talk to me. This is an area where we can really help each other and members of the congregation as well as people from other churches in Canterbury or outside Canterbury. I would love for some more men to be involved, or for some younger people to be involved.

Bernard Fidler, 5 March 2025

LIFE GROUPS

This year the two Life Groups have continued. Val's group meets in person in church on Tuesday afternoons and the Zoom Life Group meets virtually on Wednesday evenings.

The meetings are based on the Bible reading and also the sermon of the preceding Sunday and I would like to take this opportunity to again 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 usually then followed by a worship song on YouTube. The question sheet is normally sent out in advance, so that participants have had 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 which people have raised 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 very pleased to welcome you.

Caroline Camp

SONBEAMS TODDLER GROUP

Sonbeams is a mothers and toddlers group that meets on Thursday mornings in term time at St Andrew's. We have been blessed by committed volunteers so that we are able to provide the right mix of service and activities to the mothers and children. There are of course not just mothers, but grandparents, fathers and carers who bring children - and children's ages range from a few months to almost five. Feedback from adults is that they enjoy the refreshments for them at the start, the space and toys and snacks, the story time and singing at the end. Numbers have been steady this year so that we are not too full or noisy and there is just the right atmosphere for a happy time together. However, with better sunny weather in March, there were 20 parents and over 20 children recently which makes it a bit busy. We have had paediatric first aid training for helpers this year, but praise the Lord we haven't had to use these skills. Please continue to pray for Sonbeams and consider being able to spare some of your time on Thursday mornings.

Dorothy Namata and Peter Hollander

LITTLEBOURNE CHAPEL

We continue to pray for growth. We thank the faithful few who come each week. The chapel is used by the Stay and Play toddlers group on Mondays. It has also been hired out (mostly on Saturdays) for children's birthday parties. The monthly "Church & Village" newsheet delivered to every home in the village has been a wonderful way to communicate a Gospel message on the front page.

Over the past three years we've been through Mark's Gospel, Acts of the Apostles, Psalms of Ascent, Zechariah chapter by chapter and verse by verse and now we're going through Paul's letter to Timothy. We've looked at the Bible in far more detail than is usually done elsewhere. There have been challenging passages but delving deeper has its own reward.

We have two faithful keyboard players and we thank those who are willing to preach on Sunday afternoons so that Peter and Jonathan can be relieved now and again. Our Tuesday village prayer time on Zoom is a blessing and thanks go to all who support the chapel with their prayers.

Peter, Patricia and Jonathan Hollander

NEW YEAR PRAYER

The theme for the week of prayer 29.12.24 – 5.1.25 was 'amen' - meaning assent, ratify, approve, conclude, true, truly.

We had a guide for our personal devotions each day and, on the Saturday, more than a dozen of us met together in the Gallery Lounge to worship and seek the Lord's word to us as a fellowship, at this time.

After worship and waiting on the Lord we shared our thoughts which encouraged us to be expectant because something good is coming, to be patient and persistent in intercession and wait on Him. There are things only He can do. We are to 'take a step up -it is time to take this seriously.' We are challenged to hold things lightly, so that if He wants us to change what we do or how we do things, we are willing. We are to be bold and strong and know He is with us. We are to abide in him, know He is our security and identity, and see what He will do. We are to remain in Him because, apart from him, we can do nothing. Jesus is Lord!

Chris Wilson-Sharp (from Kathryn's notes)

OASIS CAFÉ

'We need a bigger kitchen!' 'We need more space!!' Thus the cry went up from the cafe staff as they juggled with bacon, eggs, baked beans, sandwiches, paninis, teapots, milkshakes and blenders, desperately trying to fulfil the ever-increasing orders from hungry customers. Nobody disagreed with the need for more kitchen space, the problem was how to achieve this with minimal disruption and cost. Expanding out into the Garden Room was not a realistic proposition, but with a little lateral thinking all became clear. Because a lateral expansion, into what was essentially a bit of a dead space in the area where the largely unused children's toilets were situated, seemed to offer a solution. There was, in the end, no need to apply to Synod for a grant or a loan, because, once we had convinced David Spires of the feasibility of doing away with the old toilets and relocating the sink and dishwasher, it was all systems go! The bulk of the work was completed in October, when the cafe was closed for the week of the Dunamis conference, but fortunately we were still able to produce lunches for the delegates. We have made a few adjustments in the following months, and had to get used to things being in different places - most of us still turn round to put things in the sink, where a new worktop stands - but we are all delighted with the improved facilities, which have provided us with much needed space, and made life a lot easier for everyone. Reading this, I'm sure you will have realised that the extension was needed because of the increased popularity of Oasis Cafe and our ever-growing clientele. Our aim is to provide good quality food and drink at affordable prices so that all may enjoy eating out every now and again without breaking the bank. Many of our regular customers come to meet up with friends or just to enjoy a quiet drink in a social setting, all knowing that they are welcome, and will not be hurried on their way. We

make the most of any opportunity to share the love of Jesus in a non-threatening or intrusive way, and always start each day with prayer when we ask for a blessing on staff and customers, and commit the day to the Lord, for everything we do at Oasis is in His name and for His glory.

2024 has seen an increase in the use of card payments over cash. We took £11,923.27 in card transactions and £4,812.22 in cash. In total St Andrew's has received £16,735.49. Many thanks go to all our volunteer staff for all the hours they have worked at Oasis Café. Please continue to pray for Oasis Café staff that we will have God given appointments with people that are pleasing to the Lord.

Patricia Hollander and Sue Wenham

MEN'S GROUPS: SOCIAL and BIBLE STUDY

The year began in January with a Bible based quiz together with men from Favour House church and St. Vincent's church in Littlebourne. We enjoyed a second quiz in February, as the Men's Group entered a team in the Dane John Residents' Quiz Night on Friday 23rd February.

The men enjoyed a Korean take away meal in the Oasis café at the end of March. After Easter we had an evening walk to Ickham, followed by a meal in the Duke William pub. In June we had another evening walk to Blean Woods.

On Saturday 20 July we were able to hold a barbeque for the church. This year the weather was almost too hot so we were able to sit both in the church garden and in the garden room, where it was cooler. The men cooked for the ladies and the barbeque was enjoyed by all.

In October we had a Chinese takeaway meal, this time in the Littlebourne chapel, and in November we enjoyed a film night watching 'Big George Foreman'. The year concluded with an evening of indoor board games just after Christmas.

In addition to the social activities, our regular monthly Bible study takes place on the second Friday of the month, ably led by Jonathan.

Mark Camp

WOMEN'S GROUPS: SOCIAL - BIBLE STUDY - ENTANGLE

Last year some of us ladies thought we would like to meet up together for some social events and Bible studies. We visited a few different garden centres and enjoyed a cream tea or coffee and cake. During November and December, we thought that going through Alice's book *Treasures in the Darkness* as I noticed she had written a study guide do go alongside it. So since the end of January we have been meeting, every two weeks to discuss what we have received from each chapter and share with each other. Future plans in the short term are to re-visit the garden centres for shopping and cream teas. Also it would be good to keep up with Bible studies as it is really good to read God's word together. If we would like to continue to meet twice a month, maybe one could be a social visit to garden centre or games and one would be the Bible Study.

Cheryl Faulds

ENTANGLE is a craft group that meets once a month in the garden room. We meet together with our own craft projects to craft and chat and help each other when the need arises. The crafts range from crochet, knitting, embroidery, patchwork, quilting and general sewing projects. We meet from 2.30 to 4.30 with a hot drink and a biscuit half way through, being very careful not to spill anything on any of the craft work, especially since some projects are months in the making! All crafters are welcome speak to Patricia Hollander for details. Posters for meeting dates are on the notice boards.

Patricia Hollander

THE CHOSEN

The Chosen is a dramatized version of the life of Jesus and those who met Him. We are screening this in the church once a month.

There are four seasons of the Chosen with eight episodes per season. We have shown season one during the autumn and we are now showing season two.

We show two episodes a month with a tea break between episodes.

Everyone is welcome. If you know someone who is not yet a believer in Jesus, invite them along.

The people Jesus meets in the Chosen found their lives transformed by knowing Him. Please pray that anyone that comes along will have their lives transformed as well. Posters on the notice boards have the meeting dates - also speak to Patricia Hollander if you have any questions.

Patricia Hollander

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 term time at the 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 40-50 international students, asylum seekers and international professionals visiting every Saturday. Each evening has a theme - for example a Malaysian night, Pancake night, table tennis tournament just to name a few. At the end of the evening, we would read a Bible passage and have a short discussion around the tables on the theme of the passage.

All the events we run during the week like volleyball, English club, Global cafe and walks help us build relationships and to invite students to our weekly meal and a Bible study that we run on Thursday nights where they can learn more about Jesus. This year we have seen many Japanese, Chinese and Indian and Iranian students hear the gospel for the first time. We have seen many students visiting local churches and Christian Union events. We have seen students from India, Iran, China, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Costa Rica, Myanmar, South Korea, Spain, Thailand and many other places. 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 ministry by prayer or by hosting students for a meal, please, contact our staff worker Baiba.Strause-Kalmere@friendsinternational.uk

Thanksgiving:

- We thank God for 6 students who have come to faith
- We with local churches hosted 48 students for Christmas meals in a British home
- We have shared the gospel with more than 400 students, with more than 20 seekers attending Bible studies each week
- We thank God for good partnership with churches and Christian Unions and the university Missions week that happened last week. Pray that the seeds sown will bear fruit in due course.
- We thank God for providing us with New Staff worker Barath Soundappan (from India) and a Reach volunteer Emi Yoshinaga (from Japan) this year

Please pray for:

- Recruitment of intern for academic year beginning in September 2025 for Reach discipleship year
- Pray for our weekly events and especially weekly evangelistic Bible study called "Open House"

- Planning for annual Canterbury Summer International Outreach based at SMB premises from 29th June- 6 July 2025! We are currently recruiting local volunteers who could provide B & B for week for outreach team members, people to bake cakes, lend bikes or sponsor a team member.
- Pray for more churches and volunteers to get involved in reaching thousands of international students in this city - harvest is plentiful and this is the most strategic mission of modern days.

Thank you for your continuous and generous support! We could not do this ministry without you!

In Christ,
Baiba Strause-Kalmere Centre Team Leader,
Canterbury
Mobile: 07999556555
Friends International
Website: <http://canterburyfi.org.uk/>

CANTERBURY CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH(CCCC)

UPDATES FROM APRIL 2024 to MARCH 2025

"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 thank God for His guidance and leading throughout the past year. Over the course of the year, there have been some changes in our committee. The terms of office for two trustees, Brother Dominic and Sister Huiqing Li, expired last June. They will temporarily step down as trustees and hope to return after taking a one-year break. We are grateful for God's provision, as three sisters have joined our leadership team as new trustees: Grace Wang, Yiling Shen, and Yuxia Chen. May God honor their dedication and bless us to be united in Christ.

Sunday worship

Over the past year, the number of attendees at our Sunday service has steadily increased. The average attendance ranges from 55 to 65, including children. Additionally, more young people have started joining our Sunday service, and two sisters have become involved in serving in the PA system.

We held four evangelical Sunday services for special festivals and events last year: Christmas, Chinese New Year, the Mid-Autumn Festival, and a special summer gathering. Before or after each service, we share a meal together. We actively encourage brothers and sisters to invite unbelievers to join our services. Each time, more than 100 people, including both adults and children, attend these gatherings.

Children Ministry

Over the past year, more children have been attending our Sunday school, with an average of 20 students each week. As a result, we need more volunteers to serve in the ministry, and we encourage some parents to join our team.

This year, we plan to invite 4–5 youth pastors or ministers to share their testimonies in Sunday school, inspiring our youth and children to dedicate themselves to God.

Family ministry

Our church has more sisters than brothers because, in most families, the husbands are unbelievers and do not attend church with their wives.

Thanks be to God! In the past year, two families have joined our church and have been attending Sunday services consistently.

However, some families are still facing challenges, and some couples are experiencing serious relationship difficulties. We need to pray for them and provide counseling and support. May God grant us wisdom to help these families in managing their households.

Last July, we encouraged more families to attend the COCM Summer Family Camp.

Attend COCM family camp

Discipleship ministry

This year, we launched our online adult Sunday school program, offering a total of three courses:

- "Introduction to the Old Testament" (February 5 – April 1, 2024)
- "Development History of the Chinese Church" (May 6 – June 24, 2024)
- "Introduction to the New Testament" (September 16 – November 11, 2024)

Classes are held every Monday evening from 8:30 to 9:30 PM, as some families in the restaurant industry only have Mondays off.

Outreach events

Since 2022, we have organized three to four evangelical services each year. We have welcomed some new immigrants, some of whom have begun attending our church's Sunday worship. In September of last year, we launched a new Bible study group specifically for these newcomers. We guided them through the Alpha Course, with approximately 6-7 participants attending each session. We meet monthly, and during our most recent gathering, two seekers made the decision to become Christians.

Visa student Ministry

In September 2024, we began welcoming new students to the university once again. Nearly twenty students now attend our student fellowship, and most of them are unbelievers. We teach them using the Alpha Course and encourage them to participate in the COCM year-end student camp at the end of 2024. Last month, five students made the decision to become Christians after attending fellowship. Praise the Lord!

Grace Liu

COCM missionaries ministering in CCCC

FAVOUR HOUSE CHURCH 2024 Activities held at St Andrews URC Venue

-

In His Presence Meetings

Favour House Church holds a monthly worship and prayer meeting on the first Saturday of each month, 4 pm to 6 pm. This meeting provides churches in Canterbury the opportunity to gather and worship together as the body of Christ.

Dwelling In His Presence Prayers

There is an opportunity for anyone to come and join the weekly prayers on Thursdays from noon to 1 pm where worship and prayers are done in unity. King James (Senior Pastor FHC) mainly leads the prayers but in his absence, Peter Hollander leads.

Kings Summit Business Conference

In October 2024, Kings Summit Business Conference was held at URC venue. This is a conference for business owners who would like their businesses to scale-up by gaining the needed insights to apply to their businesses and enhance growth.

Chizzy James

CANTERBURY STREET PASTORS

Canterbury Street Pastors is an award-winning ministry dedicated to supporting individuals in the night time economy. We are part of the Safer Streets Project, the Community Safety Partnership, and the Purple Flag Scheme. Our efforts have been recognized by the Best Bar None Scheme, which evaluates the safety of venues, promotes well-being, and emphasizes zero tolerance training among other initiatives.

Notably, Canterbury has received the Purple Flag Award for 13 consecutive years, making it the only city in the country to achieve this distinction! Canterbury continues to lead the way in safety initiatives, with Canterbury Street Pastors playing a crucial role in this effort. It is not a coincidence that we are celebrating our 13th year of operations, during which we have focused on maintaining peace in the city while keeping Christ at the centre of our mission.

In February 2024, we welcomed 4 new Street Pastors, along with 3 from the Whitstable team.

September was designated as a month of prayer for the work of Street Pastors. During this time, our team and supporters gathered an hour earlier on Saturday nights to pray together. Since then, we have seen a significant increase in requests for application forms, and we are excited to welcome 14 new volunteers to our team. Looking ahead to 2025, we plan to increase the frequency of our patrols. We have observed that the need for flip-flops has decreased as the dynamics of the night time economy evolve. Our door is always open, if you would like to know more or join the prayer support group.

Andrew Pantling, Coordinator for Canterbury.

Notes to the Accounts - Year ended 31st December 2024**1 Accounting policies**

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 using the accruals method..

2 Income

Freewill offerings were over budget as were Oasis café receipts.

Premises lettings were St Andrew's £21,889, Flat £7,200, Littlebourne £717 = £29,921

The café contributed £16,035 to the church funds, after card charges of £650. 47.33% of the takings were card payments (last year 43.6%).

Other Receipts - Welfare contributions £3,580, Graham Watkins £300 funeral donation, City church wedding £400, Scone School £680, Chinese church contribution to screens £500 (cost £616), First Aid course £150, Birthday gift £150 (paid out £150), Watling Street charity (received £2,416, £1,416 carried forward) £1,000, copies £8 = £6,768

URC Grants - There was a grant for the Garden room doors&windows £8,370 and provision for repairs £2,000 receivable in 2025

Donations for specific purposes - Vaughn & Au Goodchild £1,010 , Amy & Kody Friesen £915, Great Kenya Mission (Daniel Gitau) £2,162, Canterbury Christian Schools work Trust £465 = £4,552

3 Expenditure

Furniture & Fittings - Garden room £16,995, Café plumbing, wiring, shelves, table £2,002, Screens (£500 rec'd) £616, other small items (flip chart, rack & mugs) £239 = £19,852

Manse expenses - Council Tax £3,645, Water £872, Gas Maintenance & certificate £831, Insurance £662, Gutter clean £230, Fence £395 small repairs £30 = £6,665

Regular Payments to Christian Workers - Goodchild £125/mo; Friesen £125/mo; Sch Work Trust £100/mo. Times 12 = £4,200
Vaughan Goodchild's bank account in Canterbury Nat West was cancelled, so we have to pay by transfer to Philippines half yearly to reduce the bank charges of £42.50 for each transaction. NatWest won't send bank cards or statements abroad anymore.

Notes to the Accounts - Year ended 31st December 2024**3 Expenditure - continued**

Church Repairs - Flat Gas Maintce £178, Fire & Burglar Alarm maintce £3,314 (replacement equipment), Lift Maintenance £867, Water heater £211, Hall & foyer lights £1,372, Toilet £175, café blinds £320, Café lights £323, small other repairs £217 =£6,977

Other Expenses - Bank Charges £620, Scone School £680, Petty cash £100, Christians Together £30, Birthday Gift £150, British Legion £50, Piano tuner £60, Find church £44, Wedding Fees £100 = £1,834

Donations paid out - Vaughn & Au Goodchild £1,010, Amy & Kody Friesen £915, Great Kenya Mission £2,162, CCSWT £465 = £4,552

4 Result

There was a deficit of £4,836 for the year, against budget of £5,470. There was a surplus of £9,710 last year.

5 Debtors and Prepayments

HMRC gift aid £4000 provision, Tenancy Deposit Scheme £500, Lili Waste pd Dec for Jan £111, provision for Synod Repair Grant receivable in 2025 £2,000 = £6,611

6 Creditors

Blythwood £20, Gas & Electricity 1,519, Water £540, NEST £135, Bank charges £54, Samaritans key deposit £15, Goodchild not yet paid over £645, cleaners £1290 = £4,218

7 Staff Costs

Salary costs were £ 11,145 plus Employer's Pension Contributions to a Defined Benefit Scheme (NEST) £335

8 Watling Street Charity funds of £2416 were transferred to St Andrew's for welfare purposes and £1416 is unspent.

9 We expect to receive a £5,000 from the estate of John Clarke in 2025

St Andrew's URC, Canterbury
Registered Charity no. 1178344

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Note	Results for the year ended 31st December 2024	Variance	Budget Projection 2024	Results for the year ended 31st December 2023
INCOME					
Freewill Offerings		57,006	2,006	55,000	61,019
Covenant/Gift Aid Tax Recovery -due		10,079	79	10,000	10,031
Hall & Premises Lettings (incl Flat £3600 & L'bme £405)		29,806	4,806	25,000	24,842
Oasis Cafe Receipts	2	25,071	1,071	24,000	23,553
Littlebourne Offerings		2,742	742	2,000	2,121
Other Receipts	2	6,768	5,768	1,000	1,269
Grants due from URC	2	10,370	(5,630)	16,000	7,420
Capital Reserve Account & URC Interest		1,136	136	1,000	1,363
Donations for Specific purposes	2	4,552	(1,448)	6,000	6,834
Total Income		£ 147,528	£ 7,528	£ 140,000	£ 138,452
EXPENDITURE					
Ministry and Mission		45,180	0	45,180	41,076
Ministerial & Preaching Expenses		3,239	761	4,000	4,109
Welfare Fund -		4,530	(3,530)	1,000	940
Church Cleaning		5,476	(1,476)	4,000	4,344
Electricity Gas & Water		17,004	(2,004)	15,000	12,274
Administration and Office Expenses		14,503	(503)	14,000	13,380
Church Insurance		6,289	1	6,290	6,514
Furniture & Fittings -	3	19,852	(1,852)	18,000	5,325
Manse Expenses - Council Tax, water & repairs	3	6,665	335	7,000	10,575
Payments To Christian Workers	3	4,200	800	5,000	4,200
Courses, Teaching Aids & CCL Licence		1,935	(935)	1,000	760
Catering Supplies		790	(90)	700	645
Church Repairs	3	6,977	(977)	6,000	5,986
Children's & Youth Work		352	148	500	408
Oasis Cafe Payments - stock & card charges	2	9,036	1,764	10,800	10,197
Other (Bank Charges, Scone Sch etc)	3	1,834	(834)	1,000	1,184
Donations - specific - see above donations	3	4,502	1,498	6,000	6,834
Total Expenses		£ 152,364	£ (6,894)	£ 145,470	£ 128,751
Surplus / (Deficit) of Income over Expenditure (Normal Transactions)		£ (4,836)	£ 14,422	£ (5,470)	£ 9,701

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2024**BALANCE SHEET**

	Note	Balance Sheet At 31st December 2024	Balance Sheet At 31st December 2023	Balance Sheet At 31st December 2022
Cash at Bank		79,125	78,254	61,966
Cash in Hand		250	250	250
Investments held by Southern Synod		17,173	16,249	15,682
Epworth investment Trusts				
Creditors and Accrued charges	6	(4,218)	(3,107)	(2,788)
Rent Deposit received £500		(500)	(500)	(500)
Debtors & Prepayments	5	6,611	9,791	16,059
Total Assets		£ 98,442	£ 100,937	£ 90,670
Represented by				
General Fund brought forward		84,688	74,987	49,030
Surplus / (Deficit) for year		(4,836)	9,701	25,957
General Fund carried forward		£ 79,852	£ 84,688	£ 74,987
Funds held by Southern Province		£ 17,173	£ 16,249	£ 15,682
Welfare Fund		£ 1,416		
Total Funds		£ 98,442	£ 100,937	£ 90,670

BUDGET and past results
St Andrew's URC Canterbury

Page 5


Budget for 2025 Income and Expenditure Account

	Budget Projection 2025	Results for Year ended 31/12/2024	Results for Year ended 31/12/2023	Results for Year ended 31/12/2022
INCOME				
Freewill Offerings	55,000	57,006	61,019	57,550
Covenant/Gift Aid Tax Recovery	9,000	10,079	10,031	13,517
Hall & Premises Lettings (Flat £7,620 p.a.)	30,000	29,806	24,842	25,093
Oasis Cafe Receipts	26,000	25,071	23,553	20,066
Littlebourne Receipts	2,500	2,742	2,121	1,570
Other Receipts	10,000	6,768	1,269	1,014
- specific gifts/interest received/other income		-	-	26,715
Insurance claim - loss of rental and café income 2020-2021				9,193
Grants from URC	4,000	10,370	7,420	144
Capital Reserve Account Interest	1,000	1,136	1,363	
Donations for Specific purposes	5,000	4,552	6,834	9,478
Total Income	£ 142,500	147,528	138,452	164,341
EXPENDITURE				
Ministry and Mission	47,436	45,180	41,076	41,076
Ministerial Expenses	3,500	3,239	4,109	2,972
Welfare of church members	3,000	4,530	940	485
Church Cleaning	5,500	5,476	4,344	3,925
Electricity Gas & Water	17,000	17,004	12,274	12,377
Administration and Office Expenses	15,000	14,503	13,380	13,143
Church Insurance	6,410	6,289	6,514	7,200
Furniture & Fittings -	4,000	19,852	5,325	17,229
Manse Expenses	7,000	6,665	10,575	4,976
Payments To Christian Workers	5,000	4,200	4,200	4,200
Courses and Teaching Aids	1,000	1,935	760	929
Catering Supplies	700	790	645	682
Church Repairs	6,000	6,977	5,986	6,617
KidzKlub	-	-	-	-
Children's & Youth Work	500	352	408	684
Oasis Cafe Payments	10,400	9,036	10,197	9,075
Other	1,000	1,834	1,184	968
Donations	5,000	4,502	6,834	9,478
Youth and Family Workers & Expenses	-	-	-	2,369
Scone School	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	£ 138,446	152,364	128,751	138,383
Surplus / (Deficit) of Income over Expenditure (Normal Transactions)	£ 4,054	(4,836)	9,701	25,957

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
ST ANDREW'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CANTERBURY
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

I have carried out an independent examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 of St Andrew's United Reformed Church Canterbury. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from charity trustees concerning any such matters. No material matters have come to my attention to give me cause for concern that proper records were not kept and that the information disclosed is not correct.

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 2024



William Geering MAAT

Winterbourne
Curtis Lane
Stelling Minnis
Kent
CT4 6AD

5th May 2025