

christchurchbaptist

kingstangley

# **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021**

**March 2022  
Annual General Meeting**

## MINISTER'S REPORT

Aged about twelve I joined the Sea Scouts. We lived more than 2 hours from the sea in all directions! However, the River Thames was much nearer and it was in those waters that I had to tread water for 2 minutes before swimming 25 metres up-stream before being allowed in a boat.

As a church we have been mostly treading water for two years and now it is time to swim. Christians are called often to swim against the stream of society. In a consumer culture we fellowship together as a church of all ages and commit ourselves to one another as to the Lord.

Salt and light, Jesus said, stand out, be different, offer something no-one else can, which is hope in and through Jesus. We are trying something new on Sundays and yet through it we endeavour to continue to be faithful to God's everlasting word and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit today.

I pray that our trial Sundays will prove helpful. I'd like them to be joyful and engaging. Even more I want them to be purposeful, to challenge us and send us out as salt and light to a world in need.

It is just six months since our last AGM, having waited eighteen months from March 2020. In the past six months not so much has happened yet a lot has changed.

Only now are all COVID restrictions being lifted. We are still leaving extra space between seats, opening windows and asking everyone to be especially mindful of others' health and feelings.

It is good to be back in our building and to see activities increasing weekly. Please do ask the Lord in what ways, old or new, He wants you to serve Him here. There is plenty of opportunity.

It is clear that we cannot go backwards and of course in many ways we are desperate to move forward. As we do so let us remember that these past two years have been a challenge for all of us in different ways. Let us continue to be kind to one another.

We are blessed to have retained the majority of our weekly congregation since before the pandemic and also blessed to have welcomed new people too. Let us all commit to one another in the Lord and allow Him to renew and rebuild His church at CCB to His glory.

Yours in Christ Jesus  
Matthew Cooper

*"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."*  
Ephesians 5:21

# **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

## **The bare facts:**

Minister: Revd Matthew Cooper (inducted September 2006)

Youth Work Co-ordinator: Ben Ansell (appointed September 2017)

Administrator: Glenda Turner (appointed July 2006)

Bookshop and Coffee Shop Co-Ordinator: Hannah Tse (appointed March 2016)

New members: Hedley and Marion Edwards

Baptisms: Julie Quant

Member deaths:

- Ted Hawkins
- David Hayes

Members leaving: Neil and Debbie Wood

Secretary: Roy Farrant (re-appointed October 2021 for three years)

Treasurer: Paul Hutchinson (re-appointed October 2021 for three years but expecting to stand down in 2022)

Other Deacons:

- Neil Cooper (appointed March 2019; standing down at the 2022 a.g.m.)
- Suzie Hinton-Taylor (appointed March 2019; standing down at the 2022 a.g.m.)
- Cameron Varley (appointed 12 March 2020 for three years)
- Will Sime (appointed October 2021 for three years)

(March 2019 was the first meeting of members as a CIO, at which point all deacons were newly elected.)

Diaconate vacancies - two

## **Church Progress:**

2021 was another difficult year. Yet Matthew's continuing tireless work kept us together and we fared extremely well given the circumstances.

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to disrupt our normal activities for the whole year. Zoom meetings continued throughout, but we were at last able also to meet together in the church premises from July onwards. It felt very odd – people needed to be spaced well apart and facemasks were required. Singing was not possible most of the time. Many of our congregation were understandably very hesitant about meeting together, which inevitably meant that numbers in the building were much reduced. We did manage to hold our annual Carols by Candlelight service on 19 December, which was highly appreciated, but the congregation were still required to wear masks.

Coming out of the Covid lockdown, we have no live keyboard player to lead the Sunday singing regularly. We do have a willing though not large band of singers and musicians who are able to lead on some Sundays. We are developing a library of electronic backing tracks, in a variety of instruments and styles, to sing with.

Later in the year the children and youth groups started meeting together once more. They have some way to go in recruiting volunteers and rebuilding their activities.

Coffee Shop and Bookshop met sporadically during the year as government regulations allowed. When those restrictions were lifted sufficiently to allow opening, we did not have enough volunteers to do so as often as we used to. So opening was restricted, but valued when it was possible.

In my report last year I suggested that we were struggling and the future was uncertain. But I also said there were some exciting opportunities before us; that we have a lot going for us; with still a lot of members and attendees and still good financial reserves. As I write my report this year I sense that we are actively on the mend and starting to grow. New members are being welcomed; Sunday services are becoming well attended; midweek activities are beginning to blossom; new initiatives are being trialled. We have a way to go and we must never be complacent, but it seems to me that God has been holding our hand through the dark times and now wants to carry on holding it as we reach for the lighter times. If God is for us, who can be against us?

Roy Farrant  
Secretary  
February 2022

## **TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR END 2021**

Again this year the Annual Accounts have been prepared in line with the Baptist Union's suggested format for churches with an income under £250k/year.

I should make it clear, before proceeding further, that a budget for 2021 was not formally agreed by the Church Meeting. However, I do refer to the unagreed budget below.

### Headlines from the Accounts

In 2021 the total income increased by a significant amount compared with 2020, by £20,944 to £143.7k. This increase is entirely due to the receipt of a large legacy from the estate of Mike Crisp amounting to £33,150. Expenditure has increased by £6,465 to £121,324 compared with 2020. In 2021 the church ended the year with a surplus of £22,397, compared with the budgeted deficit of £6,004. Accordingly, the church's liquid assets have increased to £118,258.

More than £12,000 of the income was received from the HMRC furlough scheme to support the salaries of our furloughed staff. In addition, more than £16,000 was received from HMRC as Gift Aid.

The offering in 2021 has decreased by £15,252 compared with 2020 and, at the end of the year, was this same amount below budget. However, as I said in my report for 2020, approximately £12,000 of the 2020 offering was received in one-off donations rather than through increased monthly giving, so the 2020 increase would not necessarily be repeated in 2021. This has turned out to be true.

At 31 Dec 2021 the legacies balance is £39,650.

Concerning external causes, the church has given £5,990 to CBA and £4,519 to BMS World Mission. The church did not nominate a "Charity of the Year" in 2021, although £410 was donated to the Christian Aid Haiti Appeal which was the surplus from the Carnival stall. Total giving to external causes amounted to about 7.6% of our total income for the year.

CCB continues to hold the majority of its reserves in the Baptist Union deposit account. Baptist Churches are encouraged to do so as this provides funds to the Baptist Union which are used to make loans to finance the purchase of new church sites and manse, fund the construction of new churches and redevelopment and improvement projects.

## Two-Year View

Given that 2020 and 2021 have definitely not been typical years, I think it is useful to pick out a few figures compared between the end of 2019 and the end of 2021 :-

	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	Dec 2021
Offering income (note 1)	£60,152	£76,967	£62,121
Gift Aid income (note 2)	£13,192	£13,994	£16,181
Furlough income (note 3)	£0	£13,066	£12,278
KCBS surplus/deficit (note 4)		-£347	£656
Year-end reserves excl M.Crisp legacy (note 5)	£87,944	£95,861	£85,108
Year-end reserves incl M.Crisp legacy	£87,944	£95,861	£118,258

### Notes:

1. This shows how the offering income increased substantially in 2020 before reverting back to pre-pandemic levels in 2021.
2. Gift Aid income is dependent on the offering of the previous year, so has increased in 2021 as a result of the increased giving in 2020.
3. Furlough income shows the amount that CCB has been able to claim from HMRC through the furlough scheme, a substantial amount.
4. The KCBS surplus/deficit shows that the KCBS costs have been covered over the last 2 years including the bookshop worker's salary costs, supported by the furlough scheme, although unlike in previous years, there has been little surplus to be made available to general church life.
5. These figures show that, even when the M.Crisp legacy is excluded, the year-end reserves of Dec 2021 are only slightly down (by £2,836) over the two years compared with Dec 2019 reserves.

The Deacons have considered the financial position of the Church and believe that we will be able to pay all bills, invoices, charges and other liabilities as they fall due.

The work of the Treasurer is dependent on other supporting people. Particular thanks go to,

- all those who have given to the work of the church in 2021, either as regular monthly donations or in other ways. The weekly/monthly offering amounted to £62,121 for the full year.
- the offering counting team,
- Roy Farrant who has managed the payroll and all of the furlough scheme claims.

The church currently has 5 individuals on payroll.

- The people who have looked after First Steps, 5Alive and 7Up funds.
- Glenda Turner for managing the hiring of our premises although again less activity than usual in this area. The church has received an income of £6,705 through hall-hire in the year.

*P. Hutchinson*

**Paul Hutchinson, Treasurer**

**Date 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

## **PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER MINISTRY**

*'Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.'*

Hebrews 12 v 14 & 15

As I write this report, I am aware that my 6 year term of serving the Church family as Pastoral Deacon is coming to a close.

It has been an honour and privilege to work with you in taking care of our Church family at Christ Church.

So many have become personal friends and without your constant support and guidance my role would have been very different.

It is so wonderful how we have worked together as a team, especially during these past 2 difficult years and that so many of you have taken the role to contact, chat and care for each other.

As I pass on the 'baton', I pray that God will guide each one of you and will lead you down new and exciting directions.

God has been so good in answering our prayers for new members and new pathways beginning. So very exciting.

I will be praying for each one of you, that God will guide and show you the way.

I am looking forward to supporting the Church in the new pathways, especially Thursday mornings for as long as I am able.

Thank you again for the privilege to serve you.

May God bless you all richly

Suzie



## CHRISTIAN AID REPORT 2021

We give thanks for all that was possible this year for Christian Aid in Kings Langley. It has been challenging for all of us and we have needed to adapt in order to keep the work going. Nevertheless, a total of £10,176 was raised (79% of the previous year's total) and our thanks go to all who have supported our work and to Jeanette (and Mick) and Pat for their excellent work as church representatives. Our full annual report gives a comprehensive account and it can be accessed at: <https://tinyurl.com/evpeev5p> and some hard copies are available in the church.

Our key activity this year was Christian Aid Week, and we thank again the many volunteers who helped with the 'Door to Door' envelope delivery and collection. Our United Service on 'Zoom' was hosted by Matthew and our guest speaker was a Christian Aid volunteer, Neil Dymond. His theme was 'Water, praise, love and joy' and he focused on Rose's story and how she had to walk miles to access clean water for herself and her family in Kenya. Through the support of Christian Aid partners, helped by the giving in Christian Aid Week, her community were shown how to make best use of their dam. *'Water is life' says Rose, 'When it is readily available the peace of mind people have, especially women, is beyond explanation'*

Climate Change was a major focus of campaigning with the UN Climate Change Conference COP 26 being held in Glasgow. An enthusiastic and committed group of young Christians walked in relay from St Ives (where the G7 meeting was held) to Glasgow. In August local supporters met with them at St John's Church in Boxmoor before they set off for Tring. We then joined them via Zoom for a welcome meeting at Tring Baptist Church.

Also, in August another earthquake hit Haiti. At the time it was reckoned about 500,000 people were affected, 40% of the total population in the affected areas. An appeal was launched and a total of £1,395 was raised including £410 from the Christ Church refreshments at the Village Carnival for which we are very grateful. The good news is that houses built previously with the help of Christian Aid withstood the earthquake.

In addition to fund raising, we wrote letters, including on behalf of the beleaguered people of Afghanistan, lobbying our MP for more help and support and we are grateful to all those who signed the letter to Sir Mike Penning.

And we prayed-each week suggestions for prayer were included in the service sheet and they were used at different times throughout the year by some of those leading intercessions.

### **Please join us in this work**

We have started a mailing list for Kings Langley Christian Aid supporters. This will enable us to send details of our events and campaigns more efficiently. Please consider joining this list at: <http://www.kings-langley-churches.org.uk/ChristianAid.html> or phone Chris Pettit on 07778 157093 for more details.

Paul Tucker

## **HOUSE GROUPS**

### **NOMADS HOUSE GROUP**

The past year has been difficult in many ways for members of the Nomads House Group. During the year we lost Sean and Hannah and Mervyn was unable to attend many meetings due to work commitments. We continue to meet on Zoom though Denis and Isabel have found it difficult and have stopped joining us since Christmas. Our intention is to meet in person again in 2022 and we hope when the days lengthen Denis and Isabel will be able to join us. We miss them a lot. We have however been encouraged since Alan and Annette joined us in January and they are proving to be a great asset to the group. We now have 8 regularly attending each week and will be back to 10 when Denis and Isabel return. If anyone would like to join you would be welcomed with open arms. We were meeting on a Thursday at 8pm but have just reverted to our long standing time of 7.30pm on Monday of every week.

Our time together starts by sharing what has been going on in our lives over the past week over coffee and excellent home-made cake!!! We end with a time of prayer.

At the beginning of the year we started a study on the Persecuted Church using material from Release International entitled All for Jesus. We found this both a challenge and at times difficult to follow. This was followed by a study on Thessalonians published by Cover to Cover and entitled Building Church in Changing Times. This we felt was very relevant to both us at Christ Church and the wider church in general. Our third study was 'home grown' and based on numbers in the Bible and surprised us at how many there are. We continue to look for new material that will help us study God's Word.

Unfortunately due to Covid restrictions we have not been able during the year to invite visiting speakers to share their Christian work and experiences but hope to be able to start this again in 2022.

Individual members have supported outreach events though these have been few in 2021. Our hope is that in 2022 more such events can be organised, while many are involved in visiting those who are housebound or living in care homes.

Of course no review of Nomads would be complete without mentioning our social life. Parties and BBQs have all played their part in helping us support and encourage each other in our Christian journey. We wish we had been able to do more in 2021 but we were restricted by Covid rules. That said we had a very pleasant Christmas lunch together when chance conversations once again proved the basis of our prayer life both corporately and personally.

For all of us, meeting together every week gives us the opportunity to share our hopes and fears, and provides us with the chance to support each other as we journey through life together.

If anyone is thinking of joining a house group you would be very welcome at Nomads

Will Sime on behalf the members of Nomad.

## **PRAYER GROUP/OPEN HOUSE**

2021 has been and gone and with having an AGM towards the end of last year, there doesn't seem much to update you with.

However, we continue to meet regularly and even though restrictions have lightened somewhat we have decided to stay on Zoom during this time as we have a couple of ladies who need to be more careful due to being vulnerable and practically for Charlotte Zoom works due to family commitments.

We do continue to support and pray for one another on a monthly basis and really enjoy our times together on zoom.

Of course if anyone wants to join us, please contact Charlotte.

Charlotte Cooper

## **BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

Well, Zoom seems to have well and truly become part of our worship, fellowship and prayerful walk and what had started as a lifeline for lockdown, shows no signs of retiring. We have continued to have a loyal core group of around ten people and we have been blessed with others popping in and out as they have been able. We would love others to join – why don't you give it a try – it's just the usual church zoom code that we log on to church with.

Our material continues to nothing but the word. The only study book we have used is one that was written around 3,500 years ago over a period of around 1,500 years and still manages to top the best seller list. Quite a few human authors, but tied together by the divine. The latter part of last year we worked through the whole of the book of Luke – we had a couple of Christmas specials and this year we have started on the second instalment of Luke – the book of Acts. We arrive anytime up to 8pm and get to have a catch up on our weeks. We then begin the study with a prayer. We then step through the evenings reading with a handful of verses at a time. There is no pressure on anyone to read but if you would like to, you will certainly have a turn. Between each reading, we have an open discussion which I always find fruitful. Finally, we always have ten or fifteen minutes in prayer finishing around 9:05-9:10.

There is absolutely no need to have attended any other week to get something out of the current week. We look at a different passage every time and just as it is not necessary to start reading the bible from page 1 and head all the way through to the last page, anyone is welcome to join our group at anytime. The Word is always NEW.

Although we do stick to a core raison d'être of reading the bible, we do have a close fellowship and are privileged to pray for each other and share each others burdens and celebrate each others successes.

If you haven't thought of joining a bible study before (or if you have) we really encourage you to give it a try. In fact, for at least one of the core group, this was the first bible study they have ever attended.

John 20:19: On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

For us, the evening is Tuesday and it is not the Jews, but the virus that keeps us locked away. We have recently made tiny moves towards actually meeting up in person with a mix of meeting together in person and on Zoom, the truth is that zoom is very convenient although there is something very special about being in the same room. And of course, every week without fail, Jesus indeed joins us and says, 'Peace be with you' and certainly for me, when I come away from the meeting I feel blessed.

Cameron Varley

## **CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRY**

2 years in from the first lock down, as restrictions are lifted and feelings are mixed, we are still in a time of increased uncertainty, change and anxiety. Families need our love and support just as much as they did at any point in the pandemic as children and parents carry the emotional baggage associated with the social effects of Covid-19. As a church we continue to adapt to the changing government restrictions and to do everything we can to support families in the local community, both inside and outside of our fellowship.

### **Sunday mornings**

During the first lock down the three Sunday morning children's groups were merged into one. Once we were allowed back in the building we continued to meet as one group, mostly led by me with support from the Sunday School team. This was due to the lack of volunteers (several volunteers across the children and youth ministry stepped down as their personal circumstances changed during the pandemic) but also to help the children adapt to being together again on a Sunday morning after 18 months of services on Zoom. We've been pleased to welcome three new families on a regular basis on Sunday mornings since September, but attendance continues to be very difficult to predict.

Last summer I conducted a consultation with the church families and gave the results to Matthew and the deacons. Earlier this year we had a Family Forum on Zoom where we received more feedback about Sunday mornings. The main feedback I have taken from this is that the older children & young people need a group of their own on Sunday mornings, also there are diverse needs and many competing properties among the families in the fellowship. It is clear that we need to make some changes and I am very excited by Matthew's ideas to experiment with a different structure for Sunday services in March and April. During those months we are not going to have a separate children's group but will meet all together for 45mins and then provide a space for families to explore "Godly play" together for the rest of the morning. I have met with most of the young people and we have agreed to start a fortnightly bible study and discussion group during the Sunday morning service.

I look forward to seeing where this new season takes us as a fellowship.

### **Events**

Matthew and I have continued to prepare and host Family Connect services as frequently as possible, including Christmas, Water and Sand themed sessions. These continue to be well attended by families with children in our Friday clubs and by families who come on Sunday mornings.

We have not been providing food because of concerns over people mixing together too closely during the pandemic. Previously the sandwich tea after the service had been a key time for parents to mix and for people to get to know each other better. I hope that we can re-introduce this soon.

We continue to be part of the Youth Across Hemel network. They have been very creative in their efforts to keep going during the pandemic and are a great resource for us. I took

some young people to the Youth Across Hemel Text Treasure Hunt event at the Liberty Tea Rooms in the autumn where they heard the charity's founder Kerry-Ann Cooper give an inspiring talk. We hope to host this year's autumn event at Christ Church Baptist.

In December we were pleased to welcome Kings Langley Rainbows (the junior version of Brownies) to use the building for their Christmas event, thanks to Lizzie North. I was delighted to visit the group and hope that this will lead to other opportunities for our church to work with Rainbows in the future,

### **Weekly clubs**

We have three weekly clubs:

Five Alive for ages 5 to 8,

7Up for ages 8 to 11

Revel8 for ages 11 and up.

The majority of the children who come to all of the Friday clubs are not in a church fellowship. After 18 months of lockdowns and changing restrictions the framework for our clubs has now been stable since September. Five Alive and Revel8 meet fortnightly and 7Up meets weekly. All the clubs are back to their previous time slots and usual activities Eg bible stories, making, baking, playing games, watching movies, etc. We have had a new influx of children in Five Alive and 7Up thanks to regular attenders inviting their friends. Five Alive has always been a fortnightly group but I would like to see Revel8 return to a weekly slot. At the moment we do not have enough volunteers to make this possible. Please pray about this situation.

### **Schools**

During the pandemic our school's work came to a complete stop. I did offer our services to local schools at several points. I was delighted that Kings Langley Secondary School got in touch last summer to invite us and Youth Across Hemel back to restart our weekly lunchtime club called The Summit. We have been meeting since September. To my knowledge none of the young people who attend are associated with a church but they come because they feel safe and accepted. Please pray for the group, for Mr Moyo the teacher who gives up his lunch time and his classroom for it and for Lisa Dussek, my co-leader from Youth Across Hemel.

Matthew and I were invited back to give an advent assembly in Kings Langley Primary School. It had been a long time since either of us had had an opportunity to share from the Bible in the school so please pray that we continued to be welcomed there.

### **First Steps**

Our pre-school group is still popular with the local community and highly appreciated by the families that use it. We continue to see families establish relationships with the church through First Steps and then filter into other activities at the church. In September we made an appeal for volunteers and I am very grateful for the response from the church. Several people came forward and their new perspective and ideas have been a wonderful

asset to the group. We have now moved the group back up to the Upper Hall after being in the Sanctuary since the second lock down.

**We could not do it without you!**

None of the youth and children's ministry would be possible without your support. Whether you pray for the ministry, volunteer, tell others about our activities or support the church financially, we could not do it without you.

**Please pray for the following:**

- More volunteers with young people - for Fridays and Sundays
- For God's Holy Spirit to guide us clearly through March and April as we try something new on Sunday mornings
- For the schools, for the staff and the pupils
- For all the families in the fellowship and associated with the church, that they will know the love of God in all its fullness

Ben Ansell  
Youth and Families Co-Ordinator

## **SAFEGUARDING**

We continue to train those who work with children & young people. As previously reported 18 people watched the BU video in 2021 and in the latter part of 2021, 6 new people, who hadn't done Safeguarding training before, attended a 'virtual' safeguarding training session run by the Central Baptist Association. Ben also joined this training too.

A small number of new volunteers also went through the DBS application process.

Mark Allchorn continues to be our Designated Person for Safeguarding

Charlotte Cooper



## COFFEE SHOP AND BOOKSHOP

The pandemic has had a very disruptive effect on our bookshop and coffee shop over the last year but we have continued to hold this together when we have been able to. Anne and Kate, despite having technically retired, have continued to officiate over these strange times which we are so grateful for as a church.

As I write this report in February, I can report that my intention is to take the reigns fully from 1 March but don't expect there to be too many changes in the short term. We are blessed with a loyal band of volunteers who allow us to staff two days a week for the coffee shop and three days a week for the bookshop via a rota which is managed brilliantly by Pam Day. I would really encourage you to consider if you might like to be on this list as it is a great way of serving the community and also because it is my intention to bring in additional volunteers whose specific purpose it will be to get alongside the patrons without having other responsibilities which means we will need more people and possibly people with other skills for which we will be looking to offer training – more of this at a later date.

Of course we are in strange times, which means we don't know if further restrictions are going to be imposed at any time but for now, the two days the coffee shop is open are very busy. It is still table service and we have strict hygiene checklists in place to minimise the risk of the virus.

Our coffee shop is not meant to be competition for the other businesses in the village but a place to come to enjoy good coffee and cake in a spiritual setting. I look forward to building on this over the coming months and years.

The bookshop is now fully open Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays and is appreciated by their customers. Unfortunately, Christian bookshops are few and far between these days and I'm so pleased that we are able to offer people the opportunity to purchase a greetings card with a Christian message or a bible or a book. I have heard many encouraging stories about people thrilled to be able to buy a bible for a grandchild or another loved one – that sounds corny, but I don't know how else to put it.

**Galatians 5:13 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh ; rather, serve one another humbly in love.**

Cameron Varley

## **WELLBEING COFFEE MORNING**

On 13 January this year, we opened the doors for our first Wellbeing Coffee Morning which is specifically for people that have struggled through the restrictions of the lockdown, perhaps feeling lonely or other mental strain. Having said that, anyone is welcome and there's no questionnaire to fill in to prove you qualify.

We don't profess to have any other skills or potions for people other than offering safe space to sit and chat over a lovely cup of coffee and a biscuit.

The Church family are encouraged to support this in any way they can and we have had a wonderful response in the first few weeks. It is early days for us, but we have had an encouraging take up. We meet in the lower hall which is set up with tables in a very large circle which people can chat as a large group or on individual tables and indeed have done both over the last few weeks. As of February, our Christian bookshop is also open at the same time.

We start with an open prayer time from 9:30-10am on Thursday morning and then serve coffee and biscuits to those that come along. At around 11am a bible passage and a message for the day is given. I have been concentrating on the words of Jesus himself from Matthew's gospel. I have been really heartened by the large group and small group conversations that have sprung up after this and it does feel like the people that come are benefiting from sharing on a deeper level than they might otherwise have opportunity to do. A number of people have commented on the feeling that they are able to share anxieties in the morning that they don't feel they can in other settings which I have taken as a real encouragement.

Over the coming weeks, I am hoping that we can incorporate crafts or activities that would not stop people chatting – maybe crochet or jigsaws – if you have any ideas, why not let me know or even better, come along and help!

So far we have not widely advertised the morning although but this is being remedied with signage being put up in the village and information being included in the village media but the best way to reach people is by personal invitation and I really encourage you to consider anyone that you know that might benefit from being part of this. Even if they can't get themselves there – in fact, probably especially if they can't get themselves there – we will provide transport if possible.

I am excited for the future of this group. There is nothing new about offering the love of the Lord to those that need it – and let's not forget, that certainly includes us – but as Colin Pye reminded us in church, it's so important to go back to the simple tenets of our faith in order to line ourselves up with God's will.

**Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."**

Cameron Varley

## **FABRIC**

Activities taking place in the building are still returning. Some new hirers and different church activities inevitably lead to further wear and tear on the building. There is always maintenance required, either regular and predictable work or additional work when areas simply have extra use and more foot traffic.

Please continue to notify the Fabric Deacon or anyone on the diaconate about building issues, so that we can try and keep the building in good repair and address problems before they escalate.

There are still many items which require addressing, some larger projects and some very small ones. They all take time and money in some way. Some items require some degree of DIY skill, others just time, to co-ordinate trades people or simply meet them and lock up afterwards. There is likely to be something on the list suitable for everyone. If you would like to help in a small way or even a larger one, please speak to the Fabric Deacon. Maintenance can be expensive but volunteering to help in this way can allow the church to refocus its spending on other important areas.

These are some of the many areas which received attention over the few months:

CCTV fully commissioned.

Fire systems were recently serviced, and the smoke heads replaced.

PAT testing of all our (portable) electrical appliances.

Garden and hedge maintenance.

Taps replaced in the upper hall.

Front door hinges adjusted, but they will need replacing as the door has dropped due to the hinge wear.

Wasp nest destroyed in the main church roof.

Two quotes have been received to convert the existing small toilet into a modern accessible toilet, with suitable access for wheelchairs. We are waiting on a third quote and a visit by a 4<sup>th</sup> builder. Once we have all these quotes in, then the Diaconate will put forward a recommendation at a church meeting for approval. When we have a firm commitment to proceed, we would like someone to investigate grants to assist us in the funding. If the grant process is something you feel you could assist with or have experience in, then please step forward.

Thank you to all those who help to improve and maintain the appearance of our buildings and grounds.

My time as a deacon has reached 6 years, so I retire from the Diaconate and official fabric duties. There are still a few projects that I have been part of that I will continue to finish, but I welcome in the new person to take over this role and am happy to support them in their new duties. Thank you to all who have supported me over the last 6 years.

**Neil Cooper**

**Deacon for Fabric**

**Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley**  
**Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2021**

<u>Consolidated CCB Receipts and Payment Account</u>			
		2021	2020
<i>Receipts</i>			
General Fund		132,871	111,740
Kings Bookshop and Coffee Shop Fund		10,104	10,387
First Steps Fund		524	267
Revel8 Fund		10	146
7up Fund		170	139
5Alive Fund		42	97
		<u>143,720</u>	<u>122,776</u>
<i>Payments</i>			
General Fund		111,214	103,412
Kings Bookshop and Coffee Shop Fund		9,448	10,734
First Steps Fund		134	187
Revel8 Fund		194	310
7up Fund		233	161
5Alive Fund		101	55
		<u>121,324</u>	<u>114,859</u>
<i>Surplus (deficit) for the year</i>		<u>22,397</u>	<u>7,917</u>

<u>General Fund - Receipts and Payments</u>			
	Note	2021	2020
<i>Receipts</i>			
Weekly Offering		62,121	76,972
Donations and other income	2	47,705	15,708
Income tax received on gifts (Gift Aid)		16,181	13,994
Investment income	3	159	253
Rents & contributions for use of premises		6,705	4,813
Raised for other causes	4	0	0
		<u>132,871</u>	<u>111,740</u>
<i>Payments</i>			
Ministry	5	48,564	45,042
Mission	6	39,543	38,522
Upkeep of Church Premises	7	17,686	14,631
Administration	8	5,421	5,217
		<u>111,214</u>	<u>103,412</u>
<i>Surplus (deficit) for the year</i>		<u>21,657</u>	<u>8,328</u>

**Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley**  
**Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2021**

<b>Kings Bookshop and Coffee Shop (KCBS) Fund - Receipts and Payments</b>			
		<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Receipts</b>			
Bookshop worker furlough receipts	2	2,122	2,654
Sale of books, cards, gifts etc		3,770	4,457
Non profit sales			519
Refreshments		4,107	2,727
Donations		106	30
		<u>10,104</u>	<u>10,387</u>
<b>Payments</b>			
Bookshop worker gross salary		6,452	6,256
Employer pension costs		193	187
Purchase of books, cards, etc		1,734	3,075
Purchases from charities/non profit			519
Refreshments		893	622
Worldpay		144	75
Maintenance & Equipment		22	0
Stationery & Postage		10	0
		<u>9,448</u>	<u>10,734</u>
<i>Surplus (deficit) for the year</i>		<u>656</u>	<u>-347</u>

<b>First Steps Fund - Receipts and Payments</b>			
		<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Receipts</b>			
Subscriptions		524	267
		<u>524</u>	<u>267</u>
<b>Payments</b>			
Refreshments		18	59
Crafts		0	0
Party Accessories		28	0
Gifts for adults & children		11	66
Equipment		77	62
		<u>134</u>	<u>187</u>
<i>Surplus (deficit) for the year</i>		<u>390</u>	<u>80</u>

**Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley**  
**Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2021**

<u>Revel8 Fund - Receipts and Payments</u>		
	2021	2020
Receipts		
Subscriptions	10	104
Tuck Shop Receipts	0	42
	<u>10</u>	<u>146</u>
Payments		
Outings	0	0
Games Night / Equipment	82	47
Craft Work	41	46
Tuck shop expenses & refreshments	36	160
Stationery	34	16
Miscellaneous	0	42
	<u>194</u>	<u>310</u>
<i>Surplus (deficit) for the year</i>	<u>-184</u>	<u>-165</u>

<u>7up Fund - Receipts and Payments</u>		
	2021	2020
Receipts		
Subscriptions	170	139
	<u>170</u>	<u>139</u>
Payments		
Craft Material	194	105
Party	33	0
Refreshments	0	0
Resource Material	0	17
Stationery	6	39
	<u>233</u>	<u>161</u>
<i>Surplus (deficit) for the year</i>	<u>-63</u>	<u>-23</u>

**Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley**  
**Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2021**

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<b><u>5Alive Fund - Receipts and Payments</u></b>			
		2021	2020
Receipts			
Subscriptions		42	97
From 7Up for Purchases		0	0
		<u>42</u>	<u>97</u>
Payments			
Craft Material		101	0
Party		0	0
Training		0	0
Resources		0	55
		<u>101</u>	<u>55</u>
<i>Surplus (deficit) for the year</i>		<u>-59</u>	<u>42</u>

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**Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2021**

<b>Assets</b>		2021	2020
Bank and other cash balances	9	118,257.81	95,861
<i>Representing balances on the following funds</i>			
General Fund	10	113,298	91,641
KCBS Fund	11	3,036	2,380
First Steps Fund	12	652	762
Revel8 Fund	13	848	1,031
7up Fund	14	223	-14
5Alive Fund	15	201	61
<b>TOTAL</b>		<u>118,258</u>	<u>95,861</u>
Non monetary assets held for the Church's own use	16	3,253,857	3,181,606
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>3,372,115</u>	<u>3,277,467</u>
<i>Liabilities</i>			
Baptist Pension Scheme Liability	17	18,468	22,176
Baptist Pension Scheme Buyout Cost	17	46,700	70,000

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**Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley**  
**Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2021**

**1 Notes to the Accounts**

Basis of accounts: These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 Charities Act 2011

<b>2 Donations and other income</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Donations / Contribution to overheads	1,159	0
Legacies	33,150	2,500
Memorial gifts / Funerals / Weddings	450	750
Other items - Furlough receipts from HMRC	12,278	13,066
Other items	2,791	2,046
	<u>49,827</u>	<u>18,362</u>
<b>3 Investment income</b>		
Bank interest	159	253
	<u>159</u>	<u>253</u>
<b>4 Raised for Other Causes</b>		
<i>Charity of the Year:</i>		
(none in 2021)	0	0
<i>Other charities:</i>		
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>5 Outgoing - Ministry (Note 1)</b>		
Minister's (gross) stipend	27,273	26,700
Employer's NI costs	449	608
Pension Contribution (Note 2)	10,971	9,729
Minister's travel & Pulpit supplies	1,754	296
Church Activities / Sunday services	328	410
Visiting Speakers	204	0
Subscriptions and Licences	1,168	945
<i>Manse Costs:</i>		
Utilities (council tax, water, light & heat)	5,061	4,999
Insurance	624	592
Repairs / upkeep	732	764
	<u>48,564</u>	<u>45,042</u>

Note 1: The Minister acts as one of the church's trustees and receives remuneration and other benefits in respect of his/her services as Minister, including the provision of manse accommodation owned by the church.

Note 2: The church's contribution in 2021 to reduce the Baptist Pension Scheme deficit is included here. The church pays both the employer's and the employee's pension

<b>6 Outgoing - Mission</b>		
Given to BMS / CBA	10,509	10,011
Given to charities of the year	0	631
Children & Youth work	584	548
Children & Family Worker gross salary	26,466	25,932
Employer's NI & Pension costs	1,222	1,361
Outreach	352	0
Given to Christian Aid Haiti Appeal	410	0
Other	0	40
	<u>39,543</u>	<u>38,522</u>

# Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley

## Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2021

<b>7 Outgoing - Upkeep of Church Premises</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Utilities (light & heat)	3,407	3,841
Insurance	2,891	2,886
Repairs and Maintenance	6,780	3,436
Church Activities / Sunday services		
Cleaner's salary	4,608	4,468
	<u>17,686</u>	<u>14,631</u>
<b>8 Outgoing - Administration</b>		
Printing and stationary	389	295
Administrator's salary	5,033	4,923
	<u>5,421</u>	<u>5,217</u>
<b>9 Bank and other cash balances</b>		
Barclays CCB CIO General Account	37,536	12,448
Baptist Union Deposit Account	77,349	77,190
Barclays KCBS CIO Account	3,348	6,169
Cash (Note 4)	25	55
	<u>118,258</u>	<u>95,861</u>
Note 4: £10 1st Steps, £15 Revel8 in 2021		
<b>10 General Fund</b>		
Opening balance	91,641	78,313
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	21,657	8,328
Transferred from KCBS Fund	0	5,000
Transferred from First Steps Fund	0	0
Closing balance	<u>113,298</u>	<u>91,641</u>
<b>11 KCBS Fund</b>		
Opening balance	2,380	7,727
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	656	-347
Transferred to General Fund	0	-5,000
Closing balance	<u>3,036</u>	<u>2,380</u>
<b>12 First Steps Fund</b>		
Opening balance	762	682
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	390	80
Transferred to 7Up Fund	-300	
Transferred to 5Alive Fund	-200	
Transferred to General Fund	0	0
Closing balance	<u>652</u>	<u>762</u>

**Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley**  
**Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2021**

<b>13 Revel8 Fund</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Opening balance	1,031	1,196
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	-184	-165
Transferred to General Fund	0	0
Closing balance	<u>848</u>	<u>1,031</u>
<b>14 7up Fund</b>		
Opening balance	-14	8
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	-63	-23
Transferred from First Steps Fund	300	
Transferred to General Fund	0	0
Closing balance	<u>223</u>	<u>-14</u>
<b>15 5Alive Fund</b>		
Opening balance	61	18
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	-59	42
Transferred from First Steps Fund	200	
Transferred to General Fund	0	0
Closing balance	<u>201</u>	<u>61</u>

**16 Non monetary assets held for the Church's own use**

*The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd:*

Church premises, insured value (The Nap, Kings Langley, Herts, WD4 8ES)	2,503,597	2,456,916
Church manse, insured value (2 Belham Road, Kings Langley, Herts, WD4 8BY)	453,075	429,857
Church organ insured value	171,047	171,047
The church also owns fixtures, furniture and equipment with an insured value of	126,138	123,786
	<u>3,253,857</u>	<u>3,181,606</u>

## Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley

### Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2021

#### 17 Baptist Pension Scheme Liabilities

The Church is a participating employer the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is a separate legal entity administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011. Prior to this date the main benefit provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was a pension of one eightieth of final minimum pensionable income for each year of pensionable service together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. Since 1 January 2012, benefits have been provided through a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan.

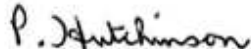
A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. At the valuation date the market value of the DB Plan assets was £298 million, whilst the level of assets needed to pay benefits was £316m, giving a deficit of £18m (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other participating employers in the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit. The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme is due to take place not later than as at 31 December 2022.

Under the Schedule of Contributions, the church makes a monthly payment in respect of the DB scheme deficit, currently £342, which will increase in line with increases in Minimum Pensionable Income. The Schedule of Contributions foresees these contributions continuing until June 2026. The pension scheme liability shown in the Statement of Assets and liabilities is calculated as the current rate per month multiplied by the number of months remaining in the current Schedule of Contributions, which amounts to £18,468 as at 31 December 2021 (31 December 2020: £22,176).

The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buyout their Pension Scheme liabilities at 31 December 2021 was £46,700 (31 December 2020: £70,000).

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The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out on pages 3 – 10 relating to the year ending 31 December 2021 are as approved by the deacons.

Signed: 

Paul Hutchinson, Treasurer Christ Church Baptist Kings Langley

Date: 4th February 2022

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## Independent Examiners Report

### Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Christ Church Baptist, Kings Langley on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

#### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

#### Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed by or on behalf of the Examiner



Date 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Name

Tadeusz Woroniecki

Relevant Professional Qualification(s) or body (if any) ACMA

Address

1 Brickfield Cottages, St Marys Lane, Hertingfordbury, Hertford, SG14 2LF