



The Parish of Chilwell

Review of 2017

The Independent Examiner's report will be issued separately

Parochial Church Council for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chilwell
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Review of 2017

Part One - Overview

We start with a word from the Vicar...

2017 has been quite an eventful year for us all. In the four/five months Claire, Bethany, Grace and I have been with you here in Chilwell, we have found ourselves quickly settled in – a testimony to your love, care and support.

Together we are experiencing a season of significant transition as a church, most notably through new leadership, changing staff and a renewed vision. Such times are unnerving for some and exciting for others; they come too quickly for some and not quickly enough for others. Whilst it is not possible for a church of our size to move at a pace that suits everyone, we do well to acknowledge the tensions created by change and, as subsequently, keep short accounts with one another marked by a loving, accountable and encouraging spirit – something that has been modelled by many already.

I, for one, am *hugely* excited about what the future holds at Christ Church and St Barnabas and I look forward to experiencing the opening of the infinite reservoirs of the Spirit across Chilwell and beyond.

Rev Andy Tufnell

Wardens' report (in default of a vicar for much of the year)

At last year's APCM, the wardens presented an interim vision to the church, suggesting that for the rest of 2017 we should all Pray – Pray – and Prepare. What we forgot to say, perhaps, was that we also had to Persevere – but you all did this anyway! We praise God and thank Him and all of you that Christ Church continued to flourish, despite having spent more than half of 2016 in vacancy, and remaining without a vicar for the first ten months of 2017.

Numbers kept up encouragingly, everyone was supportive and worked together, and we kept throwing love and enthusiasm at our myriad activities – services, children's and youth work, supporting missionaries and each other, and reaching out in various ways.

A read of the rest of this report will confirm what we've done, and let's not overlook miscellaneous events like the Senior Citizens' Party, and the visits to Cherish and other conferences.

- But we also found time to **Pray** - in many ways, but I'd like to mention especially the prayerful Taize-style services, and Michael Taylor's prayer evening, introducing us to new ways of using the Bible in prayer.
- The **Play** heading covers the very successful Holiday Club run by Greer with an around-the-world theme, and ending with a Friday lunch for all; the summer picnic at the school next door; but also the #loveChilwell challenge that encouraged us to learn about and appreciate our whole parish. Janis Patterson amazingly managed to complete all 23 challenges.
- Under **Prepare**, the redecoration of the lounge in 2016 was followed by work creating two new storage areas for the halls, and other redecoration work. The project isn't quite finished regarding sound-proofing, but huge strides have been made, and we are very grateful to Dawn Clarke, Simon Rostron, Graeme Renton and others who made this happen.

This was the year when Judith Renton and Hannah Howe made **Our Space** a monthly haven of imaginative support for local families with disabled children; and also the year we took on a new missionary couple in **Daryoosh and Sara Zareian**.

It's also been a year of arrivals and departures, mostly the latter. We've said goodbye to **Kerry** after many years' faithful service in the office (welcoming **Kathryn Britton** in her stead), and also to **Louise Rostron** as Deputy Warden for

10.45. The vicar and wardens are delighted that, after a few months' hiatus, **Stephen Clarke** is stepping into Louise's shoes.

The end of 2017 saw us also preparing to lose **Sky (and Charlotte) Chiweshe**, and in a few months we shall also be saying goodbye to **Greer (and Chris) Jones**. The gap these couples leave is immense, and we send them on with great love and gratitude for their joyful hard work and enthusiastic wisdom.

St Barnabas has also had to say goodbye to **Nick and Anne Ladd**, who were filling a "house-for-duty" role. This year Christ Church has become increasingly aware of our sister church in Inham Nook, and long may this continue. Please continue to pray for St Barnabas as its warden **Linda Sadler**, children's and families' worker **Jo Pudney**, and the DCC look to the future along with Andy.

And in the midst of all these departures we remain as ever grateful for the stalwart work of **George Russell** as our CAP Debt Centre Manager (and a lot else.)

We tried not to let our vacancy dominate our year, but we were all hoping and praying for the person of God's call to come, and to come soon. Twice the wardens had to get up and say, "Sorry, not this time"; and the church took its disappointment graciously. And then out of apparently nowhere (actually Ridley Hall, Cambridge, via the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham) **Andy and Claire Tufnell** appeared.

Great was the rejoicing, and it expressed itself in a truly magnificent and memorable installation service on 31st October. The Bishop's sermon told us to "Attempt great things for God and expect great things from God." Andy and Claire (and Bethany and Grace) moved into the vicarage and have started to do just that.

There isn't space to thank all the wonderful people, clerical and lay, old and young, serving on rotas or just giving out love. You are a terrific church.

Penelope Wallace and Clint Redwood

Electoral Roll

March 2017

Christ Church Chilwell 252 (2016: 241)

St Barnabas Inham Nook 51 (2016: 42)

Total 303 (2014: 282)

The number of members on the Electoral Roll changed very little from 2014-2016; 2017 saw an increase at both churches.

Note: The current Electoral Roll figure (2018) at Christ Church shows a similar increase.

Year	Christ Church	St Barnabas
2014	239	43
2015	243	41
2016	241	42
2017	252	51

Helen Mather, Electoral Roll Officer

Part Two - Worship

At Christ Church we praise and proclaim God, especially (but not exclusively) at public worship

9am service

The 9 o'clock service is the most distinctively Anglican of our services. At least three of our services per month are Holy Communion, with Morning Prayer on the second Sunday in the month. The sung parts of the service are led by a robed choir, mainly using hymns and choruses from Mission Praise, although other sources are often used for the music during the administration of Communion. The vibrant liturgy, using the variations permitted by Common Worship, is important, but the Ministry of the Word with two scripture readings is also much appreciated and we aim at a high standard of preaching.

One outstanding thing is the pastoral care informally within the congregation which is very good. A particular mention should be given to those people who every Sunday stand ready at the chancel steps to offer assistance to anybody who needs it - there is no organised rota for this; it just happens!

Average attendance:

Figures for the last seven years have been quite steady; in particular the average number of communicants has kept up well.

9am Service	Adults	Children	Communicants
2013	66	0.3	65
2014	67	0.4	66
2015	69	0	68
2016	71	0	70
2017	72	0	70

Several people have joined the congregation as regular members during the year.

Richard Pratt

10:45am Service

Our worship at 10:45am continues to cultivate an inclusive, family environment – with the service and ministries focussed on being friendly and accessible to a wide range of people. We have continued to be blessed with many young children playing an active and enthusiastic part in the sung worship by waving flags and playing musical instruments, encouraging the rest of the congregation to praise God.

The team introduced a trial of different communion formats during the year; early in the service with the children before they went to their own groups and later in the service sometimes with the children and sometimes without. It has been decided to only have communion later in the service with and sometimes without the children.

Baptisms are a feature of the worship. Some are church families and others have no or little church experience and the team has compiled a list of worship songs for families, if they so wish, to choose from and enable them to make a contribution to the service.

During August the worship takes on a café style, with breakfast being offered from the start and creative crafts and puzzles on offer. The team took on the responsibility of organising a service of Prayer Stations which was accessible by all worshippers.

Once again a picnic was held in the summer on the Lanes School playing field after the service, which was attended by all ages. Rounders, tug-of-war, and other games were enjoyed by those wishing to burn off energy whilst others enjoyed an opportunity sit around and get to know each other.

Average attendance:

10:45 Service	Adults	Children	Communicants
2013	79	41	81
2014	79	41	83
2015	80	43	85
2016	78	49	94
2017	77	39	90

Peter Mellors

7 pm Service

As in the previous year, in 2017, the 7pm Service Team have continued to meet monthly, and to seek to continue the focus on providing high quality welcome, worship, and word.

The 7pm Service is a place where all are welcome, and is informal, relaxed, seeking to meet with God through the Spirit using modern worship, both lively and reflective, and space to pray and share.

We have tried to do something a little different on 5th Sundays, and in 2017 had two "Supper at 7" events where there was a meal, and an opportunity meet and to talk, with a brief talk and some prayer, and two Taizé style services, which proved popular and helped us meet with God in a different mode.

Most people who come to the 7pm service do not attend a morning service at Christ Church, except in a serving capacity, but in 2017 we seem to have been joined by a number of people who worship at other churches but join us for the 7pm service as their church doesn't have an evening service.

Numbers at 7pm still fluctuate significantly. This year's mean average is 45.5 adults and 1 child, which is very slightly down from 2016.

Average attendance:

7pm Service	Adults	Children	Communicants
2013	65	3	58
2014	58	2	53
2015	54	3	55.5
2016	46	1	41
2017	44	1	42.5

Clint Redwood

Worship on Wednesday

The Worship on Wednesday services began in 2012 and have since become an established and important part of the worship pattern of the church.

We were encouraged to know that Andy is keen that the services continue pretty much in the same format as at present.

Many of those who attend these services come from a variety of church background (and some from none) but it is good to see that they have made this service a regular part of their lives, as demonstrated by steady increase of the attendances at all services and the fellowship over a cake and a cup of tea which are an integral part of the service.

As always we are grateful to those who faithfully provide the tea and cakes.

The three kinds of services 'God Cares', 'Just a Word' and 'Songs of Praise' are quite different in their makeup, the latter usually led by Colin Slater remains the most popular.

Colin is also an invaluable member of the team as his contact list provides us with a seemingly endless supply of speakers, all of whom bring God's word to us in a variety of different ways.

The average attendance at WOW in 2017 was 56.

Keith Stevenson

Part Three – Outreach and Service

At Christ Church we seek to look outward in mission, service and evangelism, both to our own parish and to the world. As well as the reports below, see much of the sterling work Greer does in her Children's and Families' report and the prayer group for the persecuted church, and of course all worship services have a missional element. Let's also remember the work many of our members do in supporting lots of other organisations that bless the community, such as HOPE Nottingham, and the wider world, such as Christian Aid.

Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre



General

We have now been going for three and a half years and this year has seen a massive increase in our geographic area which has also meant far more clients were seen.

Around 150 people as couples or individuals have now contacted CAP in 'Nottingham South West' to see about an appointment and to seek help with their debts.

Clients

Nearly all clients come to us through referrals from local partner organisations both Christian and secular. Our closest partners are Framework, Grace Church, Sure Start and Family Services.

There are now a number of people completely debt free, a growing number in the system paying off their debt over time and a steady stream of new enquirers.

We are always now booked out three months in advance. This has caused a few new challenges as people wait but shows the high level of demand.

Volunteers

Around 40 different members of our church have helped with volunteering whether it was going on visits, doing Christmas Hampers or providing other practical support. Without this help the whole project is impossible.

Christmas Hampers

We distributed 29 Hampers this year with great delight being created by the generosity of Church Members. This year the level of support by church members was particularly impressive and effective.

Prayer

We have formed a monthly prayer group which is led by a Church member. A further five members are involved. This is definitely the engine of all our endeavours as without the Lord we can do nothing. The prayer group continues to be significant in our work. You can join it!!

Funding

We received around £8,000 of support through members of the church and local trust funds. Thanks to all who support this work in such a practical way.

Training and CAP Head Office Support

I have been on various training sessions with CAP and this continues to significantly increase my knowledge and experience. This included 'the Gathering' held at Harrogate.

Ongoing support and partnership from CAP Head Office has been excellent and I am pleased to report the Centre has successfully passed all regular reviews! Andy has now met our CAP regional manager.

Volunteers

I have been significantly aided through the year by Joan Stephenson, Christine Bradley and Bridget Scott. Special thanks to them and Chrissy Clarke who organises our prayer meetings.

Finally

At two separate evangelistic suppers a total of 16 folk made a response to the message of Jesus. Please pray for our ongoing efforts to help our clients find Him!

George Russell

Our Space

Our Space, a group for families with children with special needs, has been running now for just over a year. We have a wonderful group of helpers who play with the children, make coffee, chat to parents and carers, welcome visitors, move chairs and keep the place clean and safe. The number of families regularly coming has tripled, and they are an inspirational bunch of people living challenging lives. As the year has progressed we have bought new play equipment and sensory equipment, aided by a gift from a helper's family and some money from Beeston Integrated charities and from church. Each month we have a variety of toys, crafts, sensory play and games in church; and active games in the church hall or in the upper room. We have children from 3 years to mid- teens, and all with a range of lower and high level needs. We are developing relationships with the families who come, and looking for ways to provide support and nurture, and to find ways to make church more accessible to these families - particularly those who would find Sunday School difficult. If you would like to help in some way, please chat to Judith Renton or Hannah Howe.

Judith Renton

Bereavement Group

The group continue to meet every month, on the second Tuesday, for tea, coffee, cake and a chat. One month in the morning, the next the afternoon. We held a very well attended Memorial Service the third Sunday in October and also during the year two Cheese and Wine Parties. The team is small but

dedicated and a couple of new recruits to the team would be very welcome. We support and comfort anyone who has been bereaved in any way that they want for as long as they want. Some folks come for a short time and some have been coming for quite a few years.

Janis Patterson

Services at Queenswood Methodist Home and Grove Court Sheltered Housing Scheme

The involvement of Christ Church with mid-week services at **Queenswood MHA** (on Cliffgrove Avenue, Chilwell) has continued.

Five or six times a year one of the Readers takes a half-hour-long service in the Home's chapel (wearing robes at the request of the chaplain). The form of the service draws on many aspects of Christian tradition, and always includes a short talk on a Bible passage and intercessions for the wider world. Members of the Home's volunteer assistants play organ or piano. Typically the attendance will be over 20 residents whose Christian denominational backgrounds are quite widespread. Morning coffee is served afterwards, and provides an opportunity for conversation.

Since the incumbency of the Revd. Andrew Cullis, Christ Church and the local Methodist Circuit have provided leaders for a service at **Grove Court** (on Central Avenue, Chilwell). One was held every month, usually on the morning of the third Monday. A Methodist minister and a Reader from Christ Church shared the work, alternately leading the service or preaching a short sermon, and covering for one another if either was away.

Although numbers attending had been gradually falling, as the original attendees have moved into care-homes or have died, until 2017 new residents had partly filled the gaps, but a series of losses in early 2017 caused numbers to fall markedly. Moreover, the re-organisation of Methodist

churches locally meant that a minister was no longer free to help in the leading, and the burden fell on Christ Church alone, with no cover if the Reader was away. For these reasons in the summer the residents' meeting voted to discontinue the service.

Richard Pratt

Outward giving

In 2017 the PCC agreed that we would continue to regularly support: Nepal Leprosy Trust, Mike and Bob Assemblies, Nottingham Youth for Christ, Canaan Trust, Hope Nottingham, Age Concern Chilwell, Acacia Partnerships Trust and Springs Nottingham. During the year we arranged a month to focus on each of the groups and families/individuals we support. In addition we had slots in our services for updates given by the groups themselves or their lead contact at Christ Church. In November 2017 the PCC re-formed the Outward Giving Group and asked them to oversee the process for our Outward Giving to both families and to charities to start in April 2018 when the current commitments come to an end.

Anne Willmot

Mission Support Group

Christ Church supports a number of missionaries, who were sent out from our church family, in prayer and financially, through the Mission Committee.

Mark and Emma Handley have two children, Ruth and Callum and live in London where they work for OM UK. Mark leads and seeks to develop the outreach ministries and pastoral care of the team in London. Emma is connecting with the community where they live.

C and K work in Asia. They run a school for students aged 14-20, who are, they say, a great group, and who would otherwise not get education/qualifications. The situation in their assigned country has become

increasingly difficult due to new measures which are being brought in which could affect them, and due to the political situation.

They are giving thanks for their co-worker who has finally been granted the necessary status and visa to return to work with them, and for increasing numbers of students which means they are viable again, after a necessary geographic move reduced numbers. This geographic move has provided them with a really good place to work. They are based in Asia, but make two or three trips to the UK each year to visit their three (adult) children who are all in UK.

Brian and Val Hodgkin have 4 grown up children, work for Wycliffe Bible Translators and are based in Beeston. Brian has been ill this year requiring gruelling treatments and has had sick leave. Brian is now back at work part time. He has moved to a role maintaining links with partner mission organisations and preparing prayer materials on broad themes affecting the Persian/Turkish speaking world.

We also interviewed and recommended **Daryoosh and Sara Zareian**, who with their 2 children Elish and Niva are working with Agape, in Israel, using acts of love and kindness to share their faith and bring reconciliation between Jews and Arabs.

The committee organised a global gifts sale in November which together with a donation raised £1,094.19 which has been distributed to our missionaries as a gift.

Part Four – Prayer, fellowship and much more!

At Christ Church we learn and share together, and support each other, and we pray.

Friday Prayer group

We meet on Friday mornings from 9.15 - 10 am. There are 10 in the group at the moment but it is open to everyone and we would love there to be more. Usually one of the group will share some thoughts and a Bible reading to begin. We then pray using the prayer book at the back of Church and we update this for the following Sunday. We also have a small book in which we include prayer for those who prefer not to be prayed for in Church. We also pray for the services for the coming Sunday and for other events which may be happening currently in the Church. We also pray for items in the news and world events. Prayer changes things!

Anne Marjoram

Prayer Ministry in services

9 am

This group meets before the Service begins, to pray and listen to anything God may be saying. We put anything we hear into a book which is given to the Leader at the beginning of the Service, and which is read to the congregation during the Service. We meet after receiving Communion in the Chancel so that anyone coming up to receive Communion can immediately come for prayer whilst the Service continues. We are a group of 5 ladies at the moment, after the sad loss of Richard Moore, some gentlemen prayers would be most welcome to join us. *Anne Marjoram*

10.45

The Prayer Ministry team at the 10.45 service offers prayer after the service (almost) every week. We have the privilege of bringing people into God's presence in prayer, whether for physical healing, practical concerns or anything else. We remind people of how much God loves them and cares for

them, and together we listen to God and invite the Holy Spirit to move. We see the Lord's loving touch as He gives revelation and peace, and we have seen prayers answered.

Each member of the team has other commitments and it is a challenge to provide a team of two every week. We also are aware of the drawbacks of offering ministry in the chancel, which is both distant and yet very public, and of praying after the service when parents need to collect children.

Andy Tufnell and I have discussed alternative ways of doing prayer ministry in the future, and he plans to address these issues.

Ginny Cooper

7 pm

There is no formal arrangement for prayer ministry at 7, but the leader normally offers prayer for those who request, and encourages members in general to pray for each other. If you would like prayer, speak to someone wearing a blue lanyard. If anyone would like to assist with evening prayer, please see a warden or Gill Benson.

Editor

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

A growing number of us meet on the evening of the 4th Monday each month to pray for over 200 million Christians around the world who experience severe persecution and, also, for ministries such as Barnabas Fund and Open Doors. Resources, including the World Watch List, DVDs and CDs inform our praying and we are delighted that members of other churches in the area join with us. We meet for just an hour - do join us.

Chris Roseblade and Adeline Robinson

Pastoral care overview

The main source of pastoral care in Christ Church has always been via small groups, and these do a great job. There are also certain astonishing individuals at all services who have taken people in need under their wing, and help them heroically. More generally, we have a team of visitors, and also a team of people who take communion to people in their homes. Some practical help and care for families is provided via the Christchurch Chilwell Ladies Facebook page, and Greer and Sky have also done pastoral visiting. However, not everyone is in a housegroup, not all house groups can manage as much as they would like, and a certain measure of co ordination has been missing since Fran Beedell left. The organization of pastoral care is generally under review.

Penelope Wallace

Home Groups

Firstly I would like to start by thanking all the home group leaders for all their work and support during this year. I need to mention that Kathryn is no involved with Home Group administration as she is supporting Andy in the church office. Kathryn has been a great support in helping placing people in home groups and has done a lot of work getting the home group spreadsheet up to date - thank you.

I have been really pleased that some home groups have had joint meetings to allow our missionaries to meet with as many people as possible and to share their prayer needs. I have had positive feedback from the home groups that have done this. The home group leaders have been involved and shared their thoughts of the future vision of Christ Church and Home Groups with Andy earlier this month.

Currently there are:-

13 Evening Groups (Mon 2 groups, Tues 9 groups (+1?), Weds 2 groups)

3 Bethany Groups

1 morning home group

Lovely Ladies Group - Ladies only

It should be noted that some people attend both a Bethany and a home group. Also some home groups have non Christ Church attending members.

I have visited many of the evening groups, but I have not been involved in the day time groups. Some feedback which will, I feel, need discussing is pastoral care. Many of the groups are full and groups are required on Wednesday and Thursday evenings and new leaders are required for those new groups. It has also been mentioned that there is no daytime home groups for those people unable to attend an evening group and daytime male only group (s).

Graham Shenton

Bethany Fellowship

Bethany is run by a team of seven people : Adeline Robinson, Lesley Ann Stevenson ,Dianna Ross, Jenny Goodyer, Rachel Herd, Sheila Marchant, Judy Southwell,

We had Anita Clarke too, but sadly she passed away.

All new for us after Fran Beedell's hard work to keep the club running smoothly. Big shoes to fill.

We have had a very eventful year with Speakers, making Bible cakes, Exercise, Strawberry tea and a Thanks Giving service.

We had a lovely outing to Rufford park by coach. made Christmas table decorations and had a lunch at the Manor restaurant for 38 people.

Our charity that we are supporting for the year is Christian Prison Fellowship.

We have much more to look forward to.

Judy Southwell

Men's Fellowship

Men's fellowship is a group meeting at 10.00am on the first Wednesday of the month in the Church Hall lounge, all men welcome.

During the past year we have several interesting speakers some from within the group some from elsewhere, also two visits one to NET control centre another to The Malt Cross Caves in Nottingham.

As we enter 2018 we have a program of speakers available on the church website also two group visits, one to Rolls Royce Learning centre at Derby, another to St. Martins Church in Bilborough.

Our Chairman is now Tony Smith with Clive Marjoram as Treasurer.

Tony Smith

Part Five – Children and young people

Our children and young people take part in many of the activities above, but they also have their own ministry. At Christ Church we value our children and young people, and have appreciated the hard work and enthusiasm of Greer Jones and Sky Chiweshe.

Children's and Families' Ministry at Christ Church

Christ Church Chilwell children's & families' ministry continues to grow. **Our Sunday morning groups** consist on average 37 children each week from ages 0-11. We have built a strong base of volunteers for our groups, Little Sparks, Sparklers, Glow, Fire Crackers, & Ignite. As our groups continue to grow our need for volunteers also grows. Our volunteers are dedicated to serving our children at Christ Church. Each month we host, on a Sunday morning, Children's Praise. This is a time where we can all come together to play games, sing, make a craft, and learn more about Jesus. This last year we focused on prayer stations and looking at different ways we can talk to God but also hear from him. Thank you to everyone who helps on a Sunday morning in our children's groups! You guys are Kingdom changers!

Happy Tots is a baby & toddler group that happens every Thursday morning in school term time in the church hall. Every week we have 40-50 families that attend. For many parents/ carers our group is a big moment in their week when they can meet & make friends, relax and talk about their week. For the children, the group provides opportunities to play with different toys and other children, a craft activity and sing some songs. Enabling these activities is great in itself, but more than ever before, we realise there are mission opportunities provided at Happy Tots. We realise we are not the only way of reaching out into the community but we are a place where people who would not otherwise be in contact with our local church are happily (and usually keenly) coming along on a regular basis. As they come into contact with the loving service of the volunteers from our church, week by week, our hope is they feel they belong. From that starting place, we have the

opportunity to help them understand more about who Jesus is and that he loves them. If you'd like to know more about Happy Tots, either by being a prayer partner or coming along on a Thursday morning, please talk with Dawn Clarke.

From Happy Tots we also have developed and continue to develop, **Holiday Tots**. This event happens on the Thursday during the half-term breaks. We have had hundreds of children parents/carers come through the doors of Christ Church through these events each half-term. **KidZone** is the group which meets during Holiday Tots for the siblings of those attending looking at the same theme but appropriate activities for their age. Please join me in thanking the faithful volunteers who help make this outreach a success.

We hold the **Easter Egg Hunt along with Christmas Craft**, two big outreach events at Christ Church. Each event has crafts around the holiday theme. Christmas had story stations based on the Christmas story enjoyed with hot drinks, cakes, and nibbles. At Easter we hold an Egg Hunt along with a prayer walk/stations focusing on the Easter story. Both events are great opportunities to invite others and those in our community. Each event saw roughly 70-80 children plus parents. These events are well known in the community and many look forward to them. In 2017 we were also invited to take part of the **Beeston/Chilwell Big Picnic**, which happened at Dovecote Lane Park. Again we got to share Jesus with the community, while being in the community. A huge thank you to Sarah Lyon and Veronica Watson, along with the large team of volunteers who make these events happen!! We host other events for children and their families like the Christingle, Christmas Day service & during the summer we spend 6-7 weeks at all-age services, coming together as one family.

CCC also hosts the **NG9 prayer team** which meets every half-term to pray for schools in the NG9 (and a bit beyond!) area. This prayer meeting is open to anyone! We also deliver cakes to the schools of various schools each time we meet. Through this we have been able to strength our relationships with

schools in our area. Greer also goes into Meadow Lane and College House to read and help with phonics with students and build relationships with the staff. Bob and Mike have a brilliant assembly duo which covers many schools in the area.

During the summer holidays we hosted a week long holiday club called **World Tour Holiday club**. It was a great week of high energy and welcoming the community into the church. We had on average 43 children each morning traveling around the world and looking at how the church grew and grew and grew. At the end of the week we invite families to join us for lunch, which was a great success! We are excited to be doing this again over the summer. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Greer.

2017 also saw a few endings. After trying **Messy Church** we found it to not be working as we had hoped. There were many achievements and learning opportunities. This may be something we look into in the future but not for this season. We also celebrated **Dads and Tots** and the ministry it has developed. Thank you to Simon Britton, David Hobbs, and Chris Onions plus the great bacon cooking team for all the time and effort you have put into reaching out to the dads of Beeston and Chilwell.

We are always looking for new ways to reach families in our community and exploring how children and their families can be part of building God's kingdom.

Don't let anyone think little of you because you are young. Be their ideal; let them follow the way you teach and live; be a pattern for them in your love, your faith, and your clean thoughts. 1 Tim 4:12

Greer Jones

Pathfinders

Over the last year the Pathfinder group, 11- 14 year olds, has been thriving in numbers. We meet both Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings. Through

the work of Sky the teenagers were taught that being a Christian might have challenges yet is enjoyable too. We are helping the young teenagers to grow in their faith and understanding of being a Christian. Youth fest was 15 teenagers, fellowshipping together and discussing issues that were relevant to young people in today's society. Youth Alpha has been presented to them again, all Pathfinders did engage well with the talks and it helped us into discussing deeper topics sounding our faith and why we believe what we do. Thursdays are a great time for the teenagers to come and hang out with their friends. They do seem to enjoy eating, games football and board-games and baking. As the average number on a week -night is 20 Pathfinders so since losing Sky we have found helpers are in short supply. ideally 4 are needed. The more helpers we have, this will aid in providing some spiritual input within the sessions. We have had parent helpers in order to support us at present Andrew Wallace and myself co-lead with one other helper.

Jo Benson

Inspire

The Inspire youth group have continued to meet in a small discussion group format midweek, and share pizza and socialise before the evening service on a Sunday. On top of this, they have had termly social events for example a BBQ, a film night and a games night, which encourage those on the fringe of the group to feel they belong and provide an opportunity to invite friends. This year Inspire and Pathfinders also jointly organised and hosted the popular "Chilwell's got Talent" charity event at Easter. This was an opportunity for talented people of all ages to take to the stage in aid of CAP and money was raised, as ever, by selling cakes and refreshments and the audience paying for voting tickets.

In the summer, a small number of Inspire went to the Soul Survivor camp with Sky and 2 other youth groups in the area. This camp has at its heart;

worshipping God, learning what it means to live for Jesus, prayer ministry and lots of fun. The following week, a group of former Inspire members went to the new Naturally Supernatural camp (a venture by Soul Survivor/Momentum aimed at the whole church family). It was lovely for the current members of Christchurch who went to meet up with some of our former youth as we all had fun and were challenged in our Christian faith.

In September, we said goodbye to our year 13s as they went off to Uni. This has meant that we only have a small group of "regulars" midweek but in October we started a new fortnightly small group for the younger members of Inspire in years 9 and 10. We launched this with a joint scavenger hunt (with a difference) for the whole of Inspire and will continue to have regular joint events.

Members of Inspire have been encouraged to take an active role in Christchurch (or their own church). Many of the young people commit to helping out with the children's groups at the 10:45 service. In the evening service, they are also encouraged to join teams. This year a few young people have played and sung regularly in the 7pm worship groups, Inspire have taken some turns at serving refreshments and operating the sound system.

Unfortunately, despite the pizza and social session before the evening service, not many of the new, younger members of Inspire have felt they belong at this service so attendance from Inspire has dropped over the year to just 3 or 4 young people. The leaders are going to try to find ways to encourage the young people find a service they feel part of.

Lea Hills

Part Six – Management

Christ Church also has to manage and look after its people, buildings and money. For the money, see the Annual Report submitted by our Treasurer

Gary Stephenson.

Fabric report

We have installed CCTV to protect the main entrance of the church to help protect the office staff when working alone and to help them see who is pressing the doorbell without having to go to the door.

Hiring of rooms round the church and church hall remains at a high level.

The Fabric Team have assisted with the Hall extension and preschool new storage cupboard throughout the summer

We have continued to look at ways of reducing our overheads with the continued replacement of new LED light fittings in the church area and in the preschool room.

We introduced a Nappy and sanitary collection service with Nappy bins in the Hall and Church and Sanitary bins in all the ladies and Disabled toilets.

Work proposed for the next year is the replacement of the Church boiler and ongoing monitoring of the hall floor which is showing signs of sinking into the ground.

Simon Rostron

Hall refurbishment report

In 2017 the Fabric Committee set about looking at ways in which we could make our church hall a more user-friendly environment, easier to keep clean,

free from clutter and safer to use. After discussion with some of the hall users, we agreed to build two storage rooms. One is for the storage of chairs and tables, plus other bigger items previously being stored on the stage and in the porch area. The chairs and tables are now stored on moveable trolleys in this room so transporting them around the church to other areas is easier and safer. The second storage room is to house all of Preschool's equipment and toys. Both rooms were completed in September and are now fully functioning.

The smaller hall has also had a makeover with new flooring, a dividing door and new black out blinds. The walls have been given a fresh lick of paint and the whole area looks bigger and cleaner.

By the time you read this the radiators will be painted and acoustic sound clouds will be fixed to the ceiling to help with noise reduction.

Dawn Clarke

Inclusion

At Christ Church we seek to give a warm welcome to all who visit us - all people are of equal importance and equal significance. We hope every individual will be as warm and welcoming as possible to all they meet at church. Members of the welcome team are given additional training, as are Sunday School and youth leaders - more training to help group members has been requested. Our Space continues to be a welcome place to families with children who have additional needs. This group is looking for new members to be involved in making the church as easy as possible to come to and belong with, particularly from the 9.00 am service. If you are interested in helping with ideas or advice please contact one of the wardens or Judith Renton.

Judith Renton

Safeguarding

The Church of England has become increasingly aware of the vital importance of safeguarding in recent years. Making as sure as we can that no children, young people or adults at risk are damaged on our watch is not an optional extra. It is strongly recommended that all PCC members and many others attend safeguarding courses, although sometimes demand for these exceeds supply. The PCC annually approves safeguarding policies for children (Co-ordinator Liz Jordan) and adults (Sally Hodges) and these policies are on display at the door. Phil Willmot is our DBS co-ordinator. For the time being, all three also have responsibility for St Barnabas.

Penelope Wallace

Part Seven – St Barnabas

We rejoice in working with our sister church, St Barnabas Inham Nook

St Barnabas, Inham Nook

This year at St Barnabas has been one of celebration and sadness; challenge and rejoicing.

We continue to build closer relationships with our local community by engaging with them through the Christmas Tree Festival, links with Sunnyside School, Messy Church, the weekly Barneys Parents & Toddler group and with local shops and the Inham Nook pub, which reopened after a period of closure. Huge thanks to Jo Pudney, our children & families worker without whom this would not have happened. We continue to reach out to folk with our weekly Coffee morning and through Foodbank. Only in the past month we have, with our Methodist friends, with whom we are in communion through the Joint Council agreement which enables them to hold Café Church in St Barnabas's on a Sunday afternoon, started to build relationships with the newly opened Chetwynd House residential home. We are about to begin taking a monthly weekday communion with them.

The challenge and the sadness comes with the departure of our previous ministers Nick and Anne Ladd in September 2017. Nick and Anne had intended to stay for about five years, which they thought was necessary to build the church. Circumstances, notably events at St John's College where Nick had been a lecturer, were against them. They left to take up posts in Birmingham diocese. We continue to build on their legacy by reaching out into the community. They also encouraged many in the church to take an active part in leading services, as had their predecessors for twenty or more years past. St Barnabas was, and remains, what used to be known as 'every member ministry': everyone, in other words, does something! Grateful thanks

go too to all those who work to help make the church a welcoming and encouraging place.

The challenges of running a thriving church without the leadership of ordained ministers is not to be under-estimated. Since October 2017 we have relied, particularly for Holy Communion services, on (mainly) retired clergy from other local churches. Our former minister, Rev Canon Lillian Heptinstall, has been a tremendous blessing to us, coming each month to preach and to celebrate Communion. It has been hard, however, because with no clergy person at Christ Church until October 2017 we could not be considered at diocesan level for 'permanent' clergy support.

But, we have continued in unity to ensure that we do not just stand still during this period of interregnum.

We are grateful to those from Christ Church who have supported us through preaching, prayer, and with administrative support.

Numbers of people attending services have remained steady, between 40-50 adults at Sunday morning services and 8-10 children participating in Jo's work with children.

The rejoicing comes with the appointment of Revd Andy Tufnell as Vicar of Chilwell parish. With his arrival, and the anticipated arrival of a curate into the parish in Summer 2018, the opportunity can again be taken to look at the clergy needs of St Barnabas, and also to take up his vision for our two churches to work together more closely. This was a vision emphasised by Bishop Paul at Andy's installation in October last year. Church House, vacated when the Ladds left remains empty – a sign perhaps that the diocese is preparing to let it to someone who will play a significant role at St Barnabas's.

During this last year we have celebrated the confirmation of five of our church members and had three baptisms – one adult, one baby and one little girl who wanted to be baptised for her 7th birthday.

Sadly we said goodbye to three very special members of our congregation who died last year: Sue Hopton, Cass Watson and Lois Knowles. We held services which celebrated their lives and their unending faithfulness to God and service to others.

And, finally, one of the great challenges facing St Barnabas's in 2017 was what to do about the church kitchen. As we come to our 2018 AGM we have plans, we have planning permission, and we have a Faculty. We believe that improving the kitchen to modern standards will enable us to raise our community commitment, but we still have to raise money and to decide whether or not this is where our priorities for the coming year should lie.

John Beckett, DCC Chair and Linda Sadler, Church Warden

(And a further note from John Beckett)

At our 2017 AGM both wardens stood down. They had done sterling work over many years, and we as a church were tremendously grateful for their loyal and always reliable service. Linda Sadler was elected, together with another warden who felt he had to stand down after only a few weeks in post. Linda was faced with losing her fellow warden, losing the ministers who were in post when she was elected, and having to try to find out what the position was all about! She has done a fantastic job in her quiet but effective way. Not many new wardens would bounce back from such a series of catastrophes in their first months in the job, yet Linda always seemed unfazed, and she has provided us with a seamless link from the Ladds to Andy Tufnell. Thank you Linda, and let's hope year two is a little less traumatic!)

Part Eight – The wider church

Finally, we remember that we are part of the wider Anglican church; in particular Nottingham South deanery, and Southwell and Nottingham diocese.

Nottingham South Deanery

This year we have said goodbye to Rev'd John Tomlinson (leaving St John's, Carrington) and Rev'd Nick and Anne Ladd (St Barnabas,' Inham Nook) and welcomed Rev'd Stephen Morris (transition priest at St Mary the Virgin, Lacemarket) and Rev'd Andy Tufnell (to Christ Church, Chilwell, with St Barnabas,' Inham Nook). We also welcomed three curates to our Deanery.

We held elections for our Deanery Leadership Team which now consists of: Rev'd Steve Silvester (Area Dean), Sarah Holt (Lay Chair), Gary Stephenson (Deanery Treasurer), Peter Horne (Deanery Secretary), Mark Gilmore, Rev'd Colin Bourne, Rev'd Naomi Hill, Rev'd Megan Smith and Kirsty Cowley (Deanery Administrator).

We held three synods during the year: 23 February, 6 June and 22 November 2017.

In February we visited Nottingham St Saviour's – an appropriate venue to look at community engagement and social enterprise. Members of Synod gave presentations to help us think around this subject and we then broke into groups to consider:

- What has God resourced you with in your church?
- How are you currently engaging with needs of your community?
- What are you blessed with to bless your community?
- What or who is your community network?

Synod closed by praying for St Saviour's and St George's in the Meadows. In June we met at St Michael's, Bramcote and were joined by the Dean of Southwell Minster, the Very Reverend Nicola Sullivan. She intends to visit all deaneries to share her vision for the minster and to ask the following questions:

- What do you think that the Cathedral is for? Does it fulfil your needs and expectations?
- How can the Minster better connect to YOUR parish and deanery, in service and partnership?

Mark Gilmore challenged Synod to discuss the suggestion that the only value we share as a Deanery is that we want to see our own church grow. Synod broke into groups to discuss this and these discussions fed into the formulation of our emerging values listed below.

We closed the meeting by praying for the parishes in vacancy in the Deanery.

Our final synod of the year was at St Ann with Emmanuel when we were joined by Jane Holloway from the World Prayer Centre in Birmingham who spoke on encouraging prayer in our parishes. We launched our Deanery Prayer Card (electronic copies available) and finished the evening by praying for each other. This was a Synod that was challenging and valued by all who attended. Members of the Deanery Leadership Team were also appointed without the need for an election at this meeting.

Each of our Synods offered the opportunity to speak in groups to build relationships, share good practice, consider actions to take back to our parishes and perhaps most importantly to pray for each other. This theme was continued in a large interdenominational celebration at Trent Vineyard on 3 June for the culmination of the Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative. The deanery confirmation at St John's, Beeston, on 18 November was also a time

of great rejoicing as 40 candidates were confirmed, many of them first generation Christians from the Iranian community at St Stephen's.

Over the year we have also been looking at our Deanery values and have agreed that our emerging values are:

- We are the people of God and we will act as such
- We unite for the good of each other and the wider community
- We see each other as an asset not as competition
- We pray for and encourage one another in the mission of God

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." (1 Thess 5:11)

Several meetings on finance for incumbents and treasurers this year have widened participation in discussion on financial matters. The deanery has again paid a large percentage of its giving for ministry allocation (89.0%, compared to 97.6% in 2016). Every parish is to be thanked for their faithfulness and generosity in contributing to the ministry received in this deanery and diocese and is asked to engage in the ongoing consultations in 2018 about how we allocate in the future.

Abridged from a report circulated by Kirsty Cowley, the Deanery Administrator. Our Deanery Reps are Helen Mather, Clint Redwood, Judith Renton and Anne Willmot.

Diocesan Synod

Christ Church currently has two representatives on Diocesan Synod, which is the equivalent of PCC for the whole diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. These are Colin Slater, who is a Diocesan representative because he is also a member of the General Synod of the Church of England, and Penelope Wallace.

Normally Diocesan Synod meets twice a year, but occasionally there are extra meetings. One meeting approves the accounts (technically as the Diocesan Board of Finance) and the other approves the budget, but there are also debates, votes, updates, stirring addresses and worship.

A recent development is that each Synod now has a section on reports, often by live visitors, on aspects of the vision: **Growing Disciples Wider, Younger, Deeper.**

In 2017 we had the usual two Synod meetings. We met on 22nd April in the St Magnus C of E Academy in Newark. There was the annual report on church schools in the diocese (Synod is the place to be to hear about these) and a report from the team reassessing how the amount of deanery share is calculated. This process is taking longer than planned. (Deanery share then becomes parish share, or Giving for Ministry.) We also heard about the appointment of Rev Canon Phil Williams (son of John!) to be Associate Archdeacon for Transition Ministry. This looks like a very useful post for helping parishes going through abnormally difficult periods of vacancy and change.

We then met on 14th October 2017, where we passed the budget. We also heard from several people about Wider, Younger, Deeper projects, such as the Potting Shed church (!) and the training provided by the Younger Leadership College. Two of the interns came to talk enthusiastically about their work, one of them none other than Jeremy Cooper (son of Ginny and Stephen).

There will be elections for a new Diocesan Synod in 2018. Although the electorate for this body is made up of members of the various Deanery Synods, candidates do not have to be! **Would anyone, especially any of our representatives on Deanery Synod, be interested in standing?**

Penelope Wallace