

Christchurch AGM 2020

21st October 2020

Reports

	Author	Page
Minister's report	Russ Herbert & Clive Jennings	2
Warden's Building and Facilities report	Jess McManus & Alex Pett	4
Care for Uganda	Deb Tovey	5
Children work:		
Children and Families	Emy Buxton	7
TLG Early Intervention	Kate Dommett & Emy Buxton	9
TLG Make Lunch	Helen Davis	11
Toddlers	Helen Davis	13
Growth Groups	Carolyn Waite	15
Knit & Knatter	Roz Hime	16
Music Co-ordinator	Julian Sawyer	17
Refresh	Helen Petts	19
Safeguarding	Margaret Sutherland	21
Tea & Chat	Carolyn Waite	23
Uganda Concern UK	Terry Game	24

Finance report/accounts will be available separately

Minister's report

We would start by saying what a privilege it is to lead and serve at Christchurch, Clevedon and thank you to everyone in our Church family for the way which you have responded to the challenges over this past eighteen months since our last AGM.

The Vision and Mission of Christchurch remains as fresh and relevant today as always and with God's guidance and the leading of the Holy Spirit we have faithfully responded as a Church during this pandemic.

We continue to be a Church that resources our community and the wider Church since our last AGM we have witnessed the Lord at work in and through us, His people:

- In 2019 we hosted four Trinity College students 'in context placements' and one on Summer Placement. Jay and Adele completed their studies in 2020 and moved to their curacy. Adam and his family arrived this Autumn to commence a three year placement with us. Nate and Elliot remain with us in context for a further two years.
- For the first time we hosted Church of England Ministry experience scheme student, Josh Adkins who focused on ministry in primary school.
- Dave Wilkie who explored His call to ordained ministry while he was with us was accepted for ordination training and will be Deaconed this year and has taken up a curacy post in Taunton.
- Will Alvarez our youth worker has been accepted for Ordination training and moves to Cambridge this Autumn. There are a further two people from our congregation exploring ordained ministry.
- Kate Dommett our children and family and TLG co-ordinator secured a full time national role with TLG and remains part of our congregation.
- Revd Suzy Kirkham joined us in July in a pioneer Curacy post with a focus on older people's ministry in the wider community.
- Many home Groups linked via zoom and leaders kept in touch with those in their groups.
- We saw many people stepping into significant roles within our community and in their everyday work place settings and we give thanks for EVERYONES call to service and seek God's purposes for their life.

In Outreach to the community

Many of our congregation engaged with community outreach in a variety of ways. Shopping, collecting prescriptions, keeping in touch with their neighbours and engaging with others in a variety of different ways.

- Clevedon Aid used our kitchen to cook meals
- Helen Davis and her 'Make Lunch' team fed young people
- Our youth team and TLG Coaches continued supporting young people on line.

This autumn we are piloting 'Living Life To The Full', a course in mental health which combines CBT skills with Christian spirituality. We are also very excited about Suzy's programme to reach out to older people in the community.

Both of us managed to engage in 'on line' training sessions and webinars which has been extremely helpful to equip our leadership for this season and the challenges ahead.

We give thanks for James Covey Crump who week by week produced our 'on line' worship that people far and wide connect with and worship with us all. Thank you James. We also thank Emy Buxton for her on line blog for younger people.

Many of our paid staff were furloughed since March 2020 and are now returning to their roles.

The hardest part of our ministry over these past months is that due to social distancing, restrictions and lockdown we were unable to be physically along side many of those who we know and love as they prepared to journey into eternity.

As you may be aware both of our families have experienced health challenges over these past months and we thank you for those who have been praying for us day by day.

As we look forward to the Autumn, Advent and Christmas we will be seeking the Lords leading and we continue to be encouraged and sometimes surprised at the work of the Holy Spirit amongst us and in us all yet at the heart of Christchurch we celebrate our Ecumenical setting as a beacon to others and all that God continues to do through this expression of two denominations working as one.

How good and pleasant it is when God's people **live together in unity!**

Warden's Building and Facilities Report

Report Name	Warden's Building Report
Lead	Jess Mcmanus and Alex Pett
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<p>Christchurch remains not just a place of worship but a fantastic venue that can be hired out to many different groups. By doing so, it enables us to financially support the mission of the Church. It is fantastic seeing so many different ages and stages feel so comfortable and welcome while they hire Christchurch and we pray that by being here during the week they will want to know more of who we are and who we worship.</p> <p><u>Achievements</u></p> <p>Our 'Love your Church' day held in September last year, low on numbers but attended by a dedicated few. More help would be gladly received.</p> <p>A steady but significant increase to our bookings revenue.</p>
Challenges for the area of work	Keeping the building/site safe and tidy.
Plans over next 12 months	To hold our now annual Love your Church day and to build on having a large team/contact base of tradespeople/members we can call on for repairs.
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	We would like prayer for all of the new faces we see each week using our building, that they would feel at home and eventually come to know God and make Christchurch their home too. And we would like people to come forward to offer time and join our repairs team.

Update October 2020

Since we wrote this report we have seen unprecedented times and the church was closed for several months. We have begun to re-open but only in line with government compliance and after careful risk assessments. Many of our hirers are starting to return – albeit with different structures and different types of sessions. We re-opened for worship at the beginning of October with a booking system in place to ensure we are covid-secure. We will continue to work hard to ensure our church is welcoming but safe to all members of our community.

Care for Uganda

Report Name	Care for Uganda
Lead	Deb Tovey
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus / changes etc	<p>Care for Uganda continues to work in one of the poorest areas in Uganda. The charity couldn't do this without the on-going prayers and support given by Christchurch members over the past year – through donations, collecting boxes, buying alternative Christmas gifts or supporting fundraising such as our ever popular quiz night.</p> <p>Thanks as always goes to those who sponsor individual children to attend school or vocational training – over 40 children are currently sponsored by Christchurch and Kenn Road Methodist Church members, their families and friends. This sponsorship covers school fees, uniforms, meals and other welfare support for the families.</p> <p>Other donations are used to help local schools to our Bowa Headquarters when they need new equipment such as desks, books, etc. In the past year we have helped a school that we saw on a previous visit to complete a rebuild from the walls made of rough planks of wood to brick-built walls and a metal roof.</p> <p>Community support continues to distribute vital items such as mosquito nets and solar lamps to those who need them.</p> <p>CFU's sub charity, FLOW continues to train Village Health teams – volunteers who offer advice on hygiene and health and provide a vital link to those who need more help. Their advice has already help to reduce the incidence of diarrhoea in the area. FLOW also fund and maintain the motorbike ambulances – these are well-used in maternity and other emergencies.</p> <p>This past year has seen a link up of teachers in 4 South Wales schools with 4 schools in Uganda. The visits have gone extremely well and will hopefully be repeated.</p> <p>There was also another visit by the medical team that carried out a large number of hernia operations, including some by head torch when the electricity failed!</p>
Challenges for the area of work	<p>CFU works in a very poor, rural area of widespread villages with little infrastructure – roads are mainly rough tracks so monitoring the work brings many difficulties, particularly in rainy seasons.</p> <p>One of the biggest challenges CFU faces is the future employment of our sponsored children, as opportunities are limited in poor, rural areas.</p>

<p>Plans over next 12 months</p>	<p>To expand a current project seeking to ensure the homes of all our sponsored children have pit latrines, tippy taps, washing lines, kitchen drying racks, solar lamps and mosquito nets.</p> <p>Workshops have now been built at our Bbowa Headquarters and we are now equipping them ready for use by the sponsored children who have completed vocational training to help them on their road to employment.</p> <p>Another hernia trip is planned for later this year, with volunteer doctors, anaesthetists and nurses from UK visiting for a week to perform operations.</p>
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<p>That the Coronavirus hasn't affected Uganda and that the postponed visits from the UK to Bbowa can be rearranged in the near future.</p> <p>For the dedicated staff of CFU in Uganda, who are committed to the project despite working with many challenges.</p> <p>For all the sponsored children and particularly for the future work prospects of those completing the programme. For new sponsors to come forward to support those who currently are not able to attend school.</p> <p>For those with special needs or disabilities, for whom life is particularly hard in a developing country.</p> <p>For everyone in the rural areas in which CFU works to have access to clean water, latrines and tippy taps.</p> <p>For the Village Health teams and ambulance drivers – for their safety and impact.</p>

Children and Families Projects at Christchurch

Report Name	Children and Families in church
Lead	Emy Buxton - Children and Families Coordinator
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/ focus / changes etc	<p>In 2019 and up to March 2020 we have seen a vibrant children's ministry continue to grow at Christchurch. We said goodbye to three fantastic members of our children's team as they moved onto other things but we were quickly joined by five new members of the team. We are blessed to have such a large team of committed and faithful people supporting our children.</p> <p>Our Bubbles group on Sunday mornings had become quieter with fewer children attending but we were building bridges with the very busy Toddler group.</p> <p>Our children have really enjoyed attending the Splash and Extreme Sunday groups. We've had a lot of fun with games, crafts, stories, drama and creative prayer. They have been asking great questions and exploring the Bible and their own faith within the group sessions.</p> <p>At Extreme, we received a grant from Speaking Volumes and were able to use this to set up our own library shelf for the children to borrow a selection of Christian books.</p> <p>F@CT Our F@CT services were great fun as we explored Bible stories with activities, crafts and games. We were able to connect in families from our Toddler group. The children helping on the F@CT team were so excited to be involved and jumped at the chance to be in the drama or help with welcoming or activities.</p> <p>The Fridge The primary school session of the Fridge was a lively session with just under 30 children attending each month. We were building bridges with TLG with the coaches and the children involved. We also saw a large group of children attending from St Nicholas Chantry, which was great to strengthen our church/school link.</p> <p>Christmas 2019 was a fantastic time to connect with children and families with a variety of nursery and school services and the Christingle services.</p> <p>Since March 2020, the children's work has looked very different. The Christchurch Kids blog has worked very well as a platform to encourage our children in their faith at home. In the return to church survey, around half of our families said that they had</p>

	<p>interacted with the blog. Our blog has also been followed in other churches including churches in Cambridge and Luton. It has been a privilege to hear how our little blog has blessed other congregations as well as our own.</p> <p>Parcels were sent out to the children at the beginning of lockdown, at Easter, in the summer holidays and at the beginning of the September term. These surprises in the post have been very well received by the children and have included crafts, stickers and activity books. It was important to find ways to express to the children that they are an important part of our congregation - for all ages and stages.</p>
<p>Challenges for the area of work</p>	<p>The pandemic presents so many new challenges for our children's work as we learn to negotiate the regulations to keep everyone safe.</p> <p>The Fridge is particularly challenging to bring back within the safety rules.</p>
<p>Plans over next 12 months</p>	<p>We are excited to be able to bring back F@CT with a new format already.</p> <p>We are going to be working out how we can restart our Sunday morning children's groups so that we can welcome the children and their families back to the church safely and continue to support and disciple the children.</p> <p>When our Toddler group restarts, we will be building bridges between those families and our F@CT service. We will also be building bridges with our TLG and Make Lunch families.</p> <p>We are looking at different ways in which we can welcome children into the church at Christmas in a safe manner.</p> <p>We would like to plan some community events that can be held to reach out to more people in the town, such as a Sheep Trail.</p>
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<p>Firstly, we would pray that the children who we work with would meet with God and develop their own faith: that they would carry the stories and Bible verses that they learn with us into their everyday lives and know that God is with them and for them.</p> <p>We will need to be moving forward with a range of innovative new ideas to present our children's work and to build connections with children and families in our community. Please pray for inspiration that we are able to work out new ways of doing children's work that inspires and excites them.</p>

TLG Early Intervention

Report Name	TLG Early Intervention at Christchurch
Lead	<p>Kate Dommett - Children and Families Community Coordinator</p> <p>Emy Buxton - Children and Families Coordinator (from 01/09/20)</p>
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<p>We run TLG’s Early Intervention coaching programme in 4 of our local primary schools and have been working in 2 secondary schools this year too. We have seen 26 TLG coaches from Christchurch train since 2017. The coaches work alongside children in a school setting for one hour a week for one year; and build relationship with the wider family outside of school. Last year 5 of our coaches moved with their Yr 6 coached child to secondary school. This really supported the children with transition to a new school setting and helped them with the challenges this can bring. All of the coaches have built fantastic relationships with schools and their time and care brings a wonderful energy and love into the school community. The coached children and their families experience encouragement and support from the coaches too. Coaching has continued since March using the remote coaching model, where coaches have been able to continue to support their coached children and also develop supportive relationships with their families. A huge thanks goes to this fantastic team truly Transforming Lives for Good in our local community.</p> <p>We have also hosted National training for TLG at Christchurch and in November 2019 Kate was appointed 3 days a week as TLG’s South West Regional Lead for Volunteer Programmes. This hopefully gives Christchurch the opportunity to connect even further with the work of TLG in the South West.</p> <p>Kate has now moved to working for TLG as South West regional lead and Early Intervention Programme Development Lead. TLG is now coordinated at Christchurch by Emy Buxton who is our St Nicholas Chantry EI Coordinator alongside our voluntary coordinators: Lucy Williams at St Johns and Emma Tucker at Yeo Moor.</p>
Challenges for the area of work	<p>There are many families in our community whose struggles are often incredibly hidden. Schools are always asking for more coaches!</p> <p>Funding for resources and our partnership with TLG for 2020/2021 (it has been fully funded this year through external grants)</p>

<p>Plans over next 12 months</p>	<p>To work with 20 new children and families in our community. To develop our church connections and be creative around ways that coached families can feel welcomed into church community events/family life. To grow other community work in schools: such as prayer spaces in local primary schools and are also looking at ways to support the RS teaching/curriculum.</p>
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<p>This project has shown that the church has energy and commitment to meet the needs of our local community and support vulnerable children and families. It is an opportunity to be a very real example of God's love in our community; to be more present as the church of Jesus in the everyday and challenge perceptions of what is traditionally thought of as 'church'. We try to engage with, and connect with, people in our community who do not necessarily connect with church community or culture yet and to break down social barriers that prevent this.</p> <p>The project benefits children, parents, carers, grand-parents, teachers, school communities and the church community too! Through EI coaching we hope that Children, young people and adults are given hope and a new perspective on what is possible when people show love, care and commitment.</p> <p>Please pray for God's anointing on all of the above.</p>

TLG Make Lunch

Group Name	Make Lunch
Leaders/Facilitators	Helen Davis, Sarah Parker, Joanne Green, Hannah Wardle
Objectives of group	To provide a hot and nutritious 2 course meal, twice a week in the school holidays
Format and frequency of meetings	Tuesday and Thursdays 11.30-1.15pm at Yeo Moor School in the school holidays
Target membership	Children who receive free school meals, families who are vulnerable for whatever reason
Communication with group	Open invitation to families at Yeo Moor School, personal invitations for families linked with Clevedon Children's centre and TLG Early Intervention
Group membership size and average attendance	At our launch during February half term we fed 7 adults and 10 children on the Tuesday and 17 children and 12 adults on the Thursday
Resources used	Toys, games and activities along with a hot meal.
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<p>Make Lunch grew out of the TLG Early Intervention programme.</p> <p>It has been a lot of work over the last 6 months to develop a team of volunteers, secure the use of Yeo Moor School and funding to enable us to run the project.</p> <p>Volunteers have all had to complete training around safeguarding, allergens, food hygiene and DBS checks. We are very blessed to have developed a team of very committed volunteers who have taken it all in their stride in order to see the project run.</p> <p>Volunteers are from Christchurch, Quakers and Kenn Road Methodist Church along with people linked with the Foodbank and Children's centre.</p> <p>We have managed to secure funding from CTiC, Kenn Road Methodist Church, Christmas Tree festival, Salvation Army, Clevedon Lions, Fellowship Lunch as well as donations from individual members of Christchurch.</p>
Challenges for the group	<p>Make Lunch will evolve throughout 2020 and we need to let it grow into whatever God's plan is for it. It will grow and managing that growth will present challenges!</p> <p>We will also need to secure ongoing funding to secure it's future.</p>
Plans over next 12 months	2020 is a pilot year for Make Lunch. We are very open minded to God's leading and are keen for it to evolve organically.

	<p>We are keen to link with local food suppliers who may like to support Make Lunch as well as linking more with Clevedon Food Bank.</p> <p>We will continue to grow and develop our team of volunteers – making sure they feel cared for and valued is also a priority.</p>
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your group</p>	<p>Make Lunch is hard work and so prayer for energy for the team of volunteers, and for meaningful connections to be made with the families who attend.</p> <p>Prayer that the vulnerable families in our town are able to access Make Lunch without feeling judged or targeted.</p> <p>That all the families attending will get a sense of God's love and provision.</p>

Update September 2020

Wow! What a roller coaster Make Lunch has been since this was written earlier this year!

Due to the COVID pandemic Make lunch switched from Holiday lunch clubs to a box delivery scheme under the guidance and support of TLG and an amazing team of volunteers.

For almost 6 months the team of volunteers delivered 'Boxes of Hope' to 19 families all of whom were referred by local schools and other agencies.

Boxes of food supplies, a recipe with its ingredients along with activities for the children were delivered each week in a COVID safe way. We have worked closely with Clevedon Foodbank and the Fare Share scheme.

Amazing relationships have been built with families and volunteers.

The box deliveries ended when schools returned in September and the Friday Make Lunch café was born! Families are now able to come up to Christchurch on a Friday morning, pick up any food supplies and have a tea/coffee and homemade cake! Families can spend time chatting with a volunteer, share their worries, concerns and challenges.

We are hoping to develop the Friday mornings into a hub of resource and support. During October the first CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Kick start course will be offered as a response to families sharing the challenges of finding employment.

Please pray that God will give us as a team all we need to grow and develop the Friday hub and that we will also be able to return to hosting the Holiday lunch clubs soon!

Christchurch Toddlers

Group Name	Christchurch Toddlers
Leaders/Facilitators	Helen Davis
Objectives of group	Community group for parents and carers of children aged 0-5
Format and frequency of meetings	Thursday mornings 10-11.30am term time only
Target membership	Families with babies and pre-school children
Communication with group	Word of mouth
Group membership size and average attendance	Varies week to week but we often have between 25 and 40 families with up to 50 children/babies
Resources used	Variety of toys, craft activities, fruit snack for the children and refreshments for the adults
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<p>Having always been on the toddler team, I took over the role as group co-ordinator in November 2019.</p> <p>The toddler groups reduced from 2 each week (Thursdays and Fridays) to just one a week on a Thursday from September 2019.</p> <p>This has had a really positive impact as has enabled us to have a strong core of regular volunteers mainly from Christchurch to ensure the smooth running of the group. Having that core of familiar, regular faces on team has meant that more meaningful connections are being made with families. We notice new faces much more easily and are therefore able to ensure a warm and supportive welcome.</p> <p>We see a strong mix of mums, dads, childminders and grandparents attending. There has definitely been an increase in the number of Grandparents attending and many use it as a space to meet their friends who are also caring for grandchildren.</p>
Challenges for the group	Toddlers is becoming a more intentional ministry. We are so blessed to have so many families come into our building every week. It can be very busy some weeks making it difficult to manage conversations with everyone – it is important that we are able to engage in conversation and learn about the challenges they are facing. This enables us to then show God's love and compassion through listening and offering words of encouragement.
Plans over next 12 months	We need more people on team to just come and listen and chat with families. I have a strong sense that we have an amazing opportunity to link with Grandparents and connect

	<p>them in with the wider life of Christchurch – with or without their Grandchildren.</p> <p>We also have a regular group of Dad’s coming along and it would be fantastic to have some men on team to connect in with them and develop relationships.</p>
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your group</p>	<p>That the toddler team will grow – not necessarily to help in a practical way, but to come, chat with people and build meaningful relationships over a coffee.</p> <p>Please pray that all the toddler group families will always get a sense of God and His love when they are in our building each week.</p>

Update September 2020

Well things have changed so much since this was written back at the start of 2020!

Toddlers closed it’s doors at the end of March due to the COVID pandemic and it is very unlikely that toddlers will be able to resume for a long time.

After much prayer and consideration, it was felt that maybe it was time to lay toddlers down for the time being and to serve the community in a new way.

A community hub is being developed on a Friday which will centre around the Make Lunch Friday café. It is an exciting time as we seek to serve God and our town in a new way.

Watch this space!

Growth Groups

Report Name	Homegroups/Growth groups
Lead	Carolyn Waite
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<p>There are 7 groups that meet at various times to study and pray together. They mainly meet in the evenings. Most have been following the sermon series, although some follow alternative material such as the Spring Harvest material. There is now a Men's group that meets monthly for bible study.</p> <p>There are other groups that meet for fellowship and prayer ie Knit and natter, Refresh. Numbers in the groups are variable.</p>
Challenges for the area of work	<p>The main challenge is to encourage more folk to be part of a group and then in these challenging circumstances one knows that the majority of the church family are within a group.</p> <p>I would like these groups to be able meet face to face again!</p> <p>As always transport is a problem for some and child care for others.</p>
Plans over next 12 months	<p>I would love to see more mixed groups within the church family using these to grow in fellowship and in the knowledge of Jesus. And then able to feel more confident in going out and taking Jesus into the community .</p> <p>I would also like to see the groups being able to meet physically and not all on line.</p>
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	That the above is possible!

Knit and Knatter

Small groups at Christchurch take many forms, and Knit & Knatter, founded by Gill Robinson in 2012 for an initial six week run, is an activity group still going strong eight years later. We currently have fourteen members and on average eight knitters come to each meeting. Open to women and men, we meet fortnightly on Monday evenings in members' homes – although of course gathering in person is not possible at the moment due to Covid.

Most of our recent output has gone to the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild, which supports charities around the UK working with hospices, the homeless, women's shelters and forces veterans. This summer we were very pleased that, even though we've not been able to knit together, we were still able to send them 100 items of knitting including these 'rainbows' of jumpers and cardigans:



Recently, we have begun to forge links with local organisations including North Somerset Council's Children's Centres and Next Link Housing; the latter provides domestic abuse support services for women in Bristol and the surrounding areas, including North Somerset.

Whilst the destination of our work might change our intent has not: at each meeting we pray that the work of our hands and hearts will carry to the wearer not only decency and warmth, but courage, comfort and hope for brighter days. For us, our work is a way of expressing God's love.

Our meetings have made and deepened friendships and new adult knitters are always welcome, as well as home knitters who cannot attend the meetings but are keen to support our work. For further details please contact Roz Hime (872145) or Marilyn Barrow (876132).

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to Janet, Nickie, Sonia and Wendy for their generous hospitality, to Janet and Marilyn for their technical guidance and encouragement, and to all the devoted knitters for their hard work and commitment.

Roz Hime
27 September 2020

Music report

Report Name	Music Coordinator – Julian Sawyer
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/ focus/ changes etc	<p>As in previous years, Christchurch has been blessed by the willingness of volunteers to commit in both practicing beforehand and leading the congregation in the sung worship each Sunday. We aim to offer a contemporary style in our worship, using a band format with members ageing from teenagers to senior citizens. We use songs and hymns old and new to encourage the congregation to lift their voices giving praise and worship to our heavenly Father.</p> <p>There is a vast resource of new songs emerging within the worldwide church. We hopefully discover ones which are relevant, well written and easily learnt, becoming memorable for our all-age congregation at Christchurch. We pray that the songs and hymns encourage and enable us to worship, not just during the Sunday service but to 'lift us' in the following week in whatever situations we may encounter.</p> <p>The worship group are enthusiastic and have a passion to use the musical gifts God has given us, giving them back to God in our service through leading each Sunday. We are blessed to have had with us some musically gifted Trinity Students and through Jay, and Elliot, we have been able to explore and develop our sung worship ministry. We have served in other services/events held at church throughout the year, each time aiming to offer a musical lead to help people encounter God through the sung worship at that event.</p> <p>We held a summer BBQ in 2019 and enjoyed the opportunity of meeting up in a social setting without the pressure of a practice or church service taking place.</p> <p>Our group for the 2019 Christingle services included four 8-9 year olds helping with leading the singing and adding some 'sensitive' percussion. They were fantastic, wonderfully enthusiastic and helped to make those services special for all the visitors attending.</p>
Challenges for the area of work	To maintain the enthusiasm. To build the team and keep it 'fresh', equipping them musically and spiritually in using their gifts. To have fun in our serving and practice. To encourage existing and new members to challenge themselves, experiment and to become better and more skilful musicians and singers.
Plans over next 12 months	To add new members young and old. To improve our practice/rehearsal times. To have social events to build up the group.

What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	Each week, the planning and preparation and finding the right mix/balance of songs and arrangements for the sung worship. The practice/rehearsal times, commitment to attend. For an ever-growing enthusiasm and desire to serve in this ministry. For new people to be challenged to serve using their musical gifts. For a greater freedom and confidence in my leading of the worship group and in the services on a Sunday.
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Refresh

Group Name	Refresh Café Coffee Morning
Leaders/Facilitators	Helen Pett, Kathy Fowler and Cathy Pope Kate Dewfall, Jane Bird, Sophie Moran, Jane Carter
Objectives of group	To provide a welcoming café style environment for women between the ages of 18 and 100+ where they can be physically and spiritually refreshed.
Format and frequency of meetings	1st Friday of each month except in school holidays. (This changed from the last AGM report from meeting twice a month as the team felt that twice was too much work for them with all the other commitments they had at the time.) We meet from 10 until 12 noon with a short 10 minute talk at 11am. It's worth mentioning that the set up and pack down time means we are actually at church from 9am until 1.30. Once we moved into the main church we actually managed to get in to set up on the Thursday evening which made the mornings much easier. The talk is planned to be accessible to both Christians and non Christians giving an insight into what it means to be a Christian, often including personal stories and testimonies. We also usually provide a small gift of some sort each month which connects the talk and verse we are using. This gives the women something to take away with them as a visual reminder of what we have talked about.
Target membership	Women of all ages who are either in the church family or maybe on the fringes of church or even those that are not connected to church but are in the local community. We have all invited various women we meet going about daily life, ranging from neighbours to local friends, mums from school etc.
Communication with group	During the time we were continuing to meet we had the usual flyers which we are in church and also available at each monthly gathering. During lockdown I have written an email which we have sent on the day we would have been meeting, just to keep the connection and send some encouragement and let them know we are thinking of them. We have about 25 on the database including the team.
Group membership size and average attendance	Approx. 20 to 25 coming including team of 6 on regular basis. Varies month to month. Some are there every time and others make it occasionally.
Resources used	All resources we have needed have been provided by the team and covered by the voluntary suggested donation from the visitors for their coffee and cake. We use church coffee and tea and milk. Cake has been baked for us by volunteers or bought. We have a small balance left in the kitty at the moment.
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	The 6 months leading up to Covid 19 was a fruitful and exciting season for Refresh. The number of women coming was consistent and great friendships and community were being formed. We decided for practical reasons to move into the main church building in February and had managed two meetings in there. It felt extremely significant and completely right to be in the church rather than the hall and brought a new sense of God's presence with us. We had been focusing on the Sermon on the Mount and had

	<p>almost completed the series before we had to stop. The team all felt that this had been challenging and uplifting and I certainly had encouraging moments of feedback that the talks had spoken to many of the women. As a team we were talking about the possibility of adding a morning a month to create the opportunity to 'dig deeper' into faith and have space to ask about what it meant to be a Christian for those on the fringes or asking deeper questions. Helen Pett had just met with Clive and Russ to talk about the option of doing that.</p>
Challenges for the group	<p>Just before lockdown, we had just met to have a planning meeting with our dear friend Joy who was a member of the team and was going to be speaking at the March Refresh Café. You will know that she very sadly became ill with Covid and died shortly after. As a team this has affected us all deeply. We still haven't all been able to meet together to process what happened and to talk about it and how it will affect us going forward. She was a core member of Refresh and an amazing friend to us and many of the women who come and it's almost impossible to imagine how Refresh will be without her. We all miss her dearly. Various members of the team have also been battling various health issues and everyone has a lot to deal with looking after their own families and work commitments.</p>
Plans over next 12 months	<p>I will be speaking to Jess about the possibility of meeting back at church in some form in the next few months and then feeding that back to the team and a number of us will be at the 60+ vision evening that Suzy the new curate is holding in October. We are also considering the possibility of meeting in smaller groups in homes in the meantime providing the rules don't change again which would affect that significantly. The thing that is obvious and clear is that we will not be able to operate as a ministry in the same way we did for quite some time and with that in mind we are prayerful and seeking God for direction for a way forward.</p>
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wisdom and clarity for the way forward in how we can meet together in some form, carrying on the relationships and building on what we had managed to achieve. - Health and protection for the team and their families. - Healing and a renewed hope looking forwards as we come to terms with losing our dear friend Joy and grieve her loss from the team.

Safeguarding

Lead: Margaret Sutherland

Summary of last 12 months - achievements/focus/changes etc:

DBS checks

We are largely up-to-date with DBS checks, with ID verification by email where meeting up has not been possible. Some renewals are due and the relevant people have been contacted.

Confidential declaration form

A shortened version of this form has been approved by the ECC, this is to be completed by members of teams where DBS is not required, eg coffee team, tech team & welcomers.

Parish Safeguarding Handbook

This, and the booklet 'Promoting a safer Church', is available to download from the Diocesan website, I have asked Kathryn to obtain some hard copies for display in Church, also relevant posters.

Past cases review

We were required to check our records to confirm that all past safeguarding cases had been reported to the Diocese. Clive & I met with the Church Wardens in March 2020 and confirmed that this was the case.

Training

I delivered C1 (Foundation module) training in September & October 2019, and February 2020.

In November 2019, we were pleased to see the appointment of a new Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer, Susanne Disney, who revised the training package and delivered a Foundation module to a large number at Christchurch in March 2020, just prior to 'lock-down'. Sadly, she has now left the Diocese but I do have the training package for future use.

All members of the ECC have now completed at least the CO (Basic awareness) training.

C2 Leadership training has been completed by Alex Pett, Jess McManus & John deBorde; also, Clive Jennings and I have recently undertaken a virtual update module.

Clive and I were due to undertake the S3 Domestic Abuse module in May 2019 - unfortunately this was cancelled. We look forward to completing this in the future, when possible.

Parish Dashboard

We have been part of the Parish Dashboard pilot - which allows us to map compliance with Safeguarding requirements. This generates an Action Plan which has been submitted to the ECC for sign-off.

Church website

As a result of training and the Parish Dashboard Action Plan, various changes have been made to the Christchurch website. Safeguarding information can now be accessed with 'one click' from the home page.

Meetings with teams

I regularly liaise with Kate Dommett, as Safeguarding Lead for the ECC and provide an update to that meeting through her. I also have contact, as appropriate, with the clergy, Emy Buxton (children & family coordinator), Helen Davis (Make Lunch project & toddlers) and Beth Strefford (transport coordinator)

Challenges for the area of work

There are a large number of people who require refresher training - difficult to plan for this in the light of current restrictions.

Need to raise awareness of safeguarding issues, particularly regarding domestic abuse. This was high-lighted in the training recently undertaken by Clive and myself.

Plans over the next 12 months

To bring training up to date ? how /when. 15 people are overdue for C1 refresher training.

What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work

That all congregation will be aware of their responsibilities with regard to safeguarding.

Tea and chat

Group Name	Tea and Chat
Leaders/Facilitators	C Waite: J Sims; P Meyrick; B Baker; J Flexer
Objectives of group	Provide a space for the older folk of church to meet and chat.
Format and frequency of meetings	Monthly meetings on first Friday of Month Informal meeting in Church hall
Target membership	Anyone is welcome , but mainly the older folk attend.
Communication with group	Through church notice sheet
Group membership size and average attendance	Approx 12-15 folk
Resources used	Kitchen. tea and coffee.
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	We have met monthly throughout the year until April 2020. We sang harvest , Christmas hymns in the appropriate season. We supported the bereaved members of the group.
Challenges for the group	We have sadly lost several of our members throughout this year. Transport is always a problem for the group.
Plans over next 12 months	Unknown due to C19. I would like to be able to offer the space for chat and socialising for our older members of the church and wider community .
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your group	Our prayer needs are many due to the age of our group members. Good health, the restoration of Tea and chat or the acceptance that in this time we will have to continue to support folk remotely.

Uganda Concern UK

Report Name	Uganda Concern UK – supporting the work of Uganda Women Concern Ministry in Mbale, Uganda.
Lead	Terry Game
Summary of last 12 months – achievements /focus/ changes etc	<p><i>We are the sole funder of the following projects and a small group from the UK visit in January each year to take part and to monitor the projects.</i></p> <p>Annual Children’s Conference: <i>a 5 day residential camp for approx. 70 disadvantaged young people, most from very rural communities. The theme of this year’s conference was ‘Do not conform to the patterns of this world’ (Romans 12:2) and was for secondary school children age 16-24. They had Bible study each morning plus teaching on the following topics: modern day slavery; sex & sexuality; decision making; technology & media and stress management. They also enjoyed drama, singing, dancing and we took the craft sessions which are always very popular as they do not normally have access to such resources. We have funded these conferences for 14 years now and it’s encouraging to meet up with young adults who attended years ago and readily testify to the benefits and positive impact it had on their lives.</i></p> <p>Prayer and Porridge Programme: <i>In October 2019 we took on the funding for a new Prayer & Porridge project at St Stephen’s Church, Lwangoli and have committed to funding this for 2 years but we are hoping to raise sufficient funds for it to expand and to continue beyond that. 158 children aged 2-18 years are officially registered but there are at least another 150 in the community who would like to be registered and many of these just turn up and the leaders say it causes embarrassment to turn them away. The children normally meet on a Saturday at the church and they are split into 4 classes according to their age and enjoy Bible teaching, games, singing, drama – plus of course porridge & banana/eggs/nuts. We also try to provide scholastic materials (exercise books and pens) for as many children as possible as otherwise many of them are unable to attend school. This project gives them a real sense of belonging and really helps to build up their confidence and self-esteem. It is so encouraging to see that this relatively simple project is having such a positive effect within the whole community.</i></p> <p>Sarah’s Shelters: <i>This fund enables UWCM’s community volunteer groups to assist vulnerable families to buy a small plot of land and construct a traditional home. Members of the communities donate the wooden poles and work together to build these new shelters. Our funding enables them to buy the land, if necessary, plus the iron sheets for the roof plus the wooden doors/window shutters and other materials. Currently we fund, on average, 2 homes each quarter but there are many others in desperate need of new shelters.</i></p>

	<p>Community work: We also contribute towards UWCM's work with Women's Groups and over the past year there has been an increase in the number of groups requesting training on microfinance, gender based violence, adult literacy and marriage guidance. Microfinance is a particularly effective way of enabling individuals and groups to support themselves rather than depend on hand-outs.</p> <p>In January 2020 we began a '<u>Rainwater Harvesting Tank</u>' project and, thanks to the generosity of Kenn Road Methodist Church, have so far raised enough money to buy 48 x 1000L tanks. Each family who are given a tank have to provide the guttering and pipework plus the cement to build the concrete base.</p> <p>Another very successful project is the '<u>Reusable Sanitary Pad</u>' project where we have provided sewing machines and materials and taught groups how to make the pads. Without these, many girls have to miss school for a few days each month which has a big effect not only on their education but also their confidence. Demand for this training is very high and UWCM are working hard to meet it but lack of machines and materials is a problem.</p> <p>'<u>Education Fund</u>': in addition to providing basic scholastic materials to the most needy in various communities, we also fund individuals identified to us by UWCM who without our support would not be able to complete their education. During the last year we have funded Florence (2 year Primary School teaching); Esther (2 year Early Years); Sharon, Phiona and Jacinta (3 sisters in secondary school) and during our visit in January we met 2 brothers, Derrick and Emma, who we have committed to funding through their primary and secondary education.</p>
Challenges for the area of work	Lack of funding. The work that UWCM are doing is incredibly effective and many thousands of individuals and families have had their lives changed over the years but the need is still great. Since Tearfund's funding came to an end in 2019, Uganda Concern UK is now the main donor for UWCM and we are working as hard as we can to increase our supporter base and also to apply for grants and funds. All the Trustees of UCUK are volunteers and we don't have any overheads therefore 100% of all money raised goes out to Uganda Women Concern Ministry.
Plans over next 12 months	Two of our Trustees held several meetings with the staff and Board of Directors of UWCM during their visit in January to discuss the way forward as our funding is not sufficient to maintain the organisation in its current form. We are liaising closely with UWCM to find solutions. We also need to try and increase our supporter base and apply for grants/funds.
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	For the future of UWCM and for wisdom and guidance for us as Trustees of UCUK as to how we can continue funding the projects we currently support. Prayer, too, for the staff of UWCM as they face this period of uncertainty.