

ANNUAL REPORTS

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Report Name	Wardens /Clergy
Leads	Kate Dommett & Alex Pett
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/ changes etc	This year has been full of encouragements right across the life of the church. Saying farewell to the wonderful Russell Herbert and Tamara as they move into a new season of life with Russ becoming a vicar in the Church of England. Their leaving service in January was a special space where we were able to look back and celebrate so many amazing things that took place through their many years of service among us. The appointment of Simon Durrant at the end of 2025, following two previous rounds of recruitment, is a real celebration and we look forward to welcoming the whole Durrant family to the CC community, following Simon’s licensing on April 16 th this year. For all the change, we rejoice that there have continued to be many signs of growth and renewal across the church.
Challenges for the area of work	<p>We do have a noticeably reduced capacity... especially since Russ left and we are incredibly thankful for to the staff team and many volunteers who have stepped up and stepped in with even more faithful giving of time and energy in service of the life of the church and the wider Clevedon community.</p> <p>With the ending of a legacy gift that we have used to fund our full-time youth work role we have been seeking increased giving and funding to secure the budget to continue with our mission work. There has been an increase in giving but more funding is required for the long-term sustainability of this role.</p>
Plans over next 12 months	To increase our leadership capacity with the arrival of Simon, beginning process of appointing a new Methodist minister and increase in volunteers in key teams. To pray and focus on our Vision’s 3 key areas: Renewal in the Holy Spirit; Children and Youth; Young Adults.
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	That Simon would settle well into his role; that the right person will be found to join the team as a Methodist minister; that everyone at CC would find ways to use their gifts and skills in service of the church’s vision.

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Report Name	Finance Report
Leads	Neville Adams & John de Borde
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<p>The members of the Finance Committee:- Neville Adams (Chairman & Finance Director), John de Borde (Treasurer), Rev. Dr Russell Herbert until 31 December 2025, Kate Dommett (Warden), Alex Pett (Warden), Eamon McManus, Peter Chambers and David Eggleston until 4 March 2026. The prime function is to ensure the financial integrity of the church to meet its mission. The Committee meets every 2 months, reviewing income, expenditure, and cash status, and planning for future expenditure. The committee provides regular reports to the ECC plus proposals for decision.</p> <p>2025 Accounts</p> <p>The accounts have been examined by our new external examiners, Xeinadin South Wales & West Limited, and their report is included in the accounts.</p> <p>A summary of the accounts is as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £27k deficit • The deficit continues to be primarily driven by the decision to invest in youth work over the last four years. This has been mitigated by a designated outreach fund provided by the Waveney Bishop legacy. This fund has now been fully expended • This meant that we reached our bank reserve limit (£56k) during the year • However, the congregation responded with generous one-off gifts and including a new legacy gift, total giving was up £27k compared with 2024 • This has meant that we have been able to continue the youth work and stay above our bank reserve limit • Hall letting income was stable at £27k • Overall expenditure has been kept well under control <p>If anybody has questions on the accounts that they wish to raise at the AGM could they be sent to John de Borde before the AGM finance@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk</p> <p>We would like to thank those who have helped us in 2025 :- David Eggleston and latterly Clive Banks for banking cash collections, and Peter Chambers for researching and applying for grants.</p>

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<p>Challenges for the area of work</p>	<p>The key challenge continues to be that of increasing our giving income to allow us to replace the now exhausted Outreach Fund (which was sourced by a legacy gift) and has funded the youth work. In the past year the increase in giving has been primarily large one-off gifts and a new legacy (£6k). We need to increase the regular monthly giving income to all us to plan our activities into the future.</p>
<p>Plans over next 12 months</p>	<p>In addition to maintaining our youth work activities, there are a number of church maintenance issues on the horizon. The largest of these are: church lighting system obsolete and failing; audio visual obsolete and failing; heating system issues; masonry issues on the tower.</p> <p>As part of our overall review of the structure of our church finances, we are also in discussion with the two denominations that we are part of - the Church of England, and the Methodist Church. We are reviewing the financial contributions we make to them in our unique position as a Local Ecumenical Partnership</p>
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wisdom and good judgement in managing the church finances • That spiritual growth and discipleship in the church will result in increased regular giving income to allow us to carry out our mission • We need volunteers to help with the stewardship of our financial resources, these include a Treasurer (as John De Borde seeks to stand down), and Gift Aid administrator.

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Report Name	Safeguarding
Leads	Margaret Sutherland & Clive Banks
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November 2025, we celebrated Safeguarding Sunday, introducing ourselves and showing a short video, which was well received. • DBS checks have been carried out for all new team members (in line with Safer Recruitment guidance); and renewals processed as they fall due. • We continue to work closely with team leaders and the ECC, recognising concerns and taking appropriate action. • We have almost completed the Parish Dashboard Level 3 – the only thing that lets us down is the outstanding training needs !
Challenges for the area of work	Encouraging people to undertake the required training, both initially and as refresher modules.
Plans over next 12 months	To work with Simon (new Vicar) and the wider leadership team, in order to maintain our high standard of safeguarding. To consider ways to encourage the uptake of training.
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That we continue to be a safe and welcoming environment for all. • That everyone in the congregation recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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Report Name	Fresh Expressions – Midweek Worship
Leads	Joan Shaw, Marilyn Barrow, Margaret Sutherland, Beth Meyrick
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/ changes etc	<p>We were just beginning to adapt to more services of Morning Worship led by lay leaders and Russ Herbert taking the monthly Holy Communion Services when he was available. It was then announced that Russ would be leaving us too at Christmas. We were then very fortunate in having Mike Hill available to fill the gap and we have returned to the usual pattern of both Holy Communion and Morning Worship in each month.</p> <p>The numbers have remained very steady and the lay readers continue to support the Morning Worship.</p> <p>We still provide the hospitality and continue to encourage the social contact, which is important for those who are living alone.</p> <p>Beth continues to provide music for the hymns with her ukelele and is a big help in the kitchen.</p>
Plans over next 12 months	<p>We have followed a very similar pattern for a long time and those who attend are very happy with it but it would be a good time to review this, especially as we now have Simon Durrant as vicar who will no doubt have ideas about moving forward.</p>
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the clergy and the lay readers • For those who attend, that they might feel closer to God and for that feeling to go back and stay with them at home. • For the team who are blessed by the opportunity to serve.

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Report Name	Children & Families
Lead	Emy Buxton
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/ changes etc	<p>Across our Sunday morning groups and services, The Fridge, Little Fish Toddlers and our school connections, it's been great to offer different ways for children and their families to engage with our church community.</p> <p>Christchurch Kids meets during the service on Sunday mornings for 4 -11 year olds. We have fun together learning about God; playing games, sharing Bible stories and memory verses, asking questions and getting creative. We have a wide age range in the group but this is working well as we offer a range of activities that the children can choose from each week alongside our time together with a Bible focus. This year we have looked at stories about David, read stories about Jesus from the book of Mark and we are currently learning how to be Kingdom Builders – building God's kingdom with the help of Lego.</p> <p>Bubbles is our space for 0-4s on Sunday mornings. It's good to see connections from F@CT and Little Fish encourage families with young children to come along on Sunday mornings. This group is a lovely space for little ones to start talking about faith, with stories and crafts on offer, and for parents to connect with each other as well.</p> <p><u>F@CT</u> Our monthly F@CT service for families continues to be a great space for families to come together around a table, have breakfast and talk about faith together. It's an accessible space so that everyone can join in and feel very welcome. We share Bible stories, sing worship songs with actions and dancing – so that the youngest members can easily join in, we think about prayer activities and we do crafts and activities to help us talk about what we heard from the Bible.</p> <p><u>Little Fish</u> 20-30 families join us each week at our Little Fish toddler group on Thursday mornings.</p>

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Little Fish is a welcoming, supportive community which our families really value as part of their week. We regularly hear comments from the families about how much they enjoy coming to Little Fish. Families have been chatting to the team and sharing experiences they are going through and some of them have asked if the church can pray for them. This is exciting to hear from the families that they connect with this space as a connection point for faith as well as family support. This year our Little Fish families have been connecting in with the church at F@CT, in Sunday morning services and at the Grieve Well café.

We have a fantastic Little Fish team, including our set-up team who arrive early on a Thursday morning to get the church ready. All the Little Fish team work together to show the families kindness and welcome, from putting out chairs and washing up cups to chatting about everyday life with young children.

Little Fish has received a community grant again this year from the Clevedon Lions group which has enabled us to buy new resources for the group. It's great to feel so supported by the local community to help run this important space for families.

The Fridge – it's a cool place to chill out!

The Fridge has continued to thrive since our change in 2024 from meeting on a Sunday once a month to meeting every Monday in term time. We have around 24 children, aged 7-11, who come every week.

It's a fantastic space for children to come along and socialise together with games, activities, crafts, and a tuck shop. It is an important resource to have alongside our TLG Early Intervention coaching and around a third of the children who regularly attend have had coaching.

We have a prayer tent available as a quiet space where we invite the children to consider what they would like to talk to God about. We have a short time during each session to give the children an opportunity to hear about God, ask questions and explore their own faith through Bible stories, games and even science experiments. This year we have enjoyed acting out parables, watched videos

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	<p>about the story of Josph and we are currently finding out what the Bible has to say about friendship.</p> <p>Our Fridge motto is “Have fun, be kind and learn about God”.</p> <p><u>Schools and nurseries</u></p> <p>This year we have welcomed schools and nurseries to join us at Christchurch to celebrate a variety events.</p> <p>We have continued our great connection with St Nicholas Chantry primary school. We have hosted Christmas, Easter, Harvest and Leavers services alongside regular assemblies. The school have invited us to be part of their welcome evening for new parents again as the church is seen as an important part of the school community.</p> <p>We are also working with St Nicholas Chantry to support their Pupil Chaplain scheme, which is also supported by the Diocese.</p> <p>We have purchased new Pupil Chaplain vests for the children to wear in the playground. We joined them for one of their chaplain training sessions and we look forward to their visit this term at Little Fish Toddlers.</p> <p>We have welcomed Rydal Nursery and Highdale Nursery at Christmas and Easter. We also enjoyed hosting Girlguiding and Scouting for their Christmas service.</p>
<p>Challenges for the area of work</p>	<p>It is great to see the number of families who are engaging with Christchurch increase. Due to this, we also need to grow our children's team.</p> <p>We are looking for people who have a heart for sharing their faith with the children and walking alongside them in their own faith journeys and those who would journey alongside families in the ups and downs of parenting and grandparenting.</p>
<p>Plans over next 12 months</p>	<p>We look forward to seeing more children and families joining us at Christchurch, through connections with Little Fish, TLG, schools and more, where they can find a place of welcome and encouragement and explore their faith.</p>

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<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<p>Please pray for all the children and their families that we connect with through our children's work. For those who have their own faith already, that their relationship with God may be strengthened and deepened and that we can walk alongside them and encourage them. For those yet to know God, that they may find church a safe, welcoming space where they can listen and hear God's message for them.</p> <p>We are very thankful for all the fantastic volunteers we have on our children's team. Please pray that we have more people to join our teams; people with the gifts and skills for sharing God's love with the younger members of our community and their families.</p> <p>Please pray for the families who have connected with Little Fish. We pray that they will feel welcomed as part of our church community, that new friendships will grow and that they will feel able to ask for support where it is needed.</p>
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Report Name	Youth
Lead	Emily Hatton
Objectives of this ministry	To get alongside the young people of Clevedon, creating safe spaces for them to discover who they are and whose they are.
Format & Frequency of meetings	<p>We have some groups that are weekly, like Impact, Focus and Sunday mornings. Focus and Sunday mornings are more sit-down bible studies, chatting together about what we feel God is saying through a passage of scripture. Whereas Impact is a social group where people can come and hang out with their friends, play games, craft, chat, play football...</p> <p>On a monthly basis, we have Cherished, our new girls group for year 10+ where we talk about relevant topics for girls in a safe, judgement free space. We're following Rachel Gardner's book 'The Girl Deconstruction Project'. And youth church continues to be monthly as a service for young people – this year we've been looking at 'Meals With Jesus', through Luke's gospel.</p>
Group sizes and average attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sundays: morning youth group (10); girls group (4); youth church (15-20) • Mondays: Impact (30-35) • Wednesdays: Christian Union (10-15); Focus (14) • Thursdays: after school Drop In (300-350)
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We started off the year with an end-of-summer youth social with youth groups from Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead which was really fun and saw 50 young people from all these youth groups gathering together for games and mixing together. These youth leader relationships have continued as we hope to keep going with these mixed-socials. We did another of these at Easter which was also really successful • Year 7 RS lessons – a team of us went in to Clevedon School and once again were able to answer all their questions about our faith, the church, God and all manner of things, and hand out bibles to the classes with about a 96% uptake! • CU has been really great in the last couple of terms, with the young people really taking ownership of leading the sessions. • Youth Church has continued to be a really great time of worshiping and learning. Numbers have dropped quite a bit but the faithful 15-20 who do come pretty regularly gain so much from the space. The Youth Band is also

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	<p>really flourishing. Dan (<i>my fiancé!</i>) comes and plays in the band and has helped each of them grow in their worship leading giftings which is so fun to watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact has grown a lot – we have 70 on the books, with about 30-35 coming each week. It's a really good opportunity to connect with so many young people from the community. About two thirds of the young people at Impact are unchurched and have found the group through invitation from friends. Please read below to find out about the challenges of this! • Focus continues to be a real joy. We have a group of young people who come along every week and have been journeying through the bible together for nearly 3 years now. They are so invested in their relationship with Jesus and growing with him – it's so much fun to watch. This year we have been focussing on prayer, using Tyler Staton's 'Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools' as a basis, which has been so much fun! • We have a group of lads who are known to all the youth groups in town, and who come with a lot of chaos and bad behaviour. They can be really challenging, but as I've spent time with them over the last year, I feel that, although the challenging behaviour continues, they have become more open to us challenging their behaviour. Sometimes we even get apologies!! Focus on their behaviour is really important – keeping boundaries and allowing them to be in spaces with good role models, peers and adults alike. • I'm really grateful for the continued support of the church in the youth ministry at Christchurch – thank you for all your prayers and encouragement. I really appreciate it all.
<p>Challenges for the area of work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst having so many young people come to Impact each week is a real joy, it does come with a lot of challenges, particularly around behaviour management. These challenges have meant that it's difficult to do a 'God Slot' as part of the session (mostly because they don't want to listen!!) and so we have temporarily paused this. I'm looking for inspiration on how to inject some teaching/discipleship into these sessions so that every young person who comes through the doors has an opportunity to hear the good news – to know they are loved and valued! • There is a lot of 'road man' (gang-ish) culture in Clevedon that does leak its way through to our youth groups at times. I have concerns about weapons, drugs and alcohol and have to manage good conversations around these things

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As always, a lack of volunteers continues to be a problem. If I'm to start up any new group, it would require more volunteers to help lead the groups.
<p>Plans over next 12 months</p>	<p>As I finish up my college course in Theology, Ministry and Mission, I'm really looking forward to getting back more time that I have been spending on assignments and lectures.</p> <p>With this time, I'm really hoping to start up a group for the year 7-9s. I think this will be a bible study/home group like Focus for the younger years.</p> <p>I'm also hoping, if the girls are interested, to make Cherished a weekly group, rather than monthly – this will depend on availability with GCSEs and A Levels in that group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An upcoming challenge is that Josh, the youth pastor at Clevedon Baptist Church is leaving, which will bring a lot of change on our end in terms of our joint groups, services and residentials. We have plans in motion around Satellites in August, but looking to residentials and youth church in the new year will take some re-thinking!
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As always, please pray for more volunteers – please pray about whether that might be you!! The more young people who come along, the more need we have for volunteers! • Please pray for me as I look to September with a new rhythm as I finish college and look to begin new groups – pray that God will guide me in which groups are needed, and perhaps where other groups might need to change. • Pray also for maintained relationships with the Baptist Church as Josh leaves and they look to find a replacement – there's so much good that comes from working together (for the youth and for us leaders) that it would be really great if this can continue in the new season at CBC

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Report Name	Music
Lead	Julian Sawyer
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<p>The worship group has continued to faithfully serve our church fellowship throughout 2026, preparing and leading music each week that supports a contemporary, engaging, and Christ-centred expression of worship. It has been especially encouraging to see our young adult musicians grow further in confidence, musical ability, and leadership. Their willingness to serve and their developing gifts have been a blessing to our congregation.</p> <p>We have also maintained our commitment to involving some of our church’s younger members by inviting them to join the group once a month. Whether singing or playing an instrument, they bring enthusiasm and fresh energy. This continues and provides a safe and friendly environment for children to explore worship ministry and grow in using their gifts for God’s Church.</p> <p>As always, we remain focused on selecting scripture-based songs and hymns that are fresh, inspiring, relevant to our congregation, and ultimately “singable” using the musical resources we have. We are deeply grateful to the Tech Team, who work faithfully behind the scenes each week—preparing projection slides, managing sound, and ensuring everything is ready for us to lead the sung worship.</p> <p>Some members of the group have now moved on, and we give thanks for their time with our fellowship and for their willingness to serve using their musical gifts. We pray God will bless them and their music ministry in their new locations.</p>
Challenges for the area of work	Achieving a level of commitment in the church’s music ministry that enables the group to grow its ‘pool’ of members, its musical skills and ability, and to provide a competent and confident lead in our church’s sung worship. Aiming to inspire joyful singing and not detract from our one focus on God throughout.
Plans over next 12 months	To improve our practice/rehearsal times. To develop more musical space and opportunities for improvisation within our times of sung worship.

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What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New members prompted to join, 'have a go' etc.• Confidence in our leading• Greater spirit-led freedom in congregational worship• Encouragement
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Report Name	Alpha
Leads	Rita & Ken Hipkiss
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/ changes etc	<p>11 people attended this years Alpha which we decided to run on a Sunday evening at 6 pm.</p> <p>This years course was quite different to previous ones held as all of those attending had a faith. It was a good refresher for everyone. Ten were from Christchurch and one person was from Yatton. As the course progressed we saw friendships formed and a real sense of connection between the participants. The discussions were all very positive and people’s faith was strengthened. We set up an Alpha WhatsApp group which made communication so much easier.</p> <p>Prior to Alpha starting we met with Nicola from Kenn Road Methodist church as they were keen to hold their first Alpha course. We shared our experiences of Alpha with her. It was decided we would join forces for the Holy Spirit day along with Yatton Methodist church. We had a blessed time together as the Holy Spirit ministered to people individually.</p> <p>We are hosting an Alpha reunion on the 26th April giving us an opportunity to see how everyone is progressing post Alpha.</p>
Challenges for the area of work/ plans over next 12 months	Listen to what Simon would like to see happen to Alpha in the future.
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	That Alpha would be promoted widely to anyone attending any of the groups at Christchurch. And us as individuals to invite our friends and neighbours to attend in the future.

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Report Name	Pastoral Care (including Befriending Ministry and Care Home Visits)
Lead	Heather Richards
Objectives of the ministry	To offer pastoral support and express the love of Christ by walking alongside those in our church or wider community who are struggling in a particular way.
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/ changes etc	<p>A team of 9 Pastoral Befrienders has continued to support members of the church and wider Christchurch community through visits to homes, care homes and phone calls. In some cases, transport has also been offered to some who are befriended.</p> <p>Support covers a range of needs including bereavement, illness, loneliness and isolation. The majority of those supported are seniors.</p> <p>The team has continued to meet quarterly for support, training and prayer.</p> <p>The ministry lead has attended training on topics such as faith in later life, dementia, shame and trauma.</p> <p>Holding crosses and booklets of bible verses and encouragement have been purchased to give to those who are befriended.</p> <p>Short informal services were held in three local care homes at Christmas and Easter. These were much appreciated by residents.</p>
Challenges for the area of work	Raising awareness of befriending ministry throughout the Christchurch community
Plans over next 12 months	<p>To increase support for those who care for a loved one</p> <p>To seek greater opportunities for spiritual support</p> <p>To create a new team of volunteers to provide meals on an occasional basis</p>
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue to seek God's will for the development of Pastoral Befriending at Christchurch • For more people to be supported through Pastoral Befriending • For more opportunities for spiritual care with those we support

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Report Name	Bereavement Support
Leads	Heather & Jim Richards
Objectives of this ministry	<p>To show the love of Christ by supporting all who have suffered loss whether recently or a long time ago, as they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek to accept the reality of the loss • Experience and work through the pain of grief, acknowledging all the feelings and emotions • Begin to adjust to an environment in which the dead person is missing <p>Find an enduring connection with the dead person whilst embarking on a new life</p>
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/ focus/ changes etc	<p>The team continue faithfully to support those who have been bereaved in the community and Church, seeking to share the love and compassion of Christ.</p> <p>We have run “The Bereavement Journey” twice in the last year, in April/May and Oct/Nov 2025. 23 people attended (with 18 finishers). The participants were largely from the community; both with and without a faith background. (note: the current course of 18 is not included in these stats).</p> <p>The Grieve Well Café has seen 36 different people attend; some only once, others regularly. Typically we have 9-10 guests monthly.</p> <p>We ran a “Remembering with Clay” workshop for 20 guests in February, as a pilot. This gave people the opportunity to think about and work through their grief in a practical and creative way and was well received by all.</p> <p>The Memorial Service in December 2025 seemed to be an especially meaningful time for those who came.</p> <p>We have registered for and achieved “Bereavement Friendly Church” status.</p>
Challenges for the area of work	<p>TBJ only saw women attending (although on the current course we do have two men participating). We are also seeing an increased number of people coming whose grief is complicated.</p> <p>RWC was popular, but did not draw anyone not already supported by our work or church members.</p> <p>BFC status encourages us to consider our training across other aspects of Church life, such as for our Welcome teams</p>
Plans over next 12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To run TBJ in January. • To run a two session RWC in the Autumn. • To continue to hold a Memorial Service and the monthly Café. • To be active in training and enabling bereavement support across the church.

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<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For the current 18 participants of TBJ• For wisdom on how to support men – can we offer something else/new?• For the developing work of the Café and RWC
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Report Name	Transforming Lives for Good
Lead	Emy Buxton
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/ changes etc	<p>We have been continuing to work in partnership with TLG to run Early Intervention coaching in two primary schools in Clevedon this year, St Nicholas Chantry and Yeo Moor.</p> <p>We currently have 3 coaches coaching children in St Nicholas Chantry and 3 coaches coaching in Yeo Moor. We have two coaches who are currently taking a break but hope to start coaching again in September. From September to December last year, one of our coaches also supported their coached child in their transition to starting Clevedon School.</p> <p>The coaches work alongside children in a school setting for one hour a week for one year. The coached children and their families experience encouragement and support from the coaches. All of the coaches are hugely appreciated by the schools. A teacher in one of the schools recently said, “TLG coaching has been invaluable in helping this child feel heard and has reduced outbursts in school significantly.”</p> <p>TLG have provided us with great resources and training for our coaching alongside forums online where we have been able to connect with other coaches. The TLG framework helps us to make sure that we are working in a safe way which is so important when working with vulnerable children.</p> <p>Last year, Christchurch was one of over 200 churches currently partnering with TLG. It's exciting to hear that Christchurch plays a part in this fantastic national movement.</p> <p>We look for opportunities to invite our TLG families and children to connect with Christchurch. On Monday nights we have The Fridge. It's a fun space for 7-11 year olds and our motto is “Have fun, be kind, learn about God”.</p> <p>We have around 24 children coming along each week. A third of those children have had or are having TLG coaching. The Fridge is working really well as a space for those children to connect with church – and invite their friends along to as well.</p>

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	<p>We also see children who had coaching in primary school but are now teenagers connecting with the youth sessions as well.</p>
<p>Challenges for the area of work</p>	<p>According to the Association for Young People’s Health, 1 in 10 children in the UK feel unable to cope with school day.</p> <p>Early Intervention coaching provides support for children who are struggling at school and there will always be more need for that support.</p>
<p>Plans over next 12 months</p>	<p>Our aim is to have at least 5 coaches in Yeo Moor and St Nicholas Chantry.</p> <p>We would like to invite more people to train as coaches and we look forward to sharing good news stories from our coaching with the church.</p> <p>We will be looking for opportunities to connect with the families of our coached children to offer support and encouragement and to invite them to join our Christchurch community.</p>
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<p>Please pray for our coached children that they will be encouraged by their coaching sessions and will build good relationships with their coaches. Through Early Intervention 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 our coaches that they will feel inspired and encouraged as they bring the light of God's love into our school communities and that new coaches will be inspired to join the team. We are thankful for those who are considering joining the coaching team.</p> <p>Please pray for the work of TLG as they have such a positive impact on the lives of so many children and families across the UK.</p>

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Report Name	Clevedon Town Chaplaincy (Market)
Lead	Anthony Parker
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaplains attended 4 hours weekly Thursday market and 2 hours monthly Saturday Farmers market with only few absences. • We affirm the presence of God in the world and His concern for every aspect of human life to people who do not necessarily have any kind of meaningful contact with a church. • Traders sharing big family issues recognising their trust in the chaplains and seeking prayer • Making available and giving out on request a free NLT bible • Handing out the real easter eggs and advent calendars to market traders at the appropriate time on behalf of CTIC
Challenges for the area of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough chaplains to cover other businesses effectively in Clevedon. • Competition with Jehovah’s Witnesses. • Time. • Uncertainty caused by the B and M development not being started by its required planning start date of 15 December 2025. • Concern that the new rents for the shops in Queen Square combined with the potential loss of free parking will reduce footfall to the markets and town centre generally and adversely affect trade.
Plans over next 12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seek awareness of this CTIC outreach and to encourage recruitment of new chaplains.
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Chaplains to come forward. • Good health of the chaplains and traders. • Help us to have good meaningful conversations raising peoples interest in God. • Good decisions regarding the provision of parking to facilitate trade

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Report Name	Uganda Concern UK
Lead	Terry Game
Objectives of this ministry/charity	To support the work of Uganda Women Concern Ministry (UWCM) in Mbale, eastern Uganda.
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus/changes etc	<p>We have continued to be blessed by the generosity of our supporters nationwide for which we are extremely thankful and every penny raised gets sent out to UWCM without any deductions. We have been the main funders of UWCM's work for several years now, and in order to ensure the sustainability of our support we have, reluctantly, had to slightly decrease the amount we are able to send for some of the projects.</p> <p>Terry and 2 other Trustees had a very worthwhile visit in January and were able to visit several projects which bore witness to the continued effectiveness of UWCM's work. We also had very useful meetings with the leaders and members of the churches at both Prayer & Porridge projects and encouraged them to take more ownership of these projects. As a result, they are now involving more church members and have promised to have a 'basket' (regular collection) for this work which will allow them to become more self-sustaining.</p> <p>Given below are examples of some of the projects we have funded during the last 12 months:</p> <p>Community work: Women's Groups are the core of UWCM's work and there is always a waiting list of groups to be trained in activities such as: microfinance, developing individual and group IGAs, hygiene and sanitation, women's rights, shelter construction and more. There are currently 75 groups, each with a minimum of 30 members and UWCM continually monitor these groups to ensure they continue to be effective within their communities.</p> <p>Sarah's Shelters': Women's Groups identify the most needy and vulnerable families within their communities who are in desperate need of shelter and apply to UWCM for help to construct a traditional home for them. Our funding buys the land, if necessary, plus the iron sheets for the roof, wooden doors/windows, nails, tools etc and members of the group provide all the labour and build a new shelter. This is an amazing example of showing love and compassion for</p>

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others as it is by no means easy to carry out this building work. Currently we fund 2-3 shelters each quarter but the waiting list is endless.

Education fund: In addition to providing basic scholastic materials to some of the most vulnerable children in various communities, we also fund individuals identified to us by UWCM who, without our support, would not be able to complete their education. Due to income restraints, we have sadly had to reduce the number of young people we sponsor and we are currently supporting 10 young people at primary, secondary and further education levels and we are always really encouraged when we receive their reports and can see how well they are doing.

Prayer & Porridge: We continue to fund 2 x P&P projects and each of these have a real impact on the lives of the children and young people who attend each Saturday. The aim of each Prayer & Porridge project is to provide support, counselling, prayer, Bible study, a nutritional meal, games & activities to very vulnerable children who, in the words of Pastor Matiya who runs Sakiya P&P, 'often have no love shown to them at home'. It gives the children a real sense of belonging and increases their feelings of self-worth and confidence.

Children's Conferences: We have been funding and taking part in these conferences for over 20 years and they continue to have a huge impact on the lives of the children who attend with many experiencing the love of Christ for the first time and committing their lives to Him. 100 children attended the Dec 2025/Jan. 2026 conferences and UWCM cover topics such as modern day slavery, people trafficking, gender based violence, drug & alcohol abuse, bullying, issues with social media – all topics which are generally not discussed openly at school or in homes. UWCM also run training sessions for parents/guardians which are always over-subscribed.

Water Filters: Last year we partnered with Water Matters, Sweden, whose mission is to bring clean, safe water to those in need around the world. Water Matters supply and ship the filters out to UWCM who then distribute them via the Women's Groups and give training on how to use and maintain the filters. If maintained properly, one filter can

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	<p>provide a family with safe water for approx. 15 years! By the end of last year, Water Matters had provided 120 filters with each filter, on average, providing safe water to 12 people ie 1,440 people now have access to safe water which is AMAZING! Water Matters have committed to provide 150 x filters each quarter during 2026 for which we are extremely grateful.</p> <p>In January we were able to visit some of the families who have received the filters and it was amazing to see for ourselves just what a blessing they have been to the family, and also to their neighbours who also come to filter their water.</p> <p>Full details of all of the above projects, plus details of other work we support, can be found on our website www.ugandaconcernuk.org</p>
<p>Challenges for the area of work</p>	<p>UWCM work in very remote areas of the Mount Elgon region where there is often little, or no other, support. As with the rest of the world, Uganda has experienced a sharp rise in the cost of living, fuel, high unemployment, teenage pregnancies, healthcare costs etc and the staff can sometimes struggle to keep up with demand and to prioritise needs.</p> <p>The Project Director of UWCM, Esther, is retiring in July and another staff member is also leaving which is creating uncertainty and worry for the remaining staff. Their Board of Trustees are currently seeking replacements and so we are trusting God that His will be done.</p>
<p>Plans over next 12 months</p>	<p>To continue to support UWCM both financially and also with advice and training to enable their work to grow and develop. We will, hopefully, be going back out in January 2027.</p>
<p>What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the current staffing issues: that a suitable replacement will be found for Esther and also for other staff vacancies. For wisdom and discernment for the Board of Trustees as they oversee the recruitment process. • That the staff would have wisdom to prioritise needs in often overwhelming conditions. • That UWCM will find additional sources of income to reduce their dependence upon external donors. • That we, as Trustees of UCUK, will have wisdom and guidance as the staffing issue at UWCM unfolds.

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Report Name	Care for Uganda
Lead	Deb Tovey
Objectives of this ministry/ charity	The charity, founded in 2001, works in the area around Bbowa which is north of Kampala. Its particular emphasis is on working with children and young people and part of its work is an ever-growing child sponsorship programme, alongside several health programmes. It is committed to working with local communities and with other agencies seeking to deliver the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in that part of Sub Saharan Africa. It believes in sustainable development and has adopted the slogan HANDS-UP NOT HANDS-OUT.
Summary of last 12 months – achievements/focus / changes etc	The last Trustee visit included visits to the schools of our sponsored children. These were showing signs of advancement in their education planning and provision. One secondary school now teaches new trade skills such as barbering, tailoring, metalwork and driving, so that students are leaving school with both educational and employability skills. Another school showcased its work with children with additional needs. The whole school is taught both verbally and using sign language. More schools are increasing in size to increase classroom size and suitability. Schools all reported that sponsored children maintain the highest levels of attendance and, in a country of high unemployment, have high levels of employment.
Challenges for the area of work	We celebrate our 25 th Anniversary in 2026. In those 25 years more than 300 children have completed the sponsorship programme and there are currently over 200 children in active sponsorship. But there are many, many more waiting to be sponsored so they can start school. WE NEED MORE SPONSORS!
Plans over next 12 months	5 of us from Clevedon, plus our CEO, are going to Uganda in June this year. We are planning to visit our sponsored children in their homes to check that they have a latrine, a tippy tap for hand washing, mosquito nets, washing lines and drying racks. We also hope to visit Clevedon School in Kampala, built and run by our ex-sponsored child, Godfrey.
What would you like us to pray about in relation to your work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That our trip isn't cancelled due to fuel shortages • That we find our sponsored children and families are well • That we have more new sponsors coming forward

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Report Name	Portishead Deanery Report 2025
Lead	Rob Norman (Lay Dean) Astrid Tiesema-Samsom (Co-Area Dean) Rob Eastwood Dewing (Co-Area Dean)
Summary of last 12 months	<p>We met, as usual, four times in 2025; two of the meetings (June and November) were deanery-wide meetings, open to anyone to attend, while the March and September meetings were full Synods.</p> <p>March – This Synod was held at Holy Trinity Nailsea and saw the approval of the 2024 Deanery accounts as well as an interesting talk by Jenny Hollingsworth, Bath & Wells Diocesan Secretary with the unusual opportunity to ask questions directly to the Diocese’s CEO.</p> <p>June – The venue for this Deanery-wide meeting was the Church of the Ascension, Keedwell. It was a very well-attended meeting and we heard a fascinating talk from Andrew Halestrap, the Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry at Bristol University. Andrew gave a talk called “Faith in Science” and spoke about the relationship between science and his Christian faith.</p> <p>September – The September Synod took place at St George’s Church Hall, Easton-in-Gordano, and provided an opportunity for Synod members to meet each other and encouraged good conversation. It also saw Caroline Edwards being introduced as the new Deanery Secretary as well as being the Portishead Co-Area Deans and Lay Dean’s PA, taking over from Rob Norman, who has been the Acting Deanery Secretary since Lesley Farrall resigned in September 2020. Caroline’s email address is <i>portishead.deanery1@gmail.com</i></p> <p>November – The venue for the November Deanery-wide meeting was St Mary’s, Walton and saw a riveting presentation by Mary Colwell, who is an environmentalist, author and producer who previously worked for the BBC Natural History Unit. The presentation was called “Conservation, Spirituality and Faith”, and made us think about wildlife conservation. The meeting also heard about the fact that St Michael & All Angels (Flax Bourton) had recently been awarded a Gold Award as an Eco Church from A Rocha.</p>

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	<p>We have enjoyed having Assistant Diocesan Secretary Peter Evans as our Deanery Accompanier and Claire Horton, the Bath Archdeaconry Deanery & Parish Adviser, has also been very helpful. The Deanery Mission & Pastoral Group has met every two months throughout 2025 while the Deanery Leadership Team has met every month, where possible.</p> <p>We want to express our gratitude to the clergy and officials of all the deanery churches for their hard work and commitment during this year, especially to those churches which have been in vacancy.</p>
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