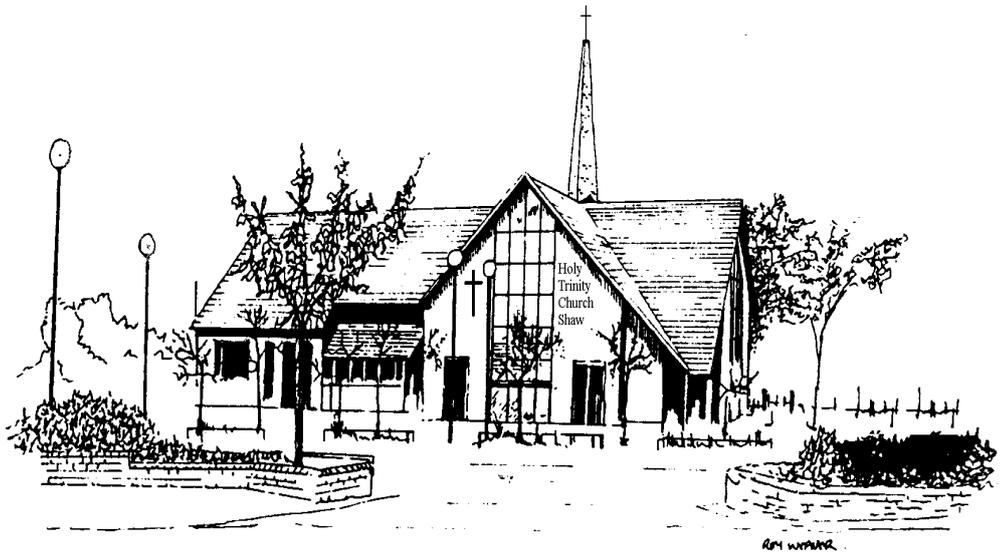


Holy Trinity Church, Shaw

in the West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church
Partnership

Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31st December 2016



Administrative Information

Holy Trinity Church, Shaw is one of four churches in the West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership, which comprises Baptists, Methodists, URC and Church of England.

The address is

Holy Trinity Church, Shaw Village Centre, Ramlease Drive, Swindon SN5 5PY

In accordance with the constitution of the Church Partnership, the government of the Church is the responsibility of the Church Committee.

Church Committee for 2016

Chair	Steve Kershaw
Church Wardens	Steve Kershaw & Sue Green
Treasurer	Sue Green
Secretary	vacancy
Other Elected Members	Janet Clark Ian Bryon Moira Webster
PC Representatives	Janet Clarke Sue Green Steve Kershaw

Structure, Governance and Management

The Church is a charity as part of the Church Partnership which is registered with the Charity Commission (1141341). The church committee members are elected as specified in the Church constitution.

Objectives and Activities

The aims and objectives of Holy Trinity Church, Shaw are to build a community of God's people to take the love of God in action and God's word to the community. It is also to provide a facility for groups serving the community in Shaw.

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

The average attendance over 2016 was 34 adults and 8 children. These figures include Partnership Services and Messy Church. The number of members is 28, There was only one homegroup meeting regularly with an average attendance of around 6.

Review of the Year

Last year I had stated it had been a year of “Family” and I believe we have continued to build on that Foundation, even though we went through various changes. However although the progress is down to the efforts of you all there are several people I feel I must pick out..

First the feedback I have had from members about the structure of our services and the simple fact that each sermon / service feels like a follow on from the previous and that we are NOT jumping from one area to another has been a blessing to many of you. This does not come by luck but by the hard work of the “WEG” team, and within this team I must in particular say thank you to Mark, Ian and Gayle, although everyone in that team is crucial to their success and to the well being of not only our Church but the partnership as a whole as the material they produce is also used in the services of our sister Churches.

Then there is the work with children & young people we as a Church are involved with, be that School work, Messy Church or Emerge. These activities are Partnership ones but the vast majority of helpers are from Shaw—so it is “mainly ours”!! As some of you may know Remix part of Emerge has stopped because they were not able to get the additional help they needed but I am sure that their efforts with the young people will bear fruit in the years to come. Messy Church continues to do well but numbers do vary from month to month. I am aware that there is a group looking at how this area can grow so expect to hear some changes in 2017. School Work goes from strength to strength and the reputation of Gayle and her team in the community is now second to none and Schools are even coming to her asking if she can help. There are many from our Church that are involved but trying to be specific Gayle, Ian, Mark, Sarah, Sue, Rebecca, Mavis, Freda, Marie, Chris, Tony, Wendy and Janet (if I have missed anyone out please forgive me)

Committee (Myself, Ian, Sue, Janet and Moira) continues to ensure that repairs are done, we pay the bills, we keep to whatever legality we have to, that we remain solvent!! etc. In addition some of these meetings are joint with WEG which has given us greater clarity of vision which was one of the things we had been trying to achieve in 2016. That vision, with the agreement of Clive, is really around children and young people’s work as our Church premises is used for so many of the

activities and that so many of our congregation are already involved. In fact each of sister Churches also have a vision in one area or another so that between us we try and ensure all areas and needs are covered. This does not mean that Children and Young People's work is the only area of concern, as we can never be blind to the needs of others and we will assist in whatever ways we can. We must remember we are a partnership and our overall aim is to do the best for the people and community of West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church partnership.

Perhaps one of the happiest times of the year was the marriage of Andrew and Beth who are known to many of you-- and I believe they had 2 events one in the UK and the other in Zimbabwe!.

We have also during the year got rid of the old dais and have brought a modular one—which can change shape if need be. This has been appreciated by the schools that use our premises and some of the other users as well. The only criticism was it may not be big enough and needs 2 steps, by the time you read this note that will no longer be the case!!

Perhaps the last thing I will say is that after losing Peter from Angus Close back in 2015 I was concerned how the others from there might be effected. I should have had more faith and it does warm my heart to see them all at Church as they are as important as anyone else, and in many ways they are better than us in bringing in new people to learn about God, as their helpers are not always of the Christian faith, or of any faith.

We are a family and a family that has had challenges through the year and have come out stronger. 2017 will I believe be a year of Challenges as we may be asked to do or try things that we have not done before. If this does happen all I would ask is that you consider is this what God is asking you to do or to consider, pray seeking guidance and he will answer.

God Bless

Steve Kershaw

Chair of Committee

Worship Report

The WEG group of Gayle, Ian, Janet and Mark continue to meet once every quarter or so to look ahead and plan for the worship at Holy Trinity. We look at ways in which we can ensure Sunday worship glorifies God, and at the same time builds up all those who come along. There is also planning for those special Christian festivals such as Easter, Harvest, Remembrance and Advent. Since we are also part of our Partnership family, we meet on a quarterly basis with the other worship leaders and planners across the four churches, under Clive's direction, to plan together as well as exchange ideas and fellowship with each other. We also meet on occasion with the Committee, to share ideas and support each other.

As a reminder, generally the Sunday worship leaders are pulled together from Clive and Trevor as our Anglican ministers, the Partnership team leaders, the Methodist Circuit ministers and lay readers, and then “gaps and spaces” in the calendar are filled by the Holy Trinity team and others from around the Partnership. We are thankful for the care and support from Clive, Trevor, Mike Dilley, Andy Bissex, Richard Williams and others in leading worship at HTS.

In order to help structure and give continuity to the worship, this year we made a change from using Scripture Union material, and instead used material taken from a book entitled “We make the road by walking”, which is a book by a US minister, Brian McLaren. This gave themes, suggested readings and ideas for services, and was a useful tool for building worship.

During October, we once again used a shared resource across the Partnership, and this year looked at the life of Moses, and how God worked with him and through him. Having such a shared resource helps build on the sense of community the four churches have with each other, and it was good to know we shared in a common theme together. This finished with a Partnership service bringing it all together.

Advent was its usual busy time, with the church building being used not just by HTS and the Partnership, but once again it was host to Brookfield School in their end of year nativity, as well as a shared Partnership nativity and carol service. Once again, we give grateful thanks to Gayle for her preparation and enthusiasm, and thank all who helped with the children’s nativity – not only was it fun for the children and adults who were involved, but as a form of outreach it brought in many parents, guardians, grandparents and families to celebrate the birth of Jesus and gave an opportunity to share our faith in a non-threatening and joyful manner.

So, what about 2017? Well, this year we are using the Psalms as our theme maker for the year. Each Sunday will bring a new psalm, within various “themes”, such as “God the Creator” and “God the redeemer”, and to those Psalms will be linked an Old or New Testament reading, and a Gospel reading. There’s a lot of different themes in the Psalms, and some very challenging “stuff” – so it is our hope that they will enrich our worship this year.

Worship is meant to glorify God, and to build up His people; it is also an opportunity for us to look outwards at the community around us and challenges us to be more inclusive. As we continue on into 2017, our prayer is that these things will be true for us. WEG is not meant to be exclusive either – if you would like to be more involved in planning worship, please let us know, we would love to have you join us!

Mark Taylor

Building Report

We replaced the old dias with lovely new modular staging which we have plans to extend further. Appeals meant a lot of the cost was met by donations.

Other maintenance included lettering replacement, lightbulbs, hall speaker repair and drain smell problems and unblocking of gutter downpipe as well as boiler and emergency lighting & fire alarm and extinguishers servicing. New fire door mechanisms were ordered but not installed yet. Cleaning has been a lot more reliable this year and we have got a feminine hygiene bin contract now as the building is being used more.

Sue Green

Message from Rev Capt Clive Deverell

Same place, same time next year.

Actually but it might be, but in reality you won't be in the same place if you look at where you are now, are you in the same place you were last year?

Have you been involved, in Schools work, Pastoral work, Messy Church, Committees, Home Groups, leading worship, offering hospitality and serving and leading not only in Shaw but across the partnership? Yes you have!

You are not in the same place because God has a tendency to do with us things we least expect, and your experience now is telling you just that.

I have the pleasure of sharing my ministry with you and the growth and depth in your faith and commitment to each other and the partnership is immense and greatly appreciated.

I would also like thank the Churchwardens, Steve and Sue, Weg, and all of you, you do an enormous amount of work behind the scenes and I am immensely grateful for your level of commitment and prayerful support for myself, my wider family and the Partnership.

So as I look back, we have a lot to be grateful for, and now we have a little bit more financial security with Prudence (ok Sue) thankfully in time this will enable us to expand ministry further and look to do some things with the building we might need to do.

With all good wishes and thanks for our partnership in the Gospel. Clive??????

Clive

Across the Years

Junior Church

This has continued to meet twice a month. The number of children is still very low generally only 1 to 3. This was led by Janet Clarke and Marie Chorley.

God.com

God.com has provided a Sunday morning group for young people twice a month, though it was generally a only a couple attending each session. This was led by Angela Mak with help from Mavis McLaughlin and others.

External Mission Links

BMS World Mission

SYFC

Filling Station

We have continued to make sandwiches around 3 times a year to be handed out to the homeless on a Thursday evening at a local town centre car park. We also donated the gifts from our Harvest service.

All 3 charities received £540 each as our 10% giving to further God's work locally, nationally & internationally.

Financial Review

Church giving was up a little with some very welcome increases in planned giving - thank! Rental income increased considerably. This was mainly due to the Portuguese Seventh Day Adventist church renting our building regularly since April and also Acorns increasing its usage as well. Because of this extra income and an appeal we were able to buy new modular staging. The Partnership very kindly bought a new projector which we get to use a lot.

Future plans include varnishing the hall floor (one day!), replacing fire door mechanisms (ordered), replacing the boiler timers to make them easier to set, increasing the staging, possibly renewing the stain on the external woodwork and other remedial work on this and creating a new worship area entrance with the post box fire door, as well as keeping on top of general maintenance as it arises.

Summary of Accounts

	Forecast 2016	Actual 2016	Forecast 2017
General Fund Income			
Planned Giving plus tax	15,900	15,751	16,400
Collections etc	1,400	1,415	1,200
Rental	13,600	19,061	18,100
General Fund Outgo			
Partnership Share	13,200	13,200	15,000
Church outgo	2,600	2,205	2,500
Building outgo	15,100	12,659	21,800
Surplus/(Deficit)	0	8,163	(3,600)
General Fund at year end	9,122	18,468	15,181
Building Fund Income	0	2,900	0
Building Fund Outgo	0	1,900	0
Building Fund at year end	178	1,178	1,178

Reserves Policy

Budgets are set so as to allow for some unforeseen maintenance costs. The committee have agreed that it would not want the general fund to drop below £4500 and so would reduce the Partnership share if this were to happen.