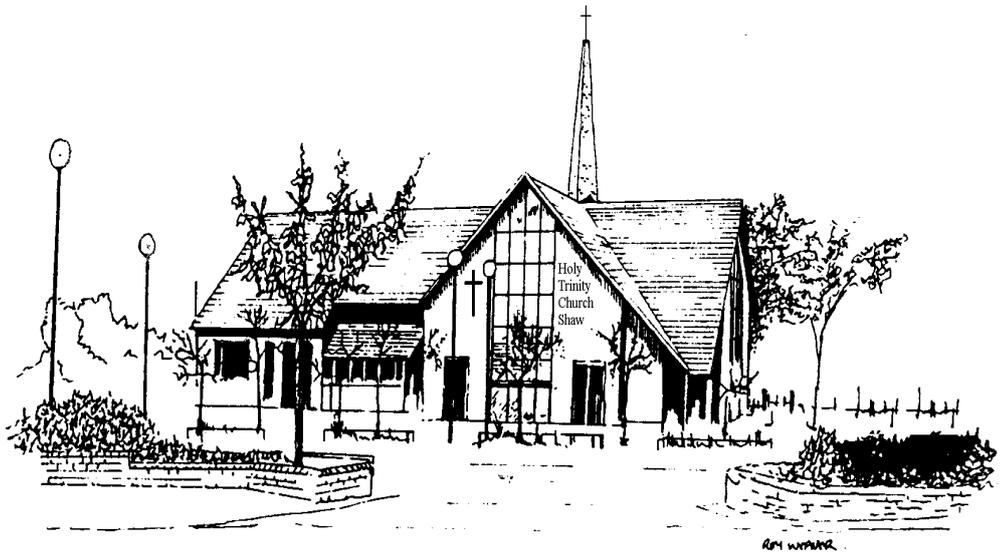


Holy Trinity Church, Shaw

in the West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church
Partnership

Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31st December 2018



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 2018

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 service attendance over 2018 was 32 adults and 4 children. These figures include Partnership Services, Encounter and Messy Church. There was Morning Prayer held on Fridays in term time which had an average attendance of 4. The number of members is 30. There was only one homegroup meeting regularly with an average attendance of around 6.

Review of the Year

So, what was 2018 like for us? This has been a challenging year. We are a small Church but we are able to keep going thanks to the hard work of all of you, and we need this to continue in 2019.

There are so many to thank in so many areas so please forgive me if I forget anyone. When it comes to our day to day worship it is really the “WEG”(Worship enabling group) team, with Gayle, Ian, Mark, Sarah, Janet, Angela. Not only does this team prepare our services and take them, they are also doing services elsewhere within the partnership and sometimes further afield. If you add that Ian, Gayle and Angela are doing additional “training” within the Church and they all have jobs it is truly amazing what they accomplish, and I am sure on behalf of us we give them our heart warm thanks.

The fact that our services have a coherent structure and are linked together, and the quality of teaching is so good has been so good and I am sure we have learnt a lot which has brought us closer to God. Then of course we have started the journey of Holy Habits. This I hope is something we should all embrace, the purpose is for us to get a closer relationship with God, to learn, to be able to tell our story with us, to see how we can live a life that is closer to what God would want of us, be that in our Private lives, our Church life, our Partnership life, but just as important how our lives interact with non-Christians. Throughout Holy Habits information will be offered to you and I strongly recommend that you take it.

The one obvious change this year has been our new Kitchen which seems to have met with universal approval. Our thanks go to Rebecca and Sue who did a nice bit of painting and to Wendy for getting us a good deal!! Also, our thanks to Ivan for the gift of the New Cooker, I can say with personal experience I was glad to see the old one gone as I could now close the bottom oven door with no problem which helped me with preparing breakfast at the Nativity Service.

The Nativity service, which was a Partnership service, was once again a great success and was enjoyed by worshipers and parents alike, and once again thanks to Gayle, Ian and a lot of others from Shaw that formed the team to put on the production—it was great to see the Church full and people enjoying themselves.

The other major purchase during the year was for the new Hymn books, a little bit thicker but with a few new Hymns in there

The Church has continued to be used by the Portuguese Church on Saturdays and continues to be used for things such as Zumba, the local vets etc. We were sad to see Acorns Preschool close after so many years, but we are hoping that a new Preschool may come in during early 2019. It is my belief that the Church is part of its community and it is a joy to me, and I know many others, to see it used by the community.

We must not forget the people who do things on the quiet, all those that willingly do the Welcome, those that do the coffees, people like Chris on the sound system, Val who is there week in week out playing the piano, Moira who helps so many with their needs outside of Church, Sue as Treasurer, Rebecca as booking Secretary, the committee members, Freda helping out with the washing up in Messy Church, which leads into our Partnership work.

Shaw is heavily involved with Partnership work with Children and Youth of all ages be that Messy Church (Thanks again to Marie, Chris, Freda, Mavis and others from Shaw), Schools work including Open the book (Led by Gayle but with others such as Sue, Sarah and Rebecca) and finally our work with Emerge. It is clear that there are many within Shaw that have a heart for working with Children of whatever age or whatever ability.

Next year we have some large expenses as we need to look at the beading for the windows in the front and side of the Church and that will include the hiring of scaffolding and there is some additional work as well, all of which has come out of our Quinquennial report. The Partnership will have challenges around its finances and your prayers in that area would be greatly appreciated.

You will notice that I have quoted a lot of things that are done and I am sure you will see that some names are mentioned more than once, if you have the time, the heart, the calling to help out the let myself, or any member of the committee or "WEG" teams know. But above all continue to be that loving, welcoming, spirit driven people that I know you are so we can in some small way bring God's kingdom to this area of Swindon we call home.

God Bless

Stephen Kershaw
Chairperson of HTS Committee

Worship Enabling Group report 2018/19

I've never been particularly keen on the name "Worship Enabling Group" as it seems a bit dry and frankly dull, and worship is supposed to be joyful and even sometimes exciting!

However, it's the name we have, and it does do what it says on the tin. We are there to enable worship, and worship is everything that we do within (and sometimes without) the church building to glorify our one God, in the person of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and to learn about God, His Word through the bible, and to build each other up in fellowship and friendship, and to share the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to bring more people in to His church. There's a lot of "and"s in there. And that is because there is more to worship than simply singing some songs and saying some prayers; there is also some (fairly careful)planning that goes into ensuring that there is someone to lead worship every Sunday, and that we ensure that we celebrate special times in the church calendar and give some shape and structure to what happens on most Sunday mornings.

A lot of what we have focussed on this past year has been building up to "Holy Habits" that launched for us in the autumn, but for which we'd done some pre-planning and also some "tasters" before the actual HH started. To quote from the Holy Habits website, :

The call to Christian discipleship is a call to adventure. Holy Habits explores this adventure through a rich mix of biblical material and inspiring stories. The life-giving, transforming role of ten habits seen in Acts 2 are re-imagined for personal and community life today. The ten habits are: biblical teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayer, giving, service, eating together, gladness and generosity, worship and the making of more disciples.

Using the HH material helps to give worship leaders a pattern and guideline for service preparation and helps WEG plan! We will continue to use this material this year, and we have found it to be encouraging and even sometimes exciting! WEG have also planned for those special festivals like Easter and Christmas, including our annual nativity event, which alongside the schools' engagement lead by Gayle Bryon are, in my opinion, the best form of outreach to children and their families that we do.

WEG also meets with the HTS committee (some members are in both groups!) and also with people from the Partnership, not just to ensure we have communication and understanding, but to build up the relationship between the 4 churches in the Partnership, which is very important, as we are better together than apart.

WEG thanks all those who serve us all in leading worship, from within and without

the Partnership, and also for faithful servants of God like Val, who turn up week in and week out to ensure we have music to sing with. We are also more than happy if anyone from the membership at HTS would like to join with us in planning the worship through the year. New voices and ideas are always welcome. We also ask for your prayers over the next year, both giving thanks to God for his blessings to us as a church and partnership, but that He would guide us to worship Him with joy, with expectation, with humbleness and with love for each other: and with a sense of adventure! Let's share that adventure with each other with our God to lead us.

Mark Taylor

Building Report

This year we have done quite a lot of work on the building. A new kitchen was installed, and the Acorns room, servery, kitchen and front entrance all were painted. The outside letters that had fallen off were replaced again. The boiler, fire alarms and emergency lighting continued to be serviced. Following an insurance revaluation, we arranged for the lightning conductor to be tested and then repaired and also had an electrical installation inspection. The repair work to this is still ongoing but new light fittings had been put in the toilets and a new outside light has been fitted and a few minor electrical faults have been fixed. A few of the mcb (fuses) still need to be replaced. The quinquennial happened late in the year. There may be some external window beading repairs needed once the report is received.

Sue Green

Message from Rev Capt Clive Deverell

“All the believers were together and had everything in common” Acts 2:44

Your report gives you a snapshot of what it means to belong to the community of your Church and fellowship. The many different ways in which we engage with one another and the wider community, as we seek to live out our faith in Christ Jesus. Some of which I have been part of others not.

I hope that this report provokes you to think more widely, I ask that because I am having to myself, on what it means to be together in our Churches but also as a partnership, what is it we have in common.

For many of you this year has been a bit of a roller coaster sometimes difficult with illness and bereavements, (remembering especially Tony and Christine). Contrasted with the joys of engagements, graduations, twins, confirmations, a new curate and a new kitchen.

Beginning Holy Habits is an important part of our future and already the first fruits are evident, a desire to learn and discover how we might be more holy and habitual in our discipleship is already apparent. As ever I am grateful to you all for your kindnesses to us as a family and your support from the wardens Sue and Steve, to you all, my deepest thanks

Our challenge will be to read this your report and reflect how many others helped deliver that event or activity, in our own context here at HTS and wider. God is moving! how can we join in here and expand and join in God's Mission, here and across the partnership but also where are we being prompted to, seriously put our limited resources. Clive

Across the Years

Junior Church

There has not been much demand this year, but Janet & Marie have provided resources in case it is needed.

God.com

God.com has provided a Sunday morning group for young people twice a month, with 2-3 attending each session. This was led by Angela and Mavis.

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 £665 each as our 10% giving to further God's work locally, nationally & internationally.

Financial Review

Church giving was up a bit this year due to increases in giving, some people moving to planned giving from collections and others making up for reduced 2017 giving. Rental income was up a bit. Unfortunately Acorns Preschool has to close so we lost the Autumn term rent but we have picked up a couple of new users and kept the others.

Our plan for all of our church giving to go in tithing, Partnership share and essential church related items happened (including purchasing new hymn books), so the building costs including utilities and increased maintenance etc came out of rental income. And we were able to use up some of our reserves (both general and building) to put in a new kitchen.

Spending plans for 2019 include further maintenance work and then increasing our giving to the Partnership. There are still desires to improve the worship area entrance and the general building appearance.

Summary of Accounts

	Forecast 2018	Actual 2018	Forecast 2019
General Fund Income			
Planned Giving plus tax	17,800	19,012	18,175
Collections etc	1,200	939	1,000
Rental	16,300	20,147	16,875
General Fund Outgo			
Partnership Share	15,500	16,000	16,500
Tithing	1,890	1,995	1,900
Church outgo	710	853	770
Building outgo	23,200	27,914	22,500
Surplus/(Deficit)	(6,000)	(6,664)	(5,620)
General Fund at year end	13,893	13,185	7,565
Building Fund Income	0	0	0
Building Fund Outgo	0	1,178	0
Building Fund at year end	1,178	0	0

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.