Annual meetings *at* St Timothy's

St Timothy's Church

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Saturday 16 May 2026

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Report from Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Aidan Melville, Vice chair of PCC

Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labour in vain.

Psalm 127: 1a (New Revised Standard Version)

There is a beautiful line in the liturgy we sometimes use at our all-age worship service: 'We are not a cosy club. We are the body of Christ.' What a privilege it is for us all to be part of God's church, and what a responsibility it is for its leaders to do so with wisdom, confidence and grace.

In writing this report I had the slight advantage of reading through what others had written – a privilege I shouldn't enjoy, but one that I had for missing the original submission deadline! What struck me was the breadth and depth of our ministry here at St Timothy's over many years. We should take heart in the fact that we are proficient at what we do, and we pray that it is a blessing to those within our worshipping community and beyond.

From our long-established Tuesday Social and Wednesday Lunch Clubs, through to the more recent initiatives like Forest Church, celebrating its third anniversary this year; the hard work and grind, the sourcing and training volunteers, the administration and resourcing of ministry carries on week in week out. There is much activity, and much to celebrate.

Our calling though is deeper than the things we do. We serve Christ's body, which is the Church (in its broadest sense), and also the community in which we are placed. And while we, who are trusted in positions of leadership and responsibility at St Timothy's, are grateful for the gift of serving, we also acknowledge that this work is not ours. It belongs to God. If we lose sight of that, we labour in vain. We are not a cosy club. We are the body of Christ.

And it is, hopefully, in that spirit that our wider leadership team – our PCC, churchwardens, focal ministers and ministry leaders – have operated in the last twelve months.

Since our last annual meeting we have undergone a period of significant change. In August last year we said farewell to Rev Will Briggs, our vicar here and oversight minister for the wider benefice, as he laid down service here to seek where God might be leading him and Gill (his wife) next. We are grateful to Will for the time he spent here, and for the work he did to establish a functioning focal ministry team that has guided us during the ensuing vacancy.

We have also, as a PCC, been implementing a new governance structure, which aims to simplify and give greater transparency to the way that we make key decisions as a church. This is still a work in progress, and we have learned along the way from things that haven't quite gone to plan. Our church programme team, one of the new committees that was formed as part of the new governance structure, is still taking shape. Our fundraising and communications team has met only once, instead of the four times we anticipated. And there are items on the PCC forward plan that haven't fully been realised – the creation of a risk register for the church as one example.

Much good has happened though! Our Estates and Development Team has hit the ground running, continuing the work of its predecessor – the Operations Team Meeting. Our Standing Committee – has met most months to ensure the wheels of governance continue to turn (even if the whole vehicle isn't quite there yet!) And our new 'link' groups – providing designated a churchwarden, PCC member and focal minister for each ministry area – are starting to take shape.

The PCC's biggest task this year was to kickstart the process of recruiting, in partnership with the PCC at The Vine, a new oversight minister for our benefice, who will also be our vicar. The PCC nominated James Saunders and Di Rogers to be our parish representatives, and with that delegated significant responsibility for developing a vacancy profile, shortlisting candidates and determining the format of the interviews. These are no small tasks, and as a PCC we are grateful to them for all that they have done and (at the time of writing) continue to do.

A key role of each PCC member is to be a trustee for the charity, which comes with a range of legal and statutory responsibilities. These include safeguarding, financial management and ensuring we stay aligned to our charitable objectives. In our efforts to further recognise the importance of safeguarding we have appointed Di Rogers, in addition to her role as churchwarden, as the deputy safeguarding officer, to support Siobhan Melville in her capacity of Parish Safeguarding Officer. To further undergird our commitment to safeguarding we have made it the first item of business at every meeting of the PCC and the Standing Committee. We have also instigated a more rigorous stance towards ensuring safeguarding standards, asking anyone whose DBS or safeguarding training has lapsed to step back from service until either or both are completed.

From a financial point of view, we are managing to stay solvent, but in doing so we have reduced our common fund contribution – the money that we send to the diocese to pay for clergy and their continued training, and other support services.

Serving on the PCC is a significant commitment, and as the vice-chair I am grateful to every member. There are two people specifically that I would like to thank for their contributions: Tom Anderson and Fiona Thevasagaym, both of whom stepped

down from PCC during the course of the year, but not before making a huge contribution to our meetings and wider discussions.

This report a snapshot of only some moving parts in the engine of St Timothy's. As a church, are a work in progress – and that is definitely true of our leadership structures. If we are to move forward, pressing into what God is doing in and around the world around us, we must ensure we are doing so in his strength, not our own, and aligned to his purposes, not our own. I am conscious that much of what we do falls to a dedicated core group of people, who deserve our thanks and whose reward is in heaven. That said, we must avoid falling into the trap of complacency.

As we look towards the coming twelve months, let us pray for a renewed sense of purpose. Let us pray for our new church vision, as mentioned in the focal ministers report below, to be fully realised, and not just words of aspiration. Let us pray for new leaders and volunteers to come forward, and for bold imaginations as we seek God's kingdom in our parish its surrounds. Let us commit further to allow God to shape us, and to grow us not just in number but in spiritual depth. Let our Lord build this house.

Focal Ministry Team

Jenny Holt, Focal Minister

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:19

The last year has been a time of change at St Tim's. Following Will's departure, our roles as Focal Ministers have become different, even as we were still working out what those roles should be.

Our main aim this year has been to ensure that as a church we do not lose focus and spend this time 'waiting for the new vicar'. Rather we have wanted to reflect on who we are, what we are here for, and encourage the work that happens at St Tim's to build God's kingdom.

After working with Will on a vision statement for the church, we thought in more depth about this over a series of sermons in the autumn. We held the first of the Church Programme Team meetings (the ministry and mission part of the new governance structure) in October, and the first of our Mission Action Planning sessions for the year on 16 May. We've also supported Di and James as our Parish

Reps in the process of creating the Parish Profile and working with The Vine to fill the current vacancy.

David T has taken the lead in planning Sunday services, supported by Kate and Jenny with organising cover and leading and preaching. David C continues to be a warm and welcoming presence and lead on pastoral care. We've also run an Alpha course through Lent and Easter with support from many others with meals, leading, facilitating and praying.

We have had, and continue to have, a great deal of support and assistance from Canon Toby Hole, Director of Mission and Ministry at Church House. Each of us had our annual review with Toby earlier this year.

We feel it is an immense privilege to be part of a church like St Tim's and know that so many of you contribute to what goes on here. There's work that goes into one off events, such as the Christmas Tree Festival, Summer Fair, prayer days, Alpha and fundraising for the heating, as well as all those who volunteer for rotas on Sundays, and for the various other groups that happen during the week. We are all called to be part of God's family, and part of building His kingdom, and we love to see everyone joining in with that work.

The verse at the top from Isaiah is a reminder that God is also at work, and that it is when we walk in step with Him that we can be part of what He's doing. While we do not know what the next year or new oversight minister may be like, we do know that these are times of change. We trust that God can make new and different life spring up in any situation, and that as we fix our hearts on Him, we'll be able to perceive where He is doing a new thing.

Churchwardens' report

Jack Hiscock and Di Rogers, Churchwardens

I was re-elected for a seventh year back in 2025 and was gladly joined by Di Rogers, who despite having been in the role not 6 years before decided that once wasn't enough and came on board as my warden-in-crime. It has been a pleasure to work alongside her and I hope she has also enjoyed her first year having to deal with me!

The inventory of church requites is constantly reviewed across the year and a stocktake was carried out against the holdings during the early part of 2026. We are pleased to report that nothing is missing or has been further damaged. On review of our archival paperwork we also have a better understanding of how some of the items came into church possession which is always helpful. The day-to-day management of the fabric of our church continues to be undertaken by Kate Rogers-Kay (Estates and Hall Manager) who's unending patience with builders and tradesmen remains a constant source of amazement to me. Siobhan Melville (Parish

Administrator and Safeguarding Officer) continues to play a key and central role in the running of the church and seems to have a staggering amount of patience for the forgetful churchwardens. To them we offer our unending thanks and appreciation.

The Operations Team (now also known as 'Yellow Team' for those following our church governance reorganisation) was reformed after the APCM in 2025 and tasked to continue the running of St Timothy's from a practical point of view. We team has always included both wardens, Siobhan, Kate, and the assistant church wardens (who this year remained as Richard Turner and Peter Wigglesworth) who also continue to play such an important supporting role to us as churchwardens. We thank them both for their support across the year. We were also pleased this year to be joined by Nick Cocking who showed an interest in the building and so was promptly told he now had to join us. His participation and voice in the meetings has been incredibly helpful and warmly received and we hope to have him continue with us. A church hall committee was also set up and run during the year with a real focus on the church hall to ensure that it remains an asset to us and can continue to be rented out.

So, there was work undertaken on the building and the church hall during 2025. Some of it was probably unnoticed by the congregation (we hope!) but it has been important to keep you and the building safe. One of our largest outgoings besides the Common Fund and Salaries remains the upkeep of the building so please do remember that was you think about your church giving. Work undertaken was:

- The painting of various parts of the church and the hall
- The hall toilets have been retiled
- An asbestos survey has been carried out across site
- The church combi hot water boiler was repaired
- The annual knotweed inspection took place
- The water heater in the accessible toilet in the church hall was replaced
- Fittings in the church hall were replaced (e.g. curtains, lights, locks)
- Two lights were replaced with LED versions in the Vicar's Vestry
- The gas meter was removed from the Club Hut to allow removal works to take place
- A new fire alarm sensor was installed in the Cherith Prayer room
- The external light outside the church kitchen window was replaced
- The tap on the water boiler was replaced
- The small safe in the church office was replaced
- Roof work was carried out – the gutters, gulleys, and hoppers were cleared and lead flashing replaced
- PAT testing was carried out across site

- The organ was tuned
- The boilers were serviced and the church combi boiler fixed

Future Developments

The removal of the 'club hut/executive suite' to the rear of the church had been considered during 2025, but now with confirmation from our insurers regarding our plans, work to remove the eyesore will be carried out by a small but expert team during the Spring/Summer of 2026 (no one wants to do that in the rain). The asbestos under the nave was reviewed and is felt to be safe in situ. We will have to consider it when we launch into underfloor heating, but please be assured that for now we believe it to be fine. There will be further work carried out as part of the ongoing building project, which I believe is being discussed elsewhere in this report pack.

We expect to have the repair of the lighting alongside church completed during 2026, having begun it earlier in the year but being delayed due to poor weather. Dependent on the outcome of the 2026 knotweed inspection, Northern Powergrid still intend to build a little house for the substation on the back field. This will mean the substation is moved slightly but otherwise I believe the footprint is largely similar. It won't affect the usage of the area, but will make it more safe.

Services

Di and I would like to also thank all our service volunteers who are involved in all aspects of our church services. This includes (but not restricted to): the Sunday Welcome Team (sidespersons!), all those who are on the coffee rota – (thanks to those who step up at very short notice as well!), those who write and read our intercessions and prayers during and after the service, all our scripture readers, sound technicians, visual technicians (who had to learn how to use Youtube as well), all those in the worship team, communion servers (who I forgot in the report last year) and everyone who helps deliver our youth and children's provision. Thanks also to those who lead our services and those to deliver our weekly teaching on the love and joy that God brings us all.

We are always short of volunteers, especially on the coffee rota and welcome teams. If you would like to join any of the teams, please do consider where you may feel useful and let either the wardens or Siobhan or Kate know so we can add you to the rota.

Final Thoughts and Thanks

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me' (Matthew 25:40)

We remain incredibly grateful for all the work that our paid staff undertake – the work previously mentioned undertaken by Siobhan and Kate, but also our church cleaners, Allie Kinneavy and Lynn Wright, Esther Gratze who works with Kate in our Children's Provision, Alex Townsend with our Youth, and our Wednesday Lunchtime cook, Natalie Sorby. Thanks also go to Jackie Kieran and the Vine and George Boylin for running our finances so effectively. Without them, the church finances would be in a much more problematic place. As a church we need to understand that we also have a massively wide-ranging set of volunteers who take up many jobs within the church and possibly will not get thanked within this set of reports – we thank you too!

P.S. Because she always thinks we forget – Kate replaced loads of lightbulbs during the year. An important facet of her work!

Electoral roll

Siobhan Melville, Electoral Roll Officer

This year one person has left the roll, two have joined. The total number on the roll is 88.

Safeguarding

Siobhan Melville, Parish Safeguarding Officer

The PCC has complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

The Safeguarding policy was reviewed and adopted by PCC on 23 June 2025.

Safeguarding has been on every PCC, agenda during the year.

Staff and volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults (or supervising those who do) have completed safeguarding training and DBS checks throughout the year. These are renewed every three years.

We have liaised with the Diocesan safeguarding team as necessary through the year.

Deanery Synod

James Saunders and Stacey Renshaw, Deanery Synod Representatives

Deanery synod is a statutory representative body in the Church of England that connects parishes within a specific deanery to the wider diocese. It consists of clergy and elected lay members who discuss Diocesan initiatives and vision, local

church issues and form a bridge between PCCs and the Diocesan Synod. We have convened three times over the past year as a joint Ecclesfield and Hallam Deanery Synod as well as being invited to an additional meeting from the Diocese's Strategic Programme Team to update churches on the refreshed Diocesan Strategy, recently secured funding and what this means for Ecclesfield and Hallam Deaneries and to the annual Bishops' Roadshow event.

We have heard from the Sheffield Diocesan Advisory Group for Healing and Wholeness, the Diocese of Sheffield's Racial Justice Officer and the Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry.

We also receive a report from the general synod.

Next year voting will take place for general synod which runs on a five-year cycle. For more information on this see the Church of England website

Children and Families

Kate Rogers-Kay, Children's Minister

Glow

Glow is our Sunday morning children's provision, that runs from 1-11 years old, till the end of Y6 when they get to move into our youth provision. This year we moved our Y6s up to Impact early to free up some space in Flames for the large amount of Y3s we have.

In the hall we have Ignite (pre-school & Foundation) and Sparks (Key Stage 1).

The hall is set up with a selection of areas, writing and words tables, colouring tables, craft tables and then we have either a sand or water tray out plus a small world area, sensory tray and an area for either building or imaginative play.

Each week is themed, which is explained with a story or another type of input when we first get in the hall, sitting on carpet squares together.

Each of the areas is linked to the theme so that the children can investigate, think, play through ideas, so they can process them in their own time and way.

Over a three-year period the kids go through the bible as the curriculum takes them story by story.

We know that children learn so much more through play and by setting out our Sunday kids groups this way, they are able to take things in, in their own way and their own time.

This year our children in Ignite have really enjoyed making things on the craft table.

In the scout hut we have Flames (Key Stage 2) they have a separate three-year curriculum that takes them through the bible again.

The children get more time reading directly from the bible in Flames and get to discuss and think through their understanding of what they have learnt.

Our Flames leaders are really good at finding imaginative games and interactive ways of thinking about faith.

In Flames this year it has been much busier, as the Y3s are a big age group and have a mix of needs, which is not easy to cater for with limited volunteers and space to do it.

Flames have been adjusting to the new group from September and looking at ways to allow everyone to take part and grow in their faith in their own way. We have explored the lives of Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Jesus through games, activities and space to think things through.

Fiona and Jo alternate who leads, spend a lot of time thinking of new ways to help the children engage and meet everyone's needs.

I am eternally grateful for them and all the volunteers who put their time and energy into our children on Sundays. Sometimes this can feel like a thankless task but the fact our children can come and feel comfy and loved in church week on week is amazing and the seeds being sown by this are so important.

In Ignite and Sparks we have had a quieter year, as the big group have moved up. This has given us the opportunity to have some amazing conversations and more thoughtful times.

My hope is, we will always be open to change, to adapt and to listen and that we can have hearts like Jesus to love each other as we were always meant to, with patience and grace.

Thank you so much to all of our volunteers who help with Sunday children's work, if it wasn't for you, we 'literally' could not do any of this.

We have had some people step back from volunteering and new people joining us this year and some new people starting soon, which is amazing as this enables us to continue but we're always short of people so if you've ever considered helping with children, we'd love to talk to you.

Godly Play

Once a month on the 4th Sunday our children's provision is Godly Play, led by Jane, who has been joined this year by Emma.

Godly Play is a lovely, thoughtful time for children to hear and wonder about stories from the Bible.

As with all our children's groups, helping all our children access the provision is not always straightforward, so Emma joining Jane has been invaluable, to enable the children to split into different groups, so the age groups can be spread out. Also having someone to share the mental load, as Jane has been our only trained Godly Play provider for quite a few years now.

If having some training, or helping in Godly Play, is something that interests you, please do let us know, Jane would be very happy to talk to you about it.

Tiddlers Baby Group

Tiddlers as ever is a joy to facilitate. Having your first child can be incredibly scary, exhausting and isolating, as well as joyful, exciting and magical. Being able to share these highs and lows with parents, is an honour and if we can make the time a bit less lonely and daunting, we have done what we set out to do.

We provide a comfy space, with a drink and cake. A friendly ear if needed, or just a space to meet friends. The formula is not complicated but in a life that can be very complicated, this safe space can be a lifeline for those first precious but very taxing few months of parenthood.

Sunbeams Toddler Group

The mayhem of toddlers carries on and is always fun.

Again, a simple idea for showing hospitality and doing life with people, toddler group is always busy and is never dull.

We have a real community of Grandparents, Mums, Dads and childminders who come weekly to meet up with each other. The children look forward to seeing each other and being in a familiar fun space.

After a bigger group than normal leaving us as they started school in September, we felt a bit sad, but we've had many new children join us, as well as our consistent regulars and many have grown out of tiddlers and moved up to join us at Sunbeams.

With the relief of the beginning of Spring, after the very wet dismal winter and being able to go out in the garden, there has been much excitement at the noisy frogs and the tadpoles.

We will wait with anticipation, whilst playing lots, to see how many grow to be frogs.

St Mary's School lunch club

We (Esther and myself) have been attending St Mary's on a Tuesday for a few years now and it's lovely.

We look at many subjects; from countries, to favourite foods, animals and seasons. Whilst we chat and play games with the children and get to know them.

Our relationships and trust with the children has really grown in that time and we find that we, as well as the children really value the time we spend there, at the 'library club' as the children call it. They also call us the 'library ladies'.

Some of the time we have spent is just simple fun, playing games, crafting, quizzing etc but we feel we give the kids invaluable time and a space to decompress a bit from their school day, as one of the things we have learnt in recent years is the importance of prioritising our children's mental health.

Kids Church

Last year we reduced Kids Church to every other month and did a series on the Beatitudes, concluding in November.

It was fun and also a taxing series, trying to translate what the Beatitudes mean is surprisingly hard but also incredibly interesting.

We enjoyed some wonderful worship, with dancing, singing and actions. Lots of making, creating and thoughtful prayers.

Kids Church is a time for children to hear parts of the bible and Jesus's teaching in an accessible way but in the centre of our church building.

After an up and down year, I decided that we would mix up our children's provision, with Kids Church happening 'occasionally' and having some different events for families and children in between.

We started off this year with a Family Prayer Day, that was aimed at all in the church but with more all-age resources involved.

In June we are going to have our first Family Sports Day, look out for details to come.

If anyone has any requests or thoughts about what they'd like to see at St Tim's or try, now is the time to say!

Tuesday Social Club

James Saunders, Tuesday Social Club (TSC) Coordinator

The TSC is a relaxed, inclusive 'drop in' community club for adults who come for company and conversation. Our club ethos is to 'be with' our members which often involves a chat over a cup of tea, around the table playing uno or having a game of pool, hoopla or table tennis together. We share in a two-course lunch for £1 and members donate to The Children's Society for their seconds. (Our previous named charity was ASHA but as a church we have moved away from supporting this charity. We chose the Children's Society for several reasons but particularly as we have a physical donation box which the members can donate into themselves). Di Marples has re-started the baking initiative with Kathy (one of our member/volunteers) roughly once a month which produces a tasty and much-loved homemade pudding. However, this has been on hold whilst we have been waiting for the electric oven to be installed in the hall as there is more limited space in the church kitchen oven which we have been using for the past month or so. Now the weather is warming up we will be looking forward to our much anticipated BBQs. Always a favourite amongst our members. In the afternoon we offer a group activity which members can join in with if they wish, such as 10 pin bowling, bingo, giant crazy Jenga, hoopla, pool or a quiz (usually written by a member) as well as some craft activities particularly around Easter and Christmas.

We have a core of regular members who attend weekly and a number of other members who 'drop-in' every so often. Our numbers fluctuate but we generally have between 16 and 23 members weekly. We sometimes have new members referred to us from the government's 'social prescribing' initiative or from social services. Neil Chapman has begun our process of safe recruitment and will be joining our merry band of volunteer leaders in the future.

We have had a couple of conflicts between some members over the past year which were very well handled by our team of volunteers but it has led us to review our conflict management and we are in the process of producing a formal document for this to help equip our volunteers and provide a safe framework for them and for our members.

Space4Faith is a time we gather together for those members who want to share in a time of worship and prayer. This has become more infrequent of late although we plan to meet once or twice a month. We have changed the timing of this and now hold Space4Faith in the side room immediately after the meal for those who wish to join in before the afternoon activity.

We have continued with our simplified the format which has been working well, starting with a psalm of praise, followed by a prayer tailored towards the TSC

written by Martin, a short bible reading, sharing prayer requests and praying for each other before closing with the Lord's prayer.

Over the first weekend in December, we host the annual Christmas Tree Festival to raise funds for the TSC. The event was well attended last year with 29 trees taking part which is the most we have hosted since 2020. Thank you to all who helped out, prayed for and came along.

We are in the process of buying two 'park-style' benches for the paved area outside the hall where the old bench and pew are now on their last legs, literally. These will of course be available for all church and hall users to sit, rest and contemplate the church guttering.

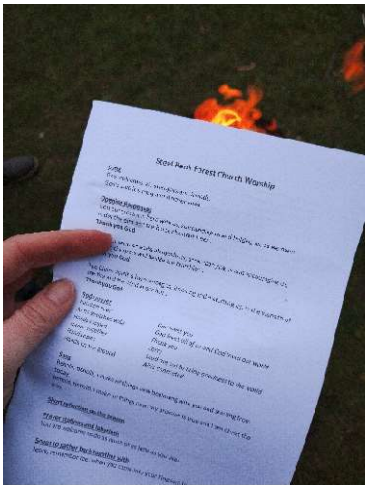
We are looking forward to the upcoming Mission Action Planning conference and what plans that may inspire for this ministry.

We have a great team of volunteers and if this is something you would like to find out more about or get involved with then please to speak to James Saunders or email tuesdaysocialclub@gmail.co.uk

Please do hold the TSC in your prayers

Forest Church

Jen Ryder



Forest Church is coming up to its three year anniversary! We have continued a regular pattern of meeting eight times a year following the 'celtic wheel of the year' - solstices, equinoxes and the ancient holy days in between.

We have an established rhythm to our gatherings - we gather while toasting marshmallows over the fire, then have some spoken liturgy, songs and a body prayer together. This is followed by short spoken reflection on the season and then multisensory prayer stations spread around the field and in our tent along with food to cook on the fire. We gather together again for songs and prayers at the end.



We usually have around 20-30 people attending depending on the weather! Over half of our gathering are usually children. Some people who come also attend St Tim's or another church, others don't attend an indoor church at all.



We are a very welcoming and relaxed group. You might be able to think of someone who would enjoy trying it out - someone who loves to be outdoors or someone who is open to thinking about God but wouldn't come into a church or perhaps a friend whose children would find traditional church difficult. Our Facebook page shows the sorts of things we do - https://www.facebook.com/sheffieldforestchurch

Some quotes from people who attend:

"It's great to have a time that is church where the kids are free to be themselves and we can connect with God, nature and the small community that comes too"

'I have found a space that feels more fully me. God is more present for me in nature than they ever were in a building.'

"It really feels like a rare thing that I do consistently look forward to. I really appreciate it."



'I've finally found a church that both my boys feel at home and want to attend. The space and love for loud neurodivergent humans is so refreshing.'

"The community is excellent, the vibe, the setup, the activities, the invitation. Just all round excellent."

"I enjoy Forest Church because I find it easier to meet God in the outdoors. I like how inclusive it is - the leaders really try to adapt it to different needs"

Wednesday Lunch Club

Stacey Renshaw and Ellen Makin

The club is struggling a little at the moment as we have lost eight members over the last few months, to illness and death, and have only had one new member.

Prior to this we were doing well. We had increased the fees for both the meal and the bus fare which was received well and our finances were better. Now we have only 2 or 3 on the bus which will not quite cover the fee and a further increase in the price is not viable for some of the members. If we do not find more members then the future of our club is under threat.

The members enjoy their time together, getting out of the house and mixing with friends. They enjoy the friendship café in the welcome area moving through to the Hall for their lunch prepared by our cook Natalie. Many of the members choose to join in at the Wednesday church service.

We entered a tree into the Christmas tree festival most of the members helped to make the decorations and were delighted when we won the 'most unusual tree'

The volunteers set up tables and chairs in the café and the hall and putting them away, They serve coffee and biscuits in the café and help serve the meal in the hall. They help the members move from the café to the church and then from there to the hall and we are very grateful for all that they do.

We have a bus provided by Manor transport, they provide a driver with this but we have to provide an escort who knows the members. This is mainly done by Natasha and Andy for whom we are very grateful.

We had a positive monitoring visit from the voluntary sector liaison officer, Andrew Wright who ensures that we have met all the criteria to run the club and checks that we use the grant given for the benefit of all attending.

We are re-advertising the club throughout the area, hoping for more interest during the warmer months and, maybe, we need to try a different format to ensure that all those over 60 feel welcome.

This all sounds very disheartening but the group that are left are happy meeting up and having a chat and a good meal. They are very impressed and thankful for all that we do.

Prayer Ministry

Zoe Chapman and Ranee Townsend

Prayer ministry after services

Prayer ministry after all Sunday morning services, including Healing Ministry on 3rd Sundays, continues to be well accessed and appreciated. As a team we are blessed by the privilege of praying with the members of our congregation that come forward.

We are delighted that this year we welcomed 2 new members to the team who alongside other members, have started offering prayer ministry after the evening service on 1st and 3rd Sundays. We anticipate that this will be offered after every service in the near future

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain which is used for crisis prayer continues to be used on a very regular basis and requests frequently come from non-Christian friends and family of church members. It is clear that many people from outside the church really appreciate being prayed for in this way and this is a real witness to the love of Jesus.

Healing Prayer WhatsApp

This is used very regularly by the Prayer Team to share prayer requests from members of the congregation and their families. Members of the team also meet once a month to pray as a team for all the people on our prayer list.

As a team we have also initiated 24 hour prayer vigils for individuals, where necessary, and on the promptings on the Spirit. It has been so encouraging to see the commitment of all involved.

Prayer Box

The prayer box remains in the church welcome area on the prayer notice board. However, this is infrequently used and will need review.

New opportunities for Prayer Ministry

We are delighted to see a growing spirit of prayerfulness within our church, and it's heartening to witness how many people feel called to nurture this.

We are hoping to host a 'pop up' healing service led by the Diocesan healing team, supported by our team members. It is anticipated that this will take place in the Autumn and the parish will be invited to it.

We look forward with hope and expectation to how the Holy Spirit will continue to lead us in the times ahead.