

# St Luke the Physician Church, Benchill Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for Year Ended 31st December 2014

## Administrative information

St Luke's Church is situated in Benchill, Wythenshawe. It is part of the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England, The correspondence address is St Luke's Vicarage, Brownley Road, Benchill.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2014 until the date this report was approved are

Team Rector	The Rev'd Stephen Edwards	
Team Vicar:	The Rev'd Margaret Young	Chairman
Parochial Church Wardens:	Irene Foden (16) Brian Powell (17)	
PCC Secretary:	Kim Brannan until June 2014 Samantha Mills from June 2014	
PCC Treasurer	Sue Ransley Co opted	
Representatives on the Deanery Synod (14-17)	Henry Adams (17) Ray Foden (17)	
PCC members	Sheila Arundale,(17) Kath Forden (17), Mary Preston, (17) Lynda Powell, (17) Tracey Rawlins (15), Denise Turtle, (16) Kieran Addison (16) Lorraine Clover (16) Andrea Bradley (16) Joan Longworth co opted from April 2014	Lay Chair

## **Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

## **Objectives and activities**

St Luke's PCC has the responsibility for co-operating with the team vicar, the Rev'd Margaret Young and, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church, the church hall, the flat and the house on the Brownley Road complex.

## **Achievements and performance**

### **Church Attendance**

There are 55 parishioners on the Church Electoral Role. The average weekly attendance counted during October was 37.0 adult and 9 children, but this number increased at Remembrance Sunday and Festivals.

### **Review of year**

The full PCC met 8 times during the year with an average attendance of 88%. Committees met between meetings and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

The Rev'd Robin Usher was appointed as team vicar of St Martin's and Priest in Charge of St Michael with all Angels in Northern Moor. The team remains as a team but St Michael's with all Angels is working very closely with us.

In June, Caroline Greenwood was ordained Deacon and will be serving her first title post Assistant Curate under the supervision. Rev'd Donna Williams at St George's Church, Unsworth and St Andrew's Church, Hillock. Aidan, her husband was also accepted for training for ministry and he started his course in September. We wish both of them and their children every success.

Adam Dickson was ordained as Deacon and is assistant curate for the Wythenshawe team under the supervision of Stephen Edwards.

Funding secured by the team has allowed for the employment of a community development worker across the team. Mrs Tracey Rawlins was appointed. Since her appointment, Tracey has secured many grants for different projects across the team.

This year has had the excitement of the church's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. There were many events during the year, such as there was a special birthday weekend and previous members of the church were invited for this, there was an Easter egg hunt, teddy bear's picnic, and a games evening. These events were very popular and everyone involved is to be thanked. Coinciding with this was us receiving a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the repair of the church clock.

The Karate group that stopped using our hall in the previous year have returned and are now using the hall twice a week. The Deliverance church has taken over the office space above the small hall. They also use the small hall for worship on a Sunday. We still have a steady flow of occasional users using the large and small hall.

The churches flat and house – The tenants of the flat complained to the council about the amount of damp. Measures were taken to address this issue and the damp is now under control. The rent of the house was increased in April. The flat's rent was reduced but the gas was no longer included. This has since been revised, and the rent is no longer reduced. The tenants of the house have moved on. The house became vacant in August and was filled in Sept. The flat became vacant in November and new tenants are being sought. The flat has had some of its rooms repainted in readiness for its new occupier. Thank you to everyone especially Brian and Charlie for their help with this.

We are very grateful to a legacy that we were left from the late Doris Whittaker. It was decided to spend this on new hymns books, church roof repair, church lights and a new boiler for the house.

## Grants

We purchased a strimmer with the grant received in the previous year from Parkway Green now Wythenshawe Community Housing Development. This has been extremely useful for the gardening in the grounds.

Grants have been received have been for an individual from the St Martin's Trust, this has helped greatly with our doorstep ministry.

The church hall was painted with the help of a £500 grant and volunteers from Barclays bank.

See community Development worker report for other news on grants.

## Doorstep Ministry

We have been fortunate enough to have had a couple of anonymous donations, for the church and doorstep ministry.

Also, please see Community Development Worker Report

## Food

The number of people knocking on the vicarage door asking for food has increased dramatically. It became impossible to run this from the vicarage door. Volunteers from St Luke's agreed to run this from the church hall three times a week. This has been a he asset to the people of the area. Thank you to all of the volunteers.

Many people donated money, food and time to help. Local schools were asked to donate their Harvest Festivals to this cause. Rachel Preston was instrumental in encouraging other agencies, such as local business to donate food and money. The company that she works for donated food so that a hot meal could be provided one evening.

This is an area that the newly formed Jonah group, consisting of church leaders across Wythenshawe, are taking a keen interest in and it is hoped that further development will take place in the near future.

## Building Development in the Neighbourhood.

Margaret, along with support from the Diocese, objected to an 8 storey block of flats being built on the boundary of the vicarage garden. They were unsuccessful and the development has started.

In addition to the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities the social committee provided us with a Summer Fair and a Christmas Fair, the fairs were a huge success, this is due to the hard work of many people. The Jumble Sales took place on the last Saturday of most months and continues to provide a welcome steady income from hard working group of people. Congratulations must go to everyone involved in these functions.

Our youth ministry continues to flourish and our team ensures that the younger people have an age related teachings on Christianity. Wythit our youth church continues to engage our young people and take part in services through readings and music. This year our work has focused on our production of Ruth. The wedding scene was filmed with many of the congregation as the wedding guests. The young people worked very hard on this and the film night was in October. The main actors received mini Oscars. We are grateful to Stuart Townend for permitting us to use his music for this venture.

Robert Addison along with one of our adults David Daniels took their confirmation here at St Luke's on 30th Nov 2014. Two of our children, Darcie Bradley and Taylor Mills, were admitted to Communion in April 2014.

Links with the schools continue to flourish, Haveley Hey and Benchill School have visited our church and Margaret Young has visited the schools. Both schools have had a hugely successful Christmas Services here too. Margaret was also made honorary chaplain of Manchester College and started in the Autumn term.

Our policies have been updated and are reviewed annually.

The pastoral team continues, once month cards are sent out to families of those baptised and those bereaved.

Joan our organist plays on the second and fourth Sunday and for any special services. Marc and Abby help out on the third Sunday and the first Sunday is usually CDs. Music is enhanced by the singing group and on occasions Wythit.

Special services attract many people, this year we had the addition of an extra service commemorating WW1. At the Remembrance Service the church was full to bursting, the Christingle and Harvest, Easter and Christmas services are well attended. Co operation between St John's and St Luke's continues to flourish with a joint Lent group, a joint Good Friday service and a joint memorial service which was sponsored by Wythenshawe Funeral services. Many thanks to them.

The inside of the church on the upper levels was painted with a grant from the Diocese, as paint was flaking off the walls. The architect Nick Rank visited the church and advised that the walls be scraped and allowed to dry and then painted with breathable paint. This was done but unfortunately the paint had started to flake again. This is an on-going problem for the year 2015.

Our Curate Adam has continue the links ecumenically for the team and there was a successful Christmas event in the Civic before Christmas.

The team website at <http://www.wythenshawe-anglican.org> attracts hits and this year went on to Facebook and twitter, Stephen Edwards, Robin Usher, Tracey Rawlins and Margaret Young update this regularly.

The Mother's Union meets once a month and provides a valuable service of collecting for students and generally supporting the church in any way in which it can.

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides use the church Hall weekly. The lunch club use the hall once a fortnight and this runs straight after the weekly Wednesday Welcome Service which is much appreciated by those who attend.

In August, the Apostolic found a new home and no longer use our church.

In September, unfortunately we lost a longstanding member of the congregation Barry Days, our thoughts and prayers are for his wife Carole and their family.

### **Children's Ministry**

Our children's ministry work usually takes place during Sunday morning services under the title of Footprints. Attendance was low in the first half of this year but average attendance is now 10 per week (ages 3-11) We have 5 regular volunteers on the team who plan and run sessions with extra helpers at various points in the year. Our older young people's group BigKidz has stopped meeting regularly due to changes in the rota and personal work patterns but all the BigKidz are engaged in other things. We recently trialled a film night called Film and Fries which we will endeavour to run at least once a term. A regular feature of the year is our annual Celebration Service which takes place in July. This is usually an interactive service with a difference and was well attended by the congregation which means a lot to the Team and of course to our children. Children and young people contribute to our all age worship regularly through readings, music and prayers. We anticipate at least two new volunteers joining the Team in September. They will be subject to the usual mandatory checks and support and training. We will continue to pray for more male workers to join our Team. The PCC makes a regular financial contribution to this work which enables us to buy new materials and resources and reward the children with a gift or appropriate trip once a year at little or no cost to families.

Tracey Rawlins

### **Pastoral Ministry**

We continue to attend Vestry Hour in the vicarage once a month on a rota basis, and we send out the cards to families on the anniversary of a Baptism, and to those families who have been bereaved to let them know we are thinking of them.

We visit members of our congregation at home and in hospital. Please let us know if you hear of anyone in our congregation or parish who would welcome a visit.

The Diocese have appointed a Chaplain to the ALM's. She is Revd Helen Scanlon from Heaton Chapel. We had our first fellowship evening at the Diocese last November where we talked about how things were going in our churches in our various electives, and the evening ended with a time of worship. There are going to be regular evenings arranged, probably quarterly.

I have attended an interesting day at 90 Deansgate all about the ministry of baptisms and funerals. Two very different sessions but most informative and enjoyable.

Sue Ransley

## **Financial Review**

### **Financial Review - 2014 Financial Review – 2014**

Total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds was £47,205.55 and are detailed in the financial statements. £46,430.87 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St Luke's Church, including our contribution to the Diocesan Parish Share at £12,121.00, which largely provides the stipends and housing for the Clergy. Our Share reduced by £109. The sum that the churches in the Deanery have to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based on a head count of the congregation and their individual incomes. This information is anonymous.

We had an increase of just over 5% in our Church running expenses and a reduction of around 8.5% in our Hall running expenses. We continue to have a steady flow of one-off hirers of our Hall, and regular weekly groups. Our total giving to St Lukes, including the tax refund on our Gift Aid, showed an increase overall of almost £500. We hold within our Hall Account a "Contingency Fund" to which we allocate £250 a month to allow for any unexpected urgent repairs.

The net result for the year on unrestricted funds was an excess of receipts over payments of £774.68. After adding back the bank balance brought forward at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, the balance carried forward at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 for unrestricted funds totalled £15,935.23. This is the total for our Church and Hall accounts combined.

### **Reserves Policy**

We try to keep a balance in our accounts to cover standing orders and direct debits on a monthly basis. Ideally we would like to keep a balance to cover 6 months payments but we do not have the income to do this.

We have two deposit accounts with the Central Board of Finance – one which holds 3 months rent deposits for the tenants of St Luke's House and St Luke's Flat, and the other in which we deposit our fund-raising monies for major works.

## Church Fittings and Fabrics

In general terms we have now complete all the problems referred to in the 2011 Quinquennial Survey. The only items that remain outstanding are:

- 1) New Speakers
- 2) Small areas of painting on the internal south walls

Maintenance work has been done over the last year covering areas such as painting, varnishing, pews, sealing woodblock floors. There are now very few areas within the church which have not been treated to a lick of paint either by myself or our volunteer painter Charlie.

Cleaning up of the outside area is ongoing, grass cutting, hedge cutting and cleaning and replanting is done on a weekly basis and thanks again to Roy and Eugene. Eugene in particular in the past 12 months has worked on all of the outside areas for which I am very grateful.

I see no major problem with the fabric and I look forward to continuing this good work for the good of St Luke's.

Brian Powell March 2015

## Health Safety

A good year, for the year 2014

Only one accident reported, a car from the St John's community went down the steps. Yellow strips have been painted. Ethel Nelson, Denise's Mother tripped over the steps in church hall.

Fire safety up to date.

PAT testing in near

### **Possible steps to prevent further accidents...**

Painting of steps in church hall to avoid future accidents.

Rail on steps up to organ loft need securing.

Ray Foden

### **Community Development work summary 2014**

The community development worker came into post in April 2014. In addition to supporting the individual churches, she has supported the following Team-wide activities

- Our first involvement with Heritage Open Days – a national initiative with mixed outcomes but something that we hope to build upon
- Food safety training with at least one person from each parish now holding a certificate
- Supporting St Richards with Christmas Day lunch funding
- Raising our profile in Wythenshawe securing significant donations from local businesses and Manchester Airport for our Christmas food parcels
- Connecting us up to the WCHG “Christmas meal in a bag” project
- Donations of mugs to WT Mothers Union
- Involvement in Food poverty events in October
- Successful Hate Crime awareness event in partnership with Menorah Synagogue
- Roll out of community reporter training across the Team
- Beginning work to support WT 50fest programme with greater community focus
- Beginning exploratory work on community sports projects for next year as part of the Wythenshawe Games legacy
- Beginning community consultation on the relocation of a War Memorial for Wythenshawe
- Exploratory work with Manchester Credit Union
- Unsuccessful bids to support International Women’s Day and the emergency food provision

All of this work is enabled by the existing commitment within congregations

Activity	Funder	Amount
St Lukes Time Flies at 75	Heritage Lottery Fund	7200
Christmas Day lunch	Community First	703.93
WT 50fest	Theodore of Tarsus	5000
St Martins	Theodore of Tarsus	5000
Hate Crime Awareness	Manchester City Council	184
food provision	Community First (Tree of life	1000

\*This table only includes grants I’ve been directly involved in, it doesn’t include Diocesan grants or other contributions from individuals – WT had £10K from Diocese and St Luke’s a further £6K for painting plus a small grant of £700 for cameras  
Quarterly reports are produced for Team Council

Tracey Rawlins

# WYTHENSHAWE ANGICAN TEAM MINISTRY.

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014.

2014 was another year of change which saw the appointment of Tracey Rawlins as our Community Development worker in May.

The departure of our Team Evangelist Capt. Aidan Greenwood in June and the arrival of the Revd. Adam Dixon as our Team Curate, also in June,

In September we welcomed the arrival of the Revd. Robin Usher as Vicar of St. Martin with St. Francis, combined with the parish of St. Michael and All Angels. We also Mr. Stephen Morris, Reader at St. Michael's and Mrs Pat Higson was licensed as a Reader at St. Richard's. With a now a fully staffed Team, and we hope we can look forward to a more settled period.

The Team Council met on four occasions during the year - in February; in May we had our A.G.M. after which at our regular meeting we decided to re-visit the paper prepared by Geoff. Babb 'Towards a Team Strategy' at a dedicated meeting in August.

At this special meeting the Team Rector provided a paper entitled 'What is Mission' .

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform the structures of society
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

We were asked to think about the Five Marks of Mission in the Anglican Communion. We agreed to give consideration to specific areas of the Team's shared vision over the next two years, with a meeting on each of the following topics:

- support groups and networks
- sharing of news and information
- political, social and community engagement
- education and training
- communication with other churches and local groups
- annual and occasional events

We agreed to review how we were carrying out this Mission, and to report back to our P. C. C.'s

The appointment of Mrs Tracey Rawlins as our Community Development Worker, presently housed in the John Eaton Vestry at William Temple Church has proved invaluable.

Mary Doyle. Team Clerk, 24th Feb.2015.

## WITHINGTON DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2014

There were three meetings of the Synod during the year, at Emmanuel, Didsbury, William Temple, Wythenshawe, and Christ Church, West Didsbury. The Ascension Day Eucharist was held at Christ Church. An average of 30 members attended each meeting.

The Area Dean is Revd Stephen Edwards, Team Rector of the Wythenshawe Team, based at William Temple. The Lay Chair, Jeff Dunkerley, who is also a member of the Bishop's Council, was re-elected, as was Carys Pugh as Secretary and Revd Greg Forster as Treasurer. Elizabeth Davies, Gwyneth Lloyd and Ray Foden were elected to the Standing Committee. Revd Robin Usher was appointed to the parishes of St Martin and St Michael and All Angels in the Wythenshawe Team.

Alison Peacock gave an informative account of the 2011 Census figures for the Withington Deanery at the February meeting. At the June meeting we discussed our duty of stewardship to support the mission of the church, led by James Emmerson from 90 Deansgate.

At the November meeting Carys Pugh gave an interesting talk about communication. She gave an account of the communications strategy of St John Brooklands, and stressed that in order to attract people the parish website, magazine, notice-boards and church events should make clear the church's vision and objectives. She then gave a fascinating account of social media, explaining to the uninitiated such mysteries as Twitter and Facebook. Although care is needed not to post inappropriate material, these are the avenues of communication used by most young people and we should not ignore them.

Diana Kloss then gave an account of the October meeting of the Diocesan Synod. Bishop David had initiated an in-depth survey of the needs of the Diocese for the future, but it was commented that insufficient publicity had been given to this. Bishop David has agreed to attend the Deanery Synod in 2015. The accounts for 2014 showed a deficit of nearly £1 million for a number of reasons, but mainly the rise in the number of parishes failing to pay parish share in full (though most of the churches in our Deanery are not among these), and a poor return on investments. The number of stipendiary posts in the Deanery would need to be reduced because of financial constraints. As a result the number of representatives from the Deanery to be elected to the Diocesan Synod in 2015 would be reduced to three clergy and three lay persons.

In December it was announced that Revd Libby Lane, the wife of Revd George Lane from our Deanery, was to be consecrated suffragan Bishop of Stockport in the Diocese of Chester, the first woman to be appointed a bishop in the Church of England.

Diana Kloss  
Christ Church and St Christopher