



Annual Report 2015

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AGM AGENDA 2016

Friday 24th April 2016

GREAT BADDOW TEAM MINISTRY

1st January–31st December 2015

AGENDA

1. Welcome
 2. Appointment of AGM Secretary.
 3. Apologies for absence.
 4. Acceptance of last year's AGM Minutes.
 5. Matters arising from these Minutes.
 6. Reports: Electoral Roll/ Congregational Register.
 Reception of: Deanery Synod.
 Organisation Reports.
 7. Treasurer's Report and Acceptance of Accounts.
 8. Elections: Church Wardens
 Pcc Members
 9. Appointment of side persons
- PAUSE - for vote counting**
10. Results of votes & Elections
 11. Vicar's address
 14. Open Forum
 15. Any other business

Ending with prayer.

MEADGATE CHURCH
GREAT BADDOW
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
HELD ON 17TH APRIL 2015

The meeting was preceded by a short **Holy Communion** service.

Revd. Tim Ball welcomed everyone to the AGM. There were 64 members present. Jill Smith-Hughes was appointed as **AGM Secretary**.

Apologies for absence were received from:

P. Brown, C. Clark, T. Knights, S. Marriott, J. Richards, A. Sadler, M. Smith.

AGM Minutes 2014. David Pearce proposed, and Eddie Davies seconded, that the Minutes be approved and they were, unanimously.

Matters Arising. Tom Warmington explained that he would have an update to give, later, under Open Forum. It was hoped that, in future, the Reports could be circulated a week earlier, so as to give more time for reading.

Acceptance of Reports.

Electoral and Congregational Rolls. David Pearce explained that Meadgate is different from other churches in that it has a Congregational Roll as well as an Electoral Roll. There is a revision of the Electoral Roll every March -

Total on Congregational Register: 171 (Nett gain of 4), comprising of -
Electoral Roll: 149 (Nett gain of 7)
Congregational Roll: 22 (Nett loss of 3)

Movements:

Additions to Electoral Roll: 14

Additions to Congregational Roll: 2

Removals from Electoral Roll: 8

Removals from Congregational Roll: 4

Transfer from Congregational Roll to Electoral Roll: 1

Tim thanked David for his hard work and he rejoiced that 'the Lord is adding to our number.'

The Electoral Roll, the Congregational Roll, the Deanery Synod Report and all the Organisation Reports in the AGM booklet were accepted unanimously. Tim remarked that the number of reports was a testimony to the past year.

Treasurer's Report and Acceptance of Accounts.

The Treasurer, David Belbin, presented the accounts for the year to 31 December 2014. He started by thanking Roy Davidson and David Pearce for counting the money on Sundays and particularly Roy for banking it, their wives, June and Linda, for allowing them to be late and Linda Belbin for allowing him to do his work on the accounts.

Total giving including Gift Aid at £121,375 was £1,065 more than last year, £120,310. Included within this were the pledges for the Orchards which were all being met and that meant that we were covering the additional rent and running costs with increased giving. David noted that giving was across a wider base of the congregation and that for the first three months of 2015 was £5,600 more than it was in the first three months of 2014 reflecting the continuance of the Orchards pledges.

However David also noted that we have challenges. In response to a question from Elizabeth Minnican, he explained that, in 2014 our Parish Share increased by £5,300 from £49,914 to £55,200 and that in 2015 it would be £59,839 as we paid what we should be doing, as a "grown up", stand-alone parish. The 3 Treasurers in the Team had met with the Rector to pave the way for this.

Our expenditure in the year on core activities, including salaries but excluding what were in theory self-funding activities, such as mission trips, was £146,589 in 2014, compared to £126,245 in 2013.

However it was difficult to compare 2014 to 2013 as we had 6 months of the Orchards with all its costs. Two members, who had given large amounts regularly, were no longer with us and David noted that the increased giving to meet the Orchards costs had in some ways masked the need for increased giving to meet our increased committed costs.

David noted that the 2013 result where we had a more or less breakeven position of a deficit of £2,000 would have been a deficit of £14,500 had we not received a gift of £12,500 including Gift Aid at the end of the year.

In 2014 we actually had a deficit of £13,984, although that was anticipated in part as we had been using the Evangelism Fund to subsidise our outreach work, but this would not last forever and we needed to become more sustainable.

David reported that Tim had asked for a budget on his arrival and this showed a challenge as the projected expenses for the year were just under £160,000 and anticipated income was just over £120,000 which suggested a deficit of £37,350 if we were to try and give 10% of our income outside of the parish. Godfrey Harverson stressed that we must be mindful of this issue and get it right.

David suggested that we should 'Wait on God, Listen, Learn'. We should be involved – it is our church. Tim would be working with the DCC and there would be a series of teaching on the spirituality of giving, delivered by Tim, during the 4 weeks of July. Tim stressed that this would not be heavy-handed, but would give an understanding of being Giving People.

Tim thanked David for all his hard work on the finances and the accounts were accepted unanimously. He also thanked Roy Davidson and David Pearce for the roles they played. David Belbin led the meeting in prayer for the church finances.

Elections took place at this point.

Appointment of Sidespersons. The following were appointed unanimously as Sidespersons and Gail Brown thanked them for their much appreciated service: - Denise Horn, Gail Brown, Bill Rogers, Linda Belbin, David Belbin, Melvyn Sach, Jean Sach, Jill Smith-Hughes, Stuart Sadler, Angela Sadler, Judith Sheppard, Thelma Stokes, Sue Passfield, Ed Buetow, Angela Buetow, Emily Delves, Jon Delves, June Davidson.

Election Results.

Two nominations had been received for **District Church Wardens** and so, Rosalind Coleridge and Christopher Smith were duly elected, unopposed.

Stuart Sadler was unanimously elected as a **Deanery Synod** Representative.

Simon Pearce was unanimously elected to the **PCC**.

Simon Pearce, Giles Platford and Dave Pye were elected to the **DCC** for a term of office ending on 1st January 2016.

Chris Smith led in prayer for the work of the DCC.

Vicar's Address. **Tim based his talk on Hebrews 10:19-25, A Call to Persevere in Faith, which he hoped would help us to plot a course for the coming year.**

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus,²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

He thanked everyone for continuing and developing the ministry at Meadgate during the Interregnum, especially District Church Wardens, Chris Smith and Ros Coleridge.

He hoped and prayed that Meadgate Church would be an Intentional Church (v.23-24), an Inspirational Church (v.20-22) and an Invitational Church (v.25). 'May our coming year look like that.'

Tim also announced plans for a Church Day to look at our Priorities, our Purpose and our Plan on 27th June 2015.

Open Forum. Tom Warmington wished to thank everyone for the tireless work behind the scenes over the months to renovate our new building. The vast majority of work had been done and now we could move on to plan for the next 2½ years and beyond. He announced that during May, there would be painting sessions and other jobs to be tackled and to finish after the Sunday Morning Services.

Tom highlighted the matter of a new kitchen. A stainless steel kitchen would cost between £5,000 and £6,000, but Mel Pointon was in touch with Magnet about the possibility of a greatly reduced model, with perhaps an 80% reduction. Allan Smith was willing to fit it for us and, if necessary in the future, it could be dismantled and moved to the Parade.

Tim was asked about the implications of the 3 Great Baddow Team Ministry Churches each becoming a Parish in their own right in 9 months' time. Tim recalled the history of Meadgate Church from its beginnings in the home of Bill and Doris Hill and he saw this new phase as 'growing up'. Each church would no longer have a DCC, but a PCC to deal with Parish-based matters and legality would reside with the PCC. The 'junior' churches, Meadgate and St Paul's could now be independent and free to make their own decisions. The 'Measure' to become a parish had been sent off and there must be a 3 week local, public consultation.

There would still be a Team Ministry and a Benefice, as now, and the structure would be strong. The church would be known as the Parish Church of Meadgate – Great Baddow.

Any Other Business. There was none.

Conclusion.

Tim closed the meeting in prayer at 9.59p.m.

Signed: Date:

Chairman

Review of 2015

2015 for Meadgate Church was one of continuing the change that had begun the previous year. Developing the Orchards Project, welcoming a new Team Vicar, celebrating the recommendation for training for two key members of the Church and recognising they will be moving on, changes to worship patterns, reviewing our financial commitments, and preparing to become a parish in our own right on the first day of the new year have all been part of the life of the church.

The Orchards Project meant that early in the year an old kitchen room at the rear of the main worship hall was converted to house the audio and visual equipment and later in the year work on building the Community Café and kitchen began. This was followed by a 'month of Sundays' in May where members of the Church shared lunch together and then gave themselves to painting and decoration the Café in readiness for opening. The soft play facility was equipped using monies granted by the diocesan Ministry Opportunities Fund and other equipment and furniture for the whole café, and soft play facility was sourced through a diligent search of 'ebay' and 'freecycle' by Mel Pointon. The café was opened on the 1st September with an opening event attended by the Bishop of Bradwell and the Mayor of Chelmsford and other dignitaries. Since opening the café and soft play has been very appreciated by members of the public and the use continues to grow. A vote of thanks is due particularly to Tom Warmington for organizing and arranging the practical build and decoration and to Anita Ball for the organization and arranging of processes and procedures in the Café and for the recruitment and training of volunteers. Thanks also to the teams of people who have made it all happen.

Alongside this other social support organizations including Parent Aid, Support4sight, Larkrise Children's Centre, and the Baby Clinic, began to locate some of their events at The Orchards, as well as our local city councillors using it as a venue to hold ward surgeries for members of the public helping us to realize the vision of the Orchards being a place for the strengthening and reconciliation of families.

On March the 16th Rev Tim Ball was installed as the new Team Vicar for Meadgate Church in the Great Baddow Team ministry. The Bishop of Chelmsford was present and the event was celebrated amongst a full church who enjoyed a Hog Roast afterwards. This was the second installation of the weekend as the Rev Phil Sheldrake had been installed on Friday 13th March as Team Vicar of St. Paul's Great Baddow. We rejoice with a full and happy team of ministers in the Great Baddow Team.

Two members of Meadgate Church were recommended for training for ordained ministry in 2015. Andy Brown who was our lead musician began at Trinity College Bristol in residential training in September, and Simon Pearce began at St. Mellitus College on part time training. We rejoice in the fruitful raising up of future ministers for God's church and pray for them in their studies.

Our morning worship pattern was changed in September to accommodate children at two services a month in an 'All Stage' setting. All Stage being a term which recognizes that people are at different stages of spiritual life irrespective of their age and that worship for everybody altogether all the time is not about doing something for children or having enough in it for adults to be satisfied, but creating a worship environment where the possibilities of engaging with God are varied and broad and perhaps a little different to normal. The use of film, games, movement, silence, drama, etc are all possibilities. Entering into this form of worship is a learning experience for the whole Church and some find it easier than others. However, whilst just these two of the fourteen services a month Meadgate Church has specifically acknowledges the presence of young people, our children are finding their place in church and their greater engagement both with the worship altogether and also in Junior Church on other Sundays is noticeable.

In April the DCC recognized that the end of year financial out turn could be less than satisfactory with the possibility of a large deficit on the budget and a significant real debt existing in the general account, which would obviously not be agreeable to us becoming a parish in our own right in the new year. The DCC agreed to a letter informing the Church of our financial state and a series of teaching on the spirituality of giving to be given through the month of July with accompanying work book provided. This initiative was well received by the church and together with a gift day held at the beginning of November gifts and increased giving meant that our balance at the end of the year was in surplus and we have been able to set a healthy budget for the new year.

In recognizing that the new year would bring the change from being a conventional district to being a parish in our own right the DCC worked through the technical implications and recognized that it is a significant moment of 'coming of age' for Meadgate Church. We recognize also that it effectively brings to an end the 50 year long 'ecumenical experiment' that the Meadgate Church constitution formulated and that whilst Meadgate Church remains open to people of all denominations and none, and has a particular way of expressing our corporate faith, we nevertheless have our roots in the tradition and heritage of the Church of England which becoming a parish celebrates and embraces.

Alongside all this Meadgate Church has maintained its ministry to the Meadgate Estate and beyond continuing to employ a Youth worker, Steph Ridgwell, who arranges a programme of events for young people of all ages through the week and on Sundays; A Pastoral worker, Toni Knights who engages in pastoral visiting and care mainly but not exclusively to elderly residents of the Meadgate area; And a communities worker, Kirsty Pearce, who seeks to keep contact particularly with families and individuals of the parish who benefit from the social and practical help the Church offers. Kirsty is particularly key in arranging a Summer and Christmas Festival each year for the Meadgate estate and arranging summer day trips for families not having holidays elsewhere. Kirsty and Toni also run and staff our Wednesday 'Connect' lunch club following our midweek communion service.

In May a team from Meadgate Church went to minister at a number of linked churches in Durres in Albania. This is a mission link begun through the Meadgate School of Ministry and gives the opportunity to church members to experience ministry in a very different socio economic and cultural environment. The trip was celebrated in a very moving service on Pentecost Sunday. The Meadgate School of Ministry has continued on Monday and Friday evenings led by Chris and Emma Smith and Mike Fisher. Seven to 9 students attend the course exploring many and varied aspects of Christian ministry.

The ministry of connecting people socially has also been continued with our over subscribed 'First Steps' mother and toddler group held on Tuesday mornings organized by Denise Hom; our 'CAMEO' (Come And Meet Each Other) group on Wednesday evenings run by Jill Smith-Hughes; our twice weekly craft groups Wednesdays and Thursdays convened by Linda Belbin; Our Monday Café run by Nadia Takawira and our Saturday Oasis Café organized by Gail Brown. We are grateful to them all.

*'Change, (though not decay),
in all around we know,
our God who changes not,
with us doth go.'*

Rev'd Tim Ball
Team Vicar - Meadgate

An INTENTIONAL Church

Church Warden's Report
Meadgate DCC Secretary's Report
Deanery Synod Report
Side Persons Report

CHURCH WARDENS REPORT 2015

What a year this has been for us! We have had a new vicar arrive, carried on with all our usual activities and added a new café at The Orchards – we have so much to thank God for.

The first highlight of the year was Tim's arrival in March, joyfully celebrated with a hog roast. It was good to see so many people at The Orchards. The Orchards has now been turned into a functioning church area and many people were impressed with what they saw at Tim's induction including the Bishop.

We have also seen some of our congregation going forward for the ministry Andy Brown and Simon Pearce starting in September and we certainly miss Andy leading worship for us. There are more in the pipeline so watch this space.

In September we opened the Café and soft play area and this is now becoming very popular. The café is staffed by a willing band of volunteers although with growing numbers we still need more people to offer time in the café. There are a variety of jobs, greeting and taking orders, making drinks, washing up, cleaning and supervising the soft play area – plus getting a chance to really talk to people. Please talk to Anita if you can give any time, even if it is not for all of a session.

December 31st marked a very special day for us as it was the last day we were part of the Great Baddow Parish as we became a parish in our own right on January 1st – we thank God for the opportunities we now have and we still work closely with St Mary's and St Paul's as Team GB!

As becoming a parish approached, finances were particularly important this year. It was wonderful to see what was predicted to be a deficit turn into a position where we can start as a new parish in a financially sound position. We know God will be asking us to do more over the next few years so we need to pray that our dreams will become reality.

So let's look to the next year with an increasing faith that he who is faithful will provide for all our needs and richly bless us. It is amazing at what God can do and we can't wait to work with Him in our amazing Church.

Ros Coleridge and Chris Smith

DCC SECRETARY'S REPORT 2015

During 2015, 7 meetings (+ 2 short, extra meetings) of the Meadgate District Church Council were held.

Following the AGM in April 2015, Chris Smith and Ros Coleridge were elected as District Church Wardens. Simon Pearce, Giles Platford and Dave Pye were elected to the DCC. Elizabeth Minnican was co-opted onto the DCC.

Council meetings start with a Bible reading, prayer and sometimes a song.

Items discussed by the Council in 2015 were: -

Finance:

- Treasurer's Report – at each meeting, David Belbin presents the accounts, the monthly finance report, the giving summary and the budget sheet, updating members on the current financial position of the church. Total giving has been slightly above that of the previous year and Gift Aid payments have been similar, which will help to fund the work required at the Orchards. David has urged on-going care and careful monitoring, in the light of the increased running costs, and the larger financial commitment to our new premises. David has been heartened by the generosity of church members and he has encouraged the raising of extra funds through pledges, Gift Aid, Direct Debit and Standing Orders.
- Plans for Tim to give a series of talks on giving in July 2015.
- Gift Day, November 2015 - £11,175 received in gifts, which ensured a final budget surplus over the year of £3,900+.
- Extra monies from Gift Aid, gratefully received.
- Income from hiring of our 2 premises.
- Monitoring of the condition, use and running costs of the minibus.
- Expenditure on repairs and general maintenance to our building at the Parade and the on-going renovation and refurbishment of the Orchards.
- Expenditure on a new kitchen and on the establishment of the Community Café and Soft Play facility at the Orchards. Consideration of the Business Plan and all related issues, including manpower, food handling/hygiene qualifications, opening times and cleaning.
- Consideration of requests to use the Café and other areas at the Orchards by individuals and other groups.
- Overview of employees' salaries.

- Funding for the replacement of equipment for Soul Survivor.
- Giving to mission, at home and overseas, and charities, locally and beyond.

Ministry and Mission

- Reports and updates from PCC and Deanery Synod and consideration of Chelmsford South Deanery Vision Plan, 2017 – 2025.
- Arrangements for the licensing of Revd Tim Ball as our Vicar, for the ceremony and welcome party.
- Parish Review and plans to become a parish in our own right. On 1 January 2016, the Great Baddow Team Ministry was divided into 3 geographical areas. This change in governance means that the 3 churches run with greater independence, as separate parishes, although they can still work together, as appropriate, as a Team Ministry.
- Support and advertising of Diocesan and other local Christian events.
- Establishment and official opening of the Community Café and Soft Play area at the Orchards.
- Preparation for the Church Discussion Day in June.
- Plans and preparation for Christmas and Summer Festivals, Christmas celebrations at the Orchards, Harvest Festival, support for the Food Bank and Gift Day in November 2015.
- Arrangements for the Easter Holiday Club, organised by our Children's and Youth Minister.
- Our response to the 'Re-imagining Ministry', 'Transforming Presence' and 'Serving with Accountability' documents.
- Our support of Chelmsford City Council's Community Action Day in April 2015.

Overview of the calendar of social and fund-raising events.

Fabric/Maintenance

- Removal of the portacabin from the Parade.
- Leaks at the Parade repaired by CHP.
- Renewal of anti-vandal paint on the Parade roof.
- Catering Compliance and Kitchen Procedures ensured at the Parade.
- Deep clean and possible refurbishment of the kitchen at the Parade.
- Approval of on-going repair and refurbishment work at the Orchards.
- Asbestos check carried out at the Orchards.
- Provision of signage at the Orchards.

Arrangements for work to be carried out at the new Vicarage. Organisation of painting and other Working Parties at the Vicarage.

Policies and other documents

- Health and Safety Policy reviewed and approved.
- Parish Child Protection Policy reviewed and approved.
- Safeguarding Policy reviewed and approved.
- Children's and Youth Minister's Job Description reviewed and some changes made.
- Pastoral and Communities' Workers' Job Descriptions reviewed, but no changes made.
- Employees' Appraisals carried out.
- Administrator's Contract of Service revised.

Volunteer Agreement, Role Description, Application Form and Code of Conduct adopted in respect of the Café and Soft Play at the Orchards.

Jill Smith-Hughes, DCC Secretary

SIDE PERSONS REPORT 2015

A warm welcome is always appreciated by everyone when they arrive at the church door on a Sunday and our side person's team are magnificent at it.

As a church, we cannot forget how important it is not just for the regular attenders but for new folk coming in to feel a part of God's family and not left to feel an outsider.

The side person's team are always looking for new people to join and be part of the Sunday rotation system, particularly younger folks. An all age team can together encourage all ages to come in and feel at home!

If you are interested and feel that you are able to serve in this way by making people feel welcome, please speak to Tim or I before the AGM to find out more in readiness to be voted onto the team at the meeting.

Thank you to the present team who continue to serve in this way, you're all amazing!

Gail Brown

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2015

Four meetings of the Chelmsford South deanery were held throughout the year and Meadgate Church was represented at all of them by our representatives. The last meeting was hosted at The Orchards (the Community Cafe) where 31 hot drinks were served by the Cafe team, and we shared our progress with the Synod members. Our hospitality and the warmth of the building really helped to create a meeting with Godly purpose.

The theme discussed in most meetings was the on going plans concerning the TRANSFORMING PRESENCE initiative and doing church in a different way (adopting Mission Ministry Units). An additional two workshops were held on January 10 and September 19 where members of the PCC's were invited to attend and share ideas, concerns and prayers in the work/ project . A committee team within the Deanery Synod has been set as well to keep the work going behind the scenes. Through that committee two drafts have been seen and amended to a final one, in which the parishes will cast the final votes in the Vision during the next meeting on the 8th Feb 2016. Also three of our members were able to attend the TIME 2 TALK Conference at the Brentwood Centre held on the 25th of April. It was an opportunity to hear from the whole Chelmsford Diocese of the progress made and we looked at mapping the way forward.

We received a visit by the Dean of Chelmsford who spoke on the importance of Volunteers as The Cathedral would not be what it is without them . There was encouragement to not get weary in making disciples.

We also focused on youthwork as a means to church growth, and mission, vision, purpose and team ministers and making use of all members of the church to take part. Meadgate church shared the benefits the youth work has had due to the fact of having a full time paid Youth Minister and the introduction of the All stage Worship twice per month.

We responded to the Bishop's invitation to create prayer events in 2016. Our deanery special day is on Saturday March 5th starting at Stock with a prayer breakfast at 8am and moving on through the day with walking, eating and prayer at different churches. It should be an inspiring day for us to join in as and when we can on the day itself.

We continue to see ourselves as having an important role in encouraging and supporting the many smaller and less-resourced churches in our Deanery.

Giles Platford and Locardia Takawira

notes

An INSPIRATIONAL Church

Community Report

Pastoral / Connect Report

Creative Hands Report

Cameo Report

Men's Group Report

Youth and Children's work Report

18-30 Group Report

First Steps Report

Home Groups Report

Meadgate School of Ministry Report

Music Group Report

Prayer Ministry Report

Soaking Ministry Report

COMMUNITY REPORT 2015

This year has been a challenging one for me.

We put on a great Easter Holiday Club, which was an amazing outreach to the community. Tim and Anita being new to the church really got involved as well, which was lovely to see.

The next major event for us was the Summer Festival held in July. This was a great outreach opportunity that sadly was less busy than previous years. It consisted of inflatable's in the car park, afternoon tea in the small hall, soft play and ice cream in the main hall and BBQ burgers.

We hosted summer trips again this year, which were a great success, a lot of new community members joined, so fresh connections were made.

The Christmas festival was a disappointment this year from a church point of view. Members of the community attended but for some reason there was a lack of church member presence, which left the event feeling secular. I'm not sure why this was the case, and my aim is to help make the links between the church and community stronger next year.

The Christmas Hampers were a great success again this year, the community was truly blessed by the churches generosity.

The aims for 2016 are to change the way I work within the Community. Steph, Toni and I are going to work a lot more closely to form strong bonds between all aspects of community. I will be based at the Community Café once a week, as well as making weekly visits to families within the community who are struggling. I hope this change will help the church form stronger links with the community as a whole.

Kirsty Pearce

PASTORAL/CONNECT REPORT 2015

I have visited a variety of people for a wide range of reasons this year. I have supported people, on an ongoing basis, with practical tasks and others with spiritual and emotional needs. I have been helping those in crisis, those who have been bereaved and those with terminal illness. I have also been an advocate for some of those people at various appointments.

I also have had the privilege of taking an elderly person to house group weekly, facilitate lifts for those who need it to midweek Holy Communion and the Connect lunch so they can engage in church fellowship.

This year Connect Lunch had to say a very sad farewell to Sarah Dixon our wonderful cook as she could no longer commit her time to this project. She has been an amazing support to connect lunch from the start and her cooking has been greatly missed! As a result Kirsty Pearce and I have taken over the cooking for the Connect lunch club. We see 12-16 people attend each lunch.

I have recently attended a food hygiene level 1 course to aid the safe preparation of food at our lunch club. Kirsty and I have also deep cleaned the Kitchen to the standard required by the food standards agency. This will be an ongoing concern for us and will be instigating a daily cleaning schedule to keep standards high.

I co-ordinate the meals and wheels service we provide at the church when people need extra practical support after illness or stays in hospital by providing meals for up to two weeks.

I support Kirsty with community events and trips. I help drive the mini bus for community days out. Our trip to Walton on the Naze is always very popular with families on the estate. Unfortunately due to the lovely British weather our planned trip to Braintree discovery centre had to be cancelled this summer! Supporting Kirsty with community event has enabled me to build relationships with those from the community. Additionally I help at parent café, this helps me to maintain relationships and support parents from the local community.

I have been making use of the orchards cafe to meet with those requiring some space to chat. It's been a fantastic resource, with fantastic hot chocolate! It is such a friendly neutral place to invite people to. I have enjoyed using the space immensely and have had some great conversations there!

Toni Knights

CREATIVE HANDS GROUP REPORT 2015

The Wednesday afternoon group meeting at the Parade (4.30-6.30pm) has remained stable with around 10 people each session. As a group we have decided to continue meeting during the half term breaks as the sessions have become part of our weekly routines. Not only have we made items for ourselves and the Christmas stall but have knitted blankets for people in need abroad and we were asked to knit mini hats to go on Innocent smoothie bottles in support of Age Concern. During the year we raised £50 by sale of handmade goods and craft materials of which £40 was used to hire 4 tables at the Christmas Festival. The remaining £10 and the total sales on the day (£262.81) was donated to CHESS. Thank you to all those who supported the stall.

It was requested that an evening group be set up so in June Creative Hands at the Orchards was launched. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month between 7.30 and 9.30pm in the café area (entrance via the rear doors) numbers ranging from 10 to 15. St Marys have been invited and St Pauls will be in the very near future. We bring our own projects to this group but all seem happy to share ideas and tips.

Both groups are very relaxed and informal providing space for people to be creative whilst enjoying other peoples company and friendship.

Linda Belbin

CAMEO REPORT 2015

Every other Wednesday evening, 20 to 30 ladies wend their way to the Small Hall at the Parade to gather for an evening of 'caring Christian friendship and enjoyment.' CAMEO's role is essentially to provide a Christian setting where ladies of any age can get together for a pleasant, interesting evening and benefit from good company, fellowship and support. We do, above all, long to see ladies coming into a personal relationship with Jesus and growing in faith in their Christian walk.

Numbers at meetings fluctuate a little and seem to depend on the season, the weather and holiday periods and other busy times of the year. We are very much encouraged, though, by the positive reaction and appreciation of our regulars and there is definitely a warm sense of belonging and unity among us. Our wide-ranging 'CAMEO' prayer is used each time we meet and it truly draws us together in a very special bond.

This past year, we have been blessed with an excellent programme of Christian and secular speakers, charity representatives, music and demonstrations. We kept fit each term with a session of Armchair Fitness with Jean Hunter, who, on another occasion, also brought the Dance 21 group to entertain us with their truly exuberant numbers. We travelled in our minds to fascinating Bhutan with Yvonne Kyndt and received an update on the work of Age UK. The Show Choir gave us a foot-tapping, fast-moving evening of popular songs from the shows and Ian Chamberlain played guitar to accompany his pieces, which were interspersed with his Christian testimony. Our good friend, Doreen Potter, regaled us with her hilarious anecdotes and Sheila Pigrem demonstrated how to make delightful Christmas Table Decorations. The Boots No.7 Staff came to advise us on how to look after our skin and how to choose the correct tones of make-up. Karen Parker gently led our contemplations and prayers in the approach to Easter and Kalvi Massey shared with us how she became a Christian having been brought up in a Sikh home. We got to know our, then new, Vicar, Tim Ball, who gave us the first part of 'My Story' – we look forward to hearing the second part at some point in the future!

We continue to support The J's Hospice as our special local charity and as always, ladies enthusiastically produced beautiful shoebox gifts to add to the Meadgate Church grand total of 85 boxes for the Operation Christmas Child Annual Appeal.

My grateful thanks must go to the wonderful members of the CAMEO Committee, who always beaver away so hard and give me such fantastic help and support. Special mention must be made of Angela Buetow who has faithfully stood in for me at meetings when life has proved rather complicated of late. Thank you, Angela!

We would appreciate your prayers for our ministry among these super ladies and for our deliberations as we plan our next programme. Thank you for all your interest and support – Church ladies, do come and join us when you are free! You would be most welcome!

MEN'S GROUP REPORT 2015

The Men's Group is open to all men and youths over the age of 16 years who normally currently attend or are associated with Meadgate Church, as well as acting as an outreach opportunity to invite male friends and family that may not be Christians to our social events with the hope that they will form relationship within the group and be encouraged to attend church.

In 2015 Giles Platford joined my father, David Pearce, and I in leading the Men's Group and he has brought a new energy to the group. Our main aim for 2015 was to develop the prayer ministry of the group and in the past year we have held two prayer meetings, both with good attendance. More importantly in November 2015 we started a monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast, where men can come for breakfast and prayer before going to work. We also went on a Men's Trip to Aberystwyth, staying with Revd Mones Farah, which resulted in us making good links with the Men's Group of St Michaels Church. We have also had a number of socials, including movie and curry nights.

In 2016 we aim to continue with the monthly prayer meeting, as well as building upon the relationships within the men's group to love, support and to be like a spiritual father each other. We have also planned another Men's Trip to Aberystwyth, which we are hoping to make an annual event, which is planned for May.

We think there is an exciting opportunity to develop this group further and with the assistance of other men within the church, we look forward to seeing this group grow.

Simon Pearce, David Pearce, Giles Platford

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLES WORK

AGM REPORT 2015

"The highlight of 2015 was going to Soul Survivor in the summer and becoming a Christian" said a 13 year old girl when asked to reflect on her year as we entered 2016. That is what makes all the time and effort that we put in to this ministry worthwhile and it is fruits like this that make me hopeful for more things to come and thankful for the things that we have had the joy of being a part of.

Before we look at Soul Survivor though we need to go right back to the beginning of January 2015. Thomas, Alex and myself began the new term refreshed and energised ready for all that this year had in store. We had a few ideas of activities we wanted to run but still being relatively new in post I felt that I couldn't change much too quickly and so waited.

In February we asked Activate if they wanted to run and organise what has become the annual pancake night for the church. They jumped at the chance of having some responsibility and we gave them free reign at two Activate sessions to plan it all and organise each other. Although hard at times for the leaders to keep their mouths shut about how we thought it should be run, it was fascinating to see members find their roles in amongst the group take leadership of it. What they achieved was amazing. They did all the adverts, designed the menus and served at each table to give special attention to every person that turned up. There was such a buzz and lovely atmosphere throughout the whole evening and it made me proud to see what they had pulled off and to see them grow in confidence as the night went on. This same group of young people also got the opportunity to go prayer walking and visited houses to pray for individuals throughout the year.

I decided this year to re-launch the Easter holiday club. This was aimed at children between the ages of 6-11 and ran from the Monday to the Thursday. We had 23 children attending which was good bearing in mind we haven't run one since 2010. They spent the mornings with us looking at the 'Armour of God' and 'Children in the Bible' who had made a difference. The overall theme was Junior Heroes which tied in quite well with the recent surge in interest of marvel superheroes. With this being in Holy Week we tried to run a family morning on the Saturday and to get the link with the church service on Easter Sunday. Unfortunately this morning wasn't successful this year but like all things the first one is always a risk as to how successful it will be. Hopefully the more we do it the more fruit we will see. There was other fruit during the week some of which was 'un-churched' kids going back and telling their parents all about the Armour of God and this being reported back to us with parents telling us how much they were enjoying themselves.

The following week I went to Albania and had the chance to spend some time with 2 of our teenagers. Spending time with them in this context provided an excellent opportunity to encourage them in their gifting's and to build better relationships with them. I came back from this week challenged and inspired as we spent time working in the various children centres that the church in Durres run.

In the summer term we ran Youth Alpha on a Wednesday evening for 8 weeks. Although numbers were not as high as last time you couldn't determine the success of these evenings on this. The evenings were good and sparked conversations that we wouldn't usually have with them.

The smaller group also lent itself in us being able to find out what they actually believed as we ran through the questions and this led to discussions in itself, sometimes off topic, but fruitful none the less.

Term finished at the end of July and then all of Alex's and my time was spent planning Soul Survivor. We took a smaller group than normal (8) as a lot of children pulled out after having committed to it previously. This was a real shame and it could sometimes be hard to remain positive when we were losing so many kids. However, with the kids that came having the one to one attention that they got it proved very beneficial. It allowed them to have deeper conversations with us, they felt they were valued, we could play games together more easily and we were all able to fit around the dinner table give or take one or two leaders. Just under half our group weren't Christian and on the last two nights we had the pleasure of seeing two of them give their lives to Jesus. One was back at the tent after having had a conversation with me and another leader on the walk to camp from the evening meeting and another during the last service. This was really special to be a part of and even thinking back to those evenings now gives me goose bumps and fills me with joy.

Alex finished her internship with us after Soul Survivor and has gone to study at Anglia Ruskin where she is training to work with children. This is a great gifting that she has and we wish her all the best in her next chapter. We decided for a number of reasons to not take on any more interns for the time being so the team of 3 by now was a team of 1!

We decided to use the summer to make a number of changes to our clubs. This was to make this practically more manageable as there was now just me employed and because some of the clubs needed changing to allow for further growth. We firstly changed all our clubs to school years so that they move up groups with their friends and we changed the times and even days of some others.

Victory Warriors remained the same time and same place as this was running nicely as it was. We lost some due to them moving up to the next group so for the first few weeks numbers were low. However, we carried on persisting with it and we now have a group of teenagers that love coming and will be waiting outside to be let in. They really enjoy it and although still relatively small in number to what we had at the end of last year it is growing each week and it means that we can have deeper conversations with them. This was the club where the transition from Six Pack to Victory Warriors worked as all of our new year 7's came to this club.

On Tuesday's we previously ran Fuse and Activate but by the end of the academic year Fuse had come to an end. When we told the young people one of them said *"You're right I think this club is past resurrection!"* Fuse had run for years and although previously very successful it had got to the point where it's season had ended and continuing would be fruitless. Chris and I felt we needed to keep Activate as it was a place they could grow spiritually. We moved the time forward as it was a bit late for them to come out without Fuse before it. Activate numbers have decreased significantly since the change but I think this is due to some being too old, some leaving because their friends don't come and the fact that there is no longer a social before it. I think a lot of them just stayed for Activate as they were already here and not because they were coming for the spiritual input. Although there has therefore, been a cost of changing it, it has meant that Chris and I can tailor our topics more to them and allows us the room for having some deep discussions with them. The evenings were good and sparked conversations that we wouldn't usually have with them.

Chillies and Cherished stayed much the same, alternate Wednesdays with a mixture of activities inside and outside the church. Attendance for Cherished has remained the same and Chillies has decreased due to the older ones outgrowing this club and the younger ones never making the transition into the older club. Transitioning between clubs is something we need to develop so that we keep our teenagers.

Six Pack by far has been the most successful change. We made the decision to change the day, time and location so that it is now run on a Thursday evening at the Orchards. Although this change had the greatest risk (it was the most well known, the best attended and has always been run on a Friday at 6pm) the risk paid off. We knew we needed to make the changes so that we could get some more volunteer helpers and so that I could have Friday as my day off (to coincide with Tim and to give me a proper break each week). We thought a realistic consequence would be that we would end up with fewer children until it rebuilt itself. You can imagine our delight when our first week back we had 56 children, more than we have ever had before and with so many new kids that we almost ran out of forms! This quickly led to us having to change practically to incorporate this large number so we now use the main hall at the orchards and 'the Haven' and have them in two teams. Numbers remained high forties, fifties for the first half term and now have dropped to high thirties, forties which is much more manageable. We are able to have a lot of fun with them and some good discussions with them. So far they have looked at a number of parables and studied the story of Joseph. The Orchards gives us so much more room to develop the club further and I look forward to the sunnier weather when we could take them outside. My ideal would also be to open the café at least once a month for parents during club time as I think that would be a valuable space for them and a way for us to make further connections with the parents.

Working with parents is a new branch of ministry for us. In order to make such a big change for six pack, Kirsty and I went to every house and gave them a letter outlining what we were going to do and the reasons why. If they were at home it was a chance to speak to them and for them to see our face and if they weren't then they knew we had been around and had taken the time to hand deliver it to them. We decided to make visiting houses a regular occurrence each term. For Christmas we wanted to give them a present so I made some picture frames and went and delivered those to the families. This was a joy to do and fortunately it didn't rain on me at all! I was able to hand them over in person. I couldn't really put them through the letterbox which, although it meant a number of trips to and from the church until they were at home, the parents were incredibly grateful and noticeably surprised in many cases that we were giving them something as a family. I managed to have a couple of longer conversations on the door step which was more than the last time and I hope that this would continue to grow the more I go round and show an interest in not just their children at the club but them as a family.

2015 was a very hard year at times but there were fruits. As we enter 2016 I really hope that we would see more of the seeds we have planted grow and that we would have the opportunity to sow even more seeds. We want to develop our ministry to parents and I think our work with the younger children is where we need to be focussing at the moment. So please pray for us as we work out how best to do this and please also pray for the harvesters so that we would have enough leaders to facilitate these clubs. Thank you for all of our volunteers that support us on a weekly basis, for those that pray, for those that give financially and I hope that this year this Church would continue to follow the path that He has set for us.

18-30'S GROUP REPORT 2015

18-30's carried on running this year with a variety of socials throughout. Attendance was not as high as the previous year (some more went to university) and getting dates that everyone could attend was very hard. We are still trying to organise socials once a month but this doesn't always happen with other commitments that the majority of people in the group have. Having said this we still managed a few socials with events like movie nights, trips to the pub and to the beach. Recently there have been a few new church members in this age group which we hope will increase the level of interest in the group and allow us to run more events.

Luke and Steph Ridgwell

FIRST STEPS TODDLER GROUP REPORT 2015

It has been another successful year for our Toddler group. We have overcome challenges with staffing and now have two new members on our Team. Along with Jean Sach, Betty Mead and Wendy Horton, Kim Davies and Claire Dawkins have now joined us and are very welcome additions. We continue to have good numbers; averaging 14 children a week and still run a waiting list.

We meet Tuesday mornings during term-time 10.00am until 12.00 and enjoy painting, play dough, lots of toys and singing at the end, (and that's just the adults!)

We continue to be pleased at the way our small group reaches into the local community and hope that in some small way we encourage and bless those who attend.

My grateful thanks goes to all of the team, without whom it would not be possible to continue.

Denise Hom

HOME GROUP REPORT 2015

There have been changes in the home groups over the past year and nine groups now meet. Two new groups have started since Christmas. The Lent course we are doing is called *Fleeting Shadows*- How Christ transforms the darkness, based on Psalm 23 and John chapter 10, with notes by Malcolm Duncan.

There was an encouraging meeting of home group leaders at the vicarage on 16th June with a bring and share supper.

Some groups followed the course used in the School of Ministry, on “the Supernatural Ways of Royalty”, during Summer and Autumn 2015.

People who have recently come to Meadgate, as well as those not in home groups, have been encouraged to join one of these groups to do the Lent course.

Godfrey & Angela Harverson

MEADGATE SCHOOL OF MINISTRY REPORT 2015

The latest cohort of Meadgate School of Ministry students commenced 2015 with an impactful one day mission trip to St Francis church in Croydon. Both the vicar and his parishioners found the teaching and ministry sessions to be a powerful time where the Holy Spirit met with them. An invite to return in 2016 along with testimonies of healing and transformation were quick to arrive once the team returned to Chelmsford.

During 2015 classroom teaching has included material on the Father's heart, covenant theology and dealing with offence. The module on gifting and calling was opened to the whole church body and was well received by MSM students and guests alike.

A further mission trip to Albania gave students a chance to proclaim the Good News at the local hospital as well as teaching in small group bible studies and working with the daily children's bible schools. After the trip, the team fed back to the church congregation on Pentecost Sunday in a lively and engaging service.

Christopher Smith, Emma Smith, Mike Fisher

MUSIC GROUP REPORT 2015

We are part of a church that is blessed to be able to provide a diverse range of worship services and as we stop to consider the breadth of styles that can be enjoyed, it is right for us to be thankful to God that so many - old and young, male and female, single and married, new Christians and long-standing Christians - can find a way to enjoy meeting with the living God at Meadgate Church.

It is our delight to use music and song as a way of leading the whole church body in declaring God's greatness and majesty, expressing our love, passion and commitment to Him and turning the eyes and attention of every heart to the one and only Saviour, Jesus. What an amazing thing this is - to use our God given talents to point to Him.

As most years are, 2015 was a year of many changes for the music group - we made a new building a home of our worship and we welcomed a new vicar as a fellow worshipper and leader, both changes of great impact. Along the way there were some other significant events to note:

Meadgate Church was once again approached to provide a group to lead worship at the Good Friday March of Witness in Chelmsford City Centre, which we were very pleased to accept. A full band led sung worship during the service and performed songs both before and after the service. We received positive feedback and thanks for our part in the occasion.

In September Andy Brown left his role of worship pastor to commence ordinand training at Trinity College, Bristol. The role was passed to Emma Smith. Andy's deep involvement in the worship team meant that we lost not only a leader, but also a guitarist, pianist, bassist and drummer! There were quite a few gaps to fill and, with a few new members of the team emerging by the end of the year, the existing team were pleased to have some fresh faces on board. We look forward to welcoming others to the team in 2016, as we continue to explore new band arrangements and combinations.

September also saw the launch of All Stage worship at the 10.30am service. Worship leaders have been involved in the planning of these services and are committed to continuing in the development of this new area of corporate worship.

Over the Christmas period a team effort was made in providing music for many additional services including the Traditional Carol Service and Midnight Communion, as well as a brand new Rocking Carol Service and Christingle Service. The musical elements at each were varied and tasteful; complimenting the desired atmosphere and tone of each service with care and consideration.

Our musicians, vocalists and PA and AV operators make a large commitment on their Sunday mornings and, while I am extremely grateful to them for all they do, I also encourage them to continue serving passionately; their obedience and willingness to give of themselves is so important to the whole church and they can only gain from the honour of being able to play a part in bringing glory to God in this way.

We look ahead to this new season with joyful anticipation and an ever-growing hunger for all that God has for us.

Emma Smith

PRAYER MINISTRY REPORT 2015

As in all churches, the prayer life is so important.

We cover quite an area of prayer but there is always room for more!

1. The main time of meeting for prayer is the Friday morning 10.30am – 12 .00noon.

We meet weekly during term time but anyone else would be very welcome.

We encourage all groups and individuals to keep us informed so we can pray intelligently.

It has been exciting to see the Holy Spirit lead us and answer our prayers.

2. The Emergency Prayer Chain continues to be used for church members with urgent requests.

3. It is encouraging to also hear a group of younger members meet regularly to pray together.

4. The Prayer Ministry team continue to pray together before the service then offer pray during the Sunday morning services. This is open for others to join us in praying for the 3 services and to hear from God any special words He wants us to share with you all. We are looking for new members to join us but they will need to be available for training.

This ministry also takes place, led by the youth team, at their 7.30pm Sunday service.

5. I hope you are also aware that there is a tin, at the back of the Orchards, where you can put in prayer requests for the church staff to pick up and pray for you.

6. For the past several months 2 new areas of prayer have started up.

i. Prayer walking round the estate. We have split the roads of our parish into groups and walk round a few twice a month praying and talking to anyone we meet. There have been some good chats and also requests for prayer!

ii. Putting daily prayers on our news sheet. I have enjoyed joining with this especially as it is written in the plural so we are praying together although in our separate homes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many members who can't get to meetings but faithfully pray at home. We appreciate you!

We are very excited to hear there is now 24/7 prayer in Chelmsford. For up to date details please refer to -enquiries@chelmsford24-7.org

Sue Marriott

SOAKING MINISTRY REPORT 2015

The number of people coming to soak very much fluctuated this year.

Going from 6 one week to 2 another week, sometimes only one.

Unfortunately, due to ill health, I cancelled Soaking from the end of September as I could not continue.

Though this year has not been all that it could be, I still feel in my spirit that it is a vital part of our walk with God; I have spoken with Anita Ball and have thought of changing the frequency to once a month to be resumed in the future.

Judith Sheppard

notes

An INVITATIONAL Church

Monday Café Report

Oasis Report

Parent Café Report

The Orchards Community Café Report

MONDAY CAFÉ REPORT 2015

Operates every Monday during school term between 8.45am and 12.30noon. It is an opportunity to serve our community of Meadgate, the shoppers, shop owners and the handy men working around and within the area.

The location of The Parade makes Monday café so attractive to even one time shoppers at the shops and those picking up their medicine from the pharmacy.

However there has been a decline in the numbers of people attending due to changes in people lives; aging for some, sickness and illness, having to take care of parents and losing loved ones. The opening of the Community Café at The Orchards has not affected the Monday café at all.

A selection of freshly prepared hot and cold food including drinks are served. Seeing the vegetable soup very popular it had to be served all year round. The staff had an opportunity to attend training in food handling and the kitchen had to undergo a period of cleaning update which has made it a better place to live and work.

Not only food is served but advice and prayers where need be or when requested. For issues that could not be met within the outreach programme (Monday café) people were directed to the appropriate source of help.

It has been a good ground for growth for the members of the church as we came together to serve and invest time in others still seeking. A great number of staff lost parents and are still receiving support from others. They are coping well but are still grieving learning new skills (how to cook) and to express God's love to others.

On the other hand, helpers are still needed mainly to offer pastoral care and to keep them accompanied right from the start of the day.

Nardia Takawira, Doris & Bill Hill, Bill Rogers, Sheila, Carl, Mary, Sandra (Asda Community Workers)

OASIS CAFÉ REPORT 2015

A small core of people has regularly helped on the second Saturday of each month up til the spring/summer of 2015. Thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way. However, due to change in people's circumstances, the small core of regular helpers has shrunk in numbers to very small! The Oasis café is desperate for new people to volunteer especially to cook. We are now down to two or three people who are willing to cook, one of which has to now work on some Saturdays. The others are not able to volunteer every month. It has also become increasingly difficult to find the right number of volunteers - a team of nine people each month for the café to run smoothly.

Due to the shortage of volunteers, it has been decided to run Oasis on alternate months rather than every month for the present e.g. February, April, and June 2016. I am looking for willing volunteers to come onto the rota willing to cook, help in the kitchen or waitress if you feel God is calling you into this important outreach ministry. Please let Tim or I know.

Oasis remained at the parade due to the number of folks who came by there at weekends therefore connecting with people in a place where they accessed easily. Connections at the parade tend to be different from the Orchards as both sites attract different sections of the community, all equally important if we want to tell/show people about Gods love for them. If more help becomes available, then Oasis can occur again on a monthly basis.

Legislation has required that the church registers the premises with the local authority for the times food is sold on the premises particularly with reference to food hygiene and declaring allergens that may affect some folk. This has an effect on the menu in that homemade cakes cannot be included unless our willing bakers had their home registered with the local authority too. The cost of a full English breakfast or a light lunch has remained low to cover the cost of the food consumed and not to make a profit aiming to encourage individuals from our community to come in and meet us and more importantly meet and know God for themselves.

Please pray for the direction God wants to take Oasis in the future- a new season for new, bigger, exciting things to happen.

Gail Brown

PARENT CAFÉ REPORT 2015

Parent Café ran successfully this year until September. These links with the parents from the school give us great insight into what the specific needs are in our community.

I feel we have successfully empowered these Mums to meeting regularly to support one another outside of the group.

In September/ October Judith unfortunately became ill and was no longer able to help with the running of the café. This combined with the parents not requiring our weekly input anymore, has prompted the closure of this group from Easter 2016.

I will instead base myself at the Community Café on a Thursday morning and use this time to also visit families in their homes with Steph and Toni, to offer prayer and help for any other needs they may have. The current group of Mums will not be forgotten, as we will visit them in their homes for more 'one to one' help.

Kirsty Pearce

THE ORCHARDS COMMUNITY CAFÉ REPORT 2015

As you know we threw open our doors on 5th September 2015 with great excitement and are open 5 days a week during term time.

We have a happy band of volunteers (I hope) and we have gained skills in making the best Hot Chocolate in Town, the smoothest Flat White this side of the Army and Navy and our toilet cleaning skills are also beyond compare!

We have met lots of new mums, grandparents and toddlers and on our busiest day we had a total of 30 little visitors.

The Café itself does not get a busy as we would like but the recent Wednesday Bible study saw up to 20 people gathered round coffee cups, their bibles (and the Vicar) We would like to develop this side of the café, and have more focused events. Maybe a chess morning or poetry reading sessions or other such events that we can invite people to. Have you ideas and the energy to make them happen?

By the time you read this Support4 Sight, and Lark rise Children's services will both have started using the venue for their work. Our city councillors hold regular surgery's in the Café so that the community can meet their elected representatives. And a number of other new ventures are in the pipeline.

Our future depends on YOU.

We don't want to be just another coffee shop, but something unique and place where people can come and be shown Christ's love as they are served.

Can you give a few hours a week or a month to serve coffee, to listen or to talk to people? We want to reach our community; and you may be just the link we are looking for. Please pray and see if God is calling you to this area of ministry.

Anita Ball

notes

Parish of Great Baddow
Meadgate Church

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for
year ended 31 December 2015

Meadgate Church

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2015	FUNDS 2014
	Note				
INCOME from					
Voluntary income	2a	148,821	13,171	161,992	129,175
Activities for generating funds	2b	4,604	-	4,604	3,759
Investment income	2c	2	8	10	53
Income from church activities	2d	7,028	74	7,102	9,353
Other incomings	2e	275	-	275	237
TOTAL		<u>160,730</u>	<u>13,253</u>	<u>173,983</u>	<u>142,577</u>
Expenditure on					
Church activities	3a	142,344	27,661	170,005	156,522
Generation of voluntary income	3c	44	-	44	39
TOTAL		<u>142,388</u>	<u>27,661</u>	<u>170,049</u>	<u>156,561</u>
Net movement in funds		18,342	(14,408)	3,934	(13,984)
Total funds brought forward		5,033	25,744	30,777	44,761
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED		<u>23,375</u>	<u>11,336</u>	<u>34,711</u>	<u>30,777</u>

Meadgate Church

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2015

		UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	Total Funds	
	Note			2015	2014
FIXED ASSETS					
Minibus	4a		1	1	1
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	11,449		11,449	19,425
Short term deposit		-	474	474	472
Cash at bank / in hand		14,867	10,861	25,728	13,059
		<u>26,316</u>	<u>11,335</u>	<u>37,651</u>	<u>32,956</u>
LIABILITIES					
Creditors falling due within one year	8	2,941	-	2,941	2,180
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>23,375</u>	<u>11,335</u>	<u>34,710</u>	<u>30,776</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>23,375</u>	<u>11,336</u>	<u>34,711</u>	<u>30,777</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted		23,375		23,375	5,033
Restricted	9		11,336	11,336	25,744
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>23,375</u>	<u>11,336</u>	<u>34,711</u>	<u>30,777</u>

Meadgate Church

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015

Note	UNRESTRICTED		RESTRICTED		TOTAL FUNDS	
	General fund	Development fund	Outreach & evangelism	Minibus		
2 INCOME from						
2a Voluntary income						
Planned giving :						
Gift aid donations	91,204	1,980			93,184	75,434
Open-plate collections	5,638				6,403	
Gift Days	11,175				2,202	
Sundry Donations	11,760	2,874			14,634	16,665
Gift Aid recoverable	23,499	1,123			24,622	20,671
Grants for Youth Work & Mission	5,545	7,194			12,739	7,800
	<u>148,821</u>	<u>13,171</u>			<u>161,992</u>	<u>129,175</u>
2b Activities for generating funds						
Fund-raising events	2,095				2,095	-
Use of building - non-church purposes	2,509				2,509	3,759
	<u>4,604</u>				<u>4,604</u>	<u>3,759</u>
2c Investment income						
Interest	2	4	4		10	53
	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>		<u>10</u>	<u>53</u>
2d Income from church activities						1
Resource contributions	121	74			195	,004
Courses	1,417				1,417	2,471
Minibus contributions	2,760				2,760	250
Outreach (incl youth activities)	268				268	5,598
Use of building - church purposes	2,462				2,462	30
	<u>7,028</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,102</u>	<u>9,353</u>
2d Other incomings						
Sundries	275				275	237
	<u>275</u>				<u>275</u>	<u>237</u>
TOTAL INCOME	160,730	13,249	4	-	173,983	142,577
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	142,388	21,142	6,519	-	170,049	156,561
	<u>18,342</u>	<u>(7,893)</u>	<u>(6,515)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,934</u>	<u>(13,984)</u>
12 Brought forward	5,033	12,571	13,172	1	30,777	44,761
Carried forward	<u>23,375</u>	<u>4,678</u>	<u>6,657</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>34,711</u>	<u>30,777</u>

Meadgate Church

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2015 [cont'd]

Note	UNRESTRICTED		RESTRICTED		TOTAL FUNDS	
	General Fund	Development Fund	Outreach & Evangelism Fund	Minibus Fund	2015	2014
3 EXPENDITURE on						
3a Church activities						
Missionary & charitable giving: (see Note 11)						
Church overseas						
- missionary societies	700				700	53
- relief & development agencies	200				200	-
- overseas mission trips	195				195	2,719
Home missions & other societies	4,082				4,082	2,110
Secular charities	428				428	521
	<u>5,605</u>				<u>5,605</u>	<u>5,403</u>
Ministry: Parish share	59,539				59,539	55,200
Team Vicar expenses	958				958	555
Church running costs	22,623				22,623	14,561
Church maintenance	5,374				5,374	6,331
Church administration	9,542				9,542	10,066
Professional fees on leasing The Orchards	-				-	1,894
Orchards Café	1,441				1,441	-
Church catering	2,601				2,601	2,688
Children and Youth work	21,909				21,909	29,850
Other Training & Mission - see Note 9	6,829		6,519		13,348	14,514
Course Expenses	2,133				2,133	1,572
Resources	1,273				1,273	498
Equipment & fittings - see Note 9	415	21,142			21,557	7,272
Minibus - running expenses	1,826				1,826	1,977
- depreciation	-				-	2,777
Sundries	276				276	1,364
	<u>142,344</u>	<u>21,142</u>	<u>6,519</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,005</u>	<u>156,522</u>
3c Generating voluntary income						
Offerory envelopes	44				44	39
	<u>44</u>				<u>44</u>	<u>39</u>
TOTAL	<u>142,388</u>	<u>21,142</u>	<u>6,519</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,049</u>	<u>156,561</u>

Meadgate Church

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 (cont'd)

Note

4a TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Meadgate church is held on a long lease and as a dedicated building is used for church purposes. Its leasehold value is not included in these accounts but its insurance value in 2015 was £1,099,000.

The Orchards is held on a three year lease from the County Council from July 2014 so there is no value included in these accounts and its insurance value is not relevant.

Minibus bought in 2010 to be depreciated over 5 years.

Gross book value	At 1. 1. 2015	17,356
	At 31.12.2015	<u>17,356</u>
Depreciation	At 1.1.2015	17,355
	Charged for year	-
	At 31.12.2015	<u>17,355</u>
Net book value	At 31.12.2015	1
	At 1. 1. 2015	1

2015 2014

5 STAFF COSTS

Wages and salaries	33,998	41,049
Social security costs	907	1,204
	<u>34,905</u>	<u>42,253</u>

The Church employed a full-time Youth Minister, one Youth Intern for 3 months and another for 8 months, an administrator, a pastoral visitor and a community worker.

The average number of (full-time equivalent) staff was 2 (2014: 2).

6 PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES

In addition to reimbursement of expenses to Revd Tim Ball (see note 3a), £3,562 maternity pay was paid out for Emma Smith's previous employment as Youth Minister (her husband being a connected person and a trustee).

7 DEBTORS

Gift Aid recoverable	- General Fund	7,346	13,115
	- Development Fund	-	203
Prepayments	- General Fund	3,105	3,130
PAYE /Maternity pay	- General Fund	435	1,626
Other	- General Fund	563	1,351
		<u>11,449</u>	<u>19,425</u>

8 CREDITORS - due within 1 Year

Tax & social security	1,054	-
Prepayments	500	700
Missionary/giving accruals	250	870
Other creditors	1,137	610
(All General Fund)	<u>2,941</u>	<u>2,180</u>

Meadgate Church

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 (cont'd)

Note

9 RESTRICTED FUNDS

The **Development Fund** is used for the periodic renovation and improvement of facilities at The Parade and at The Orchards. During the year £21,142 was spent on setting up the kitchen and soft-play area in The Orchards, towards which we received a grant of £7,194 from the Diocesan Mission Fund. (2014 - £5,337 spent on lighting and sound systems at The Orchards.)

The **Minibus Fund** was set up with money donated and raised to buy a minibus for use in the community and with our youth groups, and a 17-seater was purchased after generous donations in 2010.

The **Outreach and Evangelism Fund** was created by an anonymous donor who specified that the donation should be used to spread the Word in the community, and not for church fabric and buildings. In 2015 £3,795 was used to support part of the community and pastoral workers' costs (2014 £3,690) and £2,724 towards the cost of the summer and Christmas festivals as well as other community outreach events (2014 £3,257).

11 MISSIONARY and other GIVING

Payments in the year (in addition to direct contributions from members) comprised the following :-

	Overseas Missions	Home Societies	Secular
Albanian/Mission Trips	895		
CADEF		360	
Chess			400
Children in Need			28
Church Army		1,500	
Church at the Car Boot Sale		500	
Churches Together in Chelmsford		190	
Diocesan Retreat House, Pleshey		400	
Evangelical Alliance		90	
Friends of Essex Clergy		242	
Grant for Bethel College Student		800	
Samaritans Purse - Nepal Earthquake Appeal	200		
Total	£ 5,605	4,082	428



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