

St Luke, Great Crosby, Liverpool

**Annual Report
of the
Parochial Church Council**

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Administrative Information

St Luke's Church, 71 Liverpool Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 5SE

Telephone Number: 0151 931 3119

Office correspondence to Parish Administrator (Gaynor Robertson), Parish Centre, at the above address.

For the period 1 January 2020 until the date of approval for this report, the following people served as PCC members:

Vicar:	Rev Amanda Bruce	(Chair)
SSM Curate:	Rev Jackie Parry	
Church Wardens:	Mrs Agnes Law Dr Colin Stephens	
Vice Chair:	Mr John Turner	
Treasurer:	Dr Caroline Ramsey	(from Dec 2017)
Secretary:	Mrs Rosemary Turner	
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Mrs Rosemary Turner Mrs Zorina Jones Dr Caroline Ramsey Mr Keith Cawdron Vacant	(from APCM 2020) (from APCM 2020) (from APCM 2019) (from APCM 2020)
General Synod Lay Reader rep	Mr Keith Cawdron	
Elected Members:	Mrs Marina Penzie Mrs Jeannie Metcalfe Mr Colin Gill Mr John Turner Mr Brian Cranny Mr Jim Stewart Mrs Jane Stephens Mrs Diane McMaster Mrs Lesley Deninson Mrs Carole Firth Mrs Karen Austin-Smith Miss Michelle Heaps	(from APCM 2020) (from May 2017) (from APCM 2018) (from APCM 2018) (from APCM 2019) (from APCM 2019) (from APCM 2019) (from APCM 2019) (from APCM 2019) (from APCM 2020) (from APCM 2020) (from APCM 2020)
Ex-officio Clergy	Rev. Dave Lowrie Rev. Margaret Quayle Rev. Barbara Chambers	

Bankers: Barclays Bank, 18-22 Liverpool Road, Crosby,
Liverpool L23 5SF

Independent Examiner: Mr. Tony Deegan, Community Accountant, (from Jan 18)
Sefton CVS, 3rd Floor, North Wing, Burlington

House Crosby Road North, Waterloo L22 0LG

Legal Advisers: Black Norman, 67-71 Coronation Road, Crosby,
Liverpool, L23 5RE

Quinquennial Architect: Mr Bill Schafer, 56 Belvidere Road,
Ashton in Makerfield, WN14 8RU

Day to day management control of the Church is exercised by the Vicar and Church Wardens.

Structure, Management and Governance

St Luke's Church PCC is a body corporate and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1128698 the method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC operates two sub committees: The Standing Committee and World Mission Group.

The Standing Committee prepares the agenda for the Parochial Church Council meetings and transacts any business that it has been empowered to do so. It also acts as a finance committee. Membership comprises: Vicar, vice-chair, Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, PCC Treasurer and one person elected by the PCC.

The World Mission Group, on behalf of the PCC, encourages support for annually agreed people and projects.

The Eco Group continue to promote Eco church and activities within the community.

PCC members have all been made aware of their responsibilities as trustees and understand basic health and safety, risk assessment and management, safeguarding of vulnerable adults and child protection procedures.

Risk assessments:

The PCC are mindful of their responsibilities in making their decisions.

Financial risk:

The treasurer reports to each PCC meeting on the income and expenditure. The standing committee acts as a finance committee to support and advise. Investments are only made in approved low risk funds for charity use or where funds might support the Archbishop of Canterbury's initiative to create a fairer financial system for the whole community.

Health and safety

The PCC have appointed Mr Jim Stewart a member of the church with specific experience in this field to ensure that they are compliant with procedures and are made aware of changes. The Health and Safety policy is reviewed annually.

Child and Vulnerable Adult protection

The PCC had appointed Mr John Webster as Child Protection Officer and Mr Alistair Hanlon-Green as Safeguarding Officer. The PCC offers their thanks for all they have done in ensuring that the Parish is compliant with good Safeguarding practice and policy. Our policies are in line with those of the Diocese of Liverpool.

GDPR

The PCC appointed Mr Colin Gill as GDPR officer. The PCC offers thanks for all he has done in ensuring our systems and practices are GDPR compliant, especially as we introduced a new data management system, ChurchSuite.

Operational risk

If the church building could not be used for any reason, the church hall would be used.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states the PCC "is to co-operate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical".

When planning activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion.

Review of our Achievements and performance in the year 2020

The Covid 19 Pandemic during 2020 significantly lessened opportunities to progress the mission plan or to review it. Discussions have been had within digital forums to consider this further.

Our current vision

"Follow Christ and Share His love by serving our Community"

Our values

All Involved,
Becoming Disciples,
Creating Community,
Doing Evangelism,
Encountering God,
Facilitating change.

Prevailing Scriptures for the new year:

- Micah 6.8: '...What is good has been explained to you, man; this is what Yahweh asks of you: only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God' (The Jerusalem Bible).
- Matt 22.37-39: "You shall love the Lord your God with all heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself" (NRSV).

Our Purpose is to Follow Jesus and Share God's love by Serving our community
St Luke's Church is called to partner with Jesus Christ in building his Kingdom in and around Crosby,

enabling social and spiritual change through
our partnerships with other agencies and
our involvement in our community.

We aim to be...

...a Christ-centred worshipping Community of Hospitality,
whose hallmarks are welcome, invitation, hospitality, generosity and fun.

We aim to create...

...Christ-centred hubs of worship, care and fun that enrich the lives of all people by transforming oppression to freedom, loneliness to friendship, poverty to security, fear to generosity, independence to inter-dependence, striving to flourishing, comfort to challenge.

We choose to do this by learning to live up to the following **values**:

A – All Involved...

...believing that all people are valuable and have gifts to offer, we all aim to be involved in making community life happen.

B – Being Disciples...

...believing that Christ is our model, redeemer and King, we aim to learn to be like Jesus and follow his ways of justice and healing.

C – Creating Community...

...believing that Community was God's gift to us, we aim to be both involved in and help to form communities based on God's love, generosity and care.

D – Doing Evangelism...

...believing that God loves all people, we aim to make known and share his love through serving our community in practical and life-giving ways.

E – Encountering God...

...believing that who we are and what we do should be based in God, we aim to encounter God through worship and action both individually and corporately.

F – Facilitating Change...

...believing that change is inherent to the People of God, we aim to grow into greater spiritual maturity as pilgrims and disciples.

Summary of review of objectives...

The start of 2020 saw the start of the Covid pandemic then the resulting lockdowns and impact on church activities. Much of the early part of the year was taken up with responding to changing regulations.

We were quickly able to offer a weekly online pre-recorded service, which was delivered to those without connectivity as a DVD. Online Zoom coffee chat was also started and proved very popular with many church members. Sermon series' continued and in Autumn we had a series on Creation. As and when church attendance has been permitted, a Sunday service was resumed, whilst maintaining the online presence. Extra activities such as 'Listening to God' prayer evenings and social events were organised through Zoom. Many church members were involved in both the online services and in church services, with rotas managed by the office and the IT team.

Our IT database system, 'ChurchSuite', has proved its value in resourcing online events and ensuring that church members received information as required. Our databases have been reviewed and updated throughout the year and continue to improve. All information is treated as per GDPR requirements, and monitored by our GDPR officer.

In the grounds, work has continued through a mix of employee and volunteers within restrictions. It has not been possible to undertake any of the community events in the church grounds.

The Pastoral Care team continued to provide care for those in our church and community via phone calls and doorstep visits.

Small groups have been encouraged to follow the sermon series and to continue to meet via Zoom and this has largely been successful. Messaging Apps have also proved to be popular ways of maintaining contact. Whilst hindered and delayed by Covid lockdown (like so much else), the process of developing discipleship and leadership through the Kairos Learning Community teachings has been built on by the Vicar's study leave in late 2019. Specifically the teachings within the Purpose-Driven Church movement seemed useful and to fit within the parish context of St Luke's Crosby, following teaching at the Leader's day away in 2019 and further investigation and thought. A St Luke's Membership Course was then run in Autumn of 2020 based this material.

Links with the Church school have been maintained through visits, when allowed, by the Vicar, Rev. Amanda, who is also the link Governor for year 6. Lesley Deninson continues to chair the Governing body.

The membership of any Anglican church is often signified by the Electoral Roll. In 2020 there were 236 members.

Worship

Attendance figures

- Sundays from 5th January – 15th March - is 145 adults with 21 children.
- Wednesday morning for Holy Communion was, on average, 10 adults
- Attendance figures for Easter Day were 0 due to the pandemic.
- An act of worship is led weekly in St Luke's Halsall primary school, when the school was open.

All Christmas services unfortunately were not attended due to the pandemic. We are indebted to all those who have help prepare and lead our worship when we have been able.

We took 3 weddings for which wedding preparation sessions were held. We also took 27 funerals and thanks go to Hazel Large and Vera De Villiers who undertook bereavement calling afterwards. In November we had a Memorial Day of Reflection when the church was open with a walk through for reflection and prayer for people to remember those who had died over the past couple of years. We also conducted 4 baptisms.

Pastoral Care and service to our community

A report from those organising our cell groups, pastoral visiting team, home communion visiting, Living with Loss, Women's Fellowship, Mother's Union, Keystone (for carers of people with dementia) and prayer ministry can be found in our organisations' report.

Youth and children's work

A report from those organising our work with those aged 0-18 on Sundays, uniformed organisations, toddler group (Stepping Stones/Pram Club), Double Digits, TAG (Teenagers and God) and The Way can be found in our organisations' report.

Church Schools

We value highly our links with St. Luke's Halsall Church of England primary school. A number of church members are on the Governing Body or on the staff of the school or volunteer in some capacity. A dedicated team of clergy and Lay people also take assemblies each week.

Other Churches

We are full members of Churches Together in Great Crosby and members of the Sefton Deanery (Church of England)

Church Buildings Mr Paul Beardwood is maintenance manager and oversees any work required on any of our buildings and Renee Orme cleans all the buildings to a high standard. Renee was furloughed as necessary and was able to return to work as required.

The Parish Centre is usually the office of the Church Administrator, Gaynor Robertson, and her team of volunteers. Gaynor has worked from home for most of 2020 and the office has been closed. Volunteers have delivered the Service DVDs and Newsletters. The Vicarage porch has become a place for collection and drop off for all church members. The rest of the parish centre has been closed throughout 2020.

Church Grounds

Mr Dan Dean works in the graveyard alongside a dedicated team of volunteers to maintain it. As part of our mission in the local community, we continue to make our church grounds look very attractive and have developed many garden areas open to all. Volunteers have attended throughout the year on an individual basis to work in the grounds.

Factors relevant to the achievement of our stated objectives

We were very fortunate to have many members of the church who were able to volunteer their services where and when required during this difficult year when so many have had to isolate at home.

Finance, Giving and Fundraising continue to be a witness as to how God is providing for his work in this place even with our forever increasing commitments. We have a large increasing parish share which contributes towards the cost of ministry both in our own parish and other churches right across the diocese. Our main source of income was again the direct giving by our members and reclaimed Gift Aid tax. We finished the year with a small deficit.

Mission and charitable giving the church community has been challenged to respond to the question "How much should I keep?" rather than 'How much should I give?'

The financial outlook for the future continues to pose questions for the PCC, because a high proportion of the direct giving by the congregation is given by those over 70 years of age. We are trying to reach out to younger members and encouraging them, when they are ready, to join our planned giving scheme.

Reserves Policy It is the PCC's wish to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to three months expenditure, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

Strategic Objectives for 2021:

As we transition out of the Covid lockdowns and into more face-to-face meetings and social activity again, with communitywork once again allowed, we are reviewing our objectives although our purpose and aims remain the same:

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Objectives for 2021:

Our main objective for 2021, as we journey back to a more communityway of life, is to review how we meet the vision and purpose we feel we have been given and are called to.

As we review and re-establish our long-term objectives during 2021 we are aware that there are changes that need making. Specifically, our objectives need to include a fuller digital and electronic presence within the community and across the church, our worship needs to become more accessible and we need to recognise and respond to the felt needs of those in our community more fully, socially, pastorally and spiritually.

Annual Report approved by PCC 7th October 2020