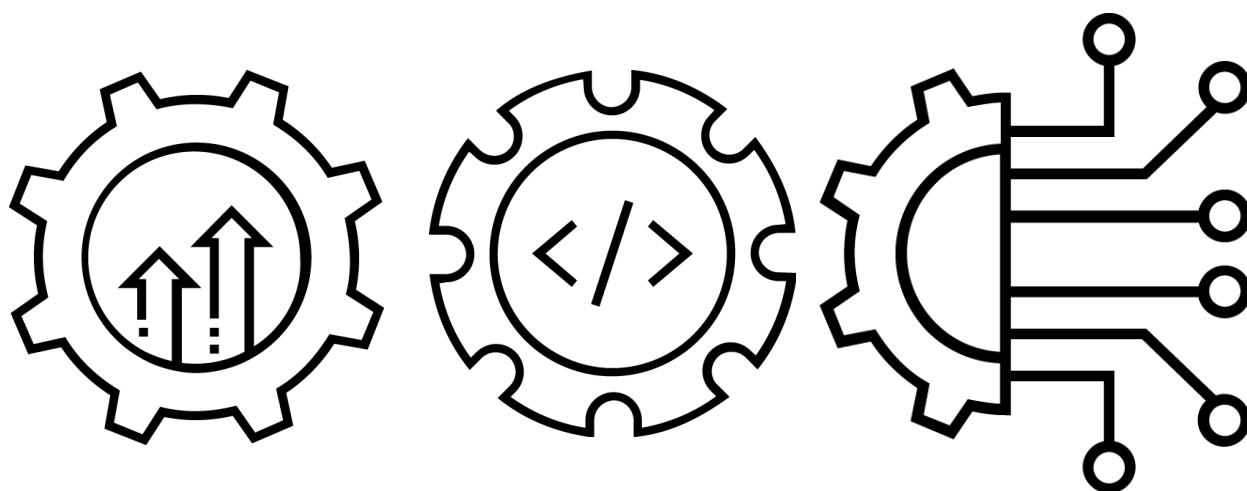


2019

ANNUAL REPORT



Foreword

The annual report is a highlight reel, and this report is no different. Looking back on 2019 seems like a series of highlights when the church came together to give glory to God and to serve to town in numerous different ways. The weeks of prayer were a significant highlight, seeing the creativity and the care with which we were all encouraged to connect to God through prayer. We've seen new programmes developed, particularly Worship Central, and others have finished for this season, including Young at Heart. We've seen massive expansion in events like Mega Mondays, and we've said goodbye to some beloved members. As this report goes to press, we're in the middle of a Coronavirus outbreak, and the nation is on lockdown. The church has left the building. Yet the church continues in this new form, a church in every home, as we seek to connect to God, change with God and transform for God.

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Rector's Report

Mark Pickett



Welcome to St James' Annual Reports, and my seventeenth Rector's Report. Is it really that long?!

As you read these reports of the life of St James' I hope like me you are encouraged and excited.

I am encouraged by so many things, but here are some of my highlights. I am encouraged with our developing prayer life. The brilliantly creative prayer weeks have been catalysts in deepening both our corporate and individual prayer. I am encouraged by the engagement of so many in the life of St James'. Not just the numbers that now consider themselves part of our fellowship, but the way engagement has deepened. This has been shown in our recent lockdown in our pastoral care as well as those engaged so creatively in our worship. I am encouraged by the organisational life of our church. One of the side effects of that organisation has been a further sense of belonging and community

amongst us. I am so encouraged with our partnership with other local mission projects. Gateway Counselling, the 180 project, CAP, TLG, ARC are all local to us serving and working with specific groups of people. Finally, I am encouraged by the desire for growth in discipleship amongst us. This was exemplified by the number, scope and commitment of those that engaged with the discipleship track.

As I enter my eighteenth year there are many things I am excited about. Lucy, our new youth minister arrived just before lockdown which has been difficult. However, I am excited about the plans we have for youth outreach; working with the Grand, the skatepark, the schools and other churches to reach hundreds of youngsters with the Gospel. I am excited about the development of our family faith ministries; Superheroes, Little Fishes and Mega Mondays as we

seek to connect families to God so that they become families of faith, changing with God and transforming for God in the community. Finally I am excited about the continuing and amazing opportunities to share the Gospel in word and deed in our community. Whether it is through one of our serving projects, our outreach events, or, (and this has been proved through the lockdown period,) our reach through social media) let us continue to transform our networks and neighbourhoods for God and for His glory.

Wardens Report

Keith Potts and Mary Haworth

There is so much to celebrate as we look back over the past year. We thank our ever faithful God for His grace and love which He generously pours out upon us. Our family at St James is such a blessed place to be, we are so encouraged to see how dynamic and varied church life is as we reach out with love into our community.

We are blessed to have Mark as our Rector, we thank him for his whole hearted commitment in seeking God, for his spiritual awareness in leading us into God's presence; we are blessed by his inspired teaching and wisdom.

We have been blessed by the arrival of our new Curate, Ian Sarginson and his wife Kate.

We thank the Leadership Team and Lay Readers for their teaching and wise words.

For all involved with Kings Highway Church, we thank you for your dedication. The prayer and financial support given by the church to our extended family in Kenya has been amazing.

Our worship teams and technical teams play such an important part in bringing all of us from the youngest to the oldest into God's presence. We are grateful to all those who lead worship and so help us glorify God.

Thank you to all who minister and serve on a Sunday morning with Kingdom Tiddlers, Kids and Youth, leading the children and young people into God's presence and helping them to grow in God's love, your commitment and enthusiasm is invaluable.

The Youth have been so blessed by Jo Pellet for many years, we pray that God will continue to lead her as she moves on to pastures new. We thank Ali Campbell for his commitment to the youth of the church as we await Lucy our new Youth Pastor to arrive in 2020. We thank Helen Potts, Children & Family Worker. Our church children and Rockin kids are encountering God, strong ties continue to be made with St James Primary School and we are reaching out to a growing number of families through Friday Superheroes.

We appreciate the warm welcome given by members of the Welcoming Team and Coffee Team, your kind smiles are a blessing to all.

Thank you to those involved with the planning and preparation of the prayer weeks, they were inspirational and challenging. Thank you to the Prayer Chain, Prayer Ministry Team and Sozo Team for their dedication and support, you are amazing.

We also realise that there are many jobs undertaken by people that go un-noticed from flower arranging to bell ringing, maintenance and gardening. For those who encourage us to transform the world by praying and supporting charities at home and abroad. We thank you all.

We thank Graham Haldane, CAP Centre Manager, we are grateful for all the lives that have been blessed and supported by you.

We are very grateful for the service and support of our Deputy Wardens; Colin Wrighton, Thomas Marsh, Andrew Stevens and Roger Price. Thanks to Nick Schumann for his continued work in editing Network magazine. Thank you to Sue Clark for taking on the role of Church Treasurer and for Colin White for reclaiming Gift Aid. For the commitment of the PCC members, we thank you.

We thank Naomi Lynas, Operations Manager for her hard work and dedication, she has been such a blessing to the church and so supportive of the Church Staff.

Let's stay close to the heart of father God. To God be the glory, honour and praise.

Fabric Report

Keith Potts



We are so blessed to have such an amazing building at St James. We can report that the building is generally in a very good condition. Minor urgent repairs have been actioned over this last year to keep the building watertight. The electrical installation has been inspected and tested, urgent repairs have been completed. Work was completed to the drains during the Summer months, which has resolved a long term problem of flooding in the Gents toilets.

Items of work listed within the Quinquennial Report are under consideration and will be actioned in due course. Annual testing of fire extinguishers and fire alarm has taken place. A big thank you to those who have helped keep the premises in good order over the past 12 months.

Operations

Naomi Lynas

2019 was my first full year in the role of Operations Manager, and I can honestly say I haven't regretted leaving teaching - yet!

The first few months of the year was dedicated to having a good old clear out - the office, the kitchen and the rooms upstairs each had a massive sort out, and I've become a bit militant about what is allowed back in the building.

Our Welcome Team was also established, and we've tried to be really proactive about connecting people into the community of the church.

Over the Summer, the website got an overhaul, which was a definite labour of love, and it's certainly getting put to the test in the current lockdown. Our website visitor numbers have increased since the re-brand, and there is much more integration with ChurchSuite. In November, Sue Clark was appointed in a part-time admin role. There has been - and there continues to be - a real tension in how much of my time I dedicate to admin, and how much is dedicated to strategy and oversight. Having Sue on board has really helped to manage that balance.

Thank you to everyone who helps with rotas, serving, sound and AV, and especially the finances - you know how much I rely on you all!

Finances Report

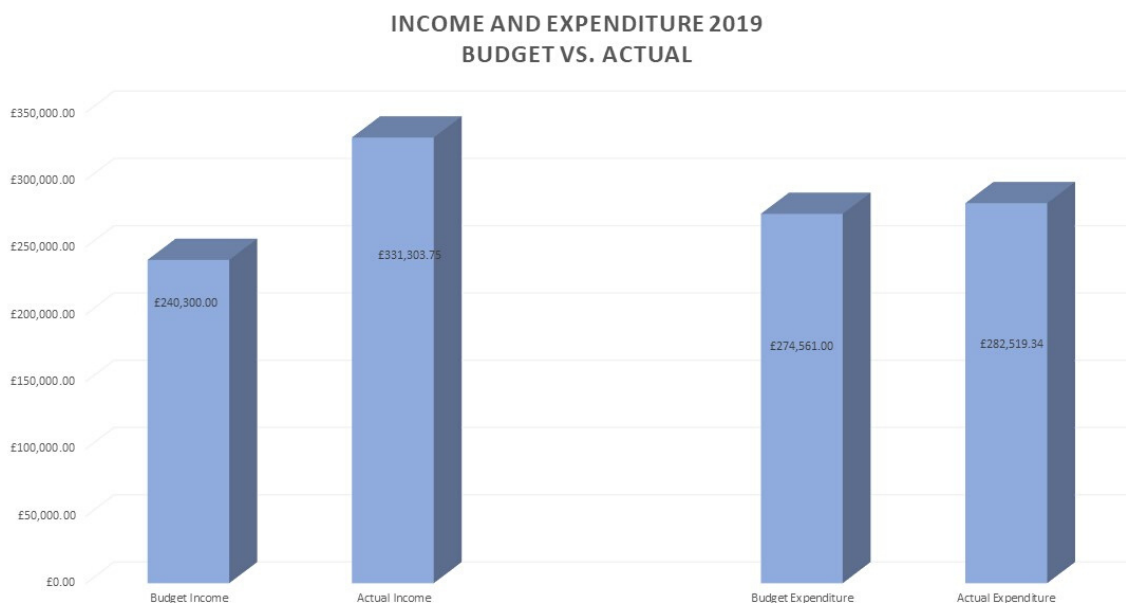
Naomi Lynas

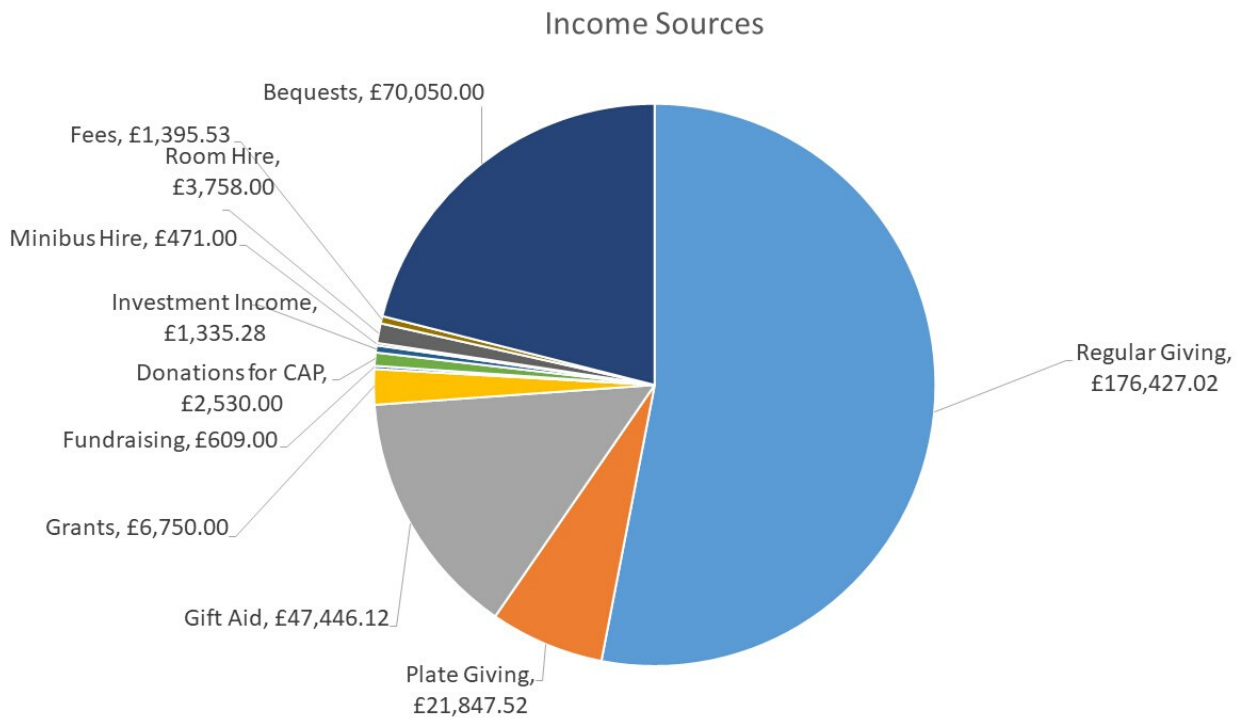
Despite beginning 2019 with a deficit budget, we have seen God provide financially in amazing ways.

The past year has seen a huge overhaul of our finances, and the adoption of a Xero accounting package. This means we have a closer grip on our finances than ever before, and we can look really accurately at where we are investing financially into the kingdom - and where we need to rein it in.

In early 2019, we shared with the church about the real challenge we are facing: our regular income simply wasn't enough to support our outgoings. In response, our regular giving (via Standing Order) increased by £16,000 over the course of the year. Many people moved from plate giving to regular Standing Orders, and we thank you for this. We decided to stop passing the collection plate in May, and we did see a drop in plate giving, but perhaps not as much as would be expected, as many people moved to online giving.

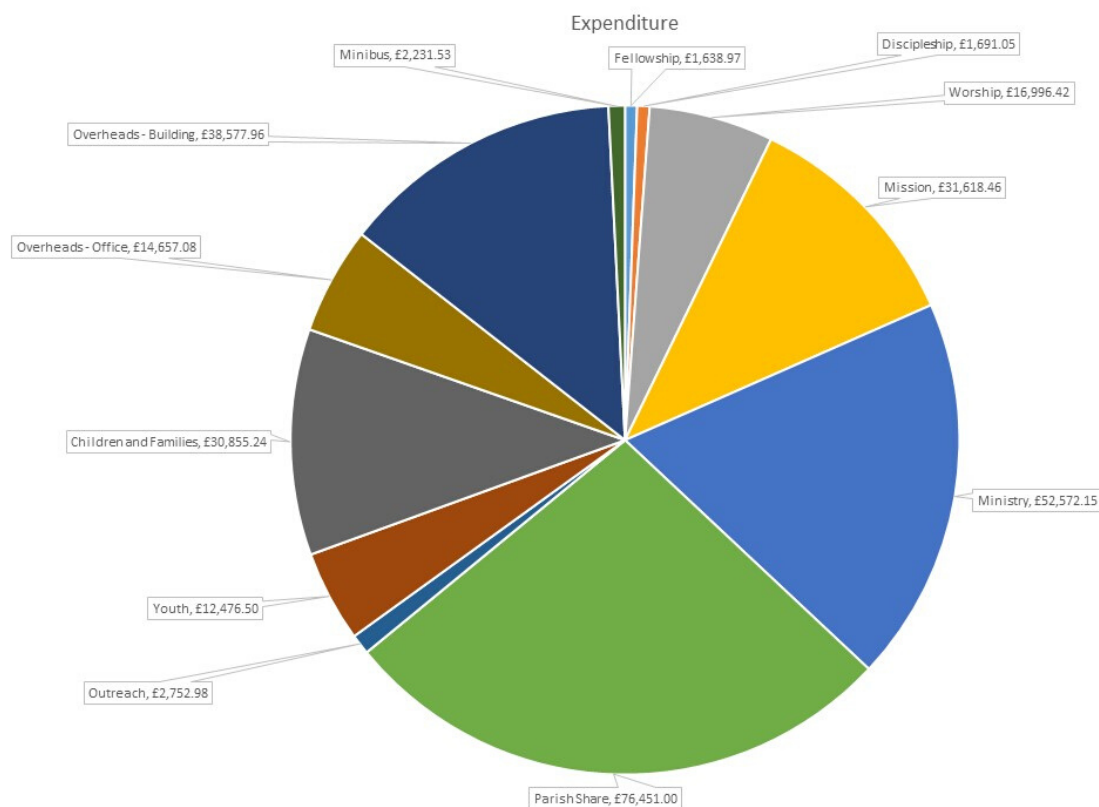
We received a bequest of £70,050 in the Summer of 2019, which was a real answer to prayer. This more than covered our deficit, and allowed us, for example, to advertise for a full time Youth Minister rather than a part time one. We were also successful in securing a grant from the Diocese of Blackburn towards becoming a Resourcing Church.





Our total income in 2019 was £331,303.75, against a budget of £240,300. You can see from the pie chart above that Regular Giving (annual total £176,427.02) and Gift Aid (£47,446.12) are our biggest sources of income, and this indicates a fairly healthy church, financially.

Room hire was up substantially in 2019, thanks to regular bookings and a number of elections. The minibus hire was down, and after a series of mechanical problems, we decided to sell the minibus in September 2019. Although it had been a useful acquisition for the church in the past, we have found other solutions.



Our expenditure was broadly in line with our budget, with some variation within cost centres. Over the course of the year, every single service provider was scrutinised and looked at for cost efficiency. While we still have a few where we have contracts to run, the office and building overheads are now running more efficiently financially.

Managing the budget, book keeping and reporting to the PCC every few months is a huge task, and I am incredibly grateful to Sue Clark for the hours and hours she has put in over the past year, as well as Mark Dyer who has supervised the transition into Xero.

As we go in to 2020, we are once again, facing a budget deficit. We need to seek God for how we manage our finances for investing into capital projects, while ensuring that we cover our running costs well. Please pray for us as a finance team and as a church, that we may know God's generosity and in turn, be generous.

Children and Families

Helen Potts



It is so difficult to squeeze into a few words the multitude of blessings, the challenges and the nudges from God that are part of this ministry. This year I am trying to be very concise and I thought one way I might be able to be concise would be if I gave you an overview of how connecting, changing and transforming happens with children and families, so here goes!

Connecting to God

Everyone's faith journey starts with that first connection and for some coming into the church for Mega Mondays is a first connection with us at St. James', a connection that can lead to invites to more regular connections such as Friday Superheroes where God truths can be introduced and God connections can grow. Last summer we regularly welcomed 200 children and families a week to connect with us as a church for the weekly fun at Mega Mondays and allowing us to share a little about who we are about at St James; a place to connect with God. Each week we have the blessing of inviting children and families to connect with St James, hopefully as a stepping stone to them connecting with God. At Little Fishes, our

playgroup, carers and children are unconditionally accepted and loved with brews and encouraging words; with offers of prayer and support.

The Rockin children are encouraged to connect to God as they are introduced to prayer, worship, to God's story and to stories of God's intervention in testimonies.

St. James' School is part of our church family and our links are stronger than ever. The families at the school connect with us at special seasonal services, where our family connection and God connection is celebrated. TLG coaches and Helen are ways of connecting the school with the people of St James'.

The prayer weeks were an amazing opportunity for the school and Rockin to connect with God, every child spent time in the prayer room and their comments showed they were very aware of the God soaked atmosphere in the church that they were connecting with.

At St James we are invitational, so more connections to the church, the people and to God are always being encouraged.

Changing with God

Although it is wonderful to welcome families to all the different activities, more than anything we want to see people changing with God, growing in their relationship with God. In Kingdom kids we are encouraging the children in their relationship with God, encouraging them to be worshippers, to be prayer warriors to be evangelists, to listen to God and to be everyday disciples in their schools and



homes. We are excited to be introducing the Lightbringers curriculum from Freedom in Christ ministries as we know this will help the children to grow in faith. However, children's faith grows in their families; parents and grandparents are the God appointed disciplers of children. Changing with God is a family experience.

This year it has been so exciting to encourage family faith. There was our first family faith afternoon, just space for families to do fun, faith filled activities together. The prayer weeks gave wonderful opportunities to families to connect with God together and to be changed as they spend time in God's presence.

I am challenged... how to encourage families who are just connecting with the building and the people to start connecting with God and to be changed by our wonderful God.

Transforming

It would be so amazing for families and children who started off with a connection to the building or a person, to be changed by God and to become agents of transformation in their networks. That would be a wonderful testimony. I would like to share such a testimony...of a child who connected first to the building, to an event, then in coming to Rockin connected to God and allowed God to change them and has now started to be an agent of transformation, sharing their testimony with others and wanting to serve God with their gifts. I praise God for this testimony and hunger for more such stories.

Finally, a huge thank you to the amazing team of agents of transformation who allow our ministry to children and families to happen. A team of Jesus models, sharing his love.

St James School Governors

Mark Clayton, Chair of Governors

An inspiring and blessed year for St. James' CE Primary School. Just before Christmas we welcomed Ofsted to inspect our school. The inspector was amazed by the teaching and learning throughout the school and by the excellent knowledge and skills and personal commitment by all the staff. In my 22 years as a governor at St James' this was the best feedback the school has ever received and the inspector literally sang the praise of the staff and school. 'This is a school where everyone feels valued' began the report. If ever a short sentence summed up our school and its ethos then that is it.

Safeguarding

Mark Clayton, Safeguarding Officer

Our safeguarding systems at St James' are robust but, we continue to try and improve these. In December I completed a full safeguarding audit with the support of Naomi and Helen. This led to an action plan with a number of minor areas to further improve our safeguarding. Already we are working through these points. The audit and plan of action were lodged with the diocesan and I will be reporting to the PCC directly in the coming months as to the progress with this action plan

St James Youth

Jo Pellet



Well, this report has certainly felt a challenge, not least because my memory of youth events last year is fuzzy...old age kicking in you know, but also as I've been out of the role of youth pastor for 7 months now!

So, it may be shorter and less detailed than usual, but I hope I can recall and communicate the most important aspects of our youth ministry from last year.

I, of course, went straight to some young people for help to write this report! Asking them for their highlights...here are a selection of their answers...

- Going on a trip to the inflatable water obstacle course (one young person particularly remembers it fondly because they annoyed everyone by singing very loudly in the back of the minibus...I'm not sure that was many other peoples highlight though! Haha!)
- This Christmas we got together again at Jo and Olie's and played a Christmas present swap game that was great.
- The indoor inflatable assault course
- Any and all of the trips!
- Feeding lambs at the Clarks farm
- Sleepover at church with the bouncy castles
- Dinner Church! Dinner Church! Dinner Church!



From that I hope we can all get a snapshot of what sticks and what is important to our young people...relationships, creating memories together through shared experience (often with fun and laughter), and food! There was lots of teaching, learning and growing (I hope!) in between all of that too, and that's great, but the young people remember times together...who we are and how we do life together. One of my highlights from last year was our whole youth worship nights...for young people, by young people! Everyone was invited to 'have a go', at things they were comfortable at, as well as challenge themselves with things that felt more 'out of reach'. We had different young people leading sung worship in different ways and with different instruments every time, some leading the talk or short thought, some sharing creative worship in choreographing dances, some facilitating the response time, some leading prayers, some hosting games and activities, baking delicious refreshments, and of course the all important tech team! It was such a privilege to witness the young people growing in confidence and creating for themselves what they thought church should look like and making it happen. Our youth are incredible and are the church of TODAY. Thank you for loving, championing and encouraging them alongside me. T

here aren't enough words in existence to communicate just how much I adore our youth, and how highly I think of them, but I'm sure you all know that by now, and also see the beauty in each of them too. Thank you especially to the whole youth team who, not only give of themselves and their time so sacrificially, but stepped up hugely in the time in between me leaving and Lucy arriving in her new role. Thank you all so much! I am so excited for this next year and all that Lucy has already, and will continue to bring, to our young people, and us as a church family. She is beginning her ministry with us at a strange and challenging time, so I'm sure you will all join me in praying for her as she navigates the essential work and communication with our precious young people, as well as settling into her new role and life here as a family. I know you will all offer Lucy, Adrian and Felicity the same unconditional love, acceptance and support that you have always selflessly and beautifully given to me, Olie and the kids. Thank you.



CAP

Graham Haldane

As part of our desire to see God transforming our community, St James' Church has been involved for over 8 years in running a CAP Debt Centre for the Clitheroe area.

This year saw a further increase in client case numbers (from 10 in 2018 to 15 in 2019).

This would have been even higher, but due to a significant national increase in case load, and particularly of more time consuming insolvency cases, CAP nationally had to put a temporary freeze on new cases. Work continued, however, with new and existing clients, and we celebrated three clients becoming debt free during the year.

A significant development was the re-launch of the CAP Money Course. While uptake from CAP clients was disappointing, we ran two successful courses; one was with the Bread small group, and the other was a public course, with 12 people attending.

Feedback was very positive:

"I can't express enough how much this course has helped. It has transformed the way I look at my finances."

"By opening a third account for my cash, what a difference it has made to me ... Was anxious, now feeling more confident about coping financially."

We also appreciated the opportunity to share about CAP and budgeting as part of St

Augustine's School's 'Missions Week', and we hope to build on this schools work during 2020.

As ever, we rely on a supportive team of Befrienders, CAP Money Coaches and other volunteers. We also really appreciate the support of all who pray for CAP and who contribute as Life Changers or in other ways to support our local and national work.

Prayer

Julia Dyer



This year has been so influenced by the lessons on prayer, both personal and corporate, from Kings Highway Church. We have seen how prayer is the absolute foundation that everything is built upon and realised how much we have to learn, like probably most churches in the non-majority world. Our journey with prayer this year has been to create a rhythm of prayer (both personal and corporate), building on the prayers of the faithful saints at SJC who have prayed for hundreds of years. We have sought to create accessible and creative opportunities for corporate prayer within church for those new to faith, as well as for those who are very confident praying.

Two initiatives stand out to me: the weeks of prayer, and the creation of a prayer room and Sunday morning prayers.

April 2019 saw the commencement of 'weeks of prayer', and we have had 3 of these weeks this year. Some of the highlights have been: the number of people who have accessed these weeks who would not go to a more 'traditional' prayer meeting; hearing how people have encountered God; the whole of St James School visiting the prayer space at Advent and their eagerness to return; people who were exploring faith in tears as they were touched by God.

These weeks led us to start a creative prayer room for Sunday morning prayers. On Sunday mornings from 9 15 am, there is an opportunity for everyone in church, children to adults, to pray before the service. Either using the creative prayer stations in the Nazareth Room, or praying corporately in the Bethany Room. In the midst of COVID-19, people are turning to prayer in new ways, both Christ followers and those of no faith, but that will be for next year to write about.

Sozo

Janet White

Our six person strong Sozo Team received some excellent refresher teaching and extra training this year. The first was at Relgnite, Blackburn, then the second was the Biennial National Sozo Conference in Milton Keynes. We are very grateful to our church family in supporting us in this way. It was so good to be with our extended Sozo family from all over the world.

Our year was in two halves. A quiet first half, then a busy second half. Vicky & I were asked to help with the training of the Relgnite Sozo Team, under Janet Murdoch for those who remember her and her husband Alastair. This was a real honour and privilege to help launch this infant team. We therefore conducted a lot of sessions for their team and wider church, and helped facilitate their Team Training Sessions. I know that many wonderful testimonies were shared with their church community, of the healing and freedom that people have received through these individual appointments. I'm still hoping that we will be able to share these inspiring stories with our church family too.

This year, Duncan Tyson has also been qualified to lead sessions, so with the help of Keith Watson, who heads up the Sozo Team in Relgnite, we can now offer an all male team should any men want to take up that opportunity. We are grateful too for the regular commitment of prayer cover that we receive for each session.

Worship

Jonathan Berry



God has so richly blessed the worship team at St James. I am incredibly grateful to him for the team, the resources, the community, the leadership, and the mission he has given us in the Ribble Valley area. Here are some of the ways God has been working:

- The Worship Central Course has been held monthly. As a team, we've looked at what it means to be an effective authentic worshipper leading others by example. #We've worked with professional sound engineers Adam Fielding (from The Grand) and Andy Taylor to improve our technical capacity at St James. God has answered our prayers for resourcing with many new musicians and technicians.
- The team has settled into a new rota system that has improved overall cohesion, created consistency week-on-week in our worship, and opened space for new folk.
- We've welcomed Hannah Pountain as a worship leader - Hannah's heart is humble, wise and an absolute furnace for God.
- I believe we have seen a deep and fresh anointing on Ellie Wood's leadership this year.
- Mark Dyer's continued ministry, wisdom, energy and passion for seeing God worshipped in Clitheroe is infectious.
- Faithful commitment from every member of the team, through joy and sadness, has helped the worship team build for the kingdom.

Please pray for:

- Continued commitment to growing authentic worship across the team and the church;
- Opportunities to explore new ways of worshipping God;
- The nurturing and harnessing of each volunteer's time and talents for the glory of God;
- Fresh vision for the team over the coming years.

Deeper

Rebecca Thornber

The vision was to lead people deeper in their relationship with God through extended worship, interactive teaching and personal encounter with God. During the last 12 months of Deeper, we have explored the God who speaks, how to pray, what happens when we pray, spiritual warfare, unanswered prayer, we have used prayer spaces at Turret House and finally explored living as everyday missionaries.

A fairly regular group of around 50 people attend and participate in Deeper each month. Interactive teaching, discussions, interviews and times of prayer and reflection have engaged people on a journey of learning and discovering more about God together. It has been another fantastic year in the journey of Deeper.

After 4 years of leading Deeper as part of a team, we have decided to take a step back from leading Deeper as of September to create space in our lives for other areas of ministry that we feel God is calling us to. We have loved leading Deeper and are grateful for the opportunity that we have had and for the commitment of those who have journeyed with us along the way. The church leadership team are currently seeking God as to what is right for Deeper in the next season.

Audio Visual

Mark Clayton

We now stream the whole 10.30am service live and are generally having up to a dozen devices viewing us live with about 50 hits for a full service and a similar number viewing our sermon only clips later. So, we have over 100 devices tuning into our stream each week (people viewing will be more as there will be more than one person watching some devices). The recent COVID-19 outbreak has seen our viewing figures increase dramatically. We may not be able to use the church equipment but people are accessing a variety of church and school videos via our YouTube page. We thank God for blessing us with this means to share his word with people.

Small Groups

Ali Groves: Small Group Co-ordinator

Once again, I am humbled and grateful for the commitment, love and dedication the leaders of our small groups lavish on their, 150 plus, group members. As always, I say to you a heartfelt, thank you, on behalf of all your members and the leadership team at St James.

So what is new? How have we moved forward?

Clive and Fiona Watson, with Margaret Edgerton, have fledged a new group, Belong. They meet every Thursday evening and are following the King's Highway 4Ws style: welcome, worship, word and works.

Jill Ivison's group have been able to take in new members after the 'fledging' have followed the KHC model of naming groups and are now called Ignite.

Jean Evans and Betty Pollard have set up a new fortnightly group at 10.30 on Tuesdays and have a membership of retired people. They would love to add to their numbers.

The Pountains are just setting up a new group that will meet on a Monday evening, in Oswaldtwistle. They too are looking for members.

Matt Wood's role in Kenya, this February, was developing Small Group twinning with the hugely dynamic and growing number of small groups in the Kings Highway Church community. He is looking to develop and for new groups to join the twinning project so I think we'll be hearing more of that. It also seems that the message from those who were in Kenya to our groups is to develop greater sharing of God's goodness to us and to pray with gratitude, optimism and expectation and do it all in 1 hour.

I thank God for the diversity and community our groups provide for their members and the vision each group holds at its heart.

Fearless

Becca Thornber

We had had two Fearless conferences this year: March and September. In March, we had Crystal Cryer from 24-7 Prayer who came to speak to us about Fearless Prayer. She spoke about prayer as an act of worship, and we explored creative prayer stations.

In September, 80 women from different churches in Clitheroe gathered for Fearless Community. We had the immense privilege of Debra Green from ROC (Restoring our Communities) sharing with us. It was a day of encouragement: incredible worship, teaching which left us feeling empowered to transform our own communities, with time to deepen friendships over lots of tea and cake!

In March 2020, we had 120 women from over 10 local churches due to come to Fearless Mission, but very sadly had to postpone this day due to the covid pandemic. We continue to seek where God is leading us as we develop a community of women who champion and encourage one another to be all that God has created them to be.



Kings Highway, Eldoret

Mark Dyer

We as a church have the privilege of being in a twinning relationship with Kings Highway Church in Eldoret, Kenya.

The vision of the twinning relationship between the churches is to develop relationships and to learn from each other, to support each other in growing in faith and ministry, spurring one another on to go deeper with God and His purposes.

The relationship continues to grow. A team of ten from St James' Church spent time in Kenya in February 2019, sharing and learning with both the church and school. We joined in a family faith afternoon, in sharing with the teachers, in visiting small groups and businesses, in prayer and in teaching. It was a time of blessing and growth.



Kings Highway, Eldoret

Mark Dyer

Following this visit, several small groups from St James' Church twinned with small groups from KHC, and these are proving fruitful relationships. Whilst the team were in Kenya, a partnership agreement was signed between the churches, formalising the twinning agreement until December 2021 when it will be reviewed.

We were disappointed that a full team from Kings Highway Church could not get visas to come to Clitheroe, but we were delighted to welcome Pastor Fred and Gilbert to spend some time at St James' Church. We were blessed by their teaching, and their fellowship. In particular we were challenged by them in prayer, and also small group growth. St James' Church and school continues to partner with KHC with the Seed Opportunities Fund, and with the school in the Potato planting project.



Gideons International

Alan Egar

We praise God for all the wonderful opportunities we experienced over the past year.

We distributed over 3,500 Bibles and New Testaments within our local area. The distribution list included:-

- Our Secondary Schools, Year 7.
- Clitheroe Hospital bed side lockers and also the staff members.
- Blackburn Royal Infirmary bed side lockers and the staff.
- North West Ambulance Service.
- Carol Services at Clitheroe Castle and in Gisburn Auction Market.
- The Fire Service.
- The Royal Lancashire Show.
- Hotels and Guest Houses.
- New Testaments were donated to Eldoret.

We were also able to talk about God's Word and to pray with many people. Your prayers and support are very much appreciated, as you share with us in this outreach.

Open Doors

Sam Johnson

St James' has continued to support the work of Open Doors and their mission to serve the Persecuted Church worldwide. Open Doors is actively involved in many countries where people suffer because of their Christian faith; they also lead campaigns to raise awareness amongst governments and influential organisations.

Over the past year, Open Doors launched a global, seven-year campaign to mobilise Christians to bring hope to the Middle East. Thanks to gifts from churches there has been transformative change for church families in Iraq with over 1,000 Christian families able to return home to their rebuilt houses. Across Syria, local churches are becoming Centres of Hope providing medical care, food and training and business loans to help people get back on their feet. Thank you for your continued support.

The Turi Micah Project

Jim and Ollie

Firstly, we would like to say a huge thank you for the support, prayer and donations you have sent to the Micah Project in the past.

The conditions in the room where the porridge is produced up until recently was very poor. The installation of a new chimney and floor mats into the main room have made the project a much more comfortable atmosphere for the team to work in. The room has been decorated and old and unfit equipment has been replaced, which means the team are really happy with their working conditions.

The school continues to report good attendance and great exam results. Serving a meal each school day morning means that the children can concentrate better, it gives them the best opportunity in their studies going forward and mitigates worries around the children fainting, collapsing or falling asleep.

We have a new website, which is allowing us to reach more people back home with what we are doing.

The Micah Project just organised and ran a pop-up clinic service at a local health centre in Turi. The whole community had access to first aiders, nurses, medicines and NHIF information (NHIF provides medical insurance in Kenya). The clinic helped 199 people including 8 critical cases with major issues of Hypertension, Diabetes and Respiratory infections.

Ollie and I visited a primary school called Chandra, situated in a rural area of Turi. The school could be a very good option for Micah Project 2.0 as it is large enough and has potential to be modified to support the school population. We would intend to provide porridge for early years and years 1, 2 and 3 initially with a view to grow this over time. We will of course keep you up-to-date with developments.



Christian Solidarity Worldwide

Ruth Seed

The persecution of Christians in parts of the world is near “Genocide,” levels according to a report by the Bishop of Truro in 2019.

An M.P. was appointed Special Envoy for Freedom of Religious Belief, hoping that it will demonstrate the UK’s stance on religious freedom abroad.

Ali Groves organised a CSW scheme whereby she gave details of many persecuted Christians to HouseGroups, the Youth Group and Children’s Group, so that letters could be written to them. Thanks to them and to Ali.

YWAM Cambodia

Christine Yates

This ongoing Youth With A Mission project, supporting various local health care programmes including work specifically with TBAs (Traditional Birth Attendants), rural development and water projects along with church-planting and youth work was originally a suggestion of mine 5 years ago, as I had particular interest in the work, having been part of the original team, back in the 1990's!! St James' mission board kindly said yes and has faithfully donated £1200 annually over these past 5 years, money that has contributed towards these ongoing and often successful projects, particularly in regard to the church and youth ministeries, all of which was acknowledged in a recent thank you letter sent by the project leader of the past 30 years, Philip Scott. And I join him in thanking St James' for partnering with this particular YWAM Cambodia team project and contributing towards our same mission purpose of 'Knowing Jesus and making Jesus known' through our lives and actions.

The ARC Project, Blackburn

Debbie Smith

ARC is celebrating 15 years of “welcoming the stranger” from across the globe: 15 years of giving love, hope and providing a place of safety to those seeking sanctuary.

The weekly “Drop In” provides a safe space to meet, make friends, socialise, share food and participate in activities. It is often the highlight of the week for many of our isolated community members. We also continue to offer English Club (twice a week), job club and individual support (10-3:30 3 days a week). There are occasional trips to football matches and cultural events such as the Sudanese Gathering in Lancaster.





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