

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

(For all those on the Church Electoral Roll of the Parish)

The following reports are issued in preparation for the APCM of St Paul's Church in Tongham, which will be held at 11.30am on Sunday 5th May 2024.

1. Churchwardens Report
2. PCC Report
3. Treasurer's Report and Accounts
4. Safeguarding Report
5. Children & Families Reports
6. Electoral Roll Report

1. Churchwarden's report 2024

Churchwardens: Mrs Karen Lambert
Mr Kay Tauschwitz

As you will have seen, we have finally managed to get the clunch work organised and this is a great step forward in ensuring the church is safe, water-and windproof for the future. The stonemason, who is an expert in his field, is also going to quote for some work on the Old School and we hope he will help us to re-position the old entrance steps by the vestry door, making that safer too.

Another way to improve the church building has been to lay down some strips of carpet underlay in an effort to keep it warm over the winter whilst trying to keep our heating bills down. This seems to have been very successful and we are intending to replace the assorted small pieces with some longer strips over the summer. Thanks to Alison for managing to clean all the little bits – we hope it will be easier next year!

The idea, raised from the Parish Needs Process, of three local churches joining together, is now moving forward, as "twinning" and involving just two churches – St Paul's and St Peter's, Ash. Over the course of the last year, we have been getting to know the wardens and clergy at St Peter's as well as some of their congregation. A well-attended launch evening was held, with puddings provided by us and them, and we are now in the middle of a series of small group meetings which are helping to raise and answer people's questions about how the "twinning" will work.

There has been on-going work trying to clear and sort out Old School which had become rather cluttered! During the summer holidays, when Old School is used less often, the flooring in the hallway was stripped and replaced. Thank you so much to Kay who project-managed the whole operation and to a small army of volunteers to helped by supplying, fitting and painting new skirting boards. We are sure you will all agree that it looks so much smarter now!

A very recent improvement to the Old School has been the fitting of solar panels – many thanks to Mike for driving this forward. We are already finding that we are making more electricity than we use so are now beginning to look into moving the Old School off gas and fully onto electricity, which will save us significant amounts of money as well as being good for the environment.

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Thanks are due to Mike and Claire for their vision and for all their hard work in the Community Garden which is really starting to take shape! We grew vegetables and fruit last year which people in the village were invited to harvest and use; hopefully there will be more still this year! Coffee Plus and Baby Plus have used the space, as well as our Sunday groups; we hope to be able to garden sometimes on a Sunday after church so do feel free to come along and join in.

We are very conscious of how much physical and mental effort Claire puts into her work here and we have looked at ways to support her wellbeing. One of the ways we have tried to protect her workload has been to look into the services on the third Sunday of the month – when there are currently three services. Over the autumn and spring terms we have experimented with different ways of doing church on the third Sunday, with a mixture of no service in the morning, Café church with the new Bishop, as well as a morning Café church in church.

We have also changed the times of Governors meetings at St Paul's school and now ensure they do not happen in the same week as Messy Church.

Another way we are trying to look after Claire's wellbeing is to ensure she has one "weekend" each month with two consecutive days off (Friday and Saturday). We began this in January and have (just about!) managed to make it work so far! It seems really important that this is fully in place before we get much further in the twinning process.

Back in the summer, Family First closed their provision up on the site of St Paul's Infant school, with no warning, leaving the village with a severe shortage of nursery provision. We – as Trustees of the nursery – have worked with Tom Hilyard at the school and Surrey County Council to organise the setting up of a new nursery, which will now become part of the school. This will be opening after Easter, which is extremely exciting!

During the year we have set up a finance team in order to support our Treasurer. This is working very smoothly. We are also in the process of setting up a safeguarding team, although this seems to be taking longer! Our Food Shed now has a wonderful team who help out with stock and labelling as well as keeping the shed tidy. Thanks to your generosity we are able to provide food for a number of families at the school every holiday as well as supporting a number of people in the village.

We would like to thank everyone who volunteers for any of the jobs in church that keep it functioning so smoothly, we are very grateful to you all.

Karen Lambert & Kay Tauschwitz

2. PCC Report 2024

Administrative information:

St Paul's Church is located in Poyle Road, Tongham, GU10 1DS and is within the Aldershot Deanery of the Guildford Diocese. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a 'charity exempt from registration' with the Charity Commission.

PCC members in office at the time of writing are:

Vicar: Revd. Claire Holt

Wardens: Mrs Karen Lambert (since 2022) Mr Kay Tauschwitz (since 2022)

Deanery Synod: Mrs Nicki Bunce (elected until 2026) + Mrs Margaret Murray (elected until 2026)

Elected members:

- (until 2026) Mr John Clifton, Mrs Charlotte Palmer-Ladd, Mrs Sue Treherne (Treasurer)
- (until 2025) Mrs Janet Sturt (stepped down 23rd January 2024), Mrs Julie Gadsby, Mrs Marta Smith
- (until 2024) Mrs Susan Young, Miss Hayley Bunce, Mrs Wendy Blight

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of Elected Members conforms to the requirements of The Church Representation Rules (2011 revision) whereby all Church attendees must register on the Electoral Roll for 6 months minimum and may then seek election to the PCC. Usually, members are elected for three years (and may serve for six years before resting for a minimum of a year) ideally with three members being elected each year as three retire (but they remain eligible for re-election if they have not completed six consecutive years on the Council). Reaching the end of their term this year and now standing down are Mrs Susan Young and Mrs Wendy Blight, also standing down is Mrs Janet Sturt. Miss Hayley Bunce is standing for re-election. We are very grateful to them all. Our PCC is a good, productive and open meeting where all contributions and comments are welcome and is always carried out with respect and humour.

Objectives and activities

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with Vicar: Revd. Claire Holt, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical). The PCC also has freehold ownership and maintenance responsibilities for The Old School (beside the Church in Poyle Road) which serves as the Church Hall.

Church attendance

There are now **84** names on the Church Electoral Roll. Average weekly attendance at the main Sunday service over the whole of 2023 is **58**. We have continued to have people attend on Zoom and YouTube as well as in person.

Review of the year

PCC:

Our PCC meetings are a mix of practical discussions and ongoing consideration of our Church Development Plan. We focus on one area each meeting and have also increasingly been considering the Twinning process too.

Growing in welcome:

We had a focus on hospitality as we look at our Twinning process. There have been some joint services and also activities which have been advertised in each other's news and we have been really pleased with the uptake and atmosphere in these events.

We had a target to develop our Church Development Plan with local churches. The small groups have been looking at mission and ministry across both parishes which will feed into our Church Development Plan and the Twinning process. We hope to share the same Church Development Plan to be launched at the APCM in May here and at St Peter's.

Growing in discipleship:

We targeted forming a plan for encouraging growth in discipleship across the year. This led to a focus within services as well as a new encouragement to read books (the adults catching up with the lead from the children's groups!). We hope to continue to do this. And we also held our first in-person Alpha group for a few years.

Small groups were an area for development. However, once we knew the plan for the Twinning process included small groups, we haven't tried anything in addition to these groups. We will look at this again in the future with both churches together. We have, however, added 2 WhatsApp groups – 1 for prayer and 1 for Advent and Lent, which has enabled us to support one another and encourage each other in faith.

Growing in community:

We have continued to develop the community garden, with a huge thank you to Mike Smith for his energy, time and enthusiasm – and skills in grant applications! It has come on a long way, and we are now looking at planting and ongoing role within the life of the church and the wider community. We have an opening event on 28th April.

Grow school links. We continue to support the school in lots of ways, and in particular, as governors. Margaret Murray has recently joined Claire and Karen Lambert on the governing body.

Encouraging recycling and involving the whole community. This continued to happen on a relatively small scale. However, we had a good response to our collection of electrical products, and we are going to continue to offer this. We are trying to make drop offs easier with boxes in the Old School, both inside and out. We recognise we need to be better at advertising and linking with the wider community on this. And communication will be a focus of our new Church Development Plan.

Financially, we have finished the year in a reasonable position, as we benefitted from collecting 2 years of Gift Aid. We are looking at our gas and electric bill, both to reduce costs (£12000 last year) and to improve our impact on the environment. We have installed carpet in church as an experiment, have installed solar panels in the Old School and are looking at types of heating that will be more efficient.

The maintenance team have done a great job of keeping on top of smaller issues (some of which turn out to be bigger issues – such as clearing the downpipe at the Old School which then needed to be dug out and ground pipes replaced! Thank you, Mike and Kay!)

We have supported financially Phyllis Tuckwell, Nepal Mission via CMS, Blythswood Care and support our local community through our food shed, which has given out more parcels than ever before. This has been reviewed recently and we will be supporting Phyllis Tuckwell, The Source, Step by Step and the Leprosy Mission this year. We would also like to do an event for cancer research, as we are so grateful for the treatment a number in our congregation are receiving.

The Food Shed continues to be a valued resource in our community and there is now a team who help check the contents and sort parcels, making it much easier. Thank you to Marta Smith and Charlotte Palmer-Ladd, Jo, David and others! And Charlotte is helping with checking resources and ensuring we have cleaning products, tea and coffee etc please let her know if you notice something is running low. We continue to try to ensure these are eco friendly as far as possible.

A huge thank you to all on the PCC – we have good meetings, available on zoom as well as in person, and benefit from the contributions of all who are there. A particular thank you to the wardens for all their additional work and support for Claire.

Parish Life:

Our Children's Team has been fantastic! We are hugely grateful to the team and especially to Pam for leading. The book group continued to be particularly popular! (Please see additional report)

The Hub meets in Sunday evenings for older teens, led by Dave Welch, with his great team too. Much pizza eating, conversations and chat takes place! (Please see his report)

And Café Church has continued once a month at 4pm providing an opportunity for a different style of worship, more discussion, and some visiting speakers – including the new Bishop of Dorking, Bishop Paul. We have continued to explore the best way to hold services on the 3rd Sunday and valued the opportunity to attend St Peter's on the weeks when there wasn't a 10am service.

Messy Church has really benefitted from the new, bigger team and we have seen a whole range of people attending - from school, coffee plus and Facebook. The last session in March had 43 children! Exploring Christmas and Exploring Easter have been very well attended by the whole family – with 61 children attending at Easter!

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A particular thanks to those involved in our welcome! On the door, making teas and coffees, chatting to people in church and afterwards – we continue to hear how much that is appreciated by visitors, new people and our regular congregation too!

Coffee Plus, our toddler group, continues to thrive. The families come regularly and enjoy play, messy play, refreshments, a Bible story, craft and singing – alongside a lot of chat! We have a fantastic team running this, building relationships with those who attend. And we are seeing several families attend our Messy Church service and Sunday church services - especially our Family Service which we make a big effort to be welcoming to these younger families. Baby Plus group is also thriving and leads to several baptism enquiries each year. (Please see separate report from Claire Boud)

Fellowship Lunch has been going well, meeting on the 3rd Tuesday in the month. It is a great opportunity for people in Tongham to get together and chat! We are looking for new team members to ensure we can continue to offer this each month and ideally someone to lead the team. With thanks to Margaret Murray for leading it through this year, but now needing to step down.

In terms of pastoral care, St Pauls is a remarkable Church family, and a very great deal of friendship, help and visiting goes on all the time – long may this continue! We have been visiting and supporting many through this year and excitingly are looking to expand our team with some new volunteers.

Last year we had a lower number of weddings (only 2) and none booked for 2024, which is very unusual for St Paul's. We have a couple of enquiries for 2025 and will look at how we can use our communication with the community to let people know we can support them with weddings, christenings, and funerals.

If you do know of anyone who might need help, support or prayer at any time – please do not hesitate to contact Claire.

A huge thank you to all volunteers at all our activities. We continue to get new people and visitors commenting on how welcoming the church is – keep it up!!

And a particular thank you to Wendy in our office, helping us to ensure we keep on top of everything at St Paul's!

3. Finance Report 2024

Income:

Gift Aid was reclaimed on the past two years so the accounts show a significant increase which will not be repeated this year. The bulk of Gift Aid now comes in monthly through the Parish Giving Scheme so there will only be relatively small amounts to be reclaimed by the church. Also we receive very little cash through donations so there is not much received through the Small Donations scheme either, although I understand we are able to claim Gift Aid on donations made through our new machine so there may be slightly more than expected.

There has been an increase in grants this year. Much of this has been due to Mike Smith's efforts in raising funding for the community garden, with a special mention to One Stop who have been very generous in this respect. We also receive regular grants from the Parish Council to help with the upkeep of the graveyard and for Mill Cottage Farm to come and do the nativity at Christmas. The Tongham Institute also make generous donations towards our children's and family work and for work with the elderly in our community.

Additional interest this year reflects the change in the economy with interest rates starting to rise after an unprecedented length of time with them remaining minimal.

We have also received increased funding from church groups which reflect the buoyant nature of our baby and toddler groups and the benefits of having the SumUp machine to facilitate taking payments.

Hall Hire is slightly down on last year and parking income has stabilised thanks to Kay's efforts in chasing people who use our premises for parking and ensuring that the fees are not overlooked.

Income from church events appears lower than normal but funds from the St Andrew's night were not banked until January due to a combination of busyness and holidays so there would have been a further sum of £500 to go into this category.

The bottom line looks healthy on the income side but most of this is due to the additional Gift Aid recovered so we can consider income to have been stable throughout a year which has seen considerable financial difficulties with prices rising steeply for almost everything. A big thank you to all our generous regular givers who enable the work to continue at this church.

Expenses:

Last year saw the completion of the ramp project so this year maintenance costs are down although the school has needed some expensive work, namely the refurbishment of the rear entrance corridor and toilet area. The PCC has decided to commit £10,000 a year to larger maintenance projects so, although there will be some expensive years initially, we are hoping that it will result in smaller repairs being needed in the future and that maintenance bills will ultimately be kept in check.

This year we have rationalised some of the breakdowns in the categories so Baptisms, Communion Expenses and Wake Up & Shake Up expenses (no longer relevant) have all been rolled into the Church Operational Costs. Also expenses relating to Church Groups and Children's Work are no longer seen as fund raising but more as mission so I have moved these to the Running Costs section. This explains the various blanks where there are no corresponding costs between last year and this year. Next year these lines can be removed from the report.

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Our bank balance remains healthy, standing at £59,000 and we are planning to start moving £1000 per month into the Fabric Fund account for future maintenance projects.

My thanks go to Wendy and Kay for helping with the recording of transactions, which makes my life a lot easier, and to Carol and Charlotte who between them did the banking run last year which now has to go to Guildford due to local branch closures.

Sue Treherne
Treasurer

4. Safeguarding Report 2024

Over the past year the parish has continued to use the Parish Dashboard that helps ensure that safeguarding procedures are kept up to date. Our progress in this area has allowed us access to the Safeguarding Hubs which will help streamline our safeguarding efforts. The team, which now includes Claire Holt, Wendy Blight and Karen Lambert alongside myself; will be working on this in the upcoming year.

A reminder that training for those involved with children and working as PCC members will be reviewed annually and are to be renewed every three years to the highest level of training only. The National Safeguarding Team have developed on-line training for Safer Recruitment and Domestic Abuse and these are available for self-led learning.

Both Claire Holt and Wendy Blight are now able to submit DBS checks as part of the safeguarding team.

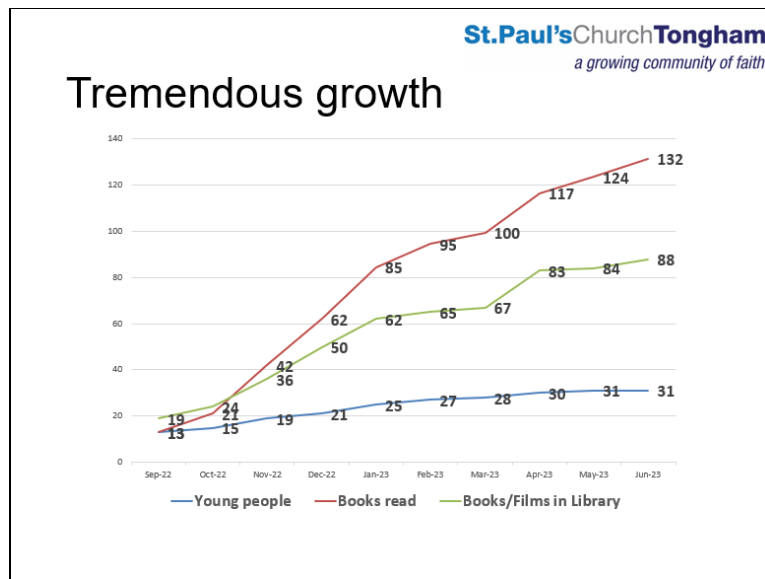
In line with diocesan guidance, we are constantly reviewing and improving our policy and procedures and following these procedures throughout the year. Advice was sought from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team when needed in 4 situations.

Julie Gadsby
Safeguarding Officer

5. Children & Families Reports 2024

Elevate

- We started elevate in response to the mental health crisis amongst young people and the need to help nurture faith & confidence in young teens.
- Results:** We started with 13 young people in September 2022 and by July 2023 there were 31 young people involved. We started with 13 books/films in the library and this went up to 88 books/films thanks to very generous donations from key people in the church. By July, the young people had read 132 books - on average 4 books/films each! It is awesome to see the young people discovering more about their faith at home through reading books and watching films.



- Here are some more of the **one-sentence reviews** we collected from the young people:

<p>St.Paul'sChurchTongham a growing community of faith</p> <p>What young people say</p>  <p>"This book made me feel constantly mystified. I liked it!"</p> 	<p>St.Paul'sChurchTongham a growing community of faith</p> <p>What young people say</p>  <p>"A great book I would recommend. It's about a boy who escapes concentration camp; the book has good morals."</p> 
<p>St.Paul'sChurchTongham a growing community of faith</p> <p>What young people say</p>  <p>"I liked the Prince of Egypt film. I don't know which character I liked best, but I liked it a lot."</p> <p>"I really liked this film as I liked learning about all Moses had to give up to help his people."</p>	<p>St.Paul'sChurchTongham a growing community of faith</p> <p>What young people say</p>  <p>"I showed it to my teacher and she said it looked really interesting and would love to read it. I loved all of them – I don't think I could pick a favourite."</p>

We did a **prize giving** in July 2023. Here is a picture of the young person who won first prize for elevate; he read 26 books in 9 months! Amazing!



- Following the medical news about Dave in August 2023, we felt God prompting us to keep the scheme going but in a very **low-key way**. So, we chose 1 book for each member of Ignite and offered the same for Flames. We have swapped books as and when they have asked which has worked well. The young people have each read between 1 and 8 books each.
- At Christmas, we gave all the young people **Christmas gifts** which included “Bake through the Bible” for younger children and the “Action Bible Christmas Story” for older children as well as chocolate. The young people really loved this!



Bake through the Bible x 9
£4.30 each

This is a great book that tells stories of Jesus & encourages families to bake something to remind them about the story.



Action Bible Christmas Story Comic Pack – Set of 25 for £22.84


This is a great little comic which tells the Christmas story and has a colouring at the back.



Cadbury Movie Sharebox x 2, 8 for £12



A work friend and her Mum-in-law helped by wrapping and labelling 22 gifts for Flames and Ignite.

 <p>Isabella was given a third of the budget. She used it to buy, wrap and deliver personalised gifts for 13 members of the Hub (14-18s).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Story of God's provision</p> <p>When I said to Isabella she had £35, she asked me how much that was per person - £2.69.</p> <p>We were both wondering how she would make the money stretch to 13 people as that didn't sound very much!</p> <p>But I reassured her that God would provide. And at the end she said exactly that! She said she had bought exactly what she wanted for every member of Hub and found that she had money leftover! Awesome!</p>
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- **Parents, Friends & Grandparents:** We have started to lend or recommend faith-based inspiring books & films to parents & Grandparents on a very casual basis. We have now lent or recommended over 100 books to over 50 people, a third of whom are not church-goers. Some parents are not into reading; some have a very long commute. We have developed a list of top faith-based inspiring books on audible which some have found useful.
- **Thank you** to all the children, parents, grandparents and key members of our church who continue to support this important discipleship initiative!

Flames (Up to Y4)

- **Content:** Flames continued with the Lion Storyteller Bible New Testament Stories as the basis for sessions until January 2024. We used it for just over a year and it provided clear structure. In January, Church started the series on Mark's gospel. As this is story-based, Flames could follow this too so we decided to switch from the Storyteller bible to Mark's gospel. This is working well and providing consistency as everyone is covering the same content.
- **Venue:** In January, we decided to move Flames at café church from the South room to church as some of the leaders fed back that it was difficult to hear in the South room and some of the children find the bright strip lighting overwhelming. We moved to church and this is a much better venue – quieter and cosier; it is working well.
- **Memories:** Flames continue with their scrap books, sticking in artwork produced on the theme each week. The books are filling up and provide wonderful memories! 2 members of the Flames graduated to Ignite this year (Sophia and Rebecca) and were given their books.

Ignite (Y5+)

- **Content:** Ignite sessions focus on the same bible passages as the adults. The style of session depends on the session:
 - a. Pete runs fun games sessions with a thought and a prayer.
 - b. Pam, Hannah, Julie & Adanna run sessions which involve an ice breaker game, the bible story, discussion & an activity.
- **Fun:** Johanna continues to provide bacon butties once a month which the young people love.
- **Wellbeing:** Pete and Hannah coordinate a series of wellbeing sessions during the holidays on behalf of The Source – a local Christian young people's mental health charity. These are designed to introduce young people to the Source and provide fun activities such as dance, bike

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maintenance, Lego, board games and baking workshops. The Source have started to invite members of ignite to these sessions.

Thank you to the incredible team of leaders who disciple our children and young people – you do an AMAZING job creating memories that will last a lifetime and we are SO grateful!

A Huge Thank you to:

Flames: Isabella, Nina, Anesa, Charlotte, Becci, Kay & Claire B

Ignite: Pete, Adanna, Hannah C, Julie G & Pam & Johanna

Pam Welch
Children & Families Team Leader

Hub (Y9+)

Hub has continued to explore faith and life with year 9+. We have used various different resources and themes, and are currently working our way through the Church's year using something called 'LecDec' produced by Bristol Diocese and Bath and Wells Diocese. We have a great core group of about 7 young people and 5 leaders (Dave, Lisa, Miriam, Phill and Hannah). We have met 10 times each term from 7:30 - 9, and eat pizza, play games and discuss life. We have enjoyed welcoming back a few young people during the year who have left to go to Uni or jobs which has been great. We support our amazing young people with all the challenges of life as a teenager in 2024 and create a space for faith to grow. We are actively considering government guidance about meeting in homes and look forward to seeing all the God has in store for the next year

David Welch
Hub Leader

Coffee Plus

Coffee Plus continues to be incredibly popular. We have about 25 regular families who come, plus others who come once a month or so. We utilise both rooms to the max and are still frequently short of space! During the dryer/warmer months we also use the outdoor space of the community garden and car park. We are currently applying for grants to develop this further, with a new playhouse/play frame planned. Families are frequently coming to us after 'graduating' from Baby Plus, with many choosing Wednesday as their day off to accommodate this. A growing number have also moved into new housing in the village, so our leaflet drops are paying off. With Tongham Toddlers closing on a Monday we have also seen a few new faces, and we need to explore what scope this may give us for expanding and also gaining more equipment.

We have increased our volunteer base, which now includes Margaret, Madeline, Helen, Charlotte, Karen and Hannah. I really could not run the sessions without their involvement and I am eternally grateful for their commitment and input. This does not prevent anyone else who may wish to get involved, they will be welcomed with open arms!

During last summer holidays instead of the volunteer heavy 'Picnic and Play' sessions from the previous year, we organised to meet at a different playground in the area each week. These sessions were really popular with families of all ages, who by the end of the 6 weeks were bringing lunch and games as well as discovering new places to visit. We have continued with this approach throughout each school holiday and will do so for Easter and the summer this year.

We organised a very successful 'Toddler Nativity' just before Christmas, it was very well received, and they did all look very adorable in their costumes. I even dressed up as an angel for this one, adding to my history of looking silly in costumes! We are also seeing families transitioning nicely into Messy Church too, with numerous new regulars of the 3 or 4 yr olds coming to our monthly Messy Church or Exploring... Sessions.

Baby Plus

Baby Plus continues to go from strength to strength, with an average of 25 mums each week. Our largest week was 33! The feedback continues to say what a tremendous support the group is to all the mums (and dads and grannies etc). It is a really informal, relaxed session with plenty of time for the mums to chat to each other and us. This has enabled us to build some great relationships and we are really seeing the benefit of this; including but not limited to, conversations about faith, increasing numbers coming for Baptism, progression to Coffee Plus and Messy Church. Parents all say similar things, but I've included some examples from our latest feedback sheets here. "The group is a lifeline", "It's the highlight of my week", "The session goes too quick", "The group has built my confidence", "I feel supported and valued", "It's my safe space where I can be honest each week".

Baby Plus continues to feed parents into Coffee Plus and we are seeing a few trickling through into Family services and certainly the special celebration services like Christmas and Easter. Many thanks again go to the volunteers, Madeline, Margaret, Charlotte, Sue and Karen.

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Bump Plus

We began this monthly evening social in February and although it is really early days so far, we have had some good interest and are planning to continue for a few more months before evaluating its impact.

Parenting for Faith

We ran a successful social morning in February. Families came who had already done the course, alongside some who had not. There was plenty of ideas being shared around, and lots of resources were taken or borrowed. We then ran a condensed course on a subsequent Saturday morning for those that wanted to do it having heard all about it.

My hope is that we can run more of these short courses this year, aiming not just at the Babies and Toddlers age, but also developing our outreach to families with older children. I have also been accepted as a 'Parenting for Faith Champion' for our area, which gives me access to more resources and training, as well as enabling me to feed ideas and suggestions back about further resources or training that maybe required.

Parent Plus

This has been on a bit of a back burner this year, as we have focused time and resources on other things. We ran a very well attended 'Starting School' session last June, and I intend to run this again. A 'Returning to work' session was equally well attended. I am happy to run sessions on virtually any topic that is asked of me, but I think I need to be more proactive in just setting dates and topics.

Links

We have been busy building our links with various local family organisations, including the Guildford Family Centre and the Surrey Home Birth Team. Guildford Family centre is turning out to be an incredibly useful link to have made, since they have already provided Claire H and myself with training on Universal Credit and I have attended one of their quarterly networking meetings, which was interesting and enlightening.

Future

We are in the process of looking at what my role will look like as we 'twin' with St. Peter's. A large part of this obviously must be considering where the money will come from if we extend my hours and scope. Mike, Pete, Claire and I have been looking at grant applications for the community work as well as the community garden and Claire and I are going to be spending some time soon, prayerfully considering what we may focus on moving forward.

A big thank you to everyone who helps out as a volunteer at the sessions and supports me generally with prayer, friendship, admin and pencil sharpening!

Claire Boud
Community Worker

6. Electoral Roll Report 2024

At the time of the APCM last year there were 83 names on the Church Electoral Roll. There are now 84 names on the Church Electoral Roll - a small increase despite losing some members of our congregation. We already have another application received ready for when the roll reopens after the APCM.

Wendy Blight
Electoral Roll Officer