



***Changing lives and building
community through Jesus***

**The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Peter and St Paul
Uplyme
Annual Report & Accounts 2016**

Purpose

St Peter and St Paul's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Kate Woolven, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church building and the churchyard (although responsibility for this will pass to East Devon District Council in 2017)

Objectives

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to share in the church community life, to serve their needs and through this, to serve the wider Uplyme community.

We note the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and particularly, charities for the advancement of religion. In planning our activities for the year, we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer
- Learning about the Christian faith - developing knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care and opportunities for engagement
- Missionary and outreach work to share the Christian faith and to serve community

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Peter and St Paul.

Achievements and performance

In 2015 the whole church was involved in the development of the Mission Action Plan which identified nine key areas in which the church needs to grow and develop if it is to fulfil the promise of "*Changing lives and building community through Jesus*". Some of these areas were prioritised for completion in 2016 and some actions have been successful in this whilst others are still underway but will be completed in 2017 and new priorities for that year added.

Regular Communal worship

MAP Action: Further develop services that are family/youth inclusive. Include young people within worship.

The PCC has focused on offering and developing a range of services and activities to serve our church and local community both spiritually and practically. This year we have adopted a new more informal style of Cafe Worship on the morning of the last Sunday each month which fully includes children and young people.

While opportunities are provided for people to engage in more outgoing worship in the mornings, evening services provide a quiet, intimate and reflective environment for worship

All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 108 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 58 of whom are not resident within the parish. We are required by the Diocese to report on the average weekly attendance for the first four weeks of October. This figure is one of the inputs to our Parish Share allocation. For this period in 2016 the average weekly attendance was 81.

Festivals and special services (adults and children):

Easter Sunday (morning)	146
Harvest songs of praise (evening)	53
Light a candle to remember (evening)	47
Remembrance Sunday (morning)	150
Nativity Posada (morning)	100
Carols by candlelight (evening)	148
Christmas Eve Communion	82
Christmas Day	131

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We hold a "Light a Candle to remember" service each year which has enabled members of the church and community to come together to give thanks for the lives of relatives and friends who have died. We have celebrated 4 baptisms and 1 wedding and held 7 funerals in our church this year.

Prayer and contemplation

MAP Action: Install 'Fireplace of Prayer' (or similar visual aid), as central to the church prayer life. This is to be used in worship as part of intercessions. Prayer and listening to God before each worship service.

Teaching on importance of prayer.

Prayer is central to all Christian life and activities. We have continued to offer personal prayer after each Sunday morning service as far as we are able, however, our prayer team has reduced in number and so latterly this has not been possible. This year we have established the "Prayer Fireplace" which has provided a focus for prayer each day, although has not been used very frequently on Sundays. We chose the 24-7 Prayer course which explores the six themes of prayer found in the Bible as our Lent teaching series.

Supporting the mission of the church in this diocese

Ensure we understand the aims of the Diocese and Deanery. Encompass their Vision, Strategy and Mission Action Plans into our own vision - to become a "praying community, grow new disciples and serve the people of Devon with joy"

Two members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. It helps us to work together with the Deanery and the diocese to enable our parish to be an effective partner with them in what they do and to gain support in what we do.

Ecumenical relationships are important if we are to be successful in serving the people of Devon. We have continued to link with other churches in the area with bi-monthly joint prayer nights with the Lyme Regis Parish Church, Baptist Church and Bethany Chapel. Each year Uplyme church works with other local churches to celebrate the WWDP

In children's and youth work, Vibe, a group for 14 to 18 year olds, is run predominately by church members from Uplyme but young people from Kilmington, Seaton and Axminster attend and we are also involved with churches in Lyme Regis and Seaton to support "Epic" for 7-11 year olds.

Pastoral care

MAP Action: Agree a set of principles for Pastoral Care. Formulate and implement a pastoral care plan based on these principles

We endeavour to support all those in our community, whatever season of life they are in, whether they need practical support or spiritual guidance. Therefore, an important part of our Mission Action Plan is to establish a fully trained Pastoral Care Team to work alongside the informal pastoral support with which we are blessed. This is underway and should be in place by autumn 2017.

Some members of our parish are unable to attend church due to sickness or age and visits are made to all church members who have requested it, to celebrate communion with them in their homes

Life groups

MAP Action: Improve communication and clarify what the groups do, through better use of available publicity, both to current church members and new comers.

We seek to initiate and support a wide variety of interest groups and Bible study groups which enable people to grow in their faith, find friendship and to meet with God in a way which is relevant to them. Details of all home groups and interest groups and how to join them are available in the church.

Training and equipping

MAP Action: Somebody to be appointed to be in overall charge of staff/volunteer development.

To support the Church's mission, we are aware that relevant training is a priority and that training, resources and opportunities for development should be made available to all leaders. Regularly meeting together to share and pray will ensure that leaders are not working in isolation and during the year several training courses have been held, some in conjunction with Axmouth Church. Whilst training has taken place in the church during the year, no one has yet been appointed to oversee training.

Support for the poorest in the world

MAP Action: Raising £10,000/year until at least June 2018.

In June 2011, the church became a Tearfund Connected Church with the Brethren in Christ Church, Zambia, partnering with them to provide clean water in the rural areas of Southern and Western Provinces. This has meant a commitment to give £10,000 per year and the target was once again reached. The fundraising activities have been well supported by the community, bringing people into contact with the church that would normally have none. The church has committed to continue the project until 2018 when a decision will be made about future involvement.

Being part of our community

MAP Action: Encourage more of the church family to help in community run activities e.g school, brownies, help at hand, Parenting course and marriage course

Welcome pack for visitors

A range of activities reflects our continuing priorities for building links with different groups in the community. The Church continues its strong links with the primary school through assemblies, OTB, the Bridges project and supporting "Mrs Ethelston's Big Wheeze" each year; younger children and parents through the Shining Stars playgroup and the older children through Saturday football, the weekly youth club, Xplosion, and Spree SW. It also maintains links with the older members of the community through monthly coffee mornings and lunches and continues to support the Lyme Regis Food Bank. Many church members are also involved in the Uplyme Help at hand Scheme.

We have leaflets available in church which provide information for visitors about the activities of the church and a Welcome Pack, in which they are included, is now available from the church office. Our parish magazine is distributed monthly free of charge to all households in Uplyme and is published online. The magazine keeps our parishioners informed of the important matters affecting our Church.

Our church is open to our community every day for private prayer. Since the re-ordering in 2013, it is used several times a week by the school for assemblies and worship as well as home groups (Soul Sisters) and youth groups (Xplosion), and for social events which bring the community of Uplyme together. For the second year running, the Church building was used successfully in August to host an Art Exhibition to raise funds for the Zambia project. Many from Uplyme community were involved both in exhibiting and helping. Plans are being developed to provide a disabled toilet and better kitchen facilities.

Youth and children

MAP Action: Appoint a youth/families worker. Put in place management structures to support the youth worker.

We believe that children are not just the church of tomorrow but are an important part of the church today. The funding for a part time youth worker has been allocated for three years but despite advertising the post several times we have been unable to appoint anyone suitable. We will continue to look for the right person to fill this important post. We run groups for all ages from 0 to 18, both on Sunday mornings and during the week with Shining Stars (parent and toddlers), X-plosion youth group for Year 6 +, Saturday morning football, Discovery Club and Breakfast Club on Sunday mornings and Vibe for year 8+ on Sunday evenings.

Volunteers

Details of the work of the church are described more fully in the reports from committees and other groups who contribute to our church community. These can be accessed via the website and there are printed copies available in church. The PCC depends on many volunteers who give freely of their time and talents to enable this work to take place. The benefits from volunteers' work, and our thanks to them, cannot be overstated, without them the viability of our church would be seriously affected.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. This year several members of the PCC attended the CPAS PCC tonight training and the training materials from this are now being used in PCC meetings.

The PCC operates by meeting every other month with various sub-committees meeting and conducting delegated activities and taking delegated responsibility in between. These committees and groups, which include youth, worship, fabric and finance, are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly. Methods of reporting back to the PCC range from the formal pre-distributed reports for discussion at PCC meetings, to informal verbal reports. The Standing Committee also meets every other month and has limited power to transact business of the PCC between meetings. It consists of the Rector, the Wardens the Treasurer and the Secretary.

The PCC became a registered charity in 2009 and is mindful of its responsibilities as Trustees. The major risks to which the church is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed annually and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks. The PCC is aware of and is complying with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. The PCC met 6 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 85%.

Administrative information

St Peter and St Paul's Church is situated in the village of Uplyme in Devon. It is part of the Diocese of Exeter within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Parish Office, Pound Lane, Uplyme, Devon DT7 3TT. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and became a registered charity in 2009. Registered charity number 1131962

Rector: Rev'd. Kate Woolven **LLM:** Roger Grose
The Rectory
Rhode Lane
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Independent Examiner: **Bank:** Cafcash
Martin Whitehead FCA
Penfold
Cannington Cottages
Cannington Lane
Uplyme

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2016 until the APCM 2017 are:

Incumbent: The Rev'd. Kate Woolven

Churchwardens: Marilyn Kent
Russell Kingsbury

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Robin Hodges

Don Draper

Treasurer: Philip Tolhurst *Co-opted*

Elected Members: Jo Cursley
Fiona Dunster
Anne Hardman
Geoff Linsley
Elaine Phillips *Secretary*
Matt Roe
Andrew Soldan
Noreen Watson
Mike Whittome