

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017
FOR**

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

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for the year ended 31 December 2017**

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THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 December 2017

Background

St James PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector, the Rev'd Mark Pickett in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for the Church Centre complex of St James', St James' Street, Clitheroe. It has responsibility in the employment of a part time Youth Worker, a Christians Against Poverty centre manager, a Church Administrator and a full time Children's and family worker. Finally, it has an important role to play in the support of St James' C of E Primary School.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Church Attendance

At the AGM in 2017 the electoral role membership stood at 239.

The average adult Sunday attendance, counted during October 2017 was 155.

The average Sunday Attendance of those aged 3-16 was 32.

The number of children and young people attending mid-week activities was 35.

Attendance on a 'normal' Sunday was 37 children and young people and 145 adults.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Review of the Year.

A full review of all the activities at St James' can be found in the Annual Reports to the APCM.

This year we have continued to seek to fulfil our vision to know Jesus and make Jesus known.

Sunday Worship and teaching are the springboard from which we witness in our community whether that be our locality or our network of relationships.

Preaching subjects this year have included:

- Who is Jesus - a series on the book of Hebrews

- A five weeks series on Money

- Lent series on calling and vocation

10 homegroups meet weekly or fortnightly for discipleship, fellowship and support and often use the Sunday sermon as the basis for applying Christian truth to daily life.

We now stream our sermons live on Youtube and this is accessed regularly by members of the congregation and further afield.

Outreach to our community has remained a church focus with a monthly lunch club, weekly children and youth events.

Our partnership with our primary school continues with early intervention mentoring, after school clubs, regular assemblies. Our children and family worker continues to spend at least 10 hours a week in the school.

Outreach to the community amongst children continues with rockin', a weekly children's club.

A fresh expression for families called superheroes is held monthly reaching those that never attend church at any other time. This year we had our first baptism at this event.

The eighth On the Move Barbecue took place in June, where we joined with other Christians in the town to host a town wide barbecue on the Castle field.

Alpha groups have met throughout the year attracting many new to faith. 6 people have reaffirmed their baptismal vows this year.

We continue to partner mission at home and abroad with our mission tithe.

Our partnership with Kings Highway Church in Eldoret, Kenya has developed this year and we welcomed their church leaders; Henry, Francis and Fred to St James for two weeks in June.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 December 2017

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Review of the Year (cont.)

We employed a new CAP centre manager in February but she left her post at the end of the calendar year. A new CAP centre manager begins work on May 1st 2018.

We have continued to support the Ribble Valley Foodbank.

United Network, a fresh expression of church continues to engage with those who do not relate to traditional church.

The rector took a three and a half month sabbatical this year and the Leadership Team stepped up admirably in his absence ably supported by a very good PCC and Readers.

The formation of a Joshua Group in September of those with leadership roles within the church has helped in shaping and influencing vision.

Our pioneer ordinand left us on ordination in July.

We continue to have a variety of worship styles in the church, from a traditional 9am service to more informal, contemporary worship.

We continue to employ a number of full and part-time staff.

Jo Pellet is our part time youth pastor

Nick Schumann works 15 hours as Church Administrator

Helen Potts works as our full time children and family worker

At present we have a vacancy in the CAP centre worker role.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At the end of 2017 the total income received for the year into the PCC account was £313,667. Total expenditure was £285,021.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The PCC operates through one committee with a number of teams that meet between full meetings of the PCC.

The Standing Committee, the only committee required by law, has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any directions given by the Council.

In order for the PCC to carry out its function of leadership, development and decision making a number of teams have been set up with the following terms of reference

Leadership Team

To receive vision - directly from God and via others

To distil and clarify vision

To communicate vision so as to inspire others

To ensure implementation of vision (including determining and modifying strategy). Setting strategic, measurable and time quantifiable goals and then monitoring progress

Fabric Team

To oversee the day to day maintenance of the church buildings

To work closely with the Church Administrator and Development Officer in the carrying out of work to the building.

To ensure the work from the Quinquennial Inspection is carried out.

To report to the PCC work needed, planned and completed.

Finance Team

To oversee the finances of the church.

To support the Treasurer in the setting of yearly budgets.

To ensure the church is kept informed about Christian Stewardship including the envelope scheme, direct debit giving, legacies etc.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 December 2017

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Finance Team (cont.)

To bring a financial report to each PCC meeting

Ministry Team

To oversee the Worship Services at St James

To monitor and evaluate the needs of the worshipping community

To produce a termly teaching programme.

Mission Team

To explore areas and agencies which the church may wish to support

To find ways to support these areas and agencies

To allocate money from the annual mission tythe to be given to each area or agency

To report regularly to the PCC

To review annually areas and agencies supported

Each team reports to the PCC where decisions are made.

The PCC has met 5 times during the year. Minutes or written or verbal reports of meetings or groups were received by the PCC and discussed where necessary.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1131419

Principal address

The Administrator

St. James Church

St. James Street

Clitheroe

Lancashire

BB7 1HH

Trustees

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Incumbent Rev'd Mark Pickett - Chairman

The following people have served on the PCC from April 2017:

Wardens	K Potts	
	M Howarth	
Deanery Synod	J Young	
	P Devine	
Elected Members	M Dowd	
	D Pickett	
	D Thornber	
	M Dyer	
	J Pellet	
	R Haldane	(Reader)
	P Cowen	(Treasurer)
	P Young	
	H Potts	
	G Haldane	
	G Derbyshire	

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 December 2017**

Trustees (cont.)

	E Wood	
	L Few	
	C Richardson	
Ex Officio	N Schumann	(Secretary)
	T Marsh	(Deputy Warden)
	D Garner	(Deputy Warden)
	R Price	(Deputy Warden)
	C Wrighton	(Deputy Warden)

Independent examiner

Jones Harris Limited
Chartered Accountants
17 St Peters Place
Fleetwood
Lancashire
FY7 6EB

Bankers

Yorkshire Bank Plc
2 Market Place
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2DB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Rev M Pickett - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Parish Church of St James, Clitheroe

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the The Parish Church of St James, Clitheroe (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of which is one of the listed bodies

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Martin Wigley MSc ACA ATII
Jones Harris Limited
Chartered Accountants
17 St Peters Place
Fleetwood
Lancashire
FY7 6EB

Date:

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 December 2017**

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2017 Total funds £	2016 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		302,539	-	302,539	223,679
Charitable activities					
Directly relating to the work of the church		9,631	-	9,631	8,554
Investment income	2	<u>1,497</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,497</u>	<u>1,610</u>
Total		313,667	-	313,667	233,843
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Directly relating to the work of the church		<u>277,092</u>	<u>7,929</u>	<u>285,021</u>	<u>251,151</u>
Total		277,092	7,929	285,021	251,151
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>1,272</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,272</u>	<u>2,166</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		37,847	(7,929)	29,918	(15,142)
Transfers between funds	10	<u>(1,025)</u>	<u>1,025</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net movement in funds		36,822	(6,904)	29,918	(15,142)
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		111,053	10,388	121,441	136,583
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>147,875</u></u>	<u><u>3,484</u></u>	<u><u>151,359</u></u>	<u><u>121,441</u></u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

**BALANCE SHEET
At 31 December 2017**

	Not es	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total 2017 funds £	Total 2016 funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	51,125	-	51,125	23,570
Investments	7	<u>35,039</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,039</u>	<u>33,478</u>
		86,164	-	86,164	57,048
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	42,068	-	42,068	40,332
Cash at bank		<u>84,217</u>	<u>6,302</u>	<u>90,519</u>	<u>80,740</u>
		126,285	6,302	132,587	121,072
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(64,574)</u>	<u>(2,818)</u>	<u>(67,392)</u>	<u>(56,679)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>61,711</u>	<u>3,484</u>	<u>65,195</u>	<u>64,393</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>147,875</u>	<u>3,484</u>	<u>151,359</u>	<u>121,441</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>147,875</u>	<u>3,484</u>	<u>151,359</u>	<u>121,441</u>
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				147,875	111,053
Restricted funds				<u>3,484</u>	<u>10,388</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>151,359</u>	<u>121,441</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Rev M Pickett -Trustee

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Church equipment	- 10% on cost
Plant and machinery	- 15% on cost
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- Straight line over 3 years

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

- Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.
- No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether new or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and separately disclosed.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of the Church members.

Investments

Investments are stated at their market value.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
for the year ended 31 December 2017

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2017	2016
	£	£
Other fixed asset invest - FII	1,269	1,236
Deposit account interest	190	350
Interest received on tax repayment	<u>38</u>	<u>24</u>
	<u><u>1,497</u></u>	<u><u>1,610</u></u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

In the year Rev'd Mark Pickett was granted an ex-gratia payment of £6,000 by the PCC to cover expenses during his three and a half month sabbatical. No other trustee received any remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2017 nor for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2017 nor for the year ended 31 December 2016.

4. STAFF COSTS

In the year ended 31 December 2017 staff costs were £67,736 (2016: £65,673)

None of the members received any remuneration or expenses from the council.

The average monthly number of employees was 6 (2016: 6).

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	223,679	-	223,679
Charitable activities			
Directly relating to the work of the church	8,554	-	8,554
Investment income	<u>1,610</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,610</u>
Total	233,843	-	233,843
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Directly relating to the work of the church	<u>246,776</u>	<u>4,375</u>	<u>251,151</u>
Total	246,776	4,375	251,151
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<u>2,166</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,166</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(10,767)	(4,375)	(15,142)
Transfers between funds	<u>(3,800)</u>	<u>3,800</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	(14,567)	(575)	(15,142)

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
for the year ended 31 December 2017

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	125,620	10,963	136,583
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>111,053</u>	<u>10,388</u>	<u>121,441</u>

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Church equipment £	Plant and machinery £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 January 2017	80,650	38,716	10,600	16,905	146,871
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>38,031</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,031</u>
At 31 December 2017	<u>80,650</u>	<u>76,747</u>	<u>10,600</u>	<u>16,905</u>	<u>184,902</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 January 2017	80,649	18,501	7,246	16,905	123,301
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>9,637</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,476</u>
At 31 December 2017	<u>80,649</u>	<u>28,138</u>	<u>8,085</u>	<u>16,905</u>	<u>133,777</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 December 2017	<u>1</u>	<u>48,609</u>	<u>2,515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,125</u>
At 31 December 2016	<u>1</u>	<u>20,215</u>	<u>3,354</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,570</u>

7. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Unlisted investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2017	33,478
Additions	289
Revaluations	<u>1,272</u>
At 31 December 2017	<u>35,039</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2017	<u>35,039</u>
At 31 December 2016	<u>33,478</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
for the year ended 31 December 2017

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2017 £	2016 £
Trade debtors	25,832	37,247
Other debtors	<u>16,236</u>	<u>3,085</u>
	<u>42,068</u>	<u>40,332</u>

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2017 £	2016 £
Other creditors	<u>67,392</u>	<u>56,679</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/17 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/12/17 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	111,053	37,847	(1,025)	147,875
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	10,388	(7,929)	1,025	3,484
	<u>121,441</u>	<u>29,918</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,359</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	313,667	(277,092)	1,272	37,847
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	-	(7,929)	-	(7,929)
	<u>313,667</u>	<u>(285,021)</u>	<u>1,272</u>	<u>29,918</u>

The balance on the restricted funds at 31 December 2017 was made up as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Discretionary fund	876	5,386
Youth Ministry fund	3,019	4,276
Children's Ministry fund	<u>(411)</u>	<u>726</u>
	<u>3,484</u>	<u>10,388</u>

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
for the year ended 31 December 2017

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2017 other than that disclosed in note 3.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Covenanted gifts	146,285	140,931
Other donations	65,938	38,265
Gift aid	1,583	7,236
Bequests	50,299	-
Income tax recoverable	<u>38,434</u>	<u>37,247</u>
	302,539	223,679
Investment income		
Other fixed asset invest - FII	1,269	1,236
Deposit account interest	190	350
Interest received on tax repayment	<u>38</u>	<u>24</u>
	1,497	1,610
Charitable activities		
Fees	4,108	3,403
Pastoral centre	2,899	2,553
Sundry income	175	150
Minibus hire	<u>2,449</u>	<u>2,448</u>
	<u>9,631</u>	<u>8,554</u>
Total incoming resources	313,667	233,843
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Church running expenses	31,803	24,616
Insurance	2,631	2,562
Church maintenance	7,910	8,011
Upkeep of services	15,276	10,994
Diocesan quota	74,032	67,988
Clergy expenses	4,649	4,818
Administrator	14,072	13,591
Support costs	4,568	3,722
Youth & children's workers	39,674	38,992
Quinquennial	5,000	5,000
Mission	38,833	30,135
Youth ministry	3,144	2,789
Children's ministry	4,487	4,515
Discretionary	510	875
CAP workers	8,891	8,243
CAP ministry	11,057	10,895
Motor expenses	2,079	2,484
Clitheroe Pioneer Ministries	<u>2,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	271,116	240,230

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CLITHEROE
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017 £	2016 £
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	1,926	1,908
Administration costs	10,348	8,789
Subscriptions	431	224
Professional fees	<u>1,200</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>13,905</u>	<u>10,921</u>
Total resources expended	285,021	251,151
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>28,646</u></u>	<u><u>(17,308)</u></u>



To know Jesus and make Jesus known

Annual Reports

2017

connecting—changing—transforming

Foreword

Have you ever wondered what happens here at St James' within the course of a year? Well, the following is a non-exhaustive collection of reports which highlight significant developments and achievements that happened last year (January – December 2017). The aim of these reports is to give the reader a flavour of everything that God is doing at St. James', and to communicate this both reflectively (with what has happened) and expectantly (with what will happen) with the whole of the church family. Read on with great anticipation, taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8a) ...

Nick Schumann, Office Administrator

Rector's Report

The AGM, although it does come at a very strange time of the year, is an opportunity first of all to look back and celebrate.

Celebrate God's faithfulness and goodness, although this should be a daily activity! Celebrate our Church family. Where else in society do you find such a diverse group of people, who love and care for one another? Celebrate our mission to the community around us as we demonstrate the love of God in acts of service, proclaim the word of God in our services, conversations and interaction and manifest the power and presence of God in our own daily transformation and as we pray and press in to what God has for us.

Some of you may remember vision 2014 and beyond? Some of you too are thinking "what happened to that?" As with any vision some things are right some wrong, some happen, some don't and some happen in ways you didn't expect. But as I look back I can see

- A leadership team formed and working well
- A Youth pastor engaging our young people, sowing seeds, making a difference.
- A ministry to the over 50's developed
- A Children's and family worker engaged and making a massive impact
- A Hub being formed. Not as we expected but in the Salvation Army as they begin to minister out of their new building.

We haven't managed to employ a youth evangelist and the roles of pastoral and discipleship co-ordinator have been subsumed into the leadership team, although a pastoral team has developed and is working well.

But AGM's are also times to look forward. I have had the pleasure of leading St James for 15 years and I believe God has been speaking to me over the last few months about thinking bigger and planning beyond oneself. To this end, the Leadership Team, PCC and the Joshua group have been thinking and praying into where we believe God is leading us.

Whilst continuing and developing the ministries you will read about in these reports, St James is becoming an increasingly complex organisation. Because of this we need to address some of the operational issues so that thinking is joined up, things don't get missed and we stay on track with the vision God has given us.

connecting—changing—transforming

Whilst we may have a NIMBY attitude to the housing development in our town we believe that the Standen Estate development gives us a wonderful outreach opportunity and we will seek ways to form community and congregations in that location.

The partnership with our school is one of the highlights for me and I am so excited to see us engaging with children and families through that partnership, through TLG and superheroes. It is important that we do not lose what we have now built in terms of our relationship with children as they become young people. So we will be looking as to how we can partner with the schools the Grand and other churches in this.

A more detailed explanation of the vision, the reasons behind that vision and the first steps we need to take will be outlined on Celebration Sunday and will be available on the website.

It is a big vision. It will take us beyond ourselves. It will cost in terms of time and money. But someone once said that if your vision doesn't scare you it probably isn't from God!

Thank you for being God's people in this place at this time as we continue to know Jesus and make Jesus known in our networks and neighbourhood.

Mark Pickett

Church Wardens Report

Dear Friends

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 and what an honour we all have to reach out with love into our community. Once again we have seen growth in numbers, and are blessed to welcome new faces in so many church projects and activities; it is so good to see lives being transformed as people connect with God in different ways.

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 thank Mark for his sacrifice of time and giving himself to serve God and His church. Mark and Della returned refreshed from their sabbatical, thank you to all who have gave so generously and supported Mark & Della over this past year.

We thank the Lay Readers and Norman Ivison our Associate Minister, for their teaching and wise words; we thank them for helping us grow closer to our Heavenly Father.

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. The worship team make St James a special place to be each Sunday. We are grateful to all those who lead worship and so help us glorify God.

Our children and youth are such a blessing to the church family; we have much to learn from them spiritually. Thank you to all who minister and serve on a Sunday morning with Kingdom Tiddlers, Kingdom Kids and GRO, leading the children into God's presence and helping them to grow in God's love, your commitment and enthusiasm is invaluable.

Our Youth Pastor, Jo Pellet, loves, mentors and disciples the youth of the church, we thank her for her total commitment and dedication. The youth of the church are growing in God. We are indebted to you.

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.

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Our sides person, with their welcoming smiles, are often the first face seen as people arrive at church on a Sunday, then after the service a cup of tea or coffee, as people socialise. So thank you sides persons and coffee rota team, you are much appreciated.

We know that prayer is powerful and effective, we all need the support of prayer from friends and have times when we appreciate specific prayer from other Christians. A big thank you to our Prayer Chain, Prayer Ministry Team and Sozo Team for their dedication and support, you are amazing.

We are thankful for our Leadership Team and we praise God for their inspiration and enthusiasm. We pray that God will continue to guide them as they seek all he wants for us as a church and that God will continue to envision them, as they lead us in our mission of connecting, changing and transforming. We thank them for their dedication and hard work.

We were honoured to welcome Francis, Henry and Fred from Kings Highway Church, Kenya in June. They stayed with us for a fortnight, we were blessed by their enthusiasm, teaching and ministry. The relationship between St James Church and Kings Highway Church continues to develop and deepen as we support one another.

Worship happens all day every day in the lives of those at St James as they serve God with the gifts he has given them. We are so blessed by those who give generously of their time to serve and bless the church family and Clitheroe, with their hard work and commitment. We are so grateful for all involved with the following; CAP, Lunch Break, Young At Heart, Rockin, Superheroes, Youth Cell groups, House Groups, Alpha groups, Little Fishes, AA Groups, Badminton Club, Foodbank and so many more. We also realise that there are many jobs undertaken by people that go un-noticed from flower arranging to bell ringing, maintenance and gardening, the weekly emails from Norman. We thank you all.

We thank Lucy Few, who was CAP Centre Manager, we are grateful for all the lives that have been blessed and supported by you. Thank you to all who continue to be committed in supporting CAP.

We are very grateful for the service and support of our Deputy Wardens; Colin Wrighton, Andrew Stevens, Thomas Marsh, and Roger Price. Thanks also to people involved with administration, especially Nick Schumann, for Paul Cowen's commitment as treasurer, Colin White for reclaiming Gift Aid, and not forgetting the wonderful job done by Angie the Verger, in serving people who come to church for funerals and weddings. For the commitment of the PCC members, we thank you.

We trust that you will join with us in praying that we stay close to the heart of father God through this coming year. To God be the glory, honour and praise.

God bless you all.

Mary Howarth & Keith Potts (April 2018)

Fabric Team Report

We are so blessed to have such an amazing building at St James. The Quinquennial Inspection Report was received in February, we can report that the building is generally in a very good condition. Minor urgent repairs have been actioned together including on-going repairs to the loose pavings to the front entrance. Other items of work listed within the report are under consideration and will be actioned in due course. A new lighting system has been installed within the main church. A big thank you to Andrew Stevens for sorting the storage system under the risers and for all the practical tasks undertaken this year. Thank you Fabric Team and to all who have helped keep the premises in good order over the past 12 months.

Keith Potts

Church Office

The office continues to be a busy place, supporting the day to day ministry and family members of St. James' through regular administrative tasks and liaising with external users who hire our rooms.

Well assisted as always by Jackie Devine, to whom I am always grateful, it is always a pleasure to be able to welcome so many people into the office who call in for lots of different reasons, including many who are looking for a church in the area or are simply interested in looking at the building.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported and prayed for us in various ways over the last year. Please feel free to continue.

Nick Schumann

Children and Family Work

Once again I feel very humbled and blessed by the encouragement and support of St James' Church, in all its various guises. Whether by joining a team, offering encouraging words, offering prayer support or giving a hug, the church has been amazing in the way they support me in my role. I continue to be totally blessed to have the role of Children's and Families Worker. I am always thankful and amazed that God can use even me!

Rockin Report

Tuesday night is my favourite night of the week, and that is because it is Rockin night! Rockin continues to be a wonderful and special place to be. I know it is important to God and central to my role. I said last year, how I always feel that I am holding a very precious gift in my hands when I plan anything for Rockin, this feeling continues this year.

For nearly a year now we have started Rockin with zones, the children arrive and choose whether to be part of the football zone, the Lego zone, the parachute zone or the colouring zone. Each zone is manned by helpers, ready to have fun, but also ready to listen and support the Rockin children. The zones give everybody time to arrive, ready for the night ahead.

We say Rockin is about, 'having fun as we find out more about Jesus' and this applies whether we have an established faith and are used to worshipping or whether prayer and praise is a new experience. When I think about the wonderful children at Rockin this year, I think of characters who have only been with us a short while, because of family circumstances, and in that time they have started to pray out loud in front of others, we hope and pray seeds have been planted deeply in good soil as they move on from Rockin. At the same time we love having children from our church families who have amazing faith and teach us so much; they bless their Rockin friends with their prayers. The hope is that whoever we are at Rockin, wherever we are on our faith journey, that by being at Rockin we will get better connected with our loving God. That our times of praise, worship, prayer and listening to God will deepen that connection.

As always we had our Rockin talent show, which once again proved what we already knew, that our Rockin kids are amazing! They danced, sang, told jokes, did gymnastics, baked cakes and showed what a great job God did in making each one of them!

The Rockin summer programme once again provided chances to keep contact with the children and their families through the summer. The church minibuss allowed us to go to The Chocolate House in Blackburn for a second consecutive year. No surprises that this trip was popular AGAIN! The church minibuss also took us to Harwes Farm run by Gill and Andy Taylor where we had a BBQ, a treasure

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hunt and just pottered around having fun! Once again we had a great time at Waddow; grass sledging and caving in a container! Another week, persuaded by Leland and Harrison Garlick, the Rockin children tried a new activity..Nerf attack!!! I survived!!! This summer we are ready for another set of adventures as Rockin hits the road in the summer holidays!.

All of this couldn't happen without the amazing team of Rockin helpers. Thank you so much to Nic, Harrison, Callum, Keith, Jo, Paul, Andrew, Fiona, Cliff, Avery, Laura Daniel, Pat and David who have all given up their time at some point this year to be Jesus in different ways, to the Rockin kids and their families. Not forgetting Thomas who always moves the chairs for us!

Kingdom Kids

Kingdom Kids is the age appropriate teaching for school age children, during the 10.30 service on a Sunday. The vision and challenge for Kingdom Kids is so much more than a time of teaching, but rather to be a time when we grow closer and get better connected to our mighty God and a time when we experience his love first hand and allow him to transform our hearts; a space to speak to God and to listen to God. It is hoped that our children can be 'God connected and not just God smart'. (Rachel Turner, Parenting For Faith) Then we hope that our Kingdom Kids can go and transform their classes, friendship groups and town, empowered by their amazing helper the Holy Spirit.

How do we do this? Well we start together in the Oasis room, where we have opportunities to connect with God in creative prayer, through Bible verses and by listening to God. Then we split into our age groups. Each group leader develops the theme in their own unique way, with creativity and dedication. Carefully choosing activities that help the children learn in age appropriate ways. In different groups from week to week you will find games, craft, DVDs, stories, drama, children reading the Bible, treasure hunts, food and many more wonderful activities. Since Christmas we have been using the same teaching theme as the adults and GRO. Hopefully this gives families the chance to talk about faith and have God conversations in the time after church. The family is the main place that children's faith will grow and so it is good for us in Kingdom Kids to support families as they do faith together.

This year has seen Kingdom Kids, Tiddlers and GRO continue to pray for Clitheroe and their friends, by going out on prayer walks. The castle has been our favourite spot to pray...blowing bubbles from the top as we pray for the spirit to fall on Clitheroe.

Once a month Kingdom Kids get to take part in Stompin. A lively session of worship, fun, games(thank you Andrew Stevens) and truths with a video clip and refreshments! And of course our special guest Mr Harry Bow, the owner of a sweet factory, who happens to love Jesus! (Further information on Mr Harry Bow can be obtained from his good friend, Tim Lynas) We have a cake or snake feature, that has morphed into a healthier boot or fruit feature and we still try and 'Beat the Boffin'.

Children move up to GRO after Easter. We have a special session where the other GRO young people and Kingdom Kids pray for them as they go through a prayer tunnel and we present them with a small present and a special word for them from God.

We hope that even our youngest children can enjoy being loved by God and enjoy being in His presence on a Sunday morning. We hope that being part of the St James' family, part of God's family is special for them. They are his children, his treasured possessions and so this year we have developed the crèche into Kingdom Tiddlers. A place where the under 5's can start to connect with God. Again they follow the same teaching theme as the adults and other children and young people, but this theme is developed with appropriate toys, play doh mats, prayer times, praise times, bubbles, stories, craft and colouring. All this enabled by a wonderful team of Tiddler leaders, who are so gifted in the conversations they have with these wonderful children.

An enormous thank you to every Kingdom Kids and Kingdom Tiddlers leader, you are amazing! Thank you for preparing wonderful activities for your age group to connect with God and for ministering to these wonderful children. Thank you for your dedication and ministry. You are appreciated and a blessing.

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Friday Superheroes.

'This is amazing! It is so good for the children, my daughter loves it! I feel so comfortable in church with this.'

This was a comment made to me by one of the Friday Superhero dads and he really blessed me with the comment! We want families. Families can mean anything...we welcome grandparents, grown up siblings, single parents, one parent, two parents extended families with cousins attached we love you and welcome you and want to bless you. It is a chance to the families who come to Friday Superheroes to feel at home, to feel comfortable and welcome. We want them to know that St James' is their church and a place where they belong and can be blessed.

Friday Superheroes is an opportunity to share God's love with families. It is a chance for all families to explore faith and God's truths together, whether families who wouldn't usually come to church on a Sunday morning, church families, food bank families, CAP families, Rockin families or families from St. James' School. It is an opportunity to be invitational and invite along friends, neighbours or family who wouldn't do Sunday church, it is a chance to introduce them to God, to have conversations about God.

Over the last year we have explored many themes; Bible Superheroes, parables, advent, fruit of the Spirit, Christmas and Easter. We have celebrated our first baptism and held a summer BBQ. We have welcomed and made friends with many more families. There are always at least 50 of us eating tea, but at times there have been 100 of us. At times we have run out of tables and chairs and knives and forks!

On a typical Superhero Friday the guests arrive and help themselves to drinks, colouring and games, then we might watch a DVD, listen to a short talk or act out a story. We have enjoyed having guest story tellers (thank you Mr Filder) Next we head into church to explore the theme in lots of different activities such as craft, experiments, challenges, quizzes, physical activities and games and cold cooking. There is always a Prayer Zone where our guests can quietly sit and use creative prayers to talk to God. Then we stop, we sit at the front of church and share what we have done and learnt and perhaps have a few quiet moments to reflect or respond to God if we want. Last of all we eat together! A couple of the children pray to thank God for our food and then we all head into the Oasis Room for a delicious tea!!

During these nights I love to just look around and see what God is doing. I love it when an opportunity arises to pray with a family. It is a lovely feeling to know you are helpless and this is all God's handiwork!! I keep praying, asking God about the next step. How to help these families to connect, change and transform. We are trying to encourage the families to keep talking about faith at home, to pray between events, We have introduced take home bags to encourage faith at home.

This year Friday Superheroes has developed even more into a team ministry. I am so grateful to Jill Ivison for organising and managing a rota of people to cook, serve, tidy and help, this has made a massive difference and really increased the number of St James' 'superheroes' helping to bless our Friday Superhero families. Debbie Smith and Pauline Nurse have helped me plan the activities, which is such a blessing! Ali and Lisa Campbell have shared some of their experiences of similar events that has really helped us develop Friday Superheroes. A massive thank you to all the amazing people who have enabled Superheroes to happen. You all know who you are!! To those of you who turn up to every event or every other month to serve in your special ways. You have set out tables, you have washed up, you have loaded the dishwasher, you have cooked and chopped, you have chatted and cared, you have taught craft and games, you have invited families, you have made jelly and cake, you have prayed and encouraged, you have given wise advice, you have set the room up, you have done tech stuff!!! You have been amazing and allowed Superheroes to happen!! You are Superheroes!!!

Helen in St James School

TLG. (Transforming Lives for Good)

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This is a Christian charity that some people from church have trained to be coaches with, so that now they can go into school to work with certain children to help them achieve their potential. There are currently three children in school who receive an hour's mentoring each week, for different reasons. This mentoring aims to build up self esteem and confidence; to help talk the children through emotions that might be hindering them from reaching their God given potential. The scheme is another link between the church and the school. It is another way of hopefully blessing families.

A massive thank you to Nina, Peter and Kirsty, for giving up your time each week to encourage and support these children in school. Please chat to any of these people, to me or Lisa Campbell, if you want to know more. The school is always after more mentors!

Hanging Around with Helen

Just playing in the yard and talking to children. I like to pray and ask God to show me which children need encouragement; I have children who always make a bee line over to me to share something. Sometimes I take a giant skipping rope, sometimes I just sit on a bench and chat. Sometimes children share a problem and we pray. A culture of prayer is starting to develop through the staff and me, so when they hurt they might suggest we pray!!

Assemblies

I love taking assemblies once a week, alternating between KS1 and KS2. It is amazing to ask God what he wants to say to the children and to take that truth to them. Angie Blackburn does a wonderful job as the worship coordinator at school and she puts a great list of assembly themes together for us to follow.

Year 6 Communion

Over the last year we have started bringing the Year 6 children up to church once a term to share communion with the Wednesday morning congregation. This has been a really special time! A family communion liturgy is used with the children reading some parts. The children and adults sit next to each other and chat! The peace is always shared, and as the young and old mingle to share God's love it is hard for the service leader to get everyone back in their seats! After the service there are refreshments when there is more mingling and chatting and friendships forming! It is a very wonderful occasion. A big thank you goes to the Wednesday morning congregation for welcoming Year 6 in such an amazing way. We all look forward to the summer, when the school are looking forward to having the service down at the school in their outside worship area and welcoming the Wednesday congregation!

Special Services

At Harvest time, Christmas, Easter and at the end of the school year, the children all come up to church for special services that Mark, Andy and me all take part in. It is always wonderful to welcome parents and grandparents to the church, to serve them refreshments and chat with them.

Outside Worship Area

This year the school has developed an outside worship area, it is a very special place. I spent Golden Time with a few children painting truths and sayings onto slates, to use as reflections in this beautiful area.

Bible Diggers

This is an after school club that Klaine (the children's worker at CCC) and myself run together. It has been really special planning and running the sessions together. We play games, listen to a Bible Story, do craft, pray and have fun. About 26 children come every week. The club is a great opportunity to encourage the children to connect with God and discover more His love for them.

Parents

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On a Friday morning once every half term I make tea and coffee for the parents attending class assemblies. I sometimes attend parent's evenings to make drinks and to hopefully meet more parents!

SATs week breakfast

During SATs week, myself, John and Jennifer Butler go into school every morning and make breakfast for the children. Toast, croissants, copious amounts of Nutella, fruit and fruit juice are all served to the Year 6 children and helped them relax and get their brains well fed before the task of the dreaded SATs. There is always a chance to pray with them, to show God is always there to listen. The school really felt this benefitted the children over the last two years and so we will be repeating the event again this year.

Helen Potts

Youth work

Overview

I continue to be utterly privileged to still be serving as youth pastor for our 11-18's! Young people are such a joy and a privilege to walk alongside in life and faith, and I continue to be humbled by their presence and participation in what we offer. As I reflect on another year of overseeing the discipleship of all of our young people within church I am filled with excitement as well as plenty of challenges. My desire is to champion our young people, and to keep finding new ways of sharing how incredible they are, and how much they have to offer, with you all.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support and encouragement of me and our young people. Thank you especially to all our youth leaders who inspire, encourage and challenge our young people and love them week in week out as they give and share of themselves so wonderfully. It takes a whole church to disciple our young people and is definitely not something that I could, or should, do on my own.

GRO

Our Sunday morning group for Years 6 (from Easter) upwards, continues to meet weekly and is a special place of sharing together as we explore what it means to be a disciple of Christ together. We are excited to have started following the main teaching series, with an aim to join up all the ages to be able to learn and respond as one family.

Our monthly youth breakfasts continue to serve the bellies of hungry teenagers before church on a Sunday morning – we share copious amounts of toast together, and enjoy each others company at the same time! These times continue to be special as we 'just be' with one another, sharing with each other and as we, as facilitators, grab hold of further opportunities to invest and pour more of Jesus into our young people.

At Easter our Year 6's once again made their transition to GRO from Kingdom Kids to remove one more big change that comes to them as they make the transition to secondary school in September. We had a special time of commissioning for them, where they received gifts and prophetic words from Helen, as she reluctantly but graciously released them to join the young people upstairs, to begin the important process of finding their favourite sofa seat or beanbag to claim each week!

We have a wonderful group of young people who vary in their energy levels on a Sunday morning! They are never without amazing, thought provoking, big questions which can often lead us off on quite a tangent...which I love! My sincere thanks go to John Filder and Clive Watson, and Kathryn Weston who joined our team last year, as they selflessly continue to give of themselves and their time as they demonstrate God's love and model what it means to be a disciple of Christ to the youth.

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11-14's youth group

This large group of dynamic and energetic young people continues to meet on Sunday evenings during term time at church. We have a varied programme, and whatever it is we're doing each week there is a beautiful expectancy about meeting with each other and God, whether we're engaging in an activity, bible study, on a prayer walk, playing manhunt around church or exhausting ourselves at an giant inflatable theme park.

The main purpose of this group is to create a safe place to explore faith and to discover who God is, who we are in Him, and the difference Jesus can make in our lives when we open ourselves to Him. We do this from a place of fun and acceptance, enjoying each other's company and the time we have to share together.

Thank you so much to Matt and Ellie Wood who supported this group last year, and got alongside our young people to share their faith with them. Sadly they can no longer help, but I am pleased to share that Ali and Lisa Campbell have joined the team, and have given of themselves with such generosity, passion and experience. They are an invaluable support to me and have brought much fun and laughter to our Sunday nights. Thank you.

Growth group

This is our midweek group for our older youth (Years 10-13), who meet in our home each Wednesday as we choose to 'do life' together. We have created a very relaxed, informal space for young people to come and 'be'. I love this opportunity to invest in, encourage and challenge one another in the experiences and challenge life brings each of us. We were sad to say goodbye to a handful of our group in the summer, but were able to welcome a new bunch of friends to join our special times together.

We continue to enjoy our tradition of regularly sharing a meal together, which we call Dinner Church. It is a special time of being family together in Christ, and it has evolved to be one of our favourite times together...yes because of the yummy food that we take turns in preparing, but also the sharing in the teaching, prayer and worship aspects of these evenings. It is a team effort where everyone has something to offer and brings that to share with one another.

Thank you to Naomi Williams who continues to serve this group and is an essential part of our team. Naomi you are an amazing example to us and we love your heart, honesty and joy, thank you for sharing you with us. Thank you too to Olie as he supports me in my role and also invests in our young people, as well as opening up our home each week to them.

Connect worship

Our vision for Connect is to create a safe, accepting and creative space for young people to experience God and experience different ways to connect with Him, ourselves and each other.

We meet together each week in church to worship God in different ways; exploring the meaning of worship and the different and creative ways we can come before God in worship. We include some loud active worship activities as well as some quieter reflective times. We sing, we write, we draw, we play, we meditate, we dance, we make...all to glorify our awesome God. It's a wonderful space to adventure with God and hear his voice for us and each other, and to grow in the gifts of the Spirit as we put all we learn about God into practice.

Thank you to Matt and Ellie Wood who supported this group last year, and for our older youth Andrew Cowen and Esther Jenkins, who have committed to this group and have begun to share their gifts with us.

Summer youth programme

We packed our tents up again this year and went on our annual trip to Soul Survivor. As always, an amazing time was had by all, even though I took the wrong tents...one of which was far too small and broke during the week! As ever the young people were gracious and adaptable and we were blessed that God provided us all with somewhere to sleep! We shared and enjoyed special times of deeper friendships while we were there, across the ages and with a small group from CCC too. It was special to see our young people really engage in worship, and grow as they were challenged and encouraged by the teaching in the main services and in the various seminars. We also gave one of our days to serve the local community as part of their mission, and I, once again, was so humbled by the desire in every single one of them to give out in this way, and work so hard to bless others.

A huge thank you goes to Olie Pellet, Tilly Pickett, Becca Hetherington and Claire Woodward (CCC) for their incredible support and hard work both before and during this trip.

The summer again had plenty of trips and social activities on offer for all young people and their friends to participate in. The summer is a time of our usual termly groups taking a break, but these times of engaging in fun and social activities together are an important way of keeping us all connected, and also serves to introduce the new Year 7's to our youth programme.

Prayer

Report for St. James' Church AGM April 2018

During 2017 I continued to lead three prayer sessions – the Prophetic Intercessors Group which meets in church on Monday evenings, a group on Tuesday mornings at 8am and the monthly session which meets on the first Saturday from 10 till 12.

Jesus told us to pray **“Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.”**

This year, on Monday evenings, we have continued to use the words of Scripture as we pray, knowing when we pray God's Word, as He directs us, we are praying in His will. We focus on the leadership and work of St. James', for the Lord's protection, guidance and leading, but often the Lord leads us to pray for wider situations. We have been greatly encouraged this year when receiving feedback from the PCC and leadership team to see that God has been answering our prayers, especially during Mark's sabbatical, the appointment of Graham Haldane as CAP Centre Manager, developments in worship, new people coming in and the growth in discipleship we are witnessing, resulting in increased outreach to our local community. We also rejoiced when another Saturday morning prayer session was established.

PRAYER MATTERS! LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY!

Julie Young

Discipleship Opportunities to Grow

Mentoring

A one to one relationship where the mentor seeks to bring grace, support, encouragement and challenge to the mentee.

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Prayer Triplets

Two or three people that meet to share and pray for each other.

Intentional Relationships

Within an already formed relationship, intentionally using time to talk about God stuff.

Home Groups

A small group of between 6 and 12 who enable each other to apply biblical principles to daily life, to hold each other accountable for spiritual growth and provide support and prayer.

Annual Report House Groups 2017-18

I'd like to begin by thanking our magnificent group leaders on behalf of all the group members and myself. They are a very talented, committed and dedicated group. We are blessed by your service to God and us.

This year has seen two new groups form, one led by Jonathan and Diana Frank over in Tosside. As with so many of St James' House groups, its members come from the wider church community as well as St James. Neighbours and local church leaders are a welcome part of this new community. The other new group is a post Alpha group led by Alistair and Jilly MacDonald to provide and maintain the fellowship shared by three group members during alpha. And it is already full!

In response from the leaders with the desire to go deeper and be better equipped as small group leaders, termly leaders' meetings are now training meetings. Of which we have had two.

Using our inhouse expertise and experience we have focused our training around a small group book. Volunteers have chaired the training and given us a variety of ways to engage with the material. This has really brought the leaders together in a deeper and more helpful way and given them opportunities to share and learn from each other's broad expertise.

We continue with a situation of many of our groups being at capacity. Alphas and new enquires, continue to create the need for new groups to develop and so group leaders are actively looking for people who have the heart and skills to take on leadership of a group.

We have really appreciated Mark and other leaders of the leadership team coming and sharing the churches vision with us so that it can be part of group development. Leaders have also been given the opportunity to voice opinions and be heard at these times. Thank you to Mark and his team.

All groups have taken stock of where their emphasis and vision lies, be it service to specific sectors of their local community, prayer support for church ministries and for people around the world or social action to name a few that come to mind. This has enabled the groups to refocus their energies and consciousness and has also given chance for group members to feed back to leaders about their vision for the group.

We are blessed indeed that our house groups serve approximately 150 members.

Ali Groves

Sozo

Sozo AGM Report for 2017

In 2017, we have ministered to 7 people who applied through the Bethel Sozo UK or St James's websites, and to 5 others who have connections with St James', whom have travelled from places like Blackpool, the Lake District and The Wirral to gain a better connection to God and more freedom in their lives by having a Sozo session. We have continued to go into Kirkham Prison and have ministered to 2 more prisoners there. It is so wonderful hearing about the fruitful and lasting impact connecting—changing—transforming

these sessions have made on these men, with testimonies from both as to the radical difference those 2 hours with each man has made, because they met with Jesus.

We have held an additional 11 sessions in 2017 for members of St James', which brings us to a total of over 100 since we began the Sozo Ministry here.

Some have given testimony as to the difference a Sozo session has made to them, either directly, or as part of wider input and therefore transformation in their lives. Specific testimonies include "lifting of a great burden"; "being set free from the bondage of lies from past abuse"; "improved relationships with my family"; "it's driven my time in prayer to a deeper level".

Sozo clients have come for a variety of reasons:- to have specific issues or symptoms dealt with; to address a sense of "staleness" in their relationship with God or simply wanting to go to a deeper place with God; some are just starting out on their journey with God and have come on the recommendation of a close friend or mentor.

All have met with our Loving Father God, Jesus and Holy Spirit in a unique way which is very personal to them.

Janet White – Sozo Team Leader

Outreach Opportunities to Serve

Little Fishes

It's a pleasure to be writing a report about something for which I'm passionate.

Little Fishes continues to grow and thrive despite a lot of sad goodbyes over the past year: Jan retired from helping in the kitchen and, after many, many years of faithful service, Joe decided it was time for her to leave. We also said goodbye to fourteen of our older children as they moved up to school. We had a short and simple goodbye service and we prayed for each child and gave them a Bible to take home.

We've also said 'hello' to the lovely Nick who steps out of the office with guitar in hand and leads our songtime at the end of the afternoon. The children love it!

People who pass through the church on a Monday afternoon are often surprised at the size of the group and they mention the fun and friendly atmosphere. We seem to be getting new mums (and the occasional brave dad) join us every week. We have about 60 families on our books with a core of regular attendees who are joined by other fluctuating members, giving us an average of 17 families on any given day.

Last summer, we started running Little Fishes on selected Mondays through the summer holidays. This has been gratefully received as most groups for under-fives are shut.

This year, we are hoping to extend this to running Little Fishes Specials, which will run on fun themes with bouncy castles and other activities and will also include a meal for the families. This links with the work done by Helen and her team at Friday Superheroes.

After setting up on a Monday, Helen and I sit down and pray, especially asking for help to be Jesus' ears, hands and mouth for all the lovely people coming. We would appreciate your prayers for us. We are looking for some help in the kitchen and would love someone from our church family to support us in this way! Could this be you?

Della Pickett

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Young At Heart

Hi everyone, just want to let you know that Young At Heart is now in its Fourth Year. We are very blessed and it's a privilege to be part of the fellowship.

Over the past year, we have averaged twenty people at each event. We have shared fellowship with each other, shared afternoon tea together and 'My Favourite Thing' is a hit with everyone - where we bring along an object or Bible reading or song and talk about why it is so special to us. We finished the year in December with a very enjoyable Christmas lunch at the Calf's Head.

This group is primarily attended by the over 60s, however age does not deter anyone from joining with us. We are focussed on God's leading through His Holy Spirit and we always have a 'God slot' during our time together. When I posed the question why folk like coming to Young At Heart, these are a few examples of encouraging responses I received:

- You always honour God in our meetings.
- When I first came I didn't know most of you but now I can truthfully say 'I belong'.
- I am no longer afraid to share my thoughts with you because I feel safe and comfortable.
- We always have a laugh, it's a tonic!

Finally, thank you to everyone – we work well together as a team with whatever needs to be done.

Special thanks to: Nick Schumann who leads our worship songs; Betty Pollard for setting out refreshments; Barbara Taylor and Graham Derbyshire who help me with devotions and organization; but, more importantly, we thank God for His faithfulness to us – to Him be Glory and Praise for ever.

Mary Howarth

Clitheroe St. James' CE Primary School Governors Report

No doubt you all know from the news the challenges facing all our schools, such as, falling budgets, recruitment and retention of staff, children with more complex needs, pressure on meeting academic targets, ever-changing inspection criteria, decaying buildings and supporting families with wider holistic needs. St. James' faces up to all these challenges, as ever with a strong faith, a caring attitude and a staff that always put the children first. Many of you will have seen from either the school facebook pages or the articles in Network the amazing learning and development that goes on at our school. If you haven't then please do check out these sources – better still, perhaps you could support the school practically by volunteering to support some children/classes, becoming a governor or joining the Friends of St James. Please keep the school, the children and their families and the staff in your daily prayers.

Not satisfied with meeting the needs of all the St. James' pupils in our locality, the school has followed the lead of the church and begun to build relationships with the school linked to Kings' Highway in Eldoret, Kenya. Fiona Pattinson, our headteacher and her husband have just returned from the trip to Eldoret with other members of our church and will have lots of new ideas from developing this partnership between the two schools

God bless

Mark Clayton, Chair of Governors.
April 2018

Mission

St. James', Clitheroe 2017 Mission Tithe allocations

Distributing and proclaiming the Word of God

Gideons	£1,000
Bible Society – distribution of Bibles to rural Chinese communities	£1,000
Rev. Yashwant Paul – church planting, health and business training	£1,000

Christian anti-poverty projects

Solomon (with Mary's meals) street children's project, Eldoret, Kenya	£1,500
Uganda Women's Concern Ministry	£1,000
Christian Child Welfare Ministries - orphanage in Uganda	£1,000
Sparrows' Village, South Africa – Support for young adults	£1,500
Tumaini Kwa Watoto (Children of Hope)	£1,500
YWAM Cambodia, Holistic development project in Stung Treng province	£1,500
Turi Breakfast Project, Kenya	£1,500 NEW PROJECT

UK Emerging Church and Outreach Ministries

Magdalene – Christian counselling project in Rossendale	£2,000**
Clitheroe Healing Rooms	£1,000
Ribble Valley Foodbank	£2,000
Asylum Refugee Community (ARC) project, Blackburn	£1,500

The Persecuted Church

Christian Solidarity Worldwide – focused on Burmah	£1,000
Open Doors – Save Syria	£1,500

Mission Development Fund

To support Church members in personal and shared development with a Mission focus (10% of 2016 Mission Tithe)	£2,400
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Emergency relief fund	£1,400
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Total continuation programme	£24,800
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Estimated Resources (10% of Church income)

BUFFER: Unspent Mission Development Fund from 2016 of £2,500	£2,000
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*(**less included increased gift of £500 to Magdalene)* To be used, subject to subsequent PCC approval for project(s) identified but needing further exploration

2017 Mission Tithe	£27,300
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SUPPORTED PROJECTS

Gideons International

Once again we can testify to God's blessing in the local Gideon ministry.

Gaining entry to schools is becoming increasingly difficult but prayer and persistence usually succeed and all schools in the valley remain open. Not so in Blackburn where increasing number of Asian students makes it very difficult.

In our school presentations in closing, the students are invited to accept a testament. There are usually a small number of refusals and during the previous visit to Ribblesdale High School these

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were about thirty. At our most recent visit, however, we were overjoyed to have 100% acceptance, truly a highlight.

The Gideon stand at Blackburn College Freshers' Fair was well received as it was at the Grand Christmas Fair trade event. The Good Friday United Service and procession to the Castle Gate witness were also good opportunities for testament distribution.

Our annual hospital visit is always as every bedside locker is checked to ensure the Word of God is at hand. Nursing and Care Homes, Hotels, Boarding Houses and fire stations have also been visited.

Our mission is wide and varied and we give thanks that we are able to continue God's work.

Frank Lofthouse

Uganda Women Concern Ministry (Website <[uganda concern uk](http://ugandaconcern.uk)>)

It is due, in part, to the fundraising of the organization Uganda Concern UK that UWCM has been able to continue its amazing work. Church members in Clevedon and Kent have funded the annual Children's Conference (now in its 12th year), which is a five day residential experience for about seventy disadvantaged children. Such is the positive feedback that it is thought worthwhile to continue with it. The estimated cost for the 2017 conference was £2,250.00. St James' Church has sent generous donations from the Mission Tithe for several years now and this money goes through Uganda Concern UK, helping to support the work of UWCM in Mbale, Eastern Uganda. Community groups, in which women outnumber men, carry out most of the projects.

1. Harvesting Rainwater

This is a new project. Some of the community groups are keen to learn how to do this and how to build effective water tanks. Contact has been made with a TEARFUND partner in West Uganda and discussions are underway to work out the most cost effective ways of acquiring these skills.

2. Shelter Building

Some all-women groups have been building 'homes' for the vulnerable and elderly. One grandfather, who looks after several grandchildren, was delighted to have a new home (just a simple mud structure with a corrugated roof). Blankets and mattresses were also provided for this extended family who had previously slept on a heap of rags.

3. Sakiya Prayer and Porridge

Over 200 children are registered in this community project. They receive teaching, games and porridge at the church plus books and pencils to enable them to attend primary school. Seventeen students received help with school fees. One of the students, now training as a Nursery teacher, thanks God for the Sakiya project and encourages the children not to lose hope in life but to trust God for help.

There are several other projects, too numerous to mention here. Read about these online at www.ugandaconcern.com or Uganda Women Concern Ministry. Please pray.

Judith and Malcolm Blackburn

Christian Child Welfare Ministries (CCWM) Uganda

John Sitati is a Pentecostal pastor who is a father figure to a number of children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

John says he thanks God for the children who are still alive and studying. *"We appreciate your kindness and timely support each year. We bless the Lord for that."* Fortunately, he and children he supports have been well, apart from a few bouts of malaria from which, thankfully, they recovered. It's good to hear of successes amongst John's children that St James' has supported: two of his students

have graduated in secretarial studies, and another in teaching. Two more are now married with children of their own.

However, as so often in Africa, payment of school fees is a major problem. John tells us there have been challenges: *"There are times when I have had to borrow money to cover expenses, using my car log book and land title as security. Last year, I nearly had to sell my car as interest on borrowing increased."* John suffered a burglary in September and lost many treasured possessions. Chas and Ruth kindly sent money for a security fence. He has asked for prayer regarding the political confusion, food shortages, rising prices of scholastic materials and increased school fees. He has also updated us on political situations in Kenya, Zimbabwe and Uganda, requesting prayer for these.

John has become closely connected to a group of 300 pastors in the Mbale region and has recently been made its secretary. He finishes his letter to us saying:-

"Regards to you all faithful servants of the most high God and may God bless you."

Please keep John and the children he supports in your prayers.

Judith and Malcolm Blackburn
Ruth and Chas Hughes

The Turi Micah Project

"Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8)

Progress Report: February 2018

1. Project Growth

The Turi Micah Project has had a very exciting year. From our small start in September 2016, feeding around 200 children daily, we are now so grateful to be providing breakfast to all of the children at Turi Sulgwita Primary School. This can be anything up to 1200 children each day, though it varies depending on attendance. Breakfast now involves two sessions, one first thing in the morning for the younger years and another at morning break for the older children.

Earlier this autumn, we very sadly had to dismiss two members of our cooking team due to ongoing dishonesty and stealing. This was a difficult time and it was with great sadness that the decision was taken to terminate Anne and Iscah's employment. We took this experience as an opportunity to review our systems and to improve things so that temptation is reduced. We now use a regular supplier for the millet and maize, who delivers what is needed every two weeks, pre-milled. This cuts out some of the opportunity for resources to go missing, as well as making it easier to regulate how much is being used. We have also introduced a small personal allowance of milk and sugar so that the team can make themselves tea at work.

We have employed a further two local women (Anne and Janeth) to join the team and it has been a delight to see them integrate well and grow into their roles alongside Beth and Nancy. We continue to also value the involvement of Nelson, one of the teachers at the school who has helps to manage the logistics of getting the children through each morning.

We hope to repeat a team training event this year following the success of last year, especially now that we have two new team members. We continue to believe that building the confidence and skills of our team as well as spending time in prayer together and seeking God's vision for the project is really important going forward.

Food supplies have continued to be wonderfully provided over this year, even as the need has increased so dramatically. The price of sugar was greatly elevated for some months as a result of the elections, but has returned to much lower levels. Our milk has been supplied locally and reliably. Our contract with the supplier for maize and millet has enabled us to predict our monthly outgoings more reliably and to spread our costs over the year.

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Our early attempts at gathering some data to benchmark nutrition levels of the children last year helped us to identify 30% mild to medium malnutrition amongst the children at Sulgwita. We hope to be able to work on our awareness of the specific needs as the project progresses, and possibly to develop a fortified version for those children who are of serious concern.

We recently welcomed a group of volunteers from Guernsey who gave of their time to paint the kitchen and serving room. This was a real improvement and has been helpful in terms of demonstrating to the school our commitment to staying there and to investing in it. We were also delighted to receive a visit from Katy and John Holden in the very early stages of the project, even before we had begun to serve the porridge, and then from Anna Lancaster who was able to see it in action. Our committee had the wonderful opportunity to accompany her to Eldoret where we observed a number of different Mary's Meals initiatives in schools and learnt a lot from meeting with their organisers as well as seeing how they run these projects.

Finally, this year we have been so grateful to have such a strong team on our committee and we are excited that a number of new members have joined us, bringing their expertise and support. We have additionally been able to involve the pupils from St Andrew's School in a more regular and formal capacity, welcoming small groups of students from both the Senior and Prep Schools as they seek to help with serving and also to support with fundraising projects. This is exciting in terms of sustainability for the future.

2. Improved relationships

Our relationship with the Headmaster and staff at Turi Sulgwita has improved so much over this year and we thank God for this. The Headmaster has now agreed to supply all the firewood needed for the project, as a gesture of good will and commitment, and so far this has been happening well. It is an area where we continue to seek God's wisdom and help. We are also seeking to build stronger relationships with the wider staff at the school and build trust and support.

3. Fundraising and financial report

We have been so encouraged by the continuing support we have received for the project, receiving donations at key moments and being able to do everything we have hoped. Over this year we have managed to pay four salaries (including health insurance and Social Security contributions), install a water tank and two new wood-fired stoves, purchase all the milk, millet, maize and sugar, improve our serving capacity with equipment and flat surfaces, and most recently to paint both rooms.

The support from St James' Church has been absolutely vital to this progress and gave us the confidence to push ahead with our vision of serving the whole school.

This month we formally signed a partnership agreement with International Teams, a UK based mission organization supporting over 1000 missionaries in 60 countries. This means that, as a registered charity (No. 1089864) with an established UK presence, they can provide financial services and accountability for the Turi Micah Project, making it much easier for us to receive UK support.

A full set of audited accounts for this year is available on request. Please feel free to ask if you would like us to send one.

Priority actions for the next period:

1. Continuing to build relationships with Turi Sulgwita staff, parents and children

This will always be a priority for us. Anne, Janeth, Nancy and Beth are key to this as they provide a link to the local community. However, we would love to build more trust and cooperation between us and the teaching staff and the parents as our project develops. Please do join us in continuing to pray for this aspect of what we are doing.

2. Strategic planning

Our current priority is to settle and establish the Turi Micah Project within the school, fine tuning our systems and growing our local team, both in terms of numbers but also in terms of commitment and skills. We are constantly seeking to build the project's sustainability and its local presence for the long term.

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3. Building work

Possible work for the next period includes:

Connecting the rooms to the electricity supply and putting in lights.

Putting glass in the windows to reduce dust/ flies etc.

Closing up some of the gaps between the walls and roof

All work on infrastructure needs to be carefully considered and negotiated with the school so we will have to pray about the timing of these improvements.

4. Fundraising/ support

Our new website is nearly ready to launch and we have a new Facebook page. We are hoping that these will help us to communicate when there are needs, and to generate interest and support.

We are delighted that we have now gathered a small number of regular, committed individual supporters and we will seek to maintain and grow this more regular support base. Our links with International Teams has already greatly facilitated this. The support from St James' Church has been incredible in these early stages of developing the project and has allowed us to grow and develop so much more effectively than we thought possible. We remain forever grateful.

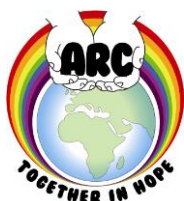
Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or would like any additional information about the project.

Claire Boulle & Esther Youlten

Project Founders

February 2018

Arc – Asylum, Refugee Community – Blackburn



“How many disciples did Jesus have? Name them.”

“What is Ash Wednesday?”

“How many chapters are in the book of John?”

These are actual questions asked by UK immigration officers to decide if asylum seekers are genuine converts to Christianity. This year at ARC we had a Christian couple refused leave to remain in the UK because they couldn't answer them. They're involved in the Farsi Church (in Blackburn) and Blackburn Community Church as well as ARC, Kingdom Outreach & a homeless charity. However, when their case went to appeal, it wasn't the testimony of local Christians or all the activities they're involved in that most convinced the judge that they are genuine – it was his Facebook account. Facebook posts over time, dating from before they left their country, sharing faith and worship songs they'd written clearly showed their love for Jesus. They now have refugee status and are continuing to build a new life in Blackburn.

Other news from ARC this year:

- We've seen more refugees getting work, especially helping new asylum seekers in other areas.
- English club now has 3 different classes/levels and runs twice a week.
- We have a maths club too.
- Funding has been obtained to start a job club to help people looking for work.
- Stephen left to lead Blackburn Community Church. (Although he maintains links with ARC as BCC meets at Wesley Hall.)
- After many years, Emily Jones left to travel and Rachel Culshaw joined the team.

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As always, there have been many little highlights: helping a refugee find a home; the relief when a financial problem is solved; the smile when an interpreter explains a letter; seeing a new arrival finding friends and the joy when a family is reunited.

Debbie Smith

Christian Solidarity Worldwide(CSW)

CSW has launched a campaign named Faith and a Future which aims to stop hatred before it starts, in the belief that many of the injustices we see in our world today are rooted in hatred that is learned in a child's early years. Injustice happens to children of all faiths all over the world. Christian children in Nigeria are forced to take Muslim names just to get into school. This type of discrimination is truly a global problem and CSW has published a petition, which we are asked to sign to urge education authorities, particularly in Pakistan, to ensure that UK aid is not used to fund biased text books which promote prejudice, and to actively support initiatives that encourage mutual understanding between religious groups. Thank you to members of home groups who have signed and posted these petitions which will be presented to the relevant government ministers at the end of May. We hope and pray that the authorities in Pakistan cooperate in this matter.

CSW is working around the world in Iran, Nepal, Eritrea and Burma to name but a few areas. The Burmese army is guilty of shocking violence, especially to the thousands of Rohingya who live in squalid conditions where access to humanitarian aid is severely restricted. CSW asks for prayers for this desperate situation.

Thank you as usual for signing cards not only at Christmas and Easter but throughout the year as well, thereby establishing an ongoing link with the Persecuted. Thanks also for gifts of children's clothing which have been sent to the Christian orphanage on the borders of Thailand and Burma. I am deeply grateful to all those people who donate towards postage and who help in any way.

Ruth Seed