

CORNERSTONE CHURCH UCKFIELD REPORT MAY 2019

Another year over and trustees and members alike have given great support to Cornerstone, in finance, time and most importantly Christian support in our church.

A large focus for trustee time is now starting to move ahead as the sale of the Uckfield Methodist Church building means that if Cornerstone can identify projects where money is spent on building works here that it's believed will help get more people into the church we can apply for money towards them.

Money for us to use has to be applied for so it is not just a question of asking for small maintenance costs, but things the central Methodist body believe will grow the church in Uckfield. We will therefore have to plan any spending on the building because if we spend money on something that would fit in a project then the work we do reduces the amount we can apply for!

It may well be frustrating at times if some small jobs that could justify being done are held back, but we do have some that need to move along such as the North Porch where the cradle rolls are to be mounted and shelves put in for things like some historic items for example both churches have bibles from earlier years.

Painting will be required and filling of cracks in and around the wood doors. The porch can then become a place of quiet contemplation or remembrance rather than just an occasional second entrance. To help with that we are looking to get the lock working so people can enter the sanctuary without going through the Meeting Room as that is sometimes hired out when we want to access the sanctuary for our use.

In addition to starting this building work Sue Wood (with some help from Norman) have really made a strong visual message of people baptised at our two previous churches with the grapevine which is a good reminder to us all as we leave the sanctuary.

We are also looking to have a "prayer corner" as it is felt that might help people either before or after the service or indeed at any time that the sanctuary is accessible. This could be in the North Porch for silence or possibly towards the front of the church seating on the south side as that is also a quiet corner that is readily accessible to us all. We get prayers from Christian Aid, Commitment for Life and others which we can put there as an "assist" in focusing our mind on current issues affecting us or others which can sometimes help our prayer life.

Other things that continue to be important and adding to our church services are flowers. The volunteers are doing this beautifully for Sunday mornings whilst having to occasionally avoid Meeting Room hirers. This sharing of our buildings can be a nuisance, but is also great because it gives us the possibility of showing to hirers that Christians can offer a different view of life which they might not otherwise see if they didn't have any contact with us.

Derek Thorogood has again very kindly kept our organ and piano playing going as both a player and co-ordinator and at some time we will need to consider where we are going with this as he cannot keep doing this indefinitely!

Norman Wood has helped ensure that services go smoothly by helping visiting service leaders and then with John Lane co-ordinating the weekly Service Orders.

John Harriyott has worked hard on the projects and selling the pews and John Lane on Data Protection, CSUA (and with Teresa on Christian Aid and Fairtrade).

Other important administrative roles that have to be completed properly if we are to keep going have been handled by Clare Warren and my wife, making sure that our adult, young person and

child safety are all in hand as well as general Health & Safety that we trustees and all members I am sure are very grateful for.

Carole Marchant & Christine House have worked hard on our catering and Churches in Uckfield. This year we are trying to encourage a broader attendance by members helping for an hour perhaps during the afternoon so they along with the normal attendees share time with different church members rather than just manning our own activities.

Considerable thanks also to Doug Scott for his work as Treasurer, leader of increasing numbers of services as well as church social activities.

Thanks also to my wife for the work that she puts in on the garden and also to Irmi who assists a lot, both with the plants and in supporting Linda for the hours Linda puts in.

Our membership and fellowship is growing which is great, relatively rare for a conventional small town church and totally key to Cornerstone and I believe to Uckfield also. Cornerstone may still be small in numbers and limited in individuals resources, but we are trying to do God's work and I believe making a committed attempt at doing so.

I'm pleased to say that we have another opportunity to further God's work, by using materials that he can source and that we cannot do ourselves, namely Christian Aid's regional display on Climate Change which is being exhibited here later this month.

I am therefore asking if people can make the occasional hour available here so we can have people walk into the church. Nobody should be on their own, but if you are able to volunteer some time in the fortnight from June 25th I will match up people so we can have the church open. I do not expect to be "snowed under" and we will also make sure that people with a good knowledge of the issue are present so you won't have to face technical questions.

In case you need Christian support to go with that of David Attenborough and others, Desmond Tutu said on March 28th 2017 that "Climate change is the Human Rights Challenge of our time". Most of us may not be great at public evangelising, but we can help spread both God's word and this message by just having our doors open so please have a look at your diaries and let me or Teresa know any time slots that you would be willing to spend in the church for this, even if it's just for an hour or two during the fortnight as it could mean an evening opening or other time becomes possible – JUST BECAUSE OF YOU!

Many thanks for your continued support everyone and please keep Amanda and her family in your prayers as they go through difficult times.



Jeremy Hallett
5th June 2019

CORNERSTONE CHURCH UCKFIELD ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED
30TH APRIL 2019.

<u>INCOME</u>	2019	2018	See Note
Offertory – Loose	3,010.88	3,022.07	1
- Envelopes	7,365.55	5,877.10	1
Standing Orders	7,546.00	9,683.00	1
Hall Rent	5,683.00	3,610.00	2
Donations /Legacies	1,326.70	965.00	3
Gift Day & Tax Refund	7,908.14	4,082.19	4
Fundraising	2,447.74	2,789.81	
Organ	250.00	250.00	5
Sundries	4,000.66	7,993.69	6
Christian Aid Restricted	578.62	305.17	5
CFL	60.00	0.00	
Future Repairs- (Rest)	1,400.00	1,480.00	5
Total	<u>41,577.29</u>	<u>40,058.03</u>	

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	2019	2018	
M & M & CSUA	15,496.00	13,788.00	7
Heat, Light & Water	5,470.43	5,188.63	8
Post & Stationery	27.88	135.98	
Cleaning	915.94	693.98	
Insurance	3,951.04	2,994.11	9
Photocopying	189.19	87.50	
Repairs & Maintenance	4,002.63	3,439.23	10
Mission	4,498.05	3,515.04	11
Organ /Piano	677.40	432.40	5
Miscellaneous	891.97	3,241.56	12
Licences	206.90	276.66	
Equipment	325.59	0.00	
CFL	350.00	0.00	
Capital Expenditure	6,068.40	3,166.88	13
Total	<u>43,071.42</u>	<u>£36,959.97</u>	
Excess Income/Expenditure	<u>1,494.13</u>	<u>3,098.06</u>	14
Balances at Bank –			
30 th April 2018	16,574.57	£13,476.51	#
DEFICIT/SURPLUS for period	1,494.13	£3,098.06	
Balances at Bank	<u>15,080.44</u>	<u>£16,574.57</u>	

Carried forward from Uckfield URC Account

CORNERSTONE CHURCH UCKFIELD NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDED
30TH APRIL 2019.

1. The totals for Envelopes, Standing Orders and Gift Day do include all Gift aid payments made by members. They are separated only because of the way in which the income has been received. Overall freewill giving is holding up well which continues to be encouraging..
2. Hall rent continues with excellent increases once again over same period last year.
3. Some small donations boosted considerably by an anonymous donor to pay for repairs to the chimney.
4. Last year only included a tax refund of 4 months from the former URC. 2018/19 represented a full 12 months of tax refund from HMRC.
5. **Restricted Funds.** The “**Organ Fund**” forms part of the accounts held at the Bank but is regarded as “Restricted Funds”. “Future Repairs” and “Christian Aid” are also restricted funds.
6. Largely consisting money received from sale of pews and a refund of overpayment from SE Gas..
7. Payments to CSUA and M&M (URC) amounted to £11,800 and £3,696 respectively. This is likely to increase considerably in the coming year.
8. Generally usage has been in line with expectations.
9. Insurances include payments in respect of covering UMC premises. Premiums for next year will show reductions.
10. Continued expenditure ensuring the buildings are properly maintained with major expenditure on roof and chimney.
11. Mission payments continue to include everything that has been sent to other outside charities and organisations and do include monies received from members for specific mission work.
12. Following last year’s large increases, expenditure here has reduced significantly although following agreement of Church Meeting payments are now made to members who provide flowers for the church on a weekly basis. This is normally a sum of £10 but on “special

occasions” this can be higher. In future this will be itemised separately in the Accounts.

13. Main item of expenditure was for new chairs for the church.

14. Deficit for this period anticipated at a higher figure following the purchase of chairs. However, we are still expecting to receive a refund following the sale of UMC largely in respect of expenditure incurred for Insurance and Utilities expended between closure of the premises and ultimate sale. This amounts to a sum of £3,156.

15. Balances at Bank as at 30/04/19 were as follows: - Lloyds TSB and CAF Bank were £6,019.08 and £9,063.36 respectively, after allowing for outstanding credit and cheques. Bank balances therefore total £15,080.44 of which £6,881 is the balance of “Future Repairs”, and a balance of £2,659.84 is in the Organ Fund.

16. Organ Fund Account (held within Operating Accounts) – **Organ Fund**

Balance of Account 30/4/17	£2,209.84
Transfer from Church Operating Account	200.00
Donations	250.00
<u>Balance</u>	<u>2,659.84</u>

.....(Doug Scott) (Hon. Treasurer.)

.....(Jeremy Hallett) (Hon. Secretary.)

Accounts examined and found to be correct.....

Roy Hayward ACIB

(Hon. Examiner) Dated.....

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