



**ST LUKE'S ECCLESTON**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH  
COUNCIL**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2018**



**Knowing, Growing, Showing**

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

St Luke's Church Eccleston, St Helens.

The parish is part of the Diocese of Liverpool and its official correspondence address is:-

St Luke's Church  
Knowsley Road, Eccleston, St Helens, Merseyside, WA10 4PU.  
Tel No 01744 21173

The Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance acted as Custodian Trustee for the inalienable property of the church.

For the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 until the date of approval of this report, the following people served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Priest-in-Charge	Rev P Gilroy*	Chair	Retired Sept 2018
	Rev H Coffey*	Team Rector	Sept 2018
Lay Readers	Mr D Foxford		
	Mr I Patey		Retired APCM 2018
	Mr D Thorpe	Lay Chair	
	Miss D Wright*	Deanery Synod Rep	
Churchwardens	Mrs L Rose*	Treasurer	
	Mr K Lancaster*		
	Mr B Callaghan		
	Mrs T Finney		
	Miss A Hayes		
	Mr R Lee		Appointed APCM 2018
	Mrs L Llewellyn		
	Mrs J Massey*	Deanery Synod Rep	
	Dr. L Miles		Appointed APCM 2018
	Mrs J Moore		Appointed APCM 2018
	Mrs S Murphy		
	Mrs A Parry		
	Mr P Anderson	Assistant Treasurer	Co-opted member

Ex-Officio members are indicated by \*

The following were appointed at the APCM 2018 as Sidespersons:-

Ms. N. Allen  
Mrs. B. Bird  
Mrs. A. Callaghan  
Mr B. Callaghan  
Mrs D. Follis  
Mr. D. Foxford  
Mrs. S. Foxford  
Mrs. M. Rew

The following have responsibility roles:-

Safeguarding Officer	Miss. D. Wright
Electoral Roll Officer:	Mrs. J. Massey
Gift Aid Secretary:	Mrs. D. Follis
Health & Safety Officer	Mr. K. Lancaster
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Mrs J Massey
Bereavement Support Co-ordinator	Mrs L Fairclough
Prayer Ministry Co-ordinator	Mrs E Fletcher
House Managers	Mrs N. Allen (April 2018-Jan 2019) Mr B Callaghan, Mr B Cragg (Retired April 2018), Mrs E Fletcher.

Team Rector:- Rev Helen Coffey, St James Vicarage, 159a St Helens Rd, Eccleston Park, Prescot, Merseyside. Tel No:- 07742 590672. Email:- helentcoffey@gmail.com

Bankers:- Royal Bank of Scotland, Ormskirk Street, St Helens, Merseyside,

Independent Examiner:- Mr. T. Kelly, c/o St Luke's Church, Knowsley Rd, St. Helens.

Architect:- Nicholas Rank, Butress, Manchester

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a charity currently excepted by order from registration with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC meets on a monthly basis except for January and August.

Day to Day management of the church was exercised by the standing committee, the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact PCC business between PCC meetings and considers strategic issues which may affect the church.

Members of the Standing Committee are:-

Rev. P. Gilroy (Chair) – Retired Sept 2018  
Mr. D. Thorpe (Lay Chair) – Retired April 2018. Re-appointed Sept 2018  
Mrs. L. Rose (Church Warden)  
Mr. K. Lancaster (Church Warden)  
Mrs. T. Finney (PCC Secretary)

### **Related Parties:**

Queens Park Primary School, St. Helens – the Priest-in-Charge of St Luke's Church, Eccleston was an ex-officio member of the school governors up to September 2018. Team Rector of Eccleston Parish is now ex-officio member from September 2018.

Individual PCC members receive external training as and when deemed appropriate by the PCC. Training may include trustee responsibility training, basic health and safety, risk assessment and management, child protection procedures.

### **Financial Risk:**

An annual budget is prepared to ensure short term viability. Actual results compared with budget are reported to the PCC at every meeting. The investments held by the PCC are only made in approved low risk funds approved for charity use. All assets are insured and levels reviewed annually. The PCC has approved internal controls for annual accounts, cash and cheques handling are implemented.

### **Compliance with Law and Regulation:**

The Diocesan Safeguarding guidelines (Parish Safeguarding Handbook - Promoting a safer church) have been adopted by the PCC. The PCC have the ultimate responsibility for Safeguarding at St. Luke's and all appointments should go through Rev. Helen Coffey. The diocesan policy gives clear guidelines for recruiting procedures and for procedures to follow in the event of a Safeguarding issue.

Diocesan Safeguarding training has been arranged for the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019. This is for all those involved in work with children and vulnerable adults.

The Diocese use an online system for DBS checks and all those in positions requiring a check have gone through the process. All leaders and helpers in groups involving Children and/or Vulnerable Adults are required to complete a confidential internal information form. Readers are required to complete Diocesan Safeguarding training and St. Luke's Readers have either completed the training or are due to attend training in the near future.

The PCC continue to be diligent in monitoring legal compliance and changes to legislation.

## **AIMS AND PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

St. Luke's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of Church & Community Centre, Knowsley Road, St Helens.

When planning our objectives for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guide on public benefit.

### **Mission and Outreach Support**

Although available funds were tight, the commitment to contribute 10% of the income to missions and charities was maintained. The PCC authorised the distribution as follows:-

*(figures in brackets relates to FYE 2017)*

CMS (Eric & Sandra Reed)	£1,410 (£1,526)
SAMS (Peter & Sally Bartlett)	£1,410 (£1,526)
CPAS	£473 (£512)
Bible Society	£473 (£512)
Evangelical Alliance	£473 (£512)
SGM Lifewords	£473 (£512)
St Helens Street Pastors	£473 (0)
Tear Fund	£512 (£512)
Youth Aflame	£0 (£512)
United Christians Broadcasting	£473 (£512)

## **Team Rector's Report:**

Hello!

I was interviewed and appointed in March 2018, and licensed as Team Rector of Eccleston by +Paul, Bishop of Liverpool on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018. I have direct responsibility for St James with St Matthew's Parish, and since Rev Peter Gilroy's departure, I have also assumed most of the responsibility for St Luke's Knowsley Road.

I'm delighted to be your new Team Rector, and am committed to working together with my Team colleagues towards an exciting vision for Eccleston Team over the next couple of years:

- A team of clergy, who pray and plan together rather than in isolation, who trust and support each other so that collaboration begins to be instinctive rather than a conscious effort.
- An identifiable pattern of worship opportunities across the Team that encompasses all traditions and none – addressing gaps and duplications
- An identified group of Lay Readers and lay leaders, working to their strengths and giftings, beginning to come together as a group for mentoring and deployable in their own settings and across the team.
- Team-wide prayer opportunities, communication formats and occasions for fellowship as an intentional priority – addressing culture and parochial behaviour.
- For every member of the church family - A place of encouragement and clear sense of shared journey - valuing different contexts and working together to build the Kingdom in ways that are attractive and sustainable in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

I will be encouraging all of us to **renew** our understanding of what it means for us as The Church to be disciples, who then make and grow other disciples. To **reorientate** ourselves to looking outwards rather than inwards – stepping outside our church, outside our comfort zone, outside what we normally do in church – all aimed at taking the good news of Jesus out. And to being **revived** – full of the life of Jesus and his Spirit – on mission together! This will release many more of us to be actively engaged in discipleship and mission whatever stage of life we're at.

This all means that we have many challenges and opportunities to face, and as 2019 unfolds, we will begin to explore them together. My 'door' is always open – if you have anything you ever want to discuss, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. If I haven't met you already, I look forward to meeting you soon

**Rev Helen Coffey**

## **"Vicar's" Report:**

It has been an absolute pleasure to share ministry with you since my licencing as Team Rector in September 2018. I have written elsewhere in this Annual Report about my vision for Eccleston Team. Here, I just wanted to write a few lines about what I have witnessed and experienced of St Luke's church family between September and December 2018.

There is no doubt in my mind that you have been through some choppy waters over the last few years. I have listened carefully as you have told me about falling numbers, lost ministries, fewer children and families in church, and the loss of connection with school and community. You are blessed with a team of dedicated and loving Church Wardens and Lay Readers – all of whom are feeling tired and in need of refreshment after carrying the weight of responsibility for longer than seems fair.

For the first few months, I have just concentrated on providing practical support, leadership and guidance – I have tried to offer encouragement and hope to Readers, PCC and congregation alike. Sometimes, this has meant taking the hard decision to allow something that was once flourishing to die – St Luke's Boys Brigade. This always brings sadness and

nostalgia, but a Word has been given recently about this being a time of pruning for St Luke's. We cannot do everything we once did, but we can let go of what once was, so that we might seek God for what is to be in the future - that we might truly be Disciples that make Disciples.

You have a gifted set of people who reach out to children and families on the fringe of church, and this is one of the main areas I would encourage you to invest energy and resources in 2019.

Queen's Park School got the Church School Partnership shortly after I arrived – well done! A key objective in 2019 will be to strengthen the links between the people in the Sunday congregations and the families that are part of our school community – without automatically expecting the families to come and 'do church our way'!

In our Sunday worship, the 9am congregation is steady and viable, whereas the 10.30 services need our imagination and investment. Refreshing the sung worship offered at both services is something we are already beginning to explore.

Discipleship will be our other key theme in 2019 – how we behave every day of the week, not just Sundays, and how we use the resources of time, energy, giftings and finance to God's praise and glory.

I want to encourage you – even without a Vicar living in St Luke's Vicarage, I (and increasingly other Team clergy), will help you recognise the opportunities God offers and provide you with the support you need, to allow God to remove whatever he wants, so that St Luke's might be smaller, but will also be more agile and responsive to the urgent need for people to hear the Good News of God's saving love for themselves in this local community.

As always, my door is open and the kettle is always on – so if you have any concerns, questions, hopes or dreams for the future, please don't hesitate to be in touch.

God bless

Helen

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

The PCC is delighted with its achievements set out in the previous and following section.

The following section highlights the areas of activity and performance.

The electoral roll (April 2017- 158) is now 154 people, 103 of whom are not resident in the parish. In 2019 we are required to start a new electoral roll.

Worship:- average attendance at Sunday Services remains constant at 75 over 2 services each week. Except for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month, Easter, Summer School Holidays, Remembrance & Christmas when there is only 1 service.

However, this does not include baptism services, total 5 for the year, and funeral and weddings ministry at 11 funerals and no weddings. Easter and Christmas Services were popular.

Church Building - During the year, annual inspection taken place of heating system, fire equipment, portable appliance, clearing of gutters. The main repair work this year following the Quinquennial Report Feb 2017 was the roof on the north side aisles has been repaired and following inspection by the roofing contractors at this current time the south side is not in need of repair but each will be inspected. The central aisle lights in church have been replaced with LED tubes which are more energy efficient and brighter. Within the Church Centre the toilets have been fully tiled. This next year will be looking at the lights on the side aisles and chancel in church and the community centre main hall being replaced with LED lights and redecorating of the church and the ceiling in the community centre for this work to be done we will need to draw on reserve funds.

## **PASTORAL SUPPORT**

### **Prayer Ministry - Co-ordinator Enid Fletcher**

Over the past twelve months the Prayer ministry has continued much the same by offering pray in the side chapel after each service. During holidays and sickness, the team members have ensured that there has been cover at each service.

As the Prayer Ministry Co-ordinator I would like to thank all team members for their co-operation in ensuring this vital work continues.

In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path. Prov 3:6

### **St. Luke's Prayer Meeting - Co-Ordinator Stina Foxford**

January – December 2018

St. Luke's Prayer Meeting usually meets fortnightly 8pm, but during 2018 there were considerable amounts of breaks due to the family issues of the Leader.

Prayer Meeting continues to be a challenging, but also encouraging and friendly meeting to hold and attend. Keeping in mind that we can have an enormous positive impact on people's lives wherever they may be on the globe, there's no more important place to be!

We had a few changes and variety of meetings. Our gifted worship leader moved on to another church, so we had only three Prayer & Worship meetings. Until October we met on Wednesdays in order to people to join in who generally can't make Mondays. This made no difference, so the meeting day was reverted back to Mondays. We also experimented by having the venue changed to the leader's home for three times.

The topics of our nine meetings included: UK Government & St. Helens, Easter, Homeless-holistic view, Issues around Halloween and Christmas. Attendees are always encouraged to bring own prayer requests and we as a Prayer meeting are committed to praying for St. Luke's Church, the Parish and the sick.

The lack of enthusiasm for attending our Prayer Meetings remains to be a concern. We had an average attendance of four people, even though the meetings and topics were notified beforehand in St. Luke's Notice sheets.

In addition to the usual meetings, we held also a Prayer Event on Saturday 02.06.18 between 10am and 2pm with four Stations of themes, worship and short Bible studies. This was attended by ten people.

Prayer Walk was conducted along the surrounding streets of the church building on 08.10.18 with four stops for Bible readings & prayer. Four people attended.

Wells of Revival St. Helens Prayer meeting was hosted by the Prayer meeting leader on 22.10.18. Thirty people attended, five from St. Luke's.

Prayer Meeting members also enjoyed a Christmas meal together on 18.12.18.

Those who attend the Prayer Meeting have a good time of sharing and praying together. Nobody is forced to pray aloud and everything shared remains confidential unless otherwise expressed.

We firmly believe in the power of corporate prayer and welcome everyone to join and experience it.

### **Pastoral Care – Co-ordinator Joan Massey**

As you know, as part of our Pastoral Care we make hospital visits and visit anyone housebound or ill at home or living in residential homes. We make home communion visits. We share prayer ministry at Services and we use our Prayer Lists to encourage daily prayer for those members of our families, friends & fellowship who are unwell or struggling at the moment.

We haven't been able to make as many visits as previously because we are short of visitors as some have moved away or are unable to continue. Please let me know if you are interested in taking part in this ministry.

We have been in touch with members by phone during the year. We take cards and gifts on special occasions e.g. Easter, Mothering Sunday, Father's Day, Harvest and Christmas and we have received replies and calls on each occasion to say that they really appreciate being remembered. It is an important ministry, sometimes we are the only person they have spoken to for days or even weeks. I would like to thank all who have helped. Please remember this ministry in your prayers.

### **Helping Hearts Bereavement Support – Co-ordinator Linda Fairclough**

Our team continues to support the bereaved in our parish and further afield. 2018 was a difficult year for our bereavement support as our vicar left and we needed to keep up with when our funerals were being taken and by whom. But, with the help of our wardens, we managed to support all who came through our church. We had a memorial service in October which was led by Helen our Rector and also Allan Taggart. It was well attended and received with much appreciation.

Our Helping Hearts group is meeting monthly and at the moment we are supporting two bereaved families. The team do amazing work in a difficult ministry, I'm very proud of Dorothy Follis Irene Mercer and Barbara Pounceby. They make my job as co-ordinator easier than it should be. I want to thank June Pounceby, Dave and Stina Foxford and Jim Fairclough for their help and support at our memorial service, it's invaluable. Also Anita and Barry, Susan, Doreen, Pam and everyone who helps with the refreshments after the service. They do a wonderful Job. We are dedicated to giving our best which is what every bereaved family deserves, and we need your continued support too. Your prayers help enormously.

Thank you.

### **Shekinah - Co-ordinator Claire Ash Snr.**

This has been another difficult year for Shekinah with illness and we have been unable to recruit new members following requests in our notice sheet. With only now four members of the group we have tried to cover as many services as possible.

We will continue to seek God's will for the future of the group.

### **Children's Worship Ministry – Co-ordinator Kathryn Patey**

The ethos of the 10.30am Services is that the different elements of each Service are accessible across the congregation, allowing full participation for children, young people and adults. Activities are provided as integral part of this inclusive style of worship which children can access as they wish.

Thank you to everyone who uses their time and talents in this ministry.

Let us continue to pray for our children and young people.



## **The Net – Co-ordinator Jean Moore**

The Net has met 11 times between January and December 2018. After meeting downstairs at Queens Park Leisure centre during the time of the pool closure, we decided that it was easier to meet upstairs in the Boundary Suite mostly for the sake of the children who come along. We did not meet in August because 50% of the team were on holiday and historically, we have found that the Leisure Centre is very sparsely used during the summer period.

Each month, several of the team meet at Tom and Diane's house to plan for the next month's meeting. We have a short bible study, discuss the previous month's meeting and then decide upon a theme for the next month's meeting. These themes can be linked to events in the Christian year such as Christmas, Easter, Pentecost or Harvest; celebrations such as Valentine's day or Mothering Sunday or Christian values such as peace, joy and generosity. We decide upon crafts linked to themes which are prepared by myself, Diane and Kate and the food that we are going to provide for lunch. All of the team members provide this food. Joan provides bible verses linked to theme which are then displayed in the Boundary Suite. We have also done a quiz each month again linked to the theme.

We have continued to have team of people downstairs in the foyer of the leisure centre inviting people to join us upstairs and giving out information about forthcoming events at St. Luke's such as our family events and special services. We have also given out information about activities and services at St Luke's generally for families to people using the centre. We have also put a notice in the entrance to the centre advertising the Net, where we are and what we do. We have never had any negative response from people but we have found that we are not getting anybody taking up the invitation to join us upstairs.

We have, however, been joined in recent months from families from our Family events. We have decided that in future that this is where we need to concentrate our efforts. We will still have a presence downstairs in the foyer but for a much shorter period of time and we will continue to try to promote both the Net and St. Luke's in general. In addition to this, we are going to concentrate on building up the relationships that are developing with the new families that are coming and the people who have been coming to the Net for a long time. We are going to use a resource that has been recommended to us by Helen to stimulate discussion starting at a lighter level and leading to deeper discussions about our faith and beliefs.

We would value your prayers as we embark upon this new direction.

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

### **"Teddies" Toddler Group – Co-ordinators Pat Corbett & Anne Parry**

We had another busy and happy year in *Teddies*. There continues to be a friendly supportive atmosphere each Monday morning. Children range in age from a few days(!) to nearly 4 years (a sibling of a younger "Teddy").

After 'signing in' a cup of tea or coffee is provided and 10p provides them with a piece of toast if they wish. "The best toast in St Helens" has been heard!

There are a huge number of toys for the children, ranging from activity centres for the very young to 'trikes' for the independent boys and girls. There are lots of dressing-up clothes for the children. We have been blessed by the number of generous donations which enables us to recycle older toys to the charity shop. Nothing is thrown away unless it is broken.

Fees are as follows: Free for under 6 months, 50p for 6-12 months and £1.50 for over 1yr old.

We have a break at about 10.30am when the children sit together to eat fruit and have a drink of water. They have a range of fruits during the weeks. Grapes and bananas are their favourites.

At about 11.00am it is time to clear up and have a communal sing, favourites including "Wheels on the Bus", the "Tractor" song and "Sleeping Bunnies". We finish about 11.15am and the children go home (more often than not with some birthday cake).

Data Protection legislation has made it necessary to sign new registration forms. Our new Team Rector Helen Coffey has been a huge support and has produced forms for the whole team.

During the year we have four celebrations – Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Summer. This involves a short service in church followed by a “party” of sorts depending on the occasion. Children who have had their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday are presented with a Children’s Bible. They go on the Nursery or come to “*Teddies*” as a visitor. We have a long waiting list so this enables new children to start. Until now all of the adults have come to the services and we are pleased that Rev. Helen has become involved in leading these services. However, in her absence, Jean Moore has kindly taken up the reins! We are very grateful to both Helen and Jean for their input. We think these services are an important part of “*Teddies*”.

We have been blessed by lovely parents, grandparents and other carers. They are supportive and generous. We self-fund our activities and are able to donate money to church when we can. We have also been able to make a donation to another children’s group using our community centre. God has been very good to our group.

Our “Teddy Bears Picnic” in Taylor Park actually took place in the summer. It has been “rained off” for a few years.

As always God continues to bless us. We have a lovely supportive group and adorable “*Teddies*”. We have had a new volunteer, Karen, this year but would encourage anyone to join us.

#### **5th Eccleston St Luke’s Rainbows – Co-Ordinator Gill Kirby**

We have certainly had a very challenging but wonderful year in Rainbows. We praise God that our numbers in not only girls but also leaders have multiplied - a real answer to prayer!!

Over the past year we have continued to work towards badges following what is now a new Rainbow programme. The new programme has taken a little bit of getting used to - but safe to say we are loving it!!

Again, this year we were invited to sing at St Helens MS Christmas Carol Service - which is enjoyed just as much by the audience as it is the girls.... hence the reason we have been invited back this year for the 7th year running!!!

Our promise ceremonies are turning out to be a real special night which Rainbows, Parents and Leaders all love.... with little simple ideas and touches to make the ceremony special. This, in our view is vital to Rainbows as not only does it mark the start of their Rainbow/Girlguiding journey, in most cases it’s the introduction of Jesus and the Bible to the girls for the first time - which we are honoured to be able to build on.

Sadly, we haven’t been able to arrange any trips or outings this year but we plan to make up for that in 2019.

We are in discussion with our Training leaders to take part in training which will enable us to do Rainbow Sleepover events - watch this space!!!

My own health battles along with the loss of my stillborn daughter could have had a knock-on effect on Rainbows and my commitment to the group, but it’s true testimony to my leaders that the group has not only remained unaffected but has thrived and I would like to personally thank them for this.

Pam continues to support us but has reduced her hours and now commits to once fortnightly support, but this is balanced with fortnightly support from a new leader who has joined us called Helen.

Stina continues to be a real asset to our group with her creative ideas and ongoing support not only in the group but out of the group as well.

We have also been blessed with a new leader Emma - who's energy and creative ideas really put a spring in our step.

Pam, Stina, Emma and Helen really do create the pot of gold in our Rainbow!! Thank you ladies.

I would also like to pay thanks to Dave Foxford or "Uncle Rainbow" as he is now known.... for his practical support to the group - setting up tables with us and especially his invaluable help clearing the tables away and hoovering up etc at the end of each week.

Finally, there has been quite a lot of concern expressed to others regarding various Rainbow issues - especially our attendance at Church Parade. We appreciate your concern - but leader health and personal issues have affected the few months we haven't been able to attend - as well as other commitments with the girls i.e. activities we have had with them which has unavoidably clashed with some church parade dates.

We do appreciate your concern and support - our door is always open if you have any concerns so please don't hesitate to come and talk to us!!

Here's to another wonderful year!

#### **5th Eccleston St Luke's Brownies – Co-Ordinator Eagle Owl Margaret Devine**

Looking back over the past year has been a joy. We have again been blessed with good girls who have been keen to learn and develop.

We were very pleased to welcome back Karen as a unit helper - her assistance has been very valuable to us; we also had the pleasure of welcoming a new member to our team, Emma. Emma is studying for her PGCE and again her input have been much valued.

The girls have worked very hard at interest badges and we have seen some of our Brownies achieve many this year. We would like to thank parents and carers for their encouragement in assisting the girls to achieve.

Again several girls have moved up to us from Rainbows and made their promises as Brownie Guides, and some of our Brownies have moved onto Guides.

It is with some sadness that changes in our personal circumstances have led us to a re-evaluate our commitment to girl guiding and due to a number of reasons we have decided that it is time for us to leave.

We are hoping that someone will come along and take over the pack as it would be a shame for it to close completely.

Please pray for the right people to come forward to assist and take 5th Eccleston St Luke's Brownies forward into the future.

We are been very fortunate to have such dedicated guiders at St Luke's Brownies. A BIG THANK YOU Joan Massey for all your help. We really couldn't have managed without all your hard work 'behind the scenes'.

Thank you all for your support to the team over the past 25 plus years that Cath and I have led the pack, it has always been very much appreciated.

### **St Luke's Guides – Co-ordinators Leaders Joanne Griffiths MBE & Gemma Denton**

Guides have had a very busy year continuing with Guide weekly programme.

One Special badge was the Guide Vote 100 challenge which was to celebrate 100 years of the vote for (some) women and the suffragette movement.

We learnt about J K Rowling and how she is an inspirational woman. We created a display which is in Thatto Heath Library.

In September we went to the Town Hall and took part in a Democracy Debate with Guides from all over St. Helens.

In May we went to Colomendy which is an outdoor activity centre in Wales. The girls enjoyed many activities including abseiling, cave walking, low ropes and crate climbing.

We always enjoy learning new crafts and gaining badges – they look good sewed in the uniform. We have enjoyed meeting up with our Guides from St. Helens and sharing activities with them.

Please continue to pray for the Unit – that we continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you.

### **St Luke's Family Events – Co-ordinator Jean Moore**

During 2018, we have held 8 family events. These were Pancake party (6/2); Marvellous Mums (10/3); Chocolate/film afternoon (5/4); Family Fun day (16/6); Summer spectacular (2/8); Superhero Party (31/10); Christmas crafts (24/11) and Christmas Film night (6/12). At these events, parents and children have enjoyed doing crafts together, conducting science experiments; playing games and taking challenges as well as enjoying eating together. We have averaged 15 children plus accompanying adults at each event.

As part of our Marvellous Mums event, we held a short "thank you for our Mums service" followed by an afternoon tea. This was a very well attended event and it was lovely to see some grandmothers as well as mums. Church members very generously donated cakes and scones and families sat down and had afternoon tea together.

Our Superhero party was the best attended one in recent years. We used the World Vision resources about Patch the Pumpkin as we had done the previous year. This year the emphasis of the materials was on helping one another and accepting help. Each child took home a Patch the Pumpkin book produced by World Vision, a book of Hope and a party bag contains other goodies. Through Queens Park School, the bags produced by the Deanery were distributed to each pupil. I went into the school to explain what was contained in the bags and to invite the children to the Superhero party at St. Luke's. I am delighted to say that there were more children from Queens Park came to the Superhero party than we have had before including some children who had never been to a family event at St. Luke's. Hopefully, as we continue to build up links with Queens Park, we will find more families coming along to events/services that we hold.

The Polar Express film Night was also well attended with 13 adults and 20 children attending. Church was decorated on a "Polar theme" and looked lovely. The decorations were left up for the Toy Service on the Sunday. The children also enjoyed a visit from Father Christmas. Each child was given a present which included a selection box, a Scripture Union "First Christmas" booklet; a "Jesus loves you" magnet; a bookmark and a pencil.

At each of these events, parents are given information about upcoming special services at St. Luke's and things that happen at St. Luke's that might be of interest to them and their families. These families have also been invited to come along to the Net on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the Boundary Suite at Queen's Park Leisure Centre. There were families who attend the family events at the Crib service and several of these families have been to the Net.

We have a WhatsApp group to let people know when events are happening, which parents have asked to be included in. Other people have agreed to let us contact them by e-mail. Queens Park School have been advertising our events on their newsletter and one of our volunteers also puts our events on the Queens Park School PTFA Facebook page.

None of these events could take place without the volunteers who turn up to supervise the craft activities, help with refreshments; man the AV systems and to clean up afterwards. My grateful thanks go out to all of them. Also, thanks to Anne Parry who produces all the promotional material (sometimes at short notice). Please pray that God will guide us as we continue to put on these events in the ways that we can encourage these families to become part of our wider church community.

### **Luke Inn – Co-ordinator Dave Foxford**

Annual Report from January – December 2018

Luke Inn is a social event that is held on the second Monday of each month, except for July and August. There is a team of seven people who organise Luke Inn. This can be setting up the room with tables and chairs, baking cakes, making tea, being the treasurer, and organising the entertainment. There is a great team work and everything is organised well. This is due to everyone doing their part and helping others when needed. Open communication is evident within the team especially during the meeting that we have before Luke Inn starts.

Initially Luke Inn was for those who are 50 and over. Even though the age limit was removed so that everyone can attend Luke Inn, the numbers decreased. On average 19 people attend.

We continue to announce each Luke Inn, along with that month's entertainment, in different places by putting a notice on the board in Sainsbury's on Millfield, Costa and Parish Church in the town centre, Christchurch on Church Lane, as well as in St. Luke's Notice Sheet in order to try and increase the numbers. Also, it was announced on Radio Merseyside.

At the beginning of each meeting there are announcements about the next Luke Inn, celebrating of birthdays and a short talk. It is then handed over to those who are providing the entertainment.

Luke Inn have a variety of entertainers. This year's entertainers were:

Nadine Allen who talked about Genealogy – Family History; The Grand National Chorus – Male Voice Choir; Sandra Corfe, who speaks on Radio Merseyside, spoke about Liverpool being the first in a variety of things. So, it is called 'Liverpool First'; Tiger Muffin Soaps who spoke about soaps and bathing; North West Air Ambulance who spoke about its history, aims, incidents, helicopters and crew; Joanne Halliwell who continued the Betsy Trilogy as Betsy: The Promotion; Matty, Linda and Monty Mair who spoke about Guide Dogs for the Blind, along with a demonstration of Monty at work; John Thorogood who spoke about The Early History of St. Luke's Church

At Christmas, Luke Inn went to The Griffin, Church Lane, Eccleston for Christmas meal. This included a short talk and a quiz about Christmas songs

Each Summer, Luke Inn go for an outing. The choice for 2018 was going to Morecombe. This included a two-course meal at the Best Western Hotel.

### **St Luke's Men's Fellowship Group – Co-ordinator Bernard Cragg & Alan Cresswell**

2018 was a successful year for the Men's Meeting as we continued to meet on the last Wednesday of the month at the Black Bull. Attendance was always at least 12 people and sometimes was close to 20 people, a few of whom were not regular worshippers on Sunday. This shows that the meeting can be effective in introducing people in a relaxed way to those of us who know and love Jesus. We had a range of speakers who covered a variety of topics: from the history of glass production to walking on the fells of northern England, we had interesting topics about which we learned a great deal in an entertaining way. Our Christmas quiz was well attended and proved to be a closely fought contest with the victors sportingly sharing their spoils with the other teams. We look forward to another interesting year in 2019. Thanks go to Bernard and Alan who find our speakers and make sure that we can use the room at the pub. We did have one member of St James' congregation who joined us to hear John Butler talk about his days as a professional rugby league player and hope in future to welcome more people from the other churches in our team.

### **St Luke's Indoor Bowls – Co-ordinator Bernard Cragg, Alan Cresswell & Allan Taggart**

The autumn of 2018 saw the return of indoor bowls to the Church Centre. We started with one mat and soon purchased a second. Our weekly subscriptions have enabled us to pay for these and we should have a third mat in 2019. Now that we have these mats, the subscriptions next year should help us pass on some money to the church. Between 6 and 14 enthusiastic "trundlers" (including 2 ladies who regularly come along to show the men how it is done) attend the sessions. We are gradually learning how to overcome the difficulties of an uneven floor and the varying speed of the different mats and there is talk of challenge matches (or even participation in a league) next winter. Obviously, this type of activity demands great concentration and we are learning the etiquette of the game: no talking when one member in particular is preparing to send his wood down the mat. We have a tea break (which is perhaps the high point of the afternoon for some) and enjoy getting to know some of our fellow-bowlers who are not Sunday worshippers at St Luke's. This is clearly a group which is looking to build and grow after such a successful beginning in 2018. Thanks go to those who open up the Church Centre, who help get the mats out and put them away, and who have diligently (and successfully) sought out new mats for us to obtain.

### **Other regular community activities**

**St Luke's Walking Group** – meet the first Saturday of the month in the morning normally starting approximately 9am. This is a walking group at a gentle pace with a place for lunch at the end of the walk for fellowship. If people are unable to come on the walk you are welcome to join for lunch. Each month walk is advertised on the church notice board in the Jubilee Lounge.

**St Luke's Ladies Fellowship** – fourth Wednesday of the month (except in the summer) in the Jubilee Lounge in church starting at 2pm. Everyone welcome.

## **Finance**

Regular giving and donations have decreased again by approximately 7%, compared to the same for 2017, whereas, our regular commitments (parish share, gas, electricity, water, insurance, etc) have increased again by 2.4% with the parish share alone increasing by 2% (Note the figure for Parish Share for 2017 includes £1,000 of arrears payments).

Payments associated with the vicarage (i.e. water rates, council tax and telephone line) have decreased by over 40% compared to 2017 due to the vicarage being vacant since August.

Large one-off repair costs have been incurred during 2018 for repairs to the hall toilets (£2,450) and to the north side aisle roof (£2,550)

We have received a total of £11,738 in tax recovery from both regular income and small donations which is higher than the previous year as the limit for claims on small donations has increased. The number of people giving by envelope or by direct debit has remained level, although some members have left the scheme, new members have joined the scheme.

We have received investment income totalling £3,342 from the investment fund created from a large bequest donation received in 2017 which is available for the PCC without any restrictions, the capital investment is also still available to the PCC at any time without any restrictions should the need arise.

Income from hall lettings have increased due to the hall being used by additional outside parties.

Performance of Investments from the fund accounts held with the Central Board of Finance from the sale of the school have been good with dividend payments and interest achieving £2,941 which is available to the PCC for restricted items, although the market value of the actual shares has slightly decreased by 3.4%.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Currently, between the main deposit and current accounts there is a total of (£1,452) available as general funds, there is also £2,716 available for church upgrade works and a further £530 for evangelism works within these accounts.

There is also £2,411 in the Community Centre account which is available for works required within the hall or for repairs associated with any of the works covered by the recent grants.

The market value of the investment fund from the bequest donations was £86,667 which is available to the PCC without any restrictions.

### **Agent Transactions**

The PCC acted as a financial agent for the following people / organisations: -

- Liverpool Diocesan - £1,533 was received in regards to Assigned Fees for weddings and funerals from the wedding couple and funeral directors which has been forwarded to the diocesan board of finance
- Retired Clergy / LTO Readers - £192 was received from funeral directors in regards to Assigned Fees which were payable to the retired clergy / LTO Readers who officiated at funerals in place of the vicar which have been forwarded to the relevant people.
- Organist Fees - £845 was received from funeral directors and wedding couples respectively which has been forwarded to the relevant organist.
- Tear Fund - £337 was received during special collections in the Harvest Service for the works by Tear Fund which has been forwarded.

- St. Helens Street Pastors - £100 was received during the carol service for the works carried out by the street pastors within St Helens which has been forwarded.
- McMillan Cancer Support - £460 was received during a special coffee morning for the works carried out by McMillan Cancer Support which has been forwarded.

## Plans for the Future

We will continue to develop with our vision for St. Luke's Church:-

***"Knowing Jesus, Growing in Jesus, Showing Jesus to others".***

God said "MY WORD WILL NOT FAIL to do what I plan for it; You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace". ISAIAH 55:11,12.

Jesus said "I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH". MATTHEW 16:18.

Also continue to work with Eccleston Team (5 Churches) in developing and supporting best practices, worshipping styles and new ideas across the Eccleston Team Parish.

## DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signature:-

Full Name:-

Position:-

Date:-

*D. Thorpe*

Mr David Thorpe

Lay Chair

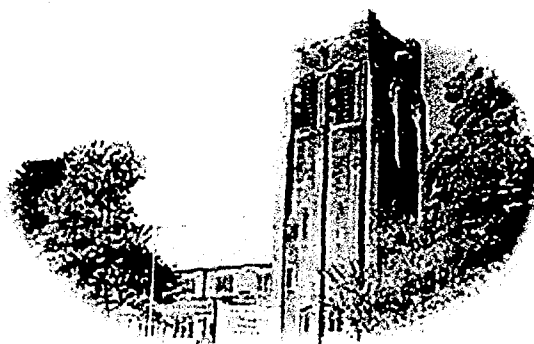
25<sup>th</sup> March 2019



**ST LUKE'S ECCLESTON**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2018**



Knowing, Growing, Showing

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF**  
**St Luke's, Eccleston**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2018**  
**Receipts & Payments Account**

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £
<b>Receipts</b>					
<b>Voluntary receipts</b>					
<b>Regular Giving</b>					
planned giving - gift aid	33,220			33,220	34,379
planned giving - other	6,781			6,781	7,732
loose plate collections	4,705			4,705	5,676
tax recovered - gift aid	9,499			9,499	9,212
tax recovered - gift aid on small donations	2,239			2,239	1,861
in memoriam				0	92,976
members' payments		1,774		1,774	398
grants				0	40
other donations	1,334	634		1,968	3,807
special appeals				0	473
				<b>60,186</b>	<b>156,554</b>
<b>Receipts from activities for generating funds</b>					
refreshments		361		361	0
copy printer income	10			10	0
hall lettings	6,912			6,912	6,576
other income (incl cards)	398			398	450
				<b>7,681</b>	<b>7,026</b>
<b>Receipts from Church activities</b>					
PCC Fees	3,166			3,166	2,791
Donations from Verger				0	0
				<b>3,166</b>	<b>2,791</b>
<b>Receipts from investments</b>					
Bank & CBF interest/dividends	3,356		2,942	6,298	2,905
				<b>6,298</b>	<b>2,905</b>
<b>Other receipts</b>					
Weekend income / outings		1,890		1,890	1,993
Insurance claim				0	0
				<b>1,890</b>	<b>1,993</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>71,619</b>	<b>4,659</b>	<b>2,942</b>	<b>79,220</b>	<b>171,268</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
<b>Church activities</b>					
Missionary giving	6,180	840		7,020	6,744
Parish share	50,902			50,902	50,901
Working expenses	146			146	280
Vicarage costs	1,367			1,367	2,321
Church heat/light	2,971			2,971	2,851
Church insurance	2,731			2,731	2,608
Evangelism (incl anniversary)		165	470	635	342
Church Maintenance	3,684		234	3,919	1,862
Upkeep of services	328	306		634	132
Equipment		40		40	1,179
Copier lease/mtce	1,410			1,410	1,437
Community centre maintenance	3,091			3,091	722
Community centre running costs	5,702			5,702	5,459
Weekend accommodation/ outings		1,875		1,875	2,034
Refreshments	83	314		397	563
Other working exps	2,112	1,188		3,300	4,315
Church upgrade works			540	540	5,360
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>80,707</b>	<b>4,727</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>86,679</b>	<b>89,111</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b>				<b>(7,459)</b>	<b>82,157</b>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
St Luke's, Eccleston**

**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

For the year ended 31 December 2018

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £
<b>Cash Funds</b>					
Bank current account	(6,249)			(6,249)	(7,225)
Bank deposit account	4,797			8,043	16,901
Community Centre account		2,411	3,246	2,411	4,861
Church Board of Finance Deposit Fund		1,279		1,279	1,279
Church Board of Finance Deposit Account			15,861	15,861	12,919
Fund bank accounts and cash		3,098		3,098	3,165
Total bank current and deposit accounts	-1,452	6,787	19,107	<u>24,442</u>	<u>31,901</u>
<b>Investment Assets</b>					
CBF Investment Fund (Old School Sale) **			29,507	29,507	29,954
CBF Fixed Interest Investment Fund (Old School Sale) **			45,431	45,431	47,584
CBF Fixed Interest Investment Fund (Bequest Fund)	55,621			55,621	58,257
CBF Investment Fund (Bequest Fund)	31,046			31,046	31,516
				<u>161,605</u>	<u>167,312</u>
** Investment Assets were previously managed by the trustees of Greenhalls Ecclesiastical Charity. These have now been transferred to St Lukes Parochial Church Council.					
<b>Other Monetary Assets</b> (all in respect of unrestricted funds)					
Income tax recoverable from HMRC from Nov & Dec 2018				1,752	2,602
<b>Liabilities</b> (all in respect of unrestricted funds)					
Water Rates Owed to United Utilities for Church & Hall				179	530

Approved by the PCC on 25th March 2019 and signed on their behalf

D Thorpe  
25/3/19

David Thorpe  
PCC Lay Chairman



Peter Anderson  
PCC Assistant Treasurer

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS:

- These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- The following assets are recognised but are not necessarily valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:  
Freehold land and buildings comprising the Church Centre  
Various items of ICT and audio visual equipment  
Various tables and chairs purchased in 2010
- The expenses paid to clergy may include a small, immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members.  
No other payments were made to PCC members.
- The movements in designated funds during the year were:

	b/fwd 1 Jan 2018	Receipts	Payments	c/fwd 31 Dec 2018
Card Making Workshop	10	0	10	0
Luke Here	0	0	0	0
Discretionary fund	515	0	10	505
Flower Fund	10	337	306	41
Hospitality	16	361	314	64
Ladies' Fellowship	505	127	100	531
Family Events Fund	18	195	165	48
Boys Brigade	261	262	318	204
Teddies Tuesday	723	1,156	1,134	744
Luke Inn	656	2,222	2,370	508
Luke There	428	0	0	428
St Lukes Puppeteers	24	0	0	24
	<b>3,165</b>	<b>4,659</b>	<b>4,727</b>	<b>3,097</b>

- Receipts and payments for the Community Centre are included within the PCC accounts but are identified separately as follows:

	£ 2018	£ 2017
Receipts		
Hall lettings	6,912	6,576
Grants	0	0
Contribution from St Luke's Church	1,882	(395)
Total Income	<u>8,794</u>	<u>6,181</u>
Payments		
Community centre maintenance	3,091	722
Community centre running costs	5,702	5,459
Total Expenditure	<u>8,794</u>	<u>6,181</u>

## **Independent Examiner's Report**

Report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Luke's, Eccleston (764) on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018, as set out on pages 17 to 19 of your Annual Report.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent Examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Date: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Tom Kelly Eccleston, St Helens