



AGM Report 2019



SPRINGS
Christian Fellowship



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Agenda

12.30 p.m. Sunday 2^{7th} October 2018

All Members are expected to make every effort to be present, it is part of your membership AND a meeting that is required by Law.

1. PRAYER -

2. READING OF THE WORD -

3. REPORTS

a. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Pastor Brian

b. FINANCIAL REPORT – Sarah

c. MUSIC GROUP - TASH

d. YOUTH & SUNDAY SCHOOL – Simon

e. PRAYER MINISTRY – Baskaran & Simon

f. JOB CLUB Pastor Brian

4. FUTURE PLANS

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

This should be submitted in writing to the Pastor and be received 2 days before the AGM meeting.

6. DATE OF NEXT AGM – 3rd October 2020?

7. CLOSING REMARKS – Pastor Sam

8. THANKSGIVING TO GOD

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Chairman's Report

Chairman's Report

Introduction

This is the tenth year of producing a printed annual report for members in which we provide our reports, the accounts and look to the future.

It is important that we remember that even though we are already more than half way through the present financial year. This report deals with the events and activities of 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

Overview

The overall continued objective in the year has been towards building a stable structure for meetings and administration and the slow improvement of the building; together with the preparation for ongoing growth in the body of the church.

There is still that growing sense of the need to be ready for the new Minister and the vision they bring. We need to encourage and provoke the church, that is individuals as well as us as a body, to become people who read and pray and develop that personal relationship with the Lord.

I would like to express my thanks to ALL those who help in so many different ways. In trying to list them all I apologise ahead of time if you feel left out. You are not left out and you are valued. The areas where help has been provided is Spring Chicks, Cleaning, Music Groups, Sound Desk, Word projection, Gardening, Job Club, helping behind the scenes, teas and coffees, communion preparation, administration, treasurer, Church council, Elders, the prayer warriors, Students from All Nations, those who visit, those who help others outside the church. **Thank you!**

Benefiting the Community

The Objects of the Charity are principally to the advancement of the Christian Religion. This will be done by the declaration and upholding of the Gospel concerning God's Son Jesus Christ the Lord and the preaching and teaching of the Word of God by the Church in accordance with the Statement of Faith of the Assemblies of God in Great Britain as approved by the General Council from time to time. In addition, the objects allow the church to minister into key areas of our society and the world and therefore allow us to minister to the whole person for a complete answer to our societies needs as the Leadership lead and resources allow.

In the ongoing work, we have continued throughout 2018 and into 2019 to hold weekly Sunday services where the full Gospel of Jesus Christ is proclaimed and people are challenged to put their faith into action. Our obvious aim is to teach and train people of all ages from the Bible in ways that are relevant to their age and culture, to be obedient to God, provide positive input into their families and to be good citizens in our community.

A part of fulfilling our Objects is a commitment to missionary and social work overseas and in this country. In July 2013 the Job Club was started and is serving our community well, this together with the street outreach are our current positive input into our community outside the vital full Gospel. It is hoped in the coming year to the Drop In to add to the services we offer our community.

We support organisations that specialise in Bible centred teaching, work with ex-prisoners and people in the community. Our support is also given to those organisations that provide help with social problems and support people around the world whose lives have been devastated by natural disasters.

Chairman's Report

Annual Events

- Easter
- Christmas Services
- Family Services
- Area Conference
- November 2018 Samaritans Purse Shoebox Appeal. Boxes went to a Middle East Country. 26 boxes sent which was fantastic!
- Remembrance Day Service
- Fraternal with local AoG ministers
- Town Ministers Monthly Meeting
- Town Christian Community Workshop
- Simply Worship
- Bright Hour
- 3 Weekly Prayer Groups
- Zone meetings

Concerning the Coming Year

We are continuing in our journey in becoming a church that is ready for growth and able to meet the demands that will bring. We are also working towards bringing a more focused Vision to the church. I say we, not I, because if we as one body cannot grasp it nothing will happen. The next part of this transition will be more fully owning of "Changed Hearts, Changed Lives and Changed World".

Discipleship

We will look at developing our existing ministries to better equip the church and increase the variety of ministry to cover a wider group to reflect the diverse congregation.

Church Leadership and Management

While the structure for the church leadership development is now more detailed there are areas that are still under development. With the proposed strengthening of the church council we should be able to make progress in this area. Some of the areas that need further development will be practical as more people join the church.

We will add church management software once we have found a suitable package that helps serve the church better and handles the basic accounts. Obviously cost will be a factor

Evangelism

While some of these events or activities are not for proclaiming the Gospel they give opportunity for interaction with our community and the availability to answer questions.

Community Interaction helps break down some of the myths about Christians and the church. It allows our community to see the authenticity of our faith and the consistency of our lives.

Chairman's Report

Projects or Events Planned:-

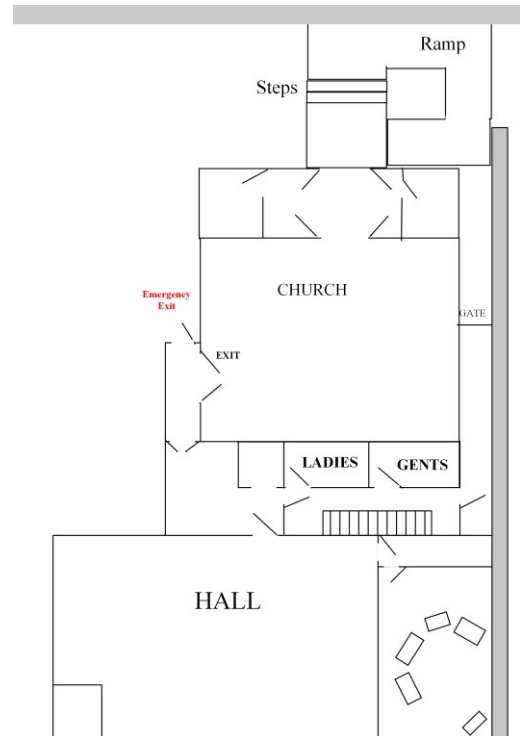
- Developing the structure of the family service.
- Samaritans Purse Shoebox Appeal November 2019

Items for some time in the future these included:-

- **Social Overseas & Teaching Project**

Building Development

- **Disabled Toilet & Access.** This will remove barriers that may exist for those who want to become part of us. Due to the nature of our building and our current resources this is not possible at the moment.
- **Church Entrance Modernisation.** This is to make the building more inviting to the general public while meeting the requirements of a conservation area.
- **Ongoing External Maintenance program**
- **Internal Decoration**



Treasurer's Report 2018 - 2019

Introduction

The financial year, ending 31st March 2019, was overall a good year, our income was up and our expenditure down; see Table 1. The total income for this financial year is up by £6,711, which is largely due to an increase in other income. The total expenditure is down by £3,347. We regularly take steps to reduce our utility bills, however, the main reduction in expenditure is due to a large reduction in ministry fees (see Table 2) and establishment and administration costs have actually risen. A large proportion of expenditure was on church repairs and renovating the back hall.

Table 1 Summary of Receipts and Payments

Summary Receipts and Payments For The Year Ended 31st March 2019

	Receipts			Payments	
	2017 / 18 £	2018 / 19 £		2017 / 18 £	2018 / 19 £
Church Giving	24,965	25,619	Pastoral/Ministry Expenses (see note 1)	18,435	6,522
Restricted Income	1,007	1,160	Establishment Costs (see note 2)	11,529	18,887
Interest	3	32	Administration (see note 3)	1,636	2,844
Other Income	3,014	8,889			
	28,989	35,700		31,600	28,253

Treasurer's Report 2018 - 2019

Table 2 Payments breakdown

Payments for the year ended 31st March 2019

	2017 / 18		2018 / 19	
	£	£	£	£
Pastoral/Ministry Costs (Note 1)				
Ministry Fees: Pastor	9,700		4,835	
Employers NI	0		0	
Expenses	2,310		0	
Contract Services	778		0	
Ministry / Mission	1,322		777	
Tithes & Gifts	4,325		910	
		18,435		6,522
Establishment Costs (Note 2)				
Utilities & Insurance	4,372		4,840	
Security	0		300	
Building & Repairs	3,934		2,738	
Church Manse Utilities & Insurance	2,713		2,854	
Church Manse Repairs	0		7,712	
Catering & Facilities	131		43	
Equipment	379		400	
		11,529		18,887
Administration (Note 3)				
Fees	294		562	
Computer	44		738	
Membership & Dues	774		569	
Child Protection	150		435	
Stationery & Postage	199		410	
Sundries	175		130	
		1,636		2,844
Total		31,600		28,253

Treasurer's Report 2018 - 2019

Table 3 Assets and Liabilities

Statement of Assets and Liabilities As At 31st March 2019

	2017 / 18		2018 / 19	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Church Premises - Insurance Value	612,711		612,711	
Contents of Premises - Insurance Value	23,099		23,099	
Church Manse - Insurance Value	144,484		144,484	
		780,294		780,294
Current Assets				
<u>Bank Balances:</u>				
TSB A/C 30154860	8,077		16,906	
TSB A/C 30460268	6,379		10,022	
TSB A/C 30460960	672		506	
TSB A/C 30709160	5,776		917	
Cash In Hand	0		0	
		20,904		28,351
Total Assets		801,198		808,645
Current Liabilities				
Kingdom Bank Loan 822123	0		0	
		0		0
Net Assets		801,198		808,645

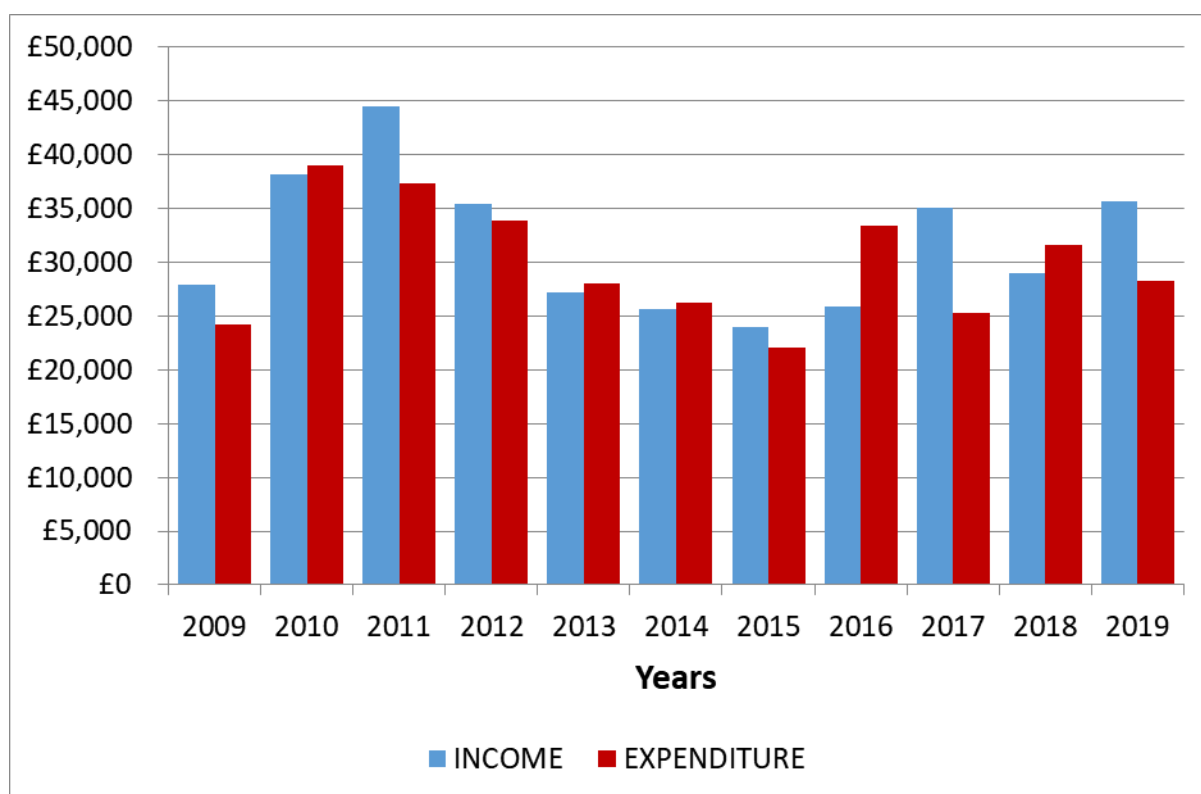
The income and expenditure table and chart below show that over the last 10 years that the income for Springs Christian Fellowship has fluctuated within a range of £20k and the expenditure has fluctuated within a range of £17k.

Table 4 Income and Expenditure Table

YEAR	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
INCOME	£27,933	£38,105	£44,427	£35,460	£27,185	£25,591	£23,983	£25,901	£35,000	£28,989	£35,700
EXP.	£24,199	£38,956	£37,288	£33,887	£27,977	£26,286	£22,052	£33,440	£25,300	£31,600	£28,253

Treasurer's Report 2018 - 2019

Figure 1 Income and Expenditure Chart



Church Tithe

The church council continues to tithe to Watoto a sum of £300 pa to sponsor a child.

Concerning the Future

As a major capital expenditure we are intending to continue to renovate the back hall. This could enable us to continue to increase our income by hiring the premises for suitable functions.

I am sure God will provide all our needs but I would like to make the facts clear to the church. So that if God leads any of you to help with the current financial need please feel free to contact our treasurer Sarah Cook.

I would like to encourage **everyone** to follow the Biblical principal of tithing, **and those who pay tax to consider Gift Aiding their giving**, which means the Church receives about 25% back from the taxman. Also, an easier way to manage personal giving is to set up a monthly standing order to the Church. We will explore the facility to give online and to text a gift as our society moves towards not carrying money.

Finally, I would like to thank God for his faithfulness and each person who gave money faithfully to the work of this church in the financial year ending March 2019. I hope and pray that you will continue to support the work of this church this year through your financial contribution as well as other help.

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Treasurer's Report 2018 - 2019

Introduction

Thank you for submitting the accounts for independent examination. They have been well maintained and the treasurer and others responsible are to be commended for their hard work. Therefore I will keep my comments to a minimum.

Charity Law and Financial Regulations

The independent examination has been carried out in accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995 (Statutory Instruments No 2724) and the Accounting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Signing of Accounts

I shall be obliged if you will please forward a copy of the signature page for my records after the accounts have been signed by a representative appointed by the Trustees. A spare copy is enclosed.

Conclusion

There are no other matters I feel need to be brought to your attention.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further clarification or for further assistance.

Luke Silver

Date: 10 September 2019

TRUSTEES AND CHURCH COUNCIL

Brian Oxborough – Retired 31st January 2019 due to ill health

Sthy Kounga Mberi

Simon Donger

Natasha Lancaster

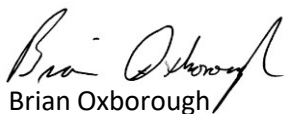
Grant Bradley

Abigail Windsor

STATEMENT

We certify that the books, vouchers and information produced to enable the independent examination of our accounts to be conducted contain a full and correct record of our financial transactions and activities to the best of our knowledge and belief.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES



Please print name: Brian Oxborough

Date: 28th September 2019

Church Ministries

Youth, Children & Worship Report

Springs Youth

This is for the youth of Springs Christian Fellowship (ages 15+) to come together for worship, prayer, fellowship and to talk about the issues they face as Christians in a secular world. The group meets once a month and the meeting is very informal.

We started in November 2018 and an average of 7 - 12 young people attend. This is a great time of godly friendship and fellowship among the youth and we have seen them come closer as a group. Topics covered so far include: sharing your faith in everyday life, overcoming fear and dealing with uncertainty, identity in Christ and being genuine, how can we know the Bible is the Word of God?, can Christians like rock music?

They have been involved in contributing to the Sunday morning service as well, when the four of the youth gave short messages during the Christmas period. They did so well, and it was such an encouragement and blessing to the church family to see our young people ministering and the anointing and gifts God has given them. They also led another Sunday morning service around the theme 'With God all things are possible' with worship, a short drama and preaching. Most of them are also part of the church's worship team and this has also helped them bond together as a group and contribute to the church's ministry. Three grown-ups (Mary, Tosin and Christina) provide guidance and organise the meetings.

Future plans: we plan to do more in-depth Bible studies and continue to look at how the Word of God is relevant to their lives. We will get guest speakers and also encourage some of them to lead the sessions. We will also encourage them to share their gifts and contribute to the ministry of the church.

Christina Baskaran

Worlds Future & Stepping Stones

Watch this space as a new Sunday School tentatively named "Springs Kids" is planned for launch we hope before the end of 2019.

Unfortunately due to a lack of teacher availability and children it was not viable for Stepping Stones and Worlds Future to continue in their current formats for the past year. Thanks to Christina and team who have been providing for the older children with Springs Youth and Julie and Sarah for Spring Chicks. Please give your full support and prayers for the success of "Springs Kids" as this is important arm of the church.

Church Ministries



Spring Chicks

Spring Chicks is Springs Christian Fellowship's Sunday School for young children, aimed at 5-8 year olds. Spring Chicks is a safe environment where children can have fun with games whilst learning about the Bible. Children are encouraged to express themselves and gain confidence whilst respecting each other. Children are also encouraged and supported with praying and reading the Bible.

Following the introduction of Superbook last year, Superbook Academy was introduced as a teaching aid. It is an animated Bible series created by CBN to tell the stories of the Bible and put it into context of modern day life for children. It also puts the stories into historical context and shows how the message relates to God's plan of sending Jesus.

Numbers

Attendance varies between two to four children.

Leaders & Personnel

- A team consisting of two leaders present each Sunday.
- Older children/leaders are encouraged to help out to provide breaks for the main leaders.
- Additional leaders/helpers are always welcome; see Simon, Julie or Sarah for further details.

Structure

Each session begins with a Bible story with a simple discussion with fun activities and closes in a prayer.

Future Plans

- To encourage more people to become leaders/helpers in order to share the responsibilities of educating the children of the future church in the ways of being a Christian.



Worship

As a Church we are extremely blessed to have such a variety of worship groups and leaders from different cultures. Each team provides a different style of music, leadership and sound that has the capacity to appeal to different age ranges and cultures.

Most recently we have seen a very noticeable growth in the number of people wanting to take part in the worship. This is very encouraging and it's great to see members of our congregation exercising their gifts.

The youth are continuing to flourish within their participation in our team. More recently we have seen a very noticeable growth in the number of young people maturing and taking an interest in the worship and I for one know the church is raising up some enthusiastic and

Church Ministries

anointed leaders. Carl in particular has become more active, learning the guitar and leading worship once every other month.

We are keen for more people to be involved in the worship. Lead instruments i.e. guitarists and/or pianists. Vocalists of course are also welcome. We always recommended that members of our worship teams regularly attend our services and are settled and happy in our church.

Notably we have been very blessed to have the Alves family join our Church with Antonio and Willmary being particularly active in various worship teams. Also, Grant on our sound desk and Chris Samkutty on the projector. Chris has also been learning keyboard and has joined us previously for our communion song and practices.

At Springs we like to embrace the different nationalities we have and I for one thoroughly enjoy hearing songs sung in various languages from around the world. Notably Eva, Willmary, Isabel and Carl have contributed to our multicultural worship.

The youth worship team have started a worship practice/fellowship evening which proved a success and we plan to continue this maybe once a month depending on everyone's availability.

Other honourable mentions go to Eric and his team, Baskaran's family – especially Immanuel and Isabel who faithfully play on a regular basis. And to Jerry (drums) and Rebekah (bass).

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who is involved in the worship; from leading and playing to singing and operating our sound desk and projector. Preparing and taking part in the worship is a big responsibility and not something we take lightly. A lot of prayer, thought and practice goes into each time we worship with one another, so I want to express my appreciation for all your hard work and devotion, and may we continue to praise and magnify the Lord together.

Love, Tash



Prayer Co-ordinator's Report

Introduction

We believe that prayer is the backbone of the church. The aim of this area of ministry is to see the fulfilment of **Isaiah 56:7** (for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.").



Comment

2018/2019 has been a year of continuation in our prayer ministry.

- Prayer Times on Tuesday 5:00 – 5:30 & 8:00 – 9:00 this has gained strength and consistency and answers are being seen.
- Additional Prayer before Sunday Service 9:45
- Additional Prayer 6:30 am Monday morning

Church Ministries

I believe that the best is yet come. I encourage you all to be part of this vision bring your good ideas and let us advance the kingdom of our God.

Brian Oxborough.

FAITHBUILDERS

FaithBuilders has been running for nearly 4 years now. We meet once a fortnight and have from 8 to 12 people of all ages most weeks. We like to start with a time of Praise and Worship led by Immanuel, and sometimes Isabel helps. Then we share Prayer needs and requests and spend some time praying for these and for one another.

Our Bible Study normally lasts from 30 to 45 minutes and until recently we were studying all of the major Bible doctrines.

However more recently we embarked on an in-depth study of Paul's Epistle to the Galatians - after 9 months we are just about to reach the end of chapter 2, though we have been interrupted by BBQs and Birthday parties! We try to learn what the Bible says and what we should then do about what we have learned. I do the main teaching but we also chat together about it together so that we reach an understanding and think about how to apply the Scriptures in our lives.

Finally we always finish off with fellowship and food together! Eric Hallsworth

STREET OUTREACH also called OPEN AIR

We like to call it an Open Air and for 3½ years now we've tried to be a group of Christians having a Gospel Service outdoors. We have our own printed Song book of over 50 Gospel hymns and choruses.

Some of us sing with Immanuel and myself on our guitars and Isabel on her saxophone, while others hand out carefully selected tracts and leaflets, and look for opportunities to talk to passers by and folk who stop to listen to the singing. I link the songs together with short Bible verses and comments and we also offer to pray for folk.

The Outreach continues to go well, and we gave out over 1,000 tracts, booklets and Christian newspapers this year. We have a large Poster stand with a good poster on each side showing a Gospel message and Prayer encouragement, plus some helpful Springs Fellowship details.

Quite a few people are watching out for us nowadays and stop to listen, or even sing, and we have sensed a greater freedom and joy in the ministry. In the past 12 months we have led 3 people to the Lord and prayed for quite a few other people for healing, with more than one indicating that they felt 'something' happen to them. We have also seen a few people come more than once to a Springs Sunday service as a result of contact made on the Open Air, including Doreen who intends to come regularly, and Rosie with her husband and their 2 children!

The Open Air team are joined by others from Springs when we visit the Riverside and Ashwood Residential Homes at Easter and Christmas, to hold 1 hour Services for them. These are wonderful as well as important occasions for the many elderly residents, and on every visit we have been overjoyed to see quite a few of the residents indicate their desire for us to pray for their salvation and for them to belong to Jesus. Hallelujah!

Church Ministries

There aren't many of us, but we enjoy it, and I am very proud of and grateful for everyone who helps, because it is a team effort that couldn't happen without such support.

Eric Hallsworth



Job Club

This is now closed due to lack of clients and will be replaced by a Drop In in the new financial year.



Springs Drop In

Springs Drop-in was launched in March 2019. Previous to this was the Job club which was successfully run for 5 1/2 years which, (due to declining numbers), merged into the Drop-in.

We continue to run the Drop-in at the same time from 10:30 -12:30 pm but door is open from around 9:30 am. It's aimed at people in the local community. We welcome both young and old, anyone who wants to drop in to say hello.

We offer tea, coffee, biscuits, and a listening ear with a dash of friendly banter! Activities include table tennis, pool and an assortment of table board games. Although no longer a job club in the official sense, we still offer the same service as before and are available to journey with people and help them in any way we can. Basically no one is turned away!

In July, we organised a 6 mile walk to Stansted Abbots to raise funds for the back hall. It was a great success and raised a whopping £1,000.00.

More recently, we supported Leaside Church by attending a barn dance in October.

Going forward we are looking into holding a 60's disco in the New Year which we hope will be well supported by all the churches.

Phil Sharp