



WELTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ Centred - Gospel Hearted - Community Focussed

Year Book 2013 - 2014

Leadership reports



Pastor's Piece

As I write this article I am finalising the overview for the new Sunday morning teaching series – 'David – After God's Own Heart', looking at the life of this complex character from the Old Testament and drawing lessons from him as a man, warrior, friend, King, worshipper and sinner. In many ways David was an extraordinary, charismatic and inspiring man, and yet, in other ways he was a most ordinary man gripped and motivated by destructive passions and drives. Why then is David the one biblical character described as a 'man after God's own heart?' I am looking forward to exploring this and many other questions with you, for as Charles R Swindoll points out, - 'David's life offers hope to all of us. It shows how devotion doesn't mean perfection – that God loves us in spite of our weaknesses, and can do extraordinary things through ordinary men and women whose lives are devoted wholly to Him.'

God is not looking for heroes he is searching for those men and women who will place themselves at His disposal, allowing Him to develop within them His character, and through them His purposes. Imagine what our families, workplaces, churches, local communities and the wider world would look like if we placed ourselves wholly at God's disposal.

Over the past year I have continued to highlight and share the church's desire to be Christ-centred; Gospel-hearted and Community-focussed. Once again the year has been a heady mixture of blessings bruises, celebrations and sadness, with some new folk joining us and others leaving us for pastures new. This is the natural and varied cadence of church life and reminds us that we are more akin to an organism than an organisation.

As the Church Elders and I have sought to steer the fellowship through such changing and at times choppy waters we have constantly been aware of our own insufficiency and inadequacy whilst we have also been underpinned by God's perseverance and grace and energised by His power and prompting.

Once again I would like to thank the Church Eldership, the Deaconate, ministry leaders, and every church member for your faithful and committed service to God and to Welton Baptist Church during the past year.

The servant ministry I have sought to model and encourage at Welton as your Pastor over the past fourteen years has only been made possible by God's renewed anointing and by the personal support and practical encouragement shown to both my family and ministry by you all. I am deeply grateful for this and, as always, I would ask for your continuing prayers and counsel.

In closing - I will leave you with two intriguing observations from award-winning comedian (and Christian) Milton Jones, who says -
'Sometimes people think of the church as being like a giant helicopter. They don't want to get too close in case they get sucked into the rotas!'

And to some it's a baseball bat. For most of the time they play nice little games with their friends. Then once a year they go out into the High Street and hit someone over the head with it!

Mike Howell

Church Secretary

Like me, you may wonder what the Church Secretary does. I am still on a steep learning curve as to what the role involves. Although I may not know much yet, I already have a far greater appreciation for the efforts of the Diaconate in the day to day running of the church. In recent months, Teresa Chalker, Gavin Williams and Nick Chinnery have stood down from their positions as Deacons and I would like to express my thanks and that of the church for their efforts during their time in post. I would also like to thank Jonathan Cooper and Scott Williamson for taking on the interim roles of Secretary and Treasurer whilst serving as Elders. I would make the point that an elder serving in a dual role is unsustainable, and I ask that all members take an active role in prayerfully considering who might be able to fill the role of Church treasurer.

Through my role on the Diaconate and being a parent in the church, I am in the fortunate position of seeing how many people give freely of their time to serve God in the church throughout the week. There are probably too many times when, I don't have or don't take the opportunities I have to thank all these people, but I would like to express the thanks of the whole church for all our volunteers in whichever role you serve God. I would ask that all those who serve in such a role remain open to what God is asking us to do, whether to remain in a present capacity, to move to a new one, or to take a break. Although, the church has its needs, it is God's calling we need to respond to.

Since being appointed, my attention has been focused on addressing the regulations which are placed upon the church buildings and its activities, in order for it to run legally and remain insured. As Secretary, my intention is to minimise the impact on ministries, but I would ask for your forbearance in any extra burdens that are passed down to you.

In recent months, the chapel at Welton has been cleaned on a voluntary basis by a team of unsung heroes who we owe a debt of thanks. A new church cleaner has been employed from the end of April to take over this role for 2 hours/week. If you are using the chapel, please help her by clearing up as much as possible at the end of your session.

I started by asking what the Church Secretary does, and you may still be mystified. I am looking forward to finding out more over the course of the year and would value your support and prayers in this journey.

Keith Dawson

Outreach

Many of our groups continue steadily onwards. Reflecting back annually is a great opportunity to stop and look to see how God has been gently at work in what may sometimes seem like the run of the mill activities we're involved with. It feels that we've been entering a time of change over the last year which is sometimes exciting, at other times difficult or a bit awkward and

perhaps occasionally even frustrating! In some areas the challenge has been, and continues to be, finding fresh impetus and not resting on our Laurels. It's still fantastic to be welcomed into the Primary schools to lead assemblies, the Town Council continue to welcome our involvement in events (it's still brilliant to have the nativity scene as an integral part of the Christmas Fayre) It was great to be involved in Whitfunday again and then of course there was our very own Nfest! We look forward to our "Nfest Go" outdoor afternoons starting in May and some "All In Services" between Nfest and Christmas seeking to develop wider involvement and friendship within the congregation.



NFest 2013

Our increasing involvement with the other Churches in the Town is a bit of a step into the unknown for all of us. We have a brilliant Christian community at Welton where we know we can feel secure and be vulnerable. First and foremost it's Jesus that we want people to encounter whoever it's through, wherever it is and however it happens. It's great to see God at work in Midsomer Norton through the various Churches and to be journeying together more closely in sharing the gospel. There continues to be a growing impetus to pray and spend time waiting on God. Whether it be through Housegroups, the 24-7 Prayer room, Power House, Nfest/Nfast/Nfeast, Time Out With God, Sun @ 10, The prayer diary, The Week of prayer for Christian unity, prayer chains, prayer as priority at meetings or any of the many other opportunities. Let's keep encouraging one another to look to God to take hold of the reigns wherever we might still be struggling to let go.

Even though we retain lots of good links with the school it was a bit sad to say goodbye to the Early Shift Café at Longvernal. Café 3:16 in the Town Hall has been frustrating as numbers have ebbed and flowed (more ebbing than flowing). Having stopped opening on Mondays and Wednesdays we've now decided that it's time to close the Café 3:16 doors on Friday nights for the last time at the end of May. Please pray for Sally in particular as this has been such a big part of her life for 5 years, but also for Paul, Ross, Max and I that God will show us how to make best use of the extra time we'll now have. Also pray for all of the young people that have passed through the doors of the café.

Matt Coomes

Webmaster

Believe it or not our new web site has now been operational for 18 months and has so far provided an excellent resource for our church members and regular attenders, as well as providing a shop window for the casual "passer by" and according to our statistics, we have an average of 15 people logging into the system each day and anywhere between 300 - 1000 page requests per day!!

Web Office which is part of the system runs most of our office record keeping which is maintained by **Sally Petit** our Church Administrator. The site is a good size now and it's only possible to keep all that up to date because different people have taken charge of some of the different elements of the site. **Eugene Kertzman** who helped tremendously in the original technical setting up of the system, is still helping with some technical support and he also maintains our domain name registrations and the church email.

Many people comment about how useful our **Listen Again** service is and the people behind that are **John Stanniforth** and **David Goodyer**. These are also busy people with demanding daytime jobs but they manage to edit the recordings of morning and evening talks and get them up on-line usually by Wednesday of each week but quite often even on the Sunday night!!

Thank you also to the people who maintain their rotas on the site. We current have **19 rotas** now on the site and these are maintained by 13 different people! The rotas took a bit of getting used to after the paper ones we used to produce, but with features such as automatic e-mail reminders and the ability to make changes on line have meant that they are being used by more and more people now.

There are lots of features on the system which some people (not all!) are making use of like;



- Listing **my reminders** and seeing **what the rest of the family is rota'd for** - useful if you need to get someone out of bed early on a Sunday
- The **address book**, where you can lookup church members or regular attenders or you can print a paper copy for you to keep by you (you have to logged in to do anything with the address book though)
- Why not look through **the guide** to see what else is available on the site?

Thanks for supporting the site. It is becoming a really reliable tool for Administration, communication and presenting the gospel to passers by, so please keep praying and using!!
John Barnard

Church Life & Community reports

Café 3:16 - Early Shift

Another year's worth of coffee, tea and cake consumed since our last report. It's tough but we continue to make the sacrifice!! Looking back over the year we continue to build friendships week by week with the lovely ladies, all from different life situations.

One of our regulars had an urgent operation to remove a brain tumour last summer which was a shock to us all but she is fighting fit and back with us every week without fail - one of her first comments when we saw her again after her surgery was "your prayers must have worked"! We are always amazed how God answers our simple prayers when we pray that "so-and-so" would come back to join us having been away for a few weeks or months. We must work on

our “don’t look surprised” face when they walk through the doors the following Friday! Praise God too that a couple of these have now become firm regulars again.

We are pleased that we have been able to be more overt with our faith lately and have had the privilege of praying for the ladies during the morning on a few occasions. It is a particular thrill when one comes up to the counter, a little sheepishly, to ask us to pray for a particular thing. Please pray that these opportunities will arise more often.

We are looking forward to NFest where we get to “chill”, cough, I mean work very hard doing the Lord's work, all morning for 5 days in a row! This is a great opportunity for us to meet new people and encourage them to join us on a weekly basis after NFest has finished. You are very welcome to join us on a Friday morning during term time at the Town Hall in Midsomer Norton for “the Friendliest Coffee in Town”! It’s a great place to bring friends and make new ones!

Jo Coomes and Rachel Middleton

Café 3:16 Youth Café

This week Cafe 3:16 has been running for 5 years. Over the time we have been able to build up some strong relationships with the teenagers who have attended and it is great to catch up with them when we see them around.

This year we have seen some changes. We stopped doing the Wednesday afternoon cafe, because the numbers were very small, which just left Friday night. We have had a strong team of helpers (Paul, Sally, Max, Ross and Matt and Anne when needed) and it has been great to share time together with the young people. The numbers have dropped considerably and more recently Max and Ross have decided that they do not want to continue their weekly commitment to cafe. Bearing all these things in mind, we have decided to close Cafe 3:16. It is with some sadness and if the numbers attending were larger we would not be closing just looking for more help. We will be prayerfully considering whether there may be a possibility to arrange some one-off events for the teenagers in the area but the weekly cafe is obviously not what they want – probably because they want to spend time away from adults!

We will finish on Friday 23rd May when we will be having a time of celebration and would like to invite any of you who have been involved with Cafe 3:16 over the past 5 years to join us.

There will be an opportunity to thank God for all the young people who have been through the doors of Cafe 3:16 and praying God’s blessing and protection on their futures.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in any way with Cafe 3:16.

Sally Evans

Cheshire Home Visits

It must be about thirty two years ago that a few people from our church started going to the Cheshire Home once a month for an informal hour of worship and fellowship with the residents, and this is still a very special time for those who go. There is lots of singing (usually old favourites and always ‘Wide, wide as the ocean’ for Jan!) and an opportunity to share news and pray for each other. Malcolm White (from Oakhill Methodist) usually leads with his guitar and often brings along an interesting visual aid which leads us into some helpful thoughts from the Bible. Others also take the lead from time to time.

After greeting residents in the main room, we go through to the front lounge with those who

want to join us. We're not great in number but have our 'regulars' - about 50:50 resident to visitors. There are now three churches represented on these evenings, and we're grateful to Chas Coomes (from Paulton Baptist) for liaising with everyone involved.

We would love more people to join us for this pleasant, relaxed time of fellowship; please speak to Gill Skinner if you would like to know more.

Gill Skinner

First Thursday



We continue to meet once a month in the lounge at Church Court. Our regulars come from the residents there, some from outside in the community as well as members of our Church. We love meeting together and chatting over a cup of tea.

We have welcomed many different speakers this year to entertain us, challenge us and inform us. Our NFest speaker was Betty Voakes who spoke movingly about her adventurous journey from India to England during the war. At Christmas time we joined up with about 200 other elderly folk and were richly blessed by the VI form youth of Midsomer Norton.

We had an insight into the Glastonbury Festival from two ladies who serve God with the Christian outreach tent. We were very grateful to Evelyn when she stepped in at the eleventh hour to share about her visits to Indian and Romanian orphanages. John Gingell came to tell us all about the history of chocolate which was very interesting. My Yabsley from the RNLI came to share lots of stories of the brave men and women who keep us safe as we swim and sail around our shores.

We are always grateful to the speakers who give their time and share their interests with us. We have lots more interesting meetings lined up for the rest of the year, you are welcome to come and join us.

Ann and Mick Smith

ImMENse

Initiate, Impact, Inspire - the imMENse challenge!



It's been a very encouraging year in the imMENse ministry and feels like we've made real progress in living up to our motto of Initiate, Impact, Inspire. There's no doubt it's been a busy year, but is that necessarily an indication of fruit...? Well, we said a big thank you to Jim Ironside for all his efforts within the ministry as he hung up his boots, knowing that he'd left imMENse in a much stronger position than when he took it on and rather than scratching around for 10 pressed man to replace him on the team, we found a willing volunteer in Paul

Williams – that’s fruit!

We went Mountain Biking on the Mendips in late April, we were treated to an excellent Dads and Lads Quiz Night in September, followed by Paintballing in October. On each of these occasions we were joined by guys who either didn’t know Jesus or are struggling in their walk with God. We challenged ourselves on Operation Warbler again this year, singing Christmas Carols and making ourselves known in 5 pubs in Midsomer Norton which led to some encouraging and open conversations and we conducted an evening of Table Talk in the Dolphin in January where we are now recognized by a number of people for who and what we are – that’s fruit!

We spent a relaxing and active weekend in Georgeham in June and focused on Accountability, learning a bit about how we can better support one another in our walk with God. We showed a webinar book launch for ‘Fight’ by Craig Groeschel in October and then ran the ‘Fight’ study series throughout March. This delved into the reasons why we sin, the ways in which we can turn away from sin and how we can help one another to live less sinful lives in future through open, honest and accountable supportive relationships with one another. At least 2 accountability relationships have been developed within our fellowship specifically from Georgeham and the Fight series – that’s fruit! Our challenge for the next year is to initiate more relationships within our fellowship and with those currently outside it, to impact more men with Jesus’ message and to inspire others to stand in the gap with us. Our challenge is to bear more fruit!

Immense Logo. It’s been a very encouraging year in the imMENSE ministry and feels like we’ve made real progress in living up to our motto of Initiate, Impact, Inspire. There’s no doubt it’s been a busy year, but is that necessarily an indication of fruit...? Well, we said a big thank you to Jim Ironside for all his efforts within the ministry as he hung up his boots, knowing that he’d left imMENSE in a much stronger position than when he took it on and rather than scratching around for 10 pressed man to replace him on the team, we found a willing volunteer in Paul Williams – that’s fruit!

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Nick Daukes



Lighthouse Drama Group



This past year has seen us welcome a couple of new members, and although it has been quiet on the sketch front, we did perform a couple of sketches at the Whitfunday event, which were well received. This year at Nfest, we involved more members of the group in the morning sketches. The drama involved the usual madness, mess and mayhem, but we also incorporated the week's Bible stories into the dramas, bringing a serious and powerful dimension to the action. Most of the autumn was spent rehearsing for our annual Pantomime - this year's 'Beauty and the Beatle', complete with some rock and roll music and Beatles songs! This year we are hoping to take a more active role in some of the services, and are hoping to be involved in the proposed 'All In' Services, and we are already preparing a Sketch Show for one evening of Nfest. As always, we are happy to welcome new members (over 16).

For further information site members can contact **Alison Blackmon**. Alternatively please call the church office on 01761 410274 and leave a message.



Alison Blackmon

Playtots

Playtots continues to meet at the Town Hall on Tuesday and Thursday mornings 10 – 11.30 and is a thriving ministry to the young families of our community. We have approximately 100 families on the register and we generally see 20 – 30 of these families at each session, mostly with children under 3yrs and many new, first time mums. To be able to get to know these young families and offer support where needed is a real privilege. We offer a cosy and welcoming place to meet, with a Baby corner and play opportunities plus weekly crafts for

parent and child to do together. Singing rounds off the morning and our playtots song plus bubbles to close are looked forward to with eager anticipation!

We ensure that Christmas and Easter have a Christian focus and that the families have invites to the various Church and Community events through the year. We continue to meet new mums as they come in to share with us, often due to recommendation or just seeing our sign outside. My grateful thanks go to ALL the team who faithfully help each session. We were sad to see Sarah Williamson leave us to train as T.A. and we wish her God's blessing. We have had mums offer to assist with the setting up and clearing away which is a blessing and opportunity to share with them as we pray for the morning and needs of the families that come.

We feel that it is NOT just a place for the little ones to play but an opportunity to get to know the parents and offer support/ listening ear and also share the Gospel. This can only be done if people are there to give their time if only once / twice a term. The future of the Playtots into the next year is reliant on having a team whose heart is for these young families. Is this you? Anyone who feels they would like to join the team please see me, all help gratefully received, may we see the Lord continue to touch the mums of this community through Playtots.

Karen Rawles

Treasures

We meet as part of the whole church fellowship at 10.30am every Sunday, and then go out before the sermon for our own special time together. We share news and pray for each other. We think about Bible stories and what we can learn about God and how He wants us to live. We've got a big new flannelboard with flannel figures and animals, etc that we can use to build up pictures of Bible stories as we talk about them. We started right at the beginning with Creation this year and we're now thinking about Jacob and Esau.

We enjoy drama, craft, music and other activities - especially colouring in! We always finish with a cup of tea or coffee together before it's time to go home. Sometimes we stay in church for special services like the Easter Sunday family service and a baptism. We like going to other special events that happen in our church, too.

If you or anyone you know would like to join us on a Sunday morning, we would love to see you.

Gill Skinner

Visiting Team

The visiting team this year has seen several changes: David and Muriel Standing moved away to Oxfordshire and are very much missed by the team, particularly the spiritual help and advice they gave to each of us. I know too that they are very much missed by the people they visited over a long period of time.

Meg Rodgers also felt that the time had come for her to stand down, she had been on the visiting team for a number of years and had faithfully visited on a regular basis several people in our fellowship.

Maxine Oakey had also worked with us this year but felt with taking on a new job, working

five days a week, that she was no longer able to commit the time necessary to do this work. We are grateful to each of them for serving the Lord in this way we pray that God will continue to bless them in their new areas of service.

On a more positive note, we are delighted to have John and Mary Addicott join our team and they are already making a difference. It is sometimes particularly helpful to have a married couple visiting together in this work. Another addition to our group is Chris Chinnery, with her added counselling skills she is proving to be a very valuable member of the team

We continually seek to visit and support the elderly, sick, and bereaved in our church, to pray with them and sometimes to share God's Word with them and we pray that God will keep us faithful in the work we do, and that we will be sensitive to people's needs.

We would encourage you as a church to remember to pray for those we visit in our fellowship and particularly for those you don't see any more because they are not well enough to come to church, if you need any more information please talk to one of the team.

Angela Barnard

Welcome Team

The Welcome Team continue to meet and greet both regulars and guests each Sunday morning. This past year has seen many new visitors through the doors and therefore the team have ensured they receive a warm welcome and provide necessary information to ensure they have an enjoyable visit.

Over the year, there have been changes to the team members with some stepping down and new members joining. I take this opportunity to thank you all, past and present, for your committed service in this Ministry. It really does make a difference to be met with a smiling, friendly face as we arrive on a Sunday to worship together.

We had a very productive Welcome Team Meeting in January, where it was an opportunity to discuss how we see our role and how best to use our gifts to serve in this Ministry. We 'categorised' guests to Welton to help identify how best to welcome them and engage with them, depending on their individual needs. Based on this discussion, we agreed that we need to be mindful and sensitive to each person and see them through God's eyes, with love and compassion. I hope you can see, there really is more to this than just handing out Pews News!

We enjoy regular prayer with each other prior to starting duties on a Sunday morning. Although brief, it sets the scene and mindset, ready to honour God with our services. We have even shared pictures during prayer time, in particular someone was given an image of a car wash, where they felt everyone who came through the doors (the threshold) would be cleansed and washed clean.

We hope to make small changes as this year progresses, in particular with the display in the foyer, to make it more attractive and eye catching. Also the introduction of a Response Card for new guests to complete should they want further information about Welton and what we can offer. Watch this space!

In closing, it is a privilege to oversee the Welcome Team and to share the vision for this Ministry with a special group of people. If anyone feels this is something they would like to know more about, please do come and speak with me. Always happy to chat!

Clare Green

Welton Craft Group

This is a new group which meets on the second and fourth Fridays each month to drink tea and coffee, eat cakes and craft in each other's company. Everyone brings their own project and so we have people doing embroidery, knitting, crocheting, and sewing. It is envisaged that there may be times when some of us would like to learn a new skill from one of the other group members and so we hope to make this part of the get togethers. As we are still such a new group the format is evolving as we look to see what best meets everyone's needs. As a general rule we meet in Holcombe on the second Friday and Paulton on the fourth. Anyone wishing to come along is most welcome - the cakes are always better in Paulton!

Kath Cooper and Claire Bedrock

Welton Wanderers



Welton Wanderers have had an excellent year this year with generally more people attending regularly.

The average age of the group seems to have risen and consequently we don't go quite as far, and we go more slowly. However I think we laugh more and we certainly still seem to eat as much and our enjoyment levels never seem to diminish!

The most amazing thing is that from January 2013 until March 2014 in spite of a very very wet winter, we have walked every month in dry weather! February 2014 looked to be our first wet walk as we sat in the car park at Clevedon in the pouring rain, but by the time we had got out and got our boots and coats on the weather had dried up and we had a lovely walk.

We continue to walk on the first Tuesday of the month, meeting at Angela's home at 9:30am. We welcome new members, if you are interested in joining us, all you need a pair of stout boots, a good sense of humour and enough energy to walk 4 or 5 miles... and of course enough money for lunch at the end of our walk.

Angela Barnard

Worship Team

Evolution not Revolution.

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with Gladness, come before him with joyful songs".

Our vision as a team is to help create an atmosphere where the Church can move into a deeper place of worship, a place where people feel comfortable to give everything they have to God for he truly deserves that and more. We always strive to include a diverse mix of styles and eras of worship music so that we can be inclusive as possible but with such a diverse congregation, its sometimes difficult to accommodate everyone.

This year has been a year of change for the worship team. Firstly after a number of years looking after the Worship Leaders, Scott handed over the reigns to me - I will do my best to fill his boots!!

We have also seen some members standing down or moving on which has presented its own challenges in terms of getting bands together for the Sunday services. I am however pleased to report the following, our Jam Nite held a few weeks ago, has produced at least 3 new musicians who would like to join the teams. We are always on the look out for new people to join this key ministry within the Church and we are planning on holding some more Jam Nite's in the future - anyone with an interest in joining the Worship team is welcome to come along. The last year has also seen exciting developments in the NRG ministry with several of our young people, led by Chris Gilson, joining an NRG band. This is a real blessing and I would encourage all members to pray for this group as they continue to develop.

Finally, as a team, we are starting to look at options to develop our Worship ministry in the way of some formal training. We are currently looking at various different sources and training interventions and we hope to have some further developments on this over the course of the next few months.

I think that's it for this year - keep praising!!

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever".

House Group reports

Delta

It's been another busy year at Delta Housegroup! Our aim is to meet regularly to encourage fellowship with one another, offering support, friendship, bible studies, prayer are just a few things we all need to help us in our Christian walk.

We try to offer a varied program each term and encourage the group to get involved as much as possible in discussions, reading and leading studies. It is so important that we encourage each other and recognise gifts in one another and how they can be used. That's not forgetting the behind the scenes stuff too, like utilising the prayer chain system to pass on urgent prayer requests and notices. Frequent communication is so important and encouraging. Also our regular tea/coffee maker, who we are so thankful for!

We have a couple of globetrotters in the group and have kept in touch with Chris during her time in Nepal and also Sue whilst she was away in Australia. More recently, Chilu is in Brazil teaching underprivileged children English. We look forward to hearing more about

their experiences after Easter.

Each term we try aim to include a Testimony in the program and very much enjoyed Julian Sheppard's insight into his life story. Also we invited Sharon Williams to share her testimony too. It is so encouraging to hear and see how God is working in people's lives. Never a dry eye in the house!!

On that note, as a group of ladies, we find we are able to share some very personal issues with the group and are able to have the privilege of supporting people during difficult times. Just giving people the opportunity and freedom to come and share their burdens, cry, be hugged and prayed for is such a comfort. We may not have all the answers but we have an awesome God who we can turn to and give thanks to.

At the end of last year, we set out an enduring challenge to read and study the whole of Romans. Many of us find it particularly difficult to read aloud but we were so encouraged that everyone participated and 'picked apart' the scriptures to make it understandable and relevant. What an achievement!

This year, we felt very prompted to go back to basics. We felt the need to refresh ourselves with the foundations of Christianity and based our studies on the Alpha course. We spent half a day at the Chapel to study the Holy Spirit and shared Holy Communion together. This was a very special time together.

We very much enjoyed our time in the prayer room as part of the 24/7 Prayer week at the end of last year and again last month. We waited on the Holy Spirit to prompt us as to what to pray about and enjoyed listening to worship music and praying for each other too. It felt as though heaven was touching earth in an atmosphere of prayer. Looking forward to the next time!

So what's next for Delta? We continue to meet each Thursday morning at Clare's house. We look forward to the whole church study in May and are planning a day out together before we break for summer. It's always exciting to see what God has in store for us.

Clare Green, Jackie James and Meg Rodgers

Furlong Close

We are the Furlong Close House Group led by Janet Day and Elaine Colton, we meet on a Tuesday morning at 10am until approx 12.30pm and it's for any person of any age that likes a daytime House Group. Our ages range from 50 to the oldest being 90+. We start with tea and biscuits and a bit of a chat, then we have a time of worship that leads to a prayer time. We do all sorts of things from watching a c.d. or a topic study, at the moment we are studying the book of Isaiah with lots of interesting discussion on Isaiah's prophecies compared to the world situation today.

We try to go out together at Christmas and in the summer, this Christmas we went to Church Court for our Christmas lunch which was kindly cooked for us by Mick Smith and was thoroughly enjoyed by all .

Our favourite place to go in the summer is the Garden Centre at Cheddar where we meet to shop and enjoy a lunch together.



A while ago we went to Fald-y-Brenin and are hoping to go again at some point, below are some pics our time there .

If I have to pick one word that describes our Group it would be Care . The housegroup is a place to care and share our good things and not so good things and to be there for each other.

Janet Day and Elaine Colton

Holcombe Ladies

We are a very small and very new group that started meeting together in January of 2014 and because we are such a small group we were able to look together at what we would like to do and so settled on a study of the Psalms of Ascent by Beth Moore called 'Stepping Up'. This has involved watching a DVD each week and then working through a daily bible study written to accompany the series. Each one of us has felt a real blessing from Beth's down to earth and biblical approach and have allowed for the 'Americanisms' in the style of presentation that make us smile! We have now decided that we could really do with a Housegroup trip to Jerusalem although we think our husbands may have something to say about that.

We are now looking forward to taking part in the study on David that Pastor Mike is putting together for all of the housegroups. As we continue to get to know each other better it is our desire that we will be able to further draw alongside and support each other in both prayer and in practical ways.

We meet on a Wednesday between 10.30 and 12.30 and would welcome any other ladies who would like to join us at this time.

Kath Cooper

Manor Farm

We thank God that Manor Farm house-group continues to be a very happy group, we seem to enjoy each other's company! A few people have moved away this year, notably David & Muriel Standing; we do miss them. We have studied the 'I ams' from St John's gospel, and a series on Joseph, challenging the belief that following God is easy. We are moving from Manor Farm house to 'Caseberry', a bungalow, also at Manor Farm, we are hoping this move takes place in early May.

North Road

Our group averages between 12-15 attendees each week and we enjoy a heady mix of bible study, prayer, worship, fellowship, fun and competition! The latter tends to bring out the worst in us, so much so that there was allegedly some "bending of the rules" in a chocolate eating game at our Christmas party. As a consequence we decided to have a short Bible Study considering the subject "Cheats never Prosper" in which we considered the Old Testament narrative about Esau and Jacob (with surprising conclusions)

It has been great this year to welcome into the group Paul and Sarah Williams (this being their 2nd stint at North Road - they must be gluttons for punishment!), also we are really glad that Helen Sanders has become a regular and by her sole efforts reduced the average age a bit! We are sorry that Rebecca Peacock left us recently to live in Newcastle (was it

something we said?).

The group comprises a diverse mix of people, each with different backgrounds meaning our Bible studies and discussions often promote some differences of view and understanding which we try and unravel together – this is great and allows us to each learn from God, His Word and one another in an open and constructive way.

During the past 12 months our activities have encompassed the following:

Matthew (healing, feeding, casting), The Fruit of the spirit (6 weeks on 2 verses!), 1 John and The Kingdom of God, an evening with Lorraine (Quiche Lorraine that is), a summer party at Manor Farm with our Housegroup cluster, a Fruit-fest!! One could say from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Prayer is an integral part of the group's time together and we have been encouraged to seek answers from God as we bring our prayers to Him week by week. We are particularly pleased to pray for our mission contact, Steve Loader, and our eNeRGy focus group "Ignite".

We are so grateful to each of the group for the input they have (especially for those who have lead Bible studies – Malcolm Bennett is worth of special mention here) and for the very great love and encouragement we, as leaders, have been shown over this past year (THANK YOU HOUSEGROUP!). Occasionally we get it wrong and say something inappropriate (Terry and Paul take note!) – we are grateful to God that the attributes of tolerance, understanding, empathy and love are always on display between us.

We look forward to what God is going to bring to us in the coming 12 months as we experience His presence with us. Finally of course we are also looking forward to enjoying more cakes/other snacks (thanks for great contributions) together with a burgeoning variety of hot and cold drinks orders (Hazel with special fruit tea, Alex with decaf tea and Paul Williams wanting sugar in his drink Whatever next!!).

Galatians 5:22-23

Paul and Sally Evans

Paulton Road

Due to John and Linda stepping down from hosting and leading the Chilcompton housegroup, Maxine and myself, as members of the housegroup offered to host at our home in Paulton Road, Midsomer Norton.

We have been greatly encouraged to see all members of the group participating in both the leading of the studies and the prayer sessions.

We have seen the return of two guys who have not attended church for a very long time and a couple who recently moved into the area who now attend Welton Baptist.

We currently have 14 members who love the Lord and are a Great Blessing to the group and one another, long may it continue.

Ross and Maxine Oakey

Staddlestones



Are you sitting comfortably? Then I'll begin to tell you the comings and goings of Staddlestones House Group since last year!

We finally got around to booking not one but two weekends away! The first was in September and the next one is at the beginning of May. We are off to our usual haunt (probably not the best word to use but ... whatever!!) a converted Baptist Chapel in Devon in a village called Buckland Monachorum (not a typo but a real place!) During the week end we had a birthday party for two of our members which involved After Eight's, playing cards, yogurt and sucking lemons as well as "performing" a dramatized reading of Deborah in the Bible. Such fun!! (We're not sure if the photo's will help, but you may like to **take a look?!**)

We've shared the joy in our group of having two babies this year - Martha and Charlie as well as celebrating their Dedication's with the church family and other friends.

Our programmes have included the Transformation Series we took part in as a church, a joint social Garden Party at Manor Farm with Manor Farm, North Road and Hill View House Groups, A look at the biblical Judges with particular attention to lessons from Samson based on the book "There are No Strong People" by Jeff Lucas. There was also a very squashed Christmas Dinner at our house (the seating - not the dinner!) and we are currently sharing around the opportunity to lead studies from Scripture Union on 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus. We've been more than happy to fall back on a "Lifekchurch" video from time to time and really appreciated **Craig Groeschel's take on "The End"**



What a difference
the sun makes !



Matt and Jo Coomes

Victoria Terrace

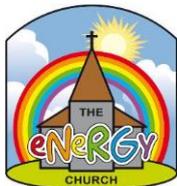


Over the last year we have experienced fellowship and we have been looking at encouraging each other to read and make sense of different books of the Bible. We looked at one of the major books, Exodus, and how the journey from harsh Egypt to the Land of Milk and Honey is a major image through which we can look at and understand our own individual journeying. The parables of Jesus invited each one to consider our place in God's eyes and our calling to others. More recently, we focussed on Daniel and Resurrection. Invigorated by this spiritual strength, we demolished the Dawsons' House Group in our annual skittles encounter, an only fair retribution for our narrow defeat last year. Despite the competitive nature of our relationship with Keith's crew, we had a fantastic week end away together last June and we are looking forward to a third visit to the same venue in Gloucestershire. Our international ramifications with Uganda and Romania are sustained by Dave and Anona, Kerin and Emi whose news and visits are always a great enrichment to us. We are pleased to welcome a few new faces to the group which has made our sharing times all the more beneficial. We will be probably be relocating in the near future to Midsomer Norton as we are moving house, so we will also have to be re-named. Competition is open for the best suggestion!

Jean-Phi and Sally Petit

eNeRGy reports

ENeRGy Church



This season Energy Church has gone through a little change, with live worship, interactive teaching and the regular puppets being integral to each month, our children certainly appeared to be enjoying it. Over the past year we have been looking at those Christian words which most take for granted and seek to know the meaning of. Words like **Grace, Mercy, Humility, Sacrifice, Forgiveness,** with **Offering** and **Prayer** yet to be done. I personally feel that energy church has been a really positive ministry over the last years for our children and our occasional visitors. My hope and prayer is that they have grown to know Jesus more, and then search for their own relationship with our Saviour.

Jason Waterson

Energy Ministries

As we come to another ACM and I take this opportunity to look back over the last year in the Energy groups it has been another good year with so many things to praise God for. I praise God for the continued dedication of the teachers and helpers who regularly give up their time to prepare and deliver sessions to encourage and inspire the children to a greater knowledge and trust in God.

During the year some workers have moved on for various reasons but it has been so encouraging that each time someone else has stepped up and joined the team.

We are also very grateful for all the helpers from **Ignite** who support the groups.

We were very pleased when Somervale allowed our **Sunbeams** group to move downstairs to the sixth form room. To be on the ground floor is much more practical for this group of under 3's.

Another big change during the year has been the moving of **Voltage** from a Sunday morning slot to Sunday evening. This has been a great success and gives the group more time to pray and study together. It has been encouraging that some of the Wednesday Voltage group have also joined the Sunday group. They are at present doing the Youth Alpha course.

At present the leaders of the groups are looking at starting to use some new teaching material called 'The Story' where each of the groups will use the same subject but deliver the session with materials suitable for their age-group. It is hoped to start this in the Autumn term.

A reminder of the group leaders:

- **Sunbeams:** Tracey Waterson
- **Sparklers:** Sarah Williamson
- **Bright Stars:** Debbie Gunfield
- **Dynamos:** Jose Ross
- **Superchargers:** Kevin and Angela Smith
- **Voltage:** Gavin and Sharon Williams

Energy Co-ordinator role

As from the ACM I will be stepping down from this role. After nearly 4 years I feel it is time for someone else to take it on. I have enjoyed working with the team over this time and been inspired by the talented and dedicated people we have in Welton.

I am very pleased that Chris Gilson has agreed to take over this role from me and I'm sure he will be a great asset to the team. Please pray for him and all the Energy workers that they may be guided by God in all they do for the children of Welton.

Rachel Howell

Sunbeams – for under 3's

Yet again Sunbeams over the past year has been a joy to be a part of. It is extremely special to welcome new babies into the group and watch them grow into confident little people. This year has seen a change in location for us, moving to the 6th form room at Somervale. This has been a really positive move offering a safe, clean and roomy environment for the children and they have settled really well. We have also seen changes in leaders and welcome Judith Parr to our team. Sunbeams aims are to teach our very

young children about the Bible in a simple way that they will find interesting and that they will understand and in doing this we really pray that they can see Gods love in us as we teach them.

Tracey Waterson



Sparklers – ages 3 to 4's

It is a real pleasure to be involved in Sparklers. We have between 4 and 8 children each week and spend our time doing a variety of activities included a bible story, craft, sharing time, singing with musical instrument, snack and a prayer time.

This year we have looked at different Bible stories including “Men and Women of the Bible” Below are some pictures of us building our tent like the one Abraham slept in.



It has been amazing to hear some of the children praying aloud in Sparklers. Our aim is to share with these children the Gospel message of Jesus in a way that they understand; reminding them that Jesus loves them and wants them to be his friend. It's lovely to see children moving up from sunbeams and fairly quickly settle and make friends with the older children in sparklers.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a really big thank you to all the leaders and helpers in Sparklers.

Please pray for Sparklers that each child will be aware of God's love for them and that they would continue to learn more about Him, and that us as leaders would have wisdom in knowing the best ways of communicating this with the children.

Sarah Williamson

Bright Stars – for school years 1 & 2

I have only been involved in Bright Stars for a year and have seen some amazing changes within the group and the children.

We have a good number of children each week on Sunday morning to enjoy the bible stories, craft, prayer and recently some amazing role play from the children. It has been nice seeing the changes in the children in the last year.

We all enjoy listening to the children telling us about their week and its very pleasing to hear how much the children are listening about God.

We are very thankful that Suzette has now joined Roddy and Jacky on our teaching team, however we were very sad to no longer have Evelyn whom we are thankful for all she has done for the group. All the teachers are thankful for the help of our helpers Lonneke, Catherine, Gareth, Naomi and Elliot.

Please pray we can find another teacher and the children continue to listen to God's word and learn more about him.

A big thank you to all the teachers, helpers and children for making Bright Stars an amazing group and for all the help and support they have given me over the past year.

Debbie Gunfield



Wednesday Dynamos – for school years 3 & 4

We've had another good year with Dynamos. Slightly lower in number than last year (though not in volume!), but a regular 11 children, who we've got to know well. As usual we've had a mix of activities: lively ball games with an oversized ball; quieter dvd nights watching 'What's in the Bible - with Buck Denver and friends' (a series aimed at children, but which we, as leaders, have often found challenging and moving!) when we enjoy hot chocolate and popcorn; and mystery guests - Tim Moxham, talking about looking after sheep and Chris Gilson, with some amazing science experiments, both sharing some thoughts about being a Christian; stories, quizzes, crafts, bonfire and hot dogs, and much more! We plan to finish this term the same way as last, with a joint disco party with Superchargers and Voltage, and a final farewell evening when we will walk the greenway to Neil & Jose's for a barbecue. The children are a lovely, lively bunch, who always arrive with enthusiasm (usually overflowing!!) and together we seek to learn more about our Father God and what it means to be a Christian. The children are often reluctant to leave at the end, which gives us a chance to chat to their parents.

As always, many thanks to my dedicated team, Ronnie Coomes, Neil Ross, Jason Waterson and Helen Sanders, who we will be sorry to lose as she heads off to college in the Autumn. Please pray that we will be inspired with creative ideas, enthusiasm and energy as we seek to share our faith with these youngsters.



Alison Blackmon

Sunday Dynamos

Dynamos is for ages 7 to 9 and we meet for 3 Sundays each month. Our team of teachers and helpers: Millie Russell, Paul Marvin, Hannah Woolley, Ronnie Coomes and Paul Dark teach Bible stories and show how to find their way around the Bible. The group enjoy craft and drama activities, especially outside. We have just been looking at Easter and also the story of Jacob. Over the next few weeks we'll be looking at David and will make a worship movie. We always pray for each other and for other concerns the children may have.
Jose Ross

Wednesday Superchargers for school years 5 & 6

SUPER CHARGERS NEEDS YOU!!!

Sadly we have been underwhelmed by the response to our request for leaders and helpers for the group from September as Jo & Matt are stepping down after four years of running the group. Please come and see what we do if you feel God may be calling you to help out. We meet Wednesdays during term-time at St John's Ambulance Hall from 6:45-8pm. The numbers remain small which in many ways is good as it means we can go out and about more easily as well as get to know the children a bit better. Our programmes over the year have been very varied. Term 1 was called "The Miracle



Maker" where we watched the whole animation over 4 sessions which was interspersed with a talent night where every child took part which was so fantastic to see, a "Special Guest" in the form of Science Teacher - Chris Gilson who amazed the children with experiments and shared his testimony too, a joint bonfire and fireworks social with Dynamos, swimming and the annual Family Christmas Craft night. Term 2 was called "Catch Phrase" which was where we looked at various well-known sayings that are in the bible and Term 3 is entitled "All Creatures Great and Small" where, you guessed it, we'll be looking at different animals mentioned in the bible!

This term we will be reaching the end of the animated "What's in the Bible?" series. It's been fantastic to go through the whole bible with the children and they really have listened! We will have another Dynamos, Super Charger and Voltage joint Disco at the end of the year as it is a great opportunity for the children to meet the leaders and children from the groups they will be moving up to in September.

Please pray:-

- for new leaders;
 - that the children moving up to and from super chargers will settle in well in September;
 - for inspiration and God's leading for the leaders.
- Matt and Jo Coomes

Sunday Superchargers

This year in January we had to say a fond farewell to Terry and Gill Mears, who for so many years have faithfully led this group, to which we say a big thank you! Both Angela and I will miss their godly wisdom and encouragement.

Since January the group has some new helpers/leaders, we have Angela and myself and Issy Russell as leaders and Teresa Marvin and Josh Waterson as helpers. A big thank you to you all for helping us in this group we wouldn't be able to do it without you!

The group averages between 10-12 children from years 5 and 6 of school. They are a wonderful group to be with, lively, thoughtful, caring, and have a real desire to please God and learn more about him. It's an important time for many of them as they have to choose their secondary school and head towards teenage years. So we hope that with God's help, by teaching the truths in God's Word, they are able to be a witness to the love of God to those around them.

Please continue to pray for them, that each child will get to know Jesus better as their friend and Saviour.

Kevin and Angela Smith

Sunday Voltage – for school year 7 to age 14

Sunday Voltage has undergone a change during the last year, moving our main teaching slot from a Sunday morning to evening, at the same time as the evening service. This has been really encouraging with some of our Wednesday group occasionally attending. This time change provides us with a longer teaching session, discussion and prayer. We've also had times of worship led by Will. Since our change in time, Helen Weaver has joined us and it's been good to hear of her experience of taking Bibles into Russia.

During the last year we've looked at 'Life Issues', the book of Acts and are currently coming to the end of our Youth Alpha Course. The Course has proved to be a great success and we have recently had a shared lunch before we completed the Holy Spirit sessions. Prior to our youth weekend away in Chepstow, with Ignite, we welcomed John Munro to our meeting. This was an inspiring evening of testimony and teaching, where prayer was shared. From this we have since had dedicated evenings of prayer for John, Linda and the boys, instigated by the young people.

Our Voltage prayer chain has been up and running for over 2 years now and is used by all. It's such an encouragement to be able to support each other through prayer, bringing our lives to God. We've seen some wonderful answers and are grateful for the prayer support we receive from Hillside Housegroup for our Sunday and Wednesday sessions. Back in August 2013 we took the young people to Soul Survivor with Ignite. This was an amazing time of worship, prayer and moving of the Holy Spirit, where lives were transformed. Straight after was N'fest where most of the group helped out. Will played in the Energy Band, Josh sang, we all followed Hatty and Shanna as they led the actions to

songs and many of us helped out in the children's groups.

We're extremely proud of our young people in Voltage and are grateful to be a part of their lives. They are an inspiring bunch of individuals. The group is a place where we encourage honesty and we pray our young people will develop and hold on to a living and personal relationship with Jesus.

Sharon and Gavin Williams



Wednesday Voltage

Wednesday Voltage continues to be a really popular group with our 11-14 year olds. Our weekday meeting is a social time, where relationships from the Sunday group can be developed in a more relaxed and less structured atmosphere. It's a place where the young people are able to invite friends, who may be on the fringe of church or have no church background. It provides an introduction to Christianity, where we have a great time and see God at work in the friendships that are made and strengthened.

We continue to do a mixture of activities in the Town Hall. We've watched films, acted out bible stories, had themed evenings and hosted Champion Lift Ministries for a weightlifting evening. We've been out and about too, with a picnic, sport in the park and trips swimming and bowling. We've also been to Bristol to see Rend and to Bath for the Big Church Night In with Martin Smith and Leeland playing. This was a real eye opener for those who had no experience of Christian bands and many were overwhelmed by the event, singing, dancing and worshipping.

Voltage have two areas of mission we support. Overseas, we continue praying and raising funds for Kerin and Emi who work with the Roma community in Marasesti, Romania and recently we've started supporting Julian House, the homeless charity in Bath. In March, a group of us took part in the Big Bath Sleep Out at Alice Park and through sponsorship raised nearly £350. We've since had a tour of the Hostel and look forward to one of the co-ordinators visiting us soon.

As we share our lives with each other, we finish every evening in prayer groups, with all praying for each other. Due to the openness of the group many are searching for Jesus and we were encouraged by the numbers of our unchurched young people who came to Chepstow for our Youth Weekend Away with Ignite. We had good fellowship and teaching as we looked at the book of Phillipians.

Along with the rest of the Church, Voltage took part in 24-7 prayer in November and March. We had a 15 hour sleepover (with little or no sleep) at the Chapel where we took it in turns to pray in the prayer room, on our own, in pairs or groups of three. This was an amazing evening where many met with God and prayers were expressed in creative ways. During the past year we have said goodbye to Holly, Josh and Lisa, who have turned 15 and moved on to Ignite and Immy, who was a valuable Voltage leader, has gone to Portsmouth

Uni. September is a time when we welcome those coming up from Superchargers and it has been good to spend time getting to know Tom, Salome, Jacob, Hannah, Shona, Daniel and Emmeline. It feels like they've always been with us now.

We love spending time with this group. They are enthusiastic, honest and not afraid to question their own faith or ask questions about Jesus. We would really value your prayers for the young people and us. We pray we will always allow Christ to be at the centre of Voltage.

Sharon and Gavin Williams



Ignite - for ages 14 to 18

As a group, Ignite have really become a stable group of around 14 teenagers who have deepened their understanding and relationship with God. The friendship in the group shines through and we have felt a real encouragement at how far the group has come. We have spent Sunday evenings devoted to prayer, looking at Bible characters, understanding our part in local mission, looking at the effects media can have in our lives and studying the last words of Jesus as He was on the cross.

We also visited Chepstow and Soul survivor and plan to again this year.

As Igniters get older we like to encourage them to become part of the family church and get involved with church. It's good to see some volunteers helping to organise Ignite, taking part in 24-7, join the worship team, as well as helping out in Energy groups.

Please pray for those of our teens who will be moving on, Izzie is going on a mission trip, Lonneke and Helen will be at University. The summer term will be busy for our young people with GCSE's, AS Levels and A Levels, please pray they will be able to focus and get deserving results.

Debbie and Dave Mitchell



N'fest



Well it's Sunday the 25th of August and yes I am writing my yearbook entry. Another brilliant week is over, and all tidied away. John in the closing service mentioned 3 people to thank, and said they would be the first to say, it's not just them. For the record it's not just us. Although the production team are only a few, around 100 people do this from cutting up stuff, moving stuff, building stuff, planning stuff, to leading stuff. A lot of stuff! Personally I wish to pray a blessing on each of them.

The children's club went as well as it always does, with the presence of Jesus felt. A peak of 175 children came and played, worshipped, and were taught about Jesus. Things we did different in 2013 went well, mixing the drama with the bible story, and recapping both through the puppets was brilliant. Setting aside a simple Gospel message also seemed to go well. I personally found it hard to aim a message to cover 4-11 year olds. The highlights for me, was seeing our own young people getting in amongst the event, I have always thought that it's as much about building our young people as it's teaching our visitors. All in all, the mix of different people delivering a message linked to each section of the morning felt right. The children didn't hear just one person's voice teaching, which can be boring, they heard many and of course brilliantly held together by Becky and James.

In the afternoon many other things happened, a prayer team went out, again with some of our young people. I am sure they felt blessed having them there. Bushcraft and butties was well attended, with around 150 people, with bacon butties, donuts and loads of bushcraft . The men's and women's evenings were also well attended by visitors, so too was the movie night and of course not forgetting the "The Windbreaker" band on the Friday. GOD has truly blessed his with some amazing gifted people at all levels. And lastly, a couple of groups got together and helped 2 people in need. I know both were very gratefully received, may God bless both of them.

That's leaves me with my personal highlights.....hearing the children each day singing out the memory verse always makes me feel good, and the worship for the morning club was led by Chris and contained our young people, singing, playing instruments and doing the actions. Just brilliant! One last thing, in business terms, this is called the "value added"! As we are able to advertise N'fest in the schools we get the opportunity to do assemblies on N'fest, that means we get the chance to talk about Jesus and share his love. This has opened other assembly opportunities, again giving us the chance to share more about the Christian faith. I pray we continue honour to Christ in all we do, and seek his guidance.

The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing." Zephaniah 3:17

Jason Waterson

Missions reports

This year the Mission Group has seen some changes to those involved. Firstly, we said farewell to David & Muriel Standing, who we greatly miss for the wisdom, through their own personal experiences, that they provided. John Addicott, as Elder responsible for the group, also stepped down from involvement when his term ended and after many faithful years of commitment to the Mission Group, Nick Chinnery relinquished his leadership role in order to commence his job in London with Tear Fund. We thank them all for their contributions and pray that God would continue to work out His purposes in their lives.

We have however, gained Paul Williams who has taken over from Nick and also Jean-Philippe to the group. Although slightly depleted in number we remain committed to supporting those seeking to take the Gospel to communities around them, whether here in the UK or overseas, and we are particularly keen to support members of our own Fellowship who have taken those steps. This year we have continued to support the work of Dave & Anona Banks, Uganda Ministries and Pastor Stephen; Kerin & Emi, Claire & Pedro (studying at Redcliffe College), Graham & Debbie Frith, James & Sandra Chinnery, Touch India, Torch, St Pauls (although this has now completely been replaced with Foodbank), Stephen Loader and Kanyawegi. We have also helped out with Lonneke Kertzmans Romanian trip, Team Romania, Whitfunday and WEBA! It's encouraging to see just how many different Mission activities we are involved with in some way.

We recently enjoyed meeting with Kerin & Emi to hear more about their vision for the future of their work in Romania, but please remember to pray for them as life is often tough there and discouraging. We also met earlier in the year with Dave & Anona and look forward to continuing support of the work that they have set up in Uganda, after they return home in May.

Please keep up to date with those we support, the website is updated frequently with new prayer letters and information and paper copies are always made available on the information table in Church.

We would welcome more help with the Mission Group, and if you feel that this is something which you would like to be involved, or would simply like to know more about, then please speak to Paul Williams, or Sally or Jean-Phi Petit.

The Mission Team