



Christ Church Huntingdon's Annual Report for Jan-Dec 2020

Christ Church Huntingdon was established as a new church within Ely Diocese in Sept 2018. Our vision is *to see the wonderful good news of Jesus' rescue, which transforms, unites and equips a community, prayerfully shared with all in the Huntingdon area*. During the last year the global Covid pandemic has affected us in many ways, including a few in the church who have contracted the virus and recovered, and others who have lost loved ones. All have been impacted in some way, but in his kindness, the Lord has sustained us, and we give him thanks and praise.

People

- We give thanks for **every person** who attends Christ Church Huntingdon and for the way in which the Lord has sustained us through difficult times this last year.
- We thank God for the privilege of welcoming a number of **new people** to be with us, including several new households and four babies (all beginning with "J") - thanks for those who have supplied meals!
- Over this last year, some people have **moved away** and a few have stopped worshipping with us.
- It has been wonderful to welcome **Matt Gurtler** as our Pastoral Assistant from September.

Sundays

- **Sermon** series in 2020 included Nehemiah, Psalms of Refuge, Acts 1-8, Luke 15, Colossians, Matt 1-3.
- As the national lockdown was announced, and with St Peter's School remaining closed to us throughout, we went **online** with [livestreamed](#) services starting on 22nd March (mainly on Zoom and Youtube).
- We had 3 **hybrid services**, 3 Communion services and 2 Christmas services at [Inflatabounce](#), Wyton.
- In January, we had a **thanksgiving service** for a baby and in February we had a **baptism** for twins!

Outreach

- We ran an online "Take a Look" **outreach course** with a small number of guests (2 from Somerset!).
- We shared an [online](#) children's **carol service** with Hartford Infant and Stukeley Meadows Schools.
- We have been able to serve three individuals who have come out of **homelessness** in a new ministry.

Small groups

- **Life groups** have met on zoom and have been a support to one another through difficult times.
- We have started an online **weekly prayer meeting** on a Monday morning that has been well attended.
- Matt Gurtler and others have started a fortnightly **youth group** for teens from within our church.
- We have continued to offer our **FEED** outreach Bible study to local teens (mainly in an online format).

Partnership

- Five of our congregation are volunteers at the **Thrive youth cafes** which have continued in various ways.
- Three members of the church speak regularly on "**Thought for the Day**" on HCR104fm.
- We are active non-members of the local **Churches Together** (and run the men's breakfast).
- Charlie meets monthly with local "**Renew**" clergy to advance Anglican evangelical [ministries](#).

Governance

- The **Church Council** has met roughly monthly to consider various items including strategy, outreach, safeguarding and finance. A key area has been staffing with the creation of the Pastoral Assistant post.
- The **Church Wardens** meet with Charlie monthly to pray for the church and oversee the ministry.
- A **Remuneration Committee** was created to administer Matt's pay and pension through the [GMST](#).
- A **Mission Committee** was created to support local/UK/international partners with prayer and finance.
- We celebrated the 2nd **birthday** of our Bishop's Mission order at a prayer meeting in September, and received a warm message from Bishop Stephen.
- Rev Mark Rodel from Diocese of Ely took over as our "**BMO Visitor**" and visited our council in October.
- Alice Gilbert is our **safeguarding officer** (policy & contact on our [website](#)) and deanery synod rep.

Charlie Newcombe April 2021