

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH HORWOOD
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

RECTOR: THE REVEREND GARY OWEN

FOCAL MINISTER: TIM OVERTON



website: www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org

The Parochial Church Council is an Excepted Charity

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	Page(s)
Information	3
Independent examiner's report	4
Annual report	5 - 8
Payments and receipts summary	9 - 13
Statement of assets and liabilities	14
Appendix 1 - Two Rivers Mission Community, Annual Report	15 - 16
Appendix 2 - Two Rivers Misson Community, action plan	17

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Information

Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
25 King's Hill Avenue
King's Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Virgin Money
Jubilee House
Gosforth
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE3 4PL

Charitable Aid Foundation
CAF Charitable Trust
25 King's Hill Avenue
King's Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4TA

Independent Examiner:
Gillian Herniman FCA
Lower Litcharen Farm
Newton Tracey
EX31 3QE

TO BE COMPLETED ONCE AUDITED

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ANNUAL REPORT

Aim and Purpose

Horwood's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent Rev Gary Owen in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Grade 1 Listed Church of St Michael's including surrounding entrance way and church yard.

Objectives and activities

St Michael's is part of the Two Rivers Mission Community, an area of 56 square miles between Barnstaple, Bideford, Torrington and Atherington. The Mission Community aims to build a Christian community in each village, which will worship, pray, grow and reach out with the Gospel. We recognise that we exist to serve and bless the whole parish and to grow and make visible the kingdom of God. Our building and churchyard are valuable community resources and we value the support of parishioners in maintaining and utilising these for the benefit of the community.

Achievements and Performance

At present there are 24 on the electoral roll, 1 was removed. The average Sunday attendance was 15. Festival services were held at Christmas and Easter. To encourage attendance, some services were themed, with a successful pet service as an example. Although not necessarily popular with the whole of the congregation, visual screening of service content was used and has now become the norm. As well as regular services we enabled our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of our journey through life. There was one funeral but no weddings held this year. The church ran a successful Coffee morning where £403 was raised, supporting Ukraine through Christian Aid. The monthly meeting called Chatterbox was restarted on the afternoon of the second Thursday of the month. Funds raised were donated to local charities. For information about achievements and performance as part of the Two Rivers Mission Community see appendix 1.

Deanery Synod

Rev Tracey Doyle is the rural dean and co-chair of the deanery synod. Mr Derek Birch is the other co-chair. The synod met three times during the year and heard presentations about parish nursing (February) and rural mission (September). A meeting June facilitate discussion about the joys and challenges of ministering as the Church of England. The possibility of holding a festival of faith was discussed but insufficient support meant it could not proceed. The deanery chapter of clergy normally meets every month on Zoom for mutual support and sharing of information.

Church Fabric

Works have been carried out in previous years following the quinquennial report of 2017. No major works have been required this year. The usual maintenance work has been undertaken such as cleaning, flower arranging, and grass cutting. Energy-saving light bulbs have been installed throughout the church and heating elements replaced as necessary. A memorial bench was added to the churchyard. We express our deep thanks to everyone involved in helping.

Financial review

Total receipts from the unrestricted fund were £5945 (2021 - £7161) and payments from this fund totalled £2877 (2021 - £4923) giving a surplus for the year of £3068 (2021 - £2238). The small surplus generated during the year is mostly as a result of continued support from regular giving and controlled spending. The average planned giving for the year was £187 (2021 was £178) per month. Gift aid of £1513 (2021 - £426) was recovered during the year. The Friends of St Michaels Charitable Trust remains untouched again this year, but has seen a fall in market value on UK equities. A full contribution was made to the common fund as usual in the year. The PCC would like to thank everyone who contributed to church finances. Regular donations by the Parish Giving Scheme or standing order are particularly appreciated as they provide a regular income regardless of whether the building is open for worship and enable the PCC to manage a budget effectively.

Reserves policy

The PCC has resolved to maintain, if possible, a balance on our general (unrestricted) fund, which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments, (say £3,000) to cover emergencies. Fortunately, our current balance is comfortably in excess of that.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). The safeguarding officer is Derek Birch.

Volunteers

The members of the PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who work so tirelessly to make our church a lively and vibrant community.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The council comprises the incumbent, licensed clergy, churchwardens, readers appointed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, those elected to the deanery synod and other members elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, by those on the electoral roll. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish and for all financial matters. A new legally constituted Joint Council came into existence on 1st January 2022. The focal minister of each church and up to two elected representatives from each PCC represent each PCC on the council. The PCC has delegated various responsibilities to the Joint Council in accordance with the Joint Council Scheme.

Administration information

The church is situated in Horwood. Bideford Devon EX39 4PF. The parish is in the deanery of Torrington, archdeaconry of Barnstaple and Diocese of Exeter. The correspondence address is The Rectory, High Bickington, UMBERLEIGH, EX37 9AY.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules 2020) and a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

The PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until the date this report was approved were:

Ex Officio

The Incumbent Rector, Rev'd Gary Owen

Licensed Clergy, Rev Tracey Doyle

Reverend Stuart Fuller Vice Chairman

Edward Jenner (Treasurer)

Janice Fuller (Resigned 27/03/22)

Linda Southgate (Secretary)

Susan Turner

Claire Symons (Appointed 27/03/22)

Fray Southgate (Appointed 27/03/22)

John Turner (Resigned 27/03/22)

Approved by the PCC on 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Rev'd Gary Owen (Chair)

.....
Rev'd Stuart Fuller (Vice Chair)

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Receipts and payments - Unrestricted account

Receipts

		<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>
Voluntary Receipts	£	£	£	£
Regular giving				
Tax efficient planned giving	2,239		2,208	
Collections at services	1,850		1,922	
Gift aid recovered	1,513		426	
		5,602		4,556
Other voluntary receipts				
Grants	-		-	
Donation from Village BBQ	-		245	
Other non recurring donations	-		60	
	-		305	
Activities for generating funds				
Tree Festival	-		-	
Harvest supper	-		-	
Other	-		-	
	-		-	
Income from investments				
Interest from Virgin account	96		342	
		96		342
Income from Church activities				
Statutory Fees - weddings, funeral etc	152		1,758	
Bell ringing, Organist etc	95		170	
		247		1,928
Other receipts				
Other		-		30
Total unrestricted receipts		<u>5,945</u>		<u>7,161</u>

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Payments

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Cost of generating funds	-	-
Church activities		
Donations	30	30
Diocesan parish share	1,569	1,466
Clergy staff and expenses	739	1,079
Churchyard maintenance	-	468
Church repairs and upkeep	-	-
Bank charges	83	99
Church utilities	366	357
Leaving presents	-	-
Insurance	-	1,186
Postage, stationery and sundries	90	238
	<u>2,877</u>	<u>4,923</u>
Total unrestricted payments		
	<u>2,877</u>	<u>4,923</u>
Excess of receipts over payments	<u><u>3,068</u></u>	<u><u>2,238</u></u>

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OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Receipts and payments - restricted account

Receipts

Receipts	£	<u>2022</u> £	£	<u>2021</u> £
Donations	803		1,150	
	<hr/>	803	<hr/>	1,150

Payments

Donation	403		-	
Churchyard maintenance	325		172	
Sundries	34		-	
Church repairs and upkeep	41		228	
	<hr/>	803	<hr/>	400
Excess of receipts over payments		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	750

The restricted fund relates to the maintenance of the church and grounds.

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	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Unrestricted - Excess of payments over receipts	3,068	2,238
Restricted - Excess of payments over receipts	-	750
Total excess of receipts over payments	<u>3,068</u>	<u>2,988</u>
CAF Bank account at 01 January 2022	4,145	2,249
Virgin account at 01 January 2022	34,047	32,955
	<u>41,260</u>	<u>38,192</u>
CAF Bank account at 31 December 2022	7,123	4,145
Virgin account at 31 December 2022	34,137	34,047
	<u>41,260</u>	<u>38,192</u>

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

RESTRICTED PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS - CHARITABLE TRUST, FRIENDS OF ST MICHAELS CHURCH

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
PAYMENTS	-	-
RECEIPTS	-	-
MOVEMENT IN INVESTMENT VALUATION	(3,563)	4,126
	<u>(3,563)</u>	<u>4,126</u>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

			2022			2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
BANK ACCOUNT						
CAF BANK	7,123		7,123	4,145		4,145
VIRGIN	33,387	750	34,137	33,297	750	34,047
INVESTMENTS						
CAF Charitable Trust (cash and investments) (Friends of St Michaels Church)		42,864	42,864		46,427	46,427
	40,510	43,614	84,124	37,442	47,177	84,619

Net assets b/fwd			84,619			77,505
Excess payments over receipts			3,068			2,988
Changes in market valuation			(3,563)			4,126
closing balance			84,124			84,619

Approved by the PCC on the April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
 Rev'd Gary Owen (Chair)

.....
 Rev'd Stuard Fuller (Vice Chair)

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Appendix 1 - Two Rivers Mission Community Annual Report

2022 has been a year of consolidation and growth. On Sunday 9th January Bishop Jackie led a mission community service in Tawstock to launch our mission action plan, and commission our new joint council and focal ministers. As the year has progressed, we've worked hard on building the mission and ministry of the church in each parish, as well as strengthening our collective work as a mission community. The removal of the last covid restrictions and increased confidence of people to mix has helped tremendously.

Sundays are the main focus of our lives together as Christians. Seven churches have met weekly and two others twice per month. Sunday services give us chance to worship together, pray, grow as disciples, and plan outreach. Importantly they are also a time for fellowship as Christians and mutual support. We normally follow the lectionary readings from Advent to Trinity Sunday, to focus on life of Jesus and then take a more flexible approach for the remainder of the year. At the beginning of the year, we preached a series looking at our Mission Community values of love, faith, Word and Spirit, generosity and joy. During the season of Trinity, we preached sermon series on the biblical books of Colossians and Esther, and a short series on Psalms quoted by Jesus. Seven of our churches now hold a monthly family service, including a new café church service in Yarnscombe which makes use of the warmth and facilities of the village hall. Festivals and 'special' services are used as an opportunity to invite people to church and agricultural festivals are important in many parishes.

Opportunities for adults to grow as disciples have been provided by homegroups, with 6 running during the year. An Autumn weekend away at Lee Abbey proved inspiring for the 15 adults and 2 children who attended. In the Autumn two church members commenced the Diocesan Foundations in Christian ministry course.

Our commitment to helping children respond to the gospel and grow as disciples as part of the church has been worked out in a number of ways. The out of school club in High Bickington and youth group in Newton Tracey continued and a new youth group and kids club launched in Beaford in May and September respectively. We still have no provision for pre-school children, but our parish nurse is a regular visitor to most local toddler groups and a Christmas visit to church was enjoyed by the toddler group in Beaford and at Christmas and Easter to St Giles. There is scope for more work with this important group, especially as we baptise 10 – 15 babies or young children each year.

We are blessed with a good working relationship with our four local primary schools; with collective worship conducted weekly in High Bickington and approximately twice per half term in the others. Open the Book collective worship runs in High Bickington and has recently restarted in HNTPS. All the schools make use of the clergy and churches for RE lessons when appropriate topics allow.

Evangelism, sharing the good news of Jesus and inviting people to enter a relationship with God through him, remains a priority for us. We encourage church members to share the Gospel with friends and neighbours and to invite them to church services and events where they can learn more and experience Christian community. We ran two Alpha courses in the Autumn, one in Beaford and one in Tawstock, with around a dozen guests in total. We also ran a youth Alpha course during the Autumn in Beaford village hall.

Our churches have continued to help members care for each other, largely through informal relationships and through the pastoral care offered by ministers. Care for the wider community has been expressed through coffee mornings and other opportunities to gather, and increasingly as the cost of living has risen, the provision of free meals, food banks and warm spaces. St Giles church are operating a much-valued pastoral care team, which offers friendship to those who need it.

Julia, our parish nurse, and now deacon, provides more specialist pastoral care, visiting the sick and housebound, accompanying parishioners to medical appointments and offering support on medical issues. She visits toddler groups and offers baby weighing and general advice. Julia has begun to officiate at funerals for those she has been supporting through end of life care.

During the year we conducted 14 baptisms, 15 weddings and 34 funerals/burial of ashes across the mission community. 22 weddings are booked so far for 2023. These pastoral offices are a wonderful opportunity to share God's love and the good news of Jesus with people at both the high and low points of life.

During the year Rob Pearce was appointed as focal minister for Beaford and joined the Leadership team. As the church in Beaford has grown and church members stepped further into ministry, Rev Gary has been able to step back a little. He has begun to work with the parish of Huntshaw to see if progress can be made in re-establishing a regular worshipping community there.

We seek to play an active part in the life of the Diocese and wider church. Rev Tracey has served throughout the year as rural dean. She and Derek Birch have served as co-chairs of deanery synod and other church members have served as deanery synod officers. We have provided a placement for a licenced lay minister trainee, who in turn blessed us with her enthusiasm and ideas.

We are delighted that a new curate has been appointed to join us in July 2023. We failed to appoint a new team vicar during 2022 and this has put a certain amount of pressure on the clergy. We continue to pray that someone will join us in 2023.

All our churches have maintained their common fund payments throughout the year – a wonderful achievement. Our common fund request will increase in 2023 due to our increasing participant numbers. This is only fair, not least because we remain heavily subsidised by the Diocese. Church members giving regularly and generously (ideally by direct debit or the parish giving scheme) helps ensure that we can meet our bills. Churches have worked hard to maintain their buildings and to improve them to better serve the mission of the church and local community.

As a mission community we are blessed with many people who play their part in making the mission and ministry of our parishes possible. We thank our focal ministers, wardens, PCC members and all who contribute their gifts of time, talent and money to our churches. Retired clergy have been invaluable in ensuring that priestly ministry has been available in each parish. Janette has provided administrative support. We are what we are because of you all.

We do not know what will occur during the year ahead, but we look forward to joining in with God as he fulfils his promise to build his church and kingdom. "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Rev Gary (Rector)

Appendix 2
Mission Action Plan

We are called by God to build a Christian community in each village, which will worship, pray, grow and reach out with the Gospel.



The Bus and Crew

Local Leadership Teams (LLTs) in each parish chaired by a focal minister to oversee ministry in each parish

Mission Council Leadership Team (MCLT) made up of rector, focal ministers and specialist ministers to set Mission community vision. A working party of the Joint Council

Form a Joint Council to provide legal oversight of the Mission Community. This will replace the Mission Community Council

Rector to act as chair of the MCLT and train and support focal ministers and local ministry teams. Sundays spent moving around the parishes.

Which route do we need to take? What are the stops along the way?

Authentic, attractive, all-age Christian communities doing life together Meeting together more than just on a Sunday Focused on local community—personal relationships, inculturation

People being converted to Christ, growing as disciples and equipped to live as whole life disciples, intentionally working to build God's kingdom. Our communities and the wider world being transformed by the love of God, through Jesus in the power of the Spirit.

Parish nursing; ana chaplaincy, practical action in local communities; support of Christian mission agencies

	Connect	Hear and respond	Grow	Lead
Under 5				
Primary				
Youth				
Adults				
All-age				

Finances, administration and buildings directed towards these goals.

Joint Council

Better administration; sharing of skills for facilities, finances, grant applications etc

Each church paying its way. Realistic planned giving.

All buildings fit for purpose and well maintained. Teams for ongoing maintenance

Generous giving of parishes to God's work elsewhere

Values

- Love
- Faith
- Word and Spirit
- Generosity
- Joy

What does the destination look like?

Authentic, attractive, all-age Christian communities, doing life together.

People being converted to Christ, growing as disciples and equipped to live as whole life disciples, intentionally working to build God's kingdom.

Our communities and the wider world being transformed by the love of God, through Jesus in the power of the Spirit.

Finances, administration and buildings directed towards these goals.

