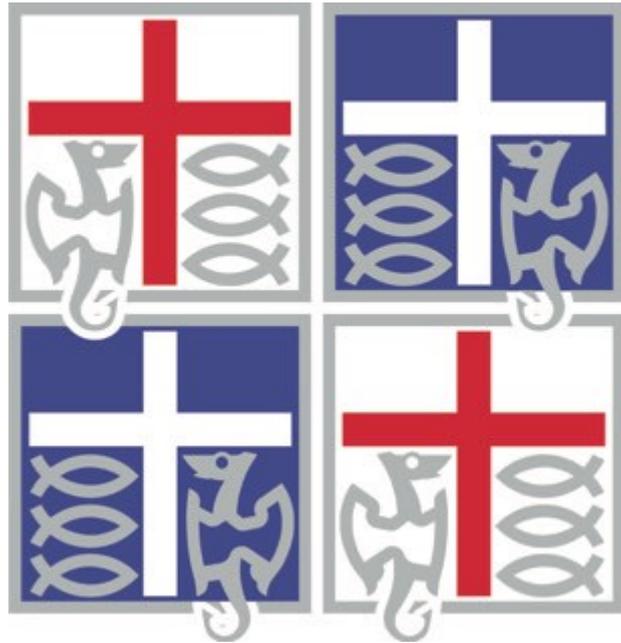


Forest Hill Team Ministry

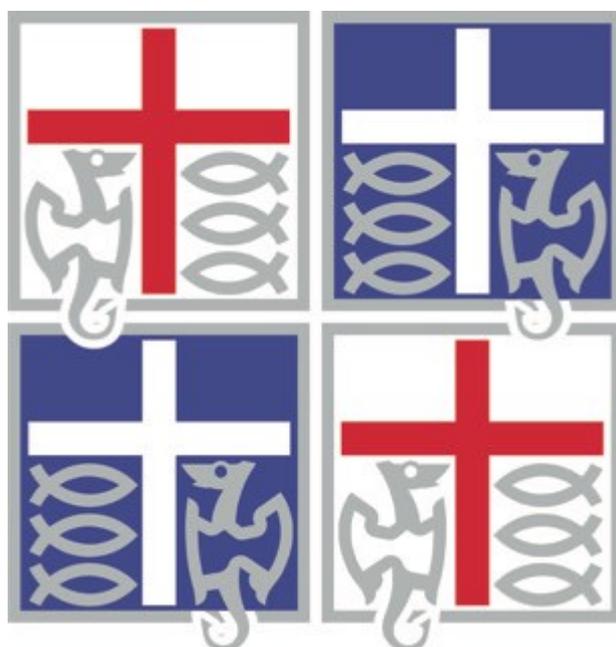


APCM

28 April 2022

at St George's Church

St George's APCM Reports



2021/2022

ST GEORGE'S DCC — JANET KILLEEN

As the APCM approaches we look back on two challenging years. We feel immense gratitude to God as we have seen members of the congregation returning with confidence and the life of St George's evident in affection, humour and courage as we join together again. There are also people who have died during these difficult days and we remember them and give thanks for their lives, and their unique contributions to our community.

The DCC has met with Richard to discuss the day-to-day practical and spiritual life of the parish during the past year. There have been major issues of finance to tackle, especially as Montessori are no longer using the Chapel. Simon, as Treasurer, has kept us on track, giving detailed feedback and careful forecasts and we expect to emerge secure, with the hope of new hirers for the Chapel and very healthy bookings coming in for the hall at St George's. We owe Simon a huge debt of gratitude for his work and for his consideration of future, more efficient, systems of banking etc. Luiza, too, works hard to secure bookings for us as well as the countless other tasks she performs! During Lent, there is a focus on Stewardship, with the opportunity for the congregation to review their giving in the light of future vision and planning.

After a great deal of discussion (and the slow return of estimates!) we have at last agreed that GHK will take on the work of improving the sound system. We are grateful for gifts received that will make this big expenditure possible. The state of the external doors at the side of the church is also a cause for concern: improved security and draught-proofing is needed. There have been other items of repair and maintenance and we are grateful to Ian for all he does 'behind the scenes' to keep things in order.

We have spent significant time with the Ministry Team discussing the future of the Chapel. There is so much potential there with possibilities for community use, including the grounds, and facilities for small groups or one-to-one sessions in the smaller rooms downstairs. Above all, the Thursday evening Eucharist is seen as important to the life of the parish as a whole, and keeps us mindful of the very strong contribution that Christ Church members have brought to the life of St George's. There are issues of maintenance, heating and ventilation to consider but our hope is that we can sustain Christ Church with sufficient bookings to make it viable with a sense that its value is far more than monetary.

During March, the DCC took part in the Review of the whole Team Ministry, instigated by the Archdeacon and Bishop Christopher and facilitated by Rev'd Margaret Cave.

There is a lot to do to catch up on things that were a normal part of church life: Team Meetings; hospitality and social events in addition to the welcome return of coffee after church; Big Year 6 due to start this summer; ways of continuing to support St George's School: maintenance of Church and Chapel grounds... Ideas and volunteers are always welcome!

We are so grateful to Richard and the Ministry Team who have held St George's wisely and with faith and inspiration throughout the restrictions of the pandemic. We know that Duncan's skills in bring services to people at home via YouTube have been hugely appreciated. So too have Graham's offering of music each week and the link of the Welcome Sheet sent out by Luiza. These

things have kept us together. On DCC and in church each week, Judy has contributed as Churchwarden, and has welcomed so many of us back. She is now stepping down: we are very appreciative of all her service. Maxine Seale served as DCC secretary for many months and we were very grateful to her. Nick Ashton has now replaced her and has been thrown in at the deep end with all the major meetings ahead awaiting his minutes. Sara, our other Churchwarden is continuing for another year and will be able to induct the new Churchwarden when elected. Working with the members of the DCC is a great privilege and I want to thank each one for their commitment, their ideas and enthusiasm, and all that they will both instigate and reflect on in the coming year.

DCC & PCC SECRETARY'S REPORT — NICK ASHTON

The DCC (St George's half of the Joint Parish PCC) have met regularly this year with Richard to discuss the day-to-day practical and spiritual life of the parish. A great deal has been accomplished despite the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

A lot of decisions have been made regarding the fabric of the building, including a new sound system, alarm upkeep, improved kitchen and toilet facilities and repair and servicing of doors, including the one to the studio roof. A recent meeting led by Simon, the treasurer revealed that the accounts are in good shape considering the lockdowns due to Covid-19. This led to some discussion about how we might further improve the balance and encourage people to think about their giving to St George's and a resultant letter for the congregation regarding stewardship.

There has been extensive discussion on the future of the chapel resulting in the decision to continue to use it for prayer, worship and lettings. Despite the difficulties experienced during the year the chapel is still breaking even and there is scope to make considerable improvement to income from further letting, indeed we have an abundance of parties wishing to use the chapel which is very promising for future growth. Among some of the ideas discussed were the possibility of using the vacant land in the grounds of the Chapel as a wild garden for education and community use. It was also decided that the Chapel should be surveyed with a view to improvements to heating and general quality of decoration. Our architect has now retired and Richard is in the process of appointing a new one from Thomas Ford.

Discussions and decisions regarding Staff and personnel have included the resignation of Maxine as secretary of the DCC and the review of Luiza's salary. We give them grateful thanks for their hard work and dedication. Also of note is the coming resignation of Judy this year, again, heartfelt thanks is in order for here many years of service. A very important part of this year has been the review of the ministry team, led by Margaret Cave. Extensive work with the DCC of St George's and St Michael's church and their respective congregations will hopefully result in a positive outcome for all of us. The topic of safeguarding has been ongoing, thanks goes to Sara for her sterling work in that area, including safeguarding training, DBS and permissions for you-tube and photography.

Revised Map priorities were agreed, including developing further links with the school and community, including those with special needs and difficulties as well as Encouraging more

participation in ministry and lay preaching.

Finally, it was agreed that we should run the big year six as normal this year, in person, not online, the church has been opened for prayers for Ukraine in their time of crisis and there will be a tea party to mark the Queens Jubilee in June.

CHURCHWARDENS — SARA SANBROOK-DAVIES & JUDY DAVIS

It has been a joy to be regularly worshipping in church and a blessing to see our numbers gradually increase. Many have returned to services in person which are also available on YouTube. The coffee rota has been reignited and the community have enjoyed sharing time together after the service, something much missed over the past two years.

Throughout the autumn and winter, we have had a number of our regular services and the church has been well used for services, for the community and for Rose House Montessori school. Most recently the Polish community have used the church for collections for Ukraine. This Lent has seen the return of Lent lunches and suppers, the first in several years.

The fabric of the church is in a good state of repair with the biggest project being the sound system which by the time of the APCM should be complete. There have been ongoing repairs to the boiler and plumbing. We have not had notice of our visitation yet but expect it in the near future. During the visitation we check on all aspects of the church from the building maintenance to the silver in the safe.

Much of this past year has continued as usual even distanced and masked; St George's has been open and welcoming and we have seen a number of new faces. There is an increase of lettings at the weekends which brings in much needed income. Plans for spring and summer include a sharing lunch for St Georges patronal festival and the return of the Big year 6 event for local church schools.

With thanks to all who contribute to the smooth running of all we do and a special thank you to Judy who is stepping down this April.

SAFEGUARDING — SARA SANBROOK-DAVIES PARISH

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER (PSO):

Safeguarding underpins everything we do and enables all of us to worship in a safe and inclusive environment.

A Safe Church is a manual containing the Diocesan policies, procedures and guidelines for safeguarding children, safeguarding adults who may be vulnerable, and responding to domestic abuse. Significant amendments were made in 2019, in addition to the changes made in 2018, in line with a number of new and revised policies from the House of Bishops and the National Safeguarding Team and to reflect changes in wider safeguarding procedure and legislation.

Hard copies of key policies are displayed on the notice board in the church foyer. They are also posted online for viewing or downloading on the Parish Website under Safeguarding. This section

also contains a link to 'A Safe Church'. We have access to and are kept up to date by the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) Pamela Chisholm.

All members of the Ministry team and PCC have completed safeguarding training and we are kept up to date by the diocesan newsletter. Safeguarding is a standing item on all DCC and PCC agendas. Policies and procedures will be reviewed annually to ensure we are compliant with the regulations.

BROWNIES — DOT SPINKS, BROWNIE LEADER

3rd Forest Hill Brownies have enjoyed a good year. We have been back to meeting in person since the summer term of 2021. Our numbers decreased during lockdown as some children did not enjoy the online platform but during this time we had 3 new members who continue with the unit now.

We now have 20 Brownies (greater than before lockdown) who regularly attend our meetings and a young leader who is of great assistance to us. There are 3 girls on the waiting list who will hopefully start when they turn 7 later this year.

Meeting initially was a challenge with extra measures in place to keep our members Covid safe. Games and activities were chosen and /or adapted where necessary.

A couple of our Brownies joined 8th Forest Hill Brownies on Brownie Holiday in February and there was a special screening of Encanto in Beckenham exclusively for Girlguiding earlier this year.

The girls continue to have a space where they can develop through the Girlguiding Programme with a mix of activities they complete during our meetings and they are encouraged to work through badges in their own time at home.

We look forward to another year.

MUSIC — GRAHAM LONG

Things have obviously been challenging once again over the last year, but it was good to get singing going again.

Initially, it was just members of the choir doing the singing whilst the congregation had to listen. We decided to reduce the number of verses used for the hymns but eventually the congregation were allowed to sing again, although having to wear masks. As restrictions have lifted in recent weeks, it is now possible to sing without masks (although some still prefer to wear masks) and this has made the singing a much more pleasant experience.

The small, yet dedicated, choir has continued to work hard in making a valuable contribution to supporting the singing in our worship, especially during the testing times we experienced.

It was good that our Christmas services could also include a Carol Service and we were pleased to welcome back some members of *Childe Rolande* to perform two items with an interesting solution to the Covid situation by performing from the studio through the open doors into the

hall.

We hope to re-introduce some of the Sung Evening Eucharists on some Thursdays at the Chapel – at the time of writing, we have The Annunciation, Ascension Day and Corpus Christi planned and maybe another three later in the year.

Music within worship is very important for many reasons and for many of us this is an essential way of expressing our faith - a vocation and an opportunity to use our talents to work for the greater glory of God.

One of the saddest items of news was the passing of Margaret Exley – she had been a stalwart and long serving member of the choir and will be greatly missed by us all.

Finally, I would like to thank all singers, performers and visiting organists for their efforts; the congregation for making a very positive contribution and to the whole Ministry team for their support, encouragement and sense of humour.

ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL — JOANNA GOODRICH, CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

This report usually starts with words and phrases like, 'a momentous year', 'huge changes in leadership', 'new buildings' etc, etc. 2021/2022 has been no exception. Perhaps it is the nature of a dynamic educational establishment!

This time last year our new Headteacher, Darren Janes, started his full-time career at the school. He has had more than his fair share of momentous issues, most obviously Covid. Waves of the disease have meant the school moving from remote learning to back in school with restrictions to the movement of the children and now to a much freer situation. However, we are still having to deal with issues of staff absence due to Covid and higher than usual pupil absence. As of the time of writing this, the senior leadership are breathing more easily with no new cases this week, but that situation is unlikely to last. The development of the remote learning offer to families has been praised and appreciated both by parents and authorities.

Darren has been very ably supported by Karri MacAlpine who has been promoted to Deputy Head, and by a wider leadership team that is giving a number of younger teachers the chance to develop their skills. This team has led an exciting overhaul of the curriculum and it is good to see so much enthusiasm within this group and all staff.

We all expected Ofsted would visit before too long, but were not quite expecting it in January. The call from the inspector came when Darren was off with Covid. Luckily he was due back the following day, and with the support of the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education Multi Academy Trust we were encouraged that our rating as a 'Good' school continues. The strong and sound foundations that Darren and his team are building made the inspection process very smooth. Congratulations are due to all the team.

The governing body is fundamental to supporting and challenging the school to achieve higher and higher standards. There have been a number of changes here. Jill Bray, who has guided the

school for thirteen years as Chair of Governors and has helped it go from strength to strength, has now stepped down (though is remaining as vice-chair). We are very grateful to Jill for her hard work and wise leadership. Joanna Goodrich, who has been vice-chair for the last eight years, has now taken over as Chair.

After fourteen years Viv Okon felt it was time to step down. We thank him for his invaluable support, particularly in the area of inclusion and special educational needs. Two new governors have been appointed from within the church community – Yvonne Wheeler and Becki Wilkins. Already we are feeling the benefit of their expertise and enthusiasm. Richard continues to be a significant link between church and school, conducting well-received weekly assemblies. We thank our other church governors for their commitment: Patrick Clarke and Peter Akinbowale.

We are very proud of what the school is achieving to develop the lives of the children in our community.

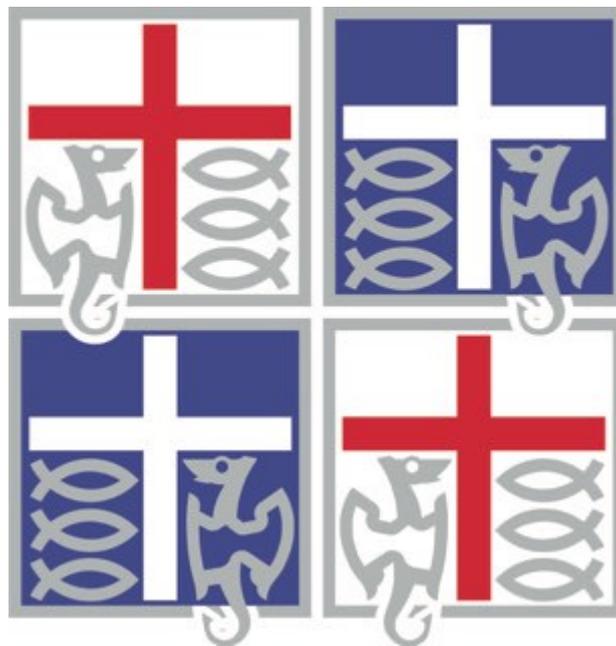
WALSINGHAM — PAT RUSSELL

Richard led 28 of us from St George's and St Michael's on our annual pilgrimage to Walsingham in November 2021. We were pleased to welcome several 'first timers' and, despite Covid restrictions, had a great weekend of prayer, peace, friendship and fun. The weather was good and walks took place in several directions on the Saturday afternoon, to the Slipper Chapel, around the village of Walsingham, in the Shrine grounds and by bus to Wells-next-the-Sea.

We have booked 30 places for the weekend of the 4th-6th November 2022 and a deposit of £30 will secure your place, this would be refunded if you had to cancel before August, after that Walsingham will retain deposits. As soon as we know the price of the weekend we will let you know via the WELCOME Sheet.

We would be pleased to welcome you this year. It's a great way to get to know each other.

St Michael's APCM Reports



2021/2022

VICAR'S REPORT – REVD. IFEANYI CHUKUKA

On writing this report the contents will be focused on what God has done in the previous year. However, we recognize that we must acknowledge the unprecedented circumstances we have experienced as a church community during this pandemic and the challenges we face and the outcry against racial injustice, wars, (Ukraine) and conflict in our world. Here at St Michael church, we work to shine the light of the gospel to help bring peace and prosperity to Sydenham and the city of London at large, we also pause to acknowledge the incredible losses many have experienced (loss of life, livelihood, homes and so much more) from COVID-19 and the immense challenges ahead of the church and city as we seek to bring about a more just society.

We mourn the loss of so many lives caused by COVID-19 and pray for the many families in our churches and city who are coping with the loss of a loved one. We hold in our thoughts and prayers those that are sick for quick recovery and some of our members taking care of the sick for strength through the difficult time. We pray that our church community will be encouraged and be an encourager as we are strengthened in the words of Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. God has promised us His strength. He will never give you a trial you are unable to handle". As we continue to be a family of churches that embodies the gospel in ways that bring justice, love and peace to our city.

The team Vicar being off sick with long covid recognises the effort others have put in given tirelessly and sacrificially to the continuity of the work at St Michael's. St Michael Church sincerely appreciate the team of clergy support during this time from Deanery, especially the area dean emeritus Fr Michael and other members of deanery clergy who covered services at St Michael. We are thankful and appreciate Fr Ray for all his pastoral care and continuous support, St Michael thankfully appreciate our lay leader Morwenna for her continuous nurture and pastoral guidance. We give thanks to God for our youth and children's ministry, pastoral care, and conversations on racial reconciliation and being an ambassador for the gospel which are some of the ways we sought to challenge one another as we follow our Lord Jesus.

At the heart of our diocesan mission are many volunteers in a variety of ministries: the men, women, and young people who serve together notwithstanding our differences we are united by the death and resurrection of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. We continued to provide multiple opportunities for our congregation to grow in Christlikeness through pastoral care and spiritual development. St Michaels Church is blessed to have our churchwarden Maureen (Mo) who has served the church in the time of uncertainty with a tireless grace and even had to lead the worship at a short notice. St Michael is blessed to have Brenda who has also served the church with her skilled administration and other proficient talents. St Michael is blessed to have Sybil who has served the church with her accounting and management abilities. We are blessed to have Tilie who has coordinated our children and young people working with Kate and Pippa as we wait for the new member that is still awaiting DBS. We are so grateful for Matthew, Annesha and Tilie for the online zoom, PowerPoint presentation and YouTube. St Michael sincerely

appreciate the work of our administrator Luiza. We thankfully appreciate our new organist George and others who have covered for us at many other times, especially Chuka, Karen and Nicky.

We have been so encouraged to see God strengthen and protect us repeatedly and lovingly move us forward. We're so grateful for how he has sustained our children, church members, and our DCC members to stimulate our church around the mission of living out the gospel for the flourishing of Sydenham. This past year is a testament to everyone who calls St Michaels church home. You've given generously of your time, space, talents, and finances to bring the light of the gospel to our church, friends, neighbours, and the Forest hill team parish at large.

St Michael continues to promote the school church mission, walking alongside the school to provide the needed resilience and flexibility throughout lockdown via zoom and the interval of different shifts throughout the unprecedented times. St Michael congratulates the new headteacher of St Michael school Jacqui and a special Commissioning Service took place in March 2022.

It is a privilege to be able to re-join St Michaels church family, to serve alongside you all in this new coming church year. We faced some unique challenges last year and it has been amazing to see God's provision through your service and sacrifice, even though it was a season full of challenges. Throughout the year, there have been many demonstrations of a deep love and commitment to the ministry of God's calling. We thank you all for your sacrificial and prayerful support.

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT – MO LAURENCE & SANDRA JEMPSON

This is the annual Churchwardens' report for the year April 2021 to March 2022 on the fabric of the Church at St. Michael & All Angels. Services have continued regularly on Sundays at St. Michael's – a sincere thank you to everyone who has helped maintain our worship, too many people to note individually but we thank you all.

Our Team Vicar, Ifeanyi Chukuka, returned from long term sick leave in September 2021 to lead our worship on Sundays which continued on Zoom until after Christmas; we now have "streaming".

Restrictions have been lifted but we continue to follow "best practice" as much as possible and monitor what we do. Two Services were special, the one to celebrate our Patronal Festival, St. Michael's Day, when we were joined by everyone from St. George's. Another was the Commissioning of the new Headteacher of St. Michael's School in March 2022 when our usual congregation was joined by Mrs. Jacqui Gillespie, her family, Father Howland, staff and families from St. Michael's School.

One very important aspect of worship at St. Michael's is our Sunday School which has resumed. Obviously we thank our leaders, Tilie and Kate together with Pippa who recently joined the team. We also have another leader soon to join them. Again we must thank the children who attend the Sunday School but we must also thank our young people and children for all their help in

Services – readings, prayers, poems, songs, walking with the Cross and saying the “dismissal” at the end of the Service each Sunday. Our children are a blessing and we thank them all (and their parents as well).

St. Michael’s School recommenced weekly School assemblies in September 2021 and are able to use our Church, for example for a poetry recital by the children for their parents to celebrate Mothering Sunday recently, which was led by the Headteacher.

As well as the School we are delighted our “users/tenants” have returned. We thank them all not only for returning but for co-operating in maintaining our buildings and still implementing risk assessments and best practice.

The Mums & Toddlers group are now open three mornings each week and their numbers have grown. They have contributed a great deal to the life of St. Michael’s not just financially but donating to the Food Bank, collecting items for delivery to Poland and so on.

The Uniformed groups are back - Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. The Simple Solutions (Homework Club) has now started a Breakfast and Holiday Club. All of these have been a real delight to have back – the Leaders are all so helpful to us and all dedicated in reaching out to the children in our local community.

The IAM Church returned to use the Hall on Sundays and the Seven Day Adventists returned in March 2022 to use the Hall on Saturdays. The Pilates Class has now resumed on Tuesday evenings.

The usual routine inspections to maintain our buildings have resumed this year i.e., the boiler was serviced in July 2021, the gutters outside cleared and checks made to ensure the downpipes were clear and all the windows, outside and inside, were cleaned. The only major expenditure was an essential upgrade to the electrical system which was long overdue – three days work in October 2021 and another three days in January 2022 – the Certificate of Electrical Compliance was issued. The only other problem was in October 2021 when there was a leak near the organ from pipes above, this related to air vents which were replaced, and the problem with the heating was fixed by our plumber.

I would like to thank everyone at St. Michael’s for everything during the years that I have been very privileged to hold the office of Churchwarden. In particular, the last few years have been challenging for everyone and I thank you all most sincerely for all your love, support, prayers, co-operation and hard work. Last year I did a list of “thank yous”. I am not doing so now because I am sure I would accidentally leave someone out.

So many people have contributed so much – at St. Michael’s & All Angels we are a family. The only ones I will single out for a mention are our children and young people who give us so much and enrich our services and life with their contributions. I would also thank all the visiting Clergy who have supported us. I would also mention our shared Administrator, Luiza, our cleaner, Felicia, and our Organist, George – thank you all.

I wish my successor every blessing as they take up the role of Churchwarden at St. Michael & All Angels.

TREASURER'S REPORT – SYBIL CAREY

Introduction and Notes to the Annual Accounts

Year Ending 31st December 2021

Forest Hill Team Ministry

The District Church Council of St Michael and All Angels Church, Lower Sydenham

The DCC of St Michael and All Angels Church (DCC) consist of those PCC members of the Forest Hill Team Ministry who normally attend St Michael's Church. The DCC is a sub-committee of the PCC of the Forest Hill Team Ministry. It has delegated powers from the PCC in relation to financial activities associated with St Michael's Church and Hall.

Objectives and activities

The DCC of St Michael and All Angels Church has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish of the Team Ministry the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Funds

The DCC has identified funds as follows:

Unrestricted Funds

DCC General Purposes Fund: managed by the DCC.

Restricted Funds

DCC Buildings Fund: managed by the DCC and only used to pay for improvements or repairs to the church and hall buildings and fixtures.

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the DCC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of Church groups that owe affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

The church's top four sources of annual income are:

Rental from St Michael's Primary School (£21,926) see Note 1

Congregational giving (£13,381)

Simple Solutions homework Club (£1,800)

I AM Church (£1,800)

Rental from the church and hall from all tenants (including School) is £27,655. this year, compared to £30,878 in 2020. The reduction is largely due to the impact of Covid 19 and related restriction on hiring of halls and, the ceasing of the Montessori hire (pending an agreeable conclusion), and the Seven Day Adventists still not returning from the first lockdown. Income reduced from £43,696 to £41,772.

The church's top four sources of annual expenditure are:

- Parish Support Fund (Diocesan Quota) (£25,600)

- Utilities (£5,512).
- Salaries (£9,385)
- Repairs and maintenance (£6148)

In 2021 expenditure exceeded income by £12,781 and bank accounts are still a healthy £59,740 at end 2021,

The financial outlook for 2022 is in large part dependant on how quickly the Covid 19 restrictions ease, allowing the Church and Hall to resume more normal operations.

Thanks to Simon Taylor, Treasurer of St George's Church, who as per usual checks and sends off my applications for Gift Aid and checks the account for completeness. Also, to Peter Stubbs, Treasurer of St Bartholomew's Church for checking the final account. And last but not least, to our wonderful small congregation who donated constantly, despite the challenges we faced during lockdowns etc.

Notes on the Accounts

Note 1:

The License Fee from St Michael's Primary School. The school uses church owned land (most of the playground including the dining hall and the garden to the rear of the church) and pays "rent". The current quarterly rate is £5,481.25.

Note 2:

Donations to Charities are as follows:

The Children's Society	£100
Voluntary Services Lewisham	£75
Christian Aid	£25

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE DELEGATED CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS LOWER SYDENHAM

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on pages 1 to 19.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s. 130 of the 2011 Act; or to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Stubbs – Treasurer, St. Bartholomew's Church, Sydenham.

RAINBOWS, BROWNIES & GUIDES – COLLEEN CREASEY (DISTRICT COMMISSIONER)

2ND SYDENHAM RAINBOWS- COLLEEN: RAINBOW LEADER

2020 saw Rainbows close due to the pandemic alongside Brownies & Guides, we had 20 girls on the unit register but in September 2021 our numbers declined to only 6, since September 2021 to April 2022 our numbers have now increased and we now have 15 regular attendees, with a few girls coming through to our waiting list for their 5th Birthdays.

This term we have been working on a Skill Builder badge where the girls had to make a healthy food wheel using paper plates, pretending to be robots and listening to instructions. They have recently made Mother's day gifts and just before the end of term we had an Easter egg hunt and decorated Easter wreaths. The summer term will see us focusing on the Queens Platinum Jubilee and hopefully by the end of the year we can have a Rainbow sleepover. Please feel free to drop in and have a chat with the girls, we meet on Mondays from 5:30-6:30pm term time.

8TH SYDENHAM BROWNIES - COLLEEN: BROWNIE LEADER

As with Rainbows the pandemic saw our numbers decline and a lot of girls left as Zoom meetings

were just getting too much for them, our healthy unit of 25 girls dropped to 15, which was a good number considering the events of 2020-2021. Returning in September last year to full time meetings and the girls not having to meet in bubbles our numbers have increased to 25.

In February this year we had our long awaited 3 times postponed Brownie Holiday at the Radcliffe Centre where the girls spent 4 nights/5 days being outdoors in all weather conditions - our theme was Harry Potter. The girls learnt to cook and each six prepared breakfasts, lunches and dinners and helped to keep our venue clean. The girls slept indoors in a heated house with bunk beds. We have now booked our next Holiday at Paxwood in Dartford for May 2023 and all spaces are full already.

The summer term will see us focusing on the Queens Platinum Jubilee, hopefully we will be able to do more outside activities but sometimes we find the open space at the front of the Church a little difficult due to safeguarding and GDPR so we keep this as short as possible. This last term the girls worked on the Skill Builder First Aid badge, where they had to learn to put someone in the recovery position, know what to do if they came across an accident, who to call and how to answer questions from the emergency services. The girls had a great time and all passed their First Aid badge. Please feel free to drop in and have a chat with the girls, we meet on Mondays from 6:30-8pm term time. Leaders usually arrive half hour before.

8TH SYDENHAM GUIDES – COLLEEN: GUIDE LEADER

Guides are my oldest section that I run, these girls are encouraged to be a lot more independent and work more in patrols and organizing their own weekly meetings. We had 30 girls back in 2020 which is amazing for a Guide unit, but again the pandemic saw our numbers decline to 18 regular girls. When we restarted full time meetings in September 2021 we found the girls who did return had lost their mojo for Guiding, so the Leaders had to think outside the box to get the girls who are 10-15 years to have fun. This proved difficult to start with as all they wanted to do was chat. We thought just having lots of games evenings would help and it really did, then we had half term in October where we took a few girls to an escape room, this really got them engaged and when we returned their zest for Guiding took an all time hit. We did Christmas crafts and collected items for the Christmas appeal for disadvantaged families in Forest Hill & Sydenham. In January 2022 our numbers started to increase and we now have 28 regular attendees. In the winter term the girls worked in patrols for 4 weeks to gain a badge as a patrol, some made pencil cases and learnt how to sew, threading a needle was tireless though (any good suggestions for the future would be welcome), some learnt how to make a tomato pasta bake sauce, others learnt Makaton, while another patrol learnt how to think positively when things don't go to plan. We have booked to go to PGL in October half term this year and this will be our first residential since 2018. The girls are very excited as it's been quite a while, we are hoping to take them camping next year, but due to our beloved Cudham Camp site having been sold we have to find somewhere as nice and not too far travelling as a lot of our girls' parents do not drive. If anyone would like to pop in on a Thursday between 6:30-8:30pm to meet and chat with the girls please do I'm sure they would like to talk about their Guiding adventures.

SIMPLE SOLUTIONS – SARAH HUKPORTIKABA & SANDRA SHOCKNESS

Simple Solutions Homework Club Ltd. is an afterschool club based in St. Michael & All Angels Church. We offer intensive academic support for your child's homework. Attention is paid to each child's individual needs to ensure they reach their full potential. The children also have the opportunity to participate in structured play and be creative during their free time. Hot meals and drinks are provided.

Simple Solutions are OFSTED registered. Morton Michael Insured and we accept childcare vouchers. The Breakfast Club is open from 7.15 to 8.30 a.m. and the Afterschool Club from 3.00 to 6.00 p.m. Visit our website: simplesolutionhw.com or email: info@simplesolutionhw.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL – TILIE BENTIL-MENSAH

Sunday School Sessions started again in December 2021 and all the children seem happy to be back learning and spending time in fellowship with each other.

Sunday School sessions are held twice a month - the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Currently, there are 3 leaders (Kate, Pippa and Tilie) and about 8-10 children attending each session, on average. We also have two young people who are great helpers during the sessions.

Children & Young People's Services: These services, which are held on the 1st Sunday of the month, have been growing from strength to strength. This aspect of the ministry was patronised very well during both lockdowns and that has continued. There are 10 Young People on the rota for Co-leading.

Many thanks to all the leaders, helpers and children for all their dedication and support

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL – BERYL FIELDER

This has been another difficult year as a result of Covid 19. There has been pupil and staff sickness but throughout the year the staff have ensured that the best education possible has been provided to all the children.

The School was delighted to appoint Jacqui Gillespie as Headteacher, following her role as Acting Headteacher and recently we were very pleased to be able to appoint Eunice Asante as Deputy Headteacher, again following her role as Acting Deputy Headteacher. We wish both Jacqui and Eunice every success as they take the School forward.

SAFEGUARDING - JO MUSUNDI, PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

We continue to be aware of the importance of Safeguarding within our community and to seek advice where necessary from the current Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Pamela Chisholm, and their team. A referral was made to the team, and whilst it is unlikely to result in further action being required, we are grateful for their expertise in dealing with the matter.

Updates are currently being made to 'A Safe Church', the Diocesan Safeguarding manual. The new safer recruitment and people management policy has been published by the National

Safeguarding Team (NST). This is on the Church of England website and in due course all the policies will be available on this E-manual system. We have been advised to use the NST safer recruitment and people management policy instead of 'A Safe Church' section 5, until such time as the latter has been updated.

Another important change is that from 4th January 2022 DBS checks changed from 5 yearly renewal to every 3 years. This applies to:

- all new appointments and
- those whose enhanced DBS is due a recheck from that point onwards should have their DBS recheck carried out and then be put on the new 3 year recheck cycle.

Church Bodies need to assess all other individuals who do not fall into categories a & b above, but whose DBS is more than 3 years old and put a plan in place to ensure that all those individuals have a DBS no older than 3 years by 3rd January 2024 and after that, ensure they are also on the new 3 year recheck cycle.

This means all Church Bodies have a 2 year period from 4th January 2022 to 3rd January 2024 to carry out the rechecks needed.

The Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse Policies have been recently reviewed and approved by the PCC.

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS P.C.C./D.C.C. MEMBERS 2021/2022

Vicar:	Revd. Ifeanyi Chukuka
Church Wardens:	Mrs. Maureen Lawrence, Mrs. Sandra Jempson
Treasurer:	Mrs. Sybil Carey
Deanery Synod:	Mrs. Maureen Lawrence, Ms. Yemi Akinsamni
DCC Secretary:	Mrs. Brenda Ayling
D.C.C.	Revd. Ifeanyi Chukuka, Mrs. Beryl Fielder, Mrs. Joanne Musundi, Mrs. Maureen Lawrence, Mrs. Sandra Jempson, Dr. Victor Ayeni, Mrs. Tilie Benti- Mensah, Mrs. Sybil Carey, Mrs. Donna Wilson, Mrs. Yemi Akinsamni, Mrs. Brenda Ayling.

ELECTORAL ROLL – BRENDA AYLING

Membership of the revised Church Electoral Roll stands at 52 with about 15 children attending. Attendance has been gradually increasing after the Covid pandemic. We have many members on our Worship/Social Register. Anyone wanting to be included on the Electoral Roll should contact the Church Wardens or Brenda Ayling for a form.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH MUMS & TODDLERS GROUP – SHELBY BEATON

Firstly, on behalf of the children and carers who attend the group, we would like to say a big thank you to the Church for allowing us to hold our group in your hall.

2020 onwards has been a very difficult time for parents, carers and children due to the ongoing pandemic. Many playgroups, classes and clubs closed temporarily or permanently during the first lockdown, resulting in a lack of safe places for children and their families to socialise and support each other. In May 2021, when we felt it was safe, we as a group of local childminders decided that we would like to reopen the St. Michael's Mums & Toddlers playgroup and were thrilled when the church agreed to allow us to begin to use the venue again. In July we began using the Hall - it is a perfect area.

We initially opened once a week and have now extended this to three sessions: Monday to Wednesday, offering a range of toys and activities along with singing and story times. We have a maximum capacity of 30 children and attendance ranges from 12 children per session to 30!

It has been a popular addition to weekly activities on offer in Sydenham. We have been able to completely re stock the toys and equipment and are able to financially donate money on a half termly basis to the church which we hope shows our gratitude.

We have also contributed to the harvest collection and Christmas appeals in Church. Recently we have used money raised through fees to support the Ukrainian Appeal. We hope to be able to continue to support our local and international communities in times of need.

Thank you again for allowing us to have the opportunity to support the local community.

Lizzie, Shelby and Lisa

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH & HALL USERS

	ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH GROUPS	Time	Contact	Tel. No.
MONDAY Hall:	Mums & Toddlers	9.00 – 11.30 a.m.	Shelby Beaton	07956 266 399
	Rainbows Brownies	5.30pm – 6.30 pm 6.30pm - 8.00 pm	Colleen Creasey} Colleen Creasey}	“girlguiding.org.uk/ interested”
Church Daily	Simple Solutions Breakfast Club Homework Club	7.30 – 9.00 a.m. 3.30 – 6.00 pm	Sarah Hukporti Kaba	shukportika- ba@gmail.com
TUESDAY	Mums & Toddlers Pilates class	9.00 – 11.30 a.m. 6.30 pm – 9.00 pm	Shelby Beaton Brenda Nassali- Liston	07956 266 399 07983 502 887
WEDS. Hall:	Mums & Toddlers	9.00 – 11.30 a.m.	Shelby Beaton	07956 266 399
THURS. Hall:	Guides	6.30pm – 8.30 pm	Colleen Creasey	“girlguiding.org.uk/ interested”
FRIDAY		5.00 – 9.00 p.m.	Victoria Familoni	07940 739 189
SAT.	7 th Day Adventists	9.00am – 6.00 pm	Pastor Esson	07985 408 669
SUNDAY	St. Michael's Service	10.00 a.m.	Revd. Ifeanyi	07930 614 660
	I AM Church	1.00 p.m.– 5.00 pm	Emi Makuka	07426 151 473