CHRIST CHURCH CHINEHAM

Annual Report 2024/25

Published for our Annual Meeting to be held on 11th May 2025, covering May 2024 to April 2025

Minister's Review

Jonathan writes:

For once, I'm going to start with the challenges of the year. Foremost has been that, despite very good forward planning, we didn't have the central heating in our building working for almost all the months we needed it. The details of that are covered elsewhere, but the impact has been to soak up much extra cost, and effort from the staff team, on managing unhappy building users, and running round every day setting timers on portable electric heaters. It meant we couldn't make progress on some other building improvement projects, and we couldn't run a Christmas Festival.

Behind the scenes the finance team has had a difficult year, never quite getting into a happy rhythm. The Church Council too have had to spend more time than ideal on difficult conversations about our income, and what to do to increase it.

However, all of this leads us to return to the Lord: "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

These words have been true again for us over the last year, as these examples make clear:

Last year I wrote "We have also advertised for a new Community Minister ... We've yet to receive realistic applications, but I'm confident that in God's timing – which is normally later than ours – He will provide who we need." We didn't receive any realistic applications, and none of the good possible local people we approached felt such a role was right for them at that point in time. But at the same time we realised just how many children and young people we now had in our church family. So our Council agreed to change the focus, and instead advertised for a part-time "Children, Youth & Families Leader". Straight away we had 2 good applicants, and were delighted to be able to appoint Jumoke Akinbusoye to the position. She is indeed God's wonderful provision to us at this time, which was indeed different from our original thoughts (and timing). This post is currently being funded by the generous giving of a previous generation of Christ Church, as the Council decided this was the right way to invest most of our remaining available savings.

At the Council away day in the summer we invited Akin & Jumoke to come and tell us about some of the practical challenges that some of our recent immigrants were facing. Within a few weeks of that, under Katie Garner's leadership, we were able to start the 'CCC Pantry', where we support each other with food and household essentials. This has quietly continued, as a much-valued ministry within our church family.

Our Church family continue to be blessed:

- our ecumenical nature means that we can worry less about man-made rules, and focus more on Jesus, our Lord, King, Saviour and High Priest
- we've felt increased joy (and numbers) in our worship services, particularly as we sing out our worship, and heard more testimonies of God at work in people's everyday lives. The Holy Spirit is definitely present and moving as we gather.
- God has added to our number, welcoming more people who have moved into Chineham and wider Basingstoke, looking for "a good church"
- our diversity of age and background has increased further, now with people from at least 20 cultures, which is a sign of God's Kingdom at work here and now
- we are continuing to grow our reputation as "good people doing good work" for an increasing number in our community, with The Well, Tuesday lunches, Sparklers, Twinklers, and hosting and helping lead Chineham Repair Café
- with a growing group of adults committed to improving our teaching groups for children and youth
- with an excellent staff team to share in the work of ministry and support to ministry
- we've been able to continue live-streaming our larger service each week, supporting our 'at home' church, and people working Sunday shifts
- some of our small groups have grown, and we've started a new Mums/Grandmums group
- we've been able to talk and pray with various people who come "off the street" into the building drawn to God's house
- we've seen His love shared between us, including the very many who continue to serve in the church (see the Thanks at the end) and in our town-wide ministries (including Street Pastors, The Safe, Junction 5, Town Chaplaincy, Community Food Link, Food Bank ...)
- for good collaboration between many of the local churches and Christians, working in joint mission, and seeking each other's good.

It remains a wonderful privilege to be a pastor, leader and servant for Christ Church, because of the faithfulness, friendship, support and prayers of so many. Thank you!

Teaching

During this period our small groups have studied the Bible in many different ways.

In our Sunday services we've worked our way through Bible books (Ruth and Romans), as well as considered Biblical themes ('Training to Win' during the Olympics, 'Wise & Foolish' living, and 'Kingdom Culture') and some specific passages (Godly Generosity from 2 Corinthians 8-9). We also remembered the 700th Anniversary of John Wycliffe, who is considered "the Morning Star of the Reformation". We've also started referring to the way we need to "Love God with our Head, Heart and Hands". These are all available on our YouTube channel.

We have continued with Sunday morning groups for primary and secondary age children – see more details below.

Church Family News

Hello and Goodbye

We have welcomed Julianne Adebimpe, Yaw Afranie, Wendy Arden-White, Noah Hawkett, Debbie Kwaghdoo, Nancy Maluleke, Dhayane & Fernando Marquardt, Paul & Tolani Martins, Kirsty Mott, John & Comfort Olatain, Dirk Vettewinkel, Paul Webb and Gill Wilson as Church Members, and said farewell to Christine Daly, Amanda Eves, Howard & Sarah Roughley, Angie Sawyer and Janet Scott, who have moved to other church fellowships, near or far. We have also sadly said goodbye to Marguerite Rule who died in April.

We've welcomed about 40 others now regularly worshipping with us (online or in person), including babies Isaac and Marcello, and said goodbye to about 10 others.

Jumoke Akinbusoye joined the staff team in January 2025 as Children, Families and Youth Leader.

Electoral Roll and Membership

As of 25 April 2025, there were 87 adults on the Electoral Roll, 39 of whom are not resident within the parish. We now have 115 adults on our separate Church Membership list; of this number 98 are affiliated as 'Ecumenical' members, with the others having a variety of denominational affiliations. We estimate that we also have an additional 45 adults as well as 75 children and teenagers who are regularly worshipping with us in person and online.

Rebecca Pain, Church Administrator and Electoral Officer

Sunday Life at Christ Church

Children and Youth Work

In the year 2024, we had the help of Becky Podevin who helped to source resources and organise some of our children and youth activities in conjunction with Jonathan and other leaders in our team. (Becky P has now stepped down temporarily from her volunteering role due to work).

I began my role as Children, Youth and Families Leader on 14th January and with the support of Jonathan, and the team of leaders, we have made progress and are building on the foundation laid by Liz, Becky and other leaders.

Key Points:

- Change in resources for our Children and Youth: We have moved from using the Heart Shapers resources to now using Scripture Union (SU) resources for our sessions because SU material also has content for Youth and for under 7s.
- Expanding our Children's Groups: We are gradually getting to a point where we are expanding our Children's Group from 2-3 or 4 groups (KS1, KS2, Toddlers and crèche) as we have more volunteers, and we are in the process of deciding whether to have our volunteers man the crèche or lead our toddler group. We are looking to possibly prioritize starting with a team to lead our toddlers (even if we are able to start with 2 sessions a month).
- Name Badges/Photo book: We have commenced the use of name badges to aid leaders in getting more familiar with the names of our children. We also hope to have a photo book soon which will be managed confidentially but also help us identify our children.
- Commencing Frequent Meet-ups for our Youth group: We had a youth hang out in March (pancake evening) and we hope to have more in the course of the year. The plan is to schedule an activity every other month.

Upcoming Events:

- Youth Mentorship Program - We are planning to commence a youth mentorship program in the summer. This will be targeted at the older young people in Christ Church (Ages 15 - 19). We currently have 3 volunteers for this.
- Training/Equipping of our Children and Youth Leaders -
    - Training for Children's Leaders: We are planning to have some training for our Children's Leaders this summer. One of our team members who is a seasoned teacher has offered to lead a training session.
    - Youth Leaders Training: We are planning to commence a training for Youth Leaders in the first half of this year.

Conclusion:

Thanks to the help of our current volunteers and everyone in the church leadership team, the Children and Youth ministry of CCC is growing. We pray for more committed volunteers to support the work.

Jumoke Akinbusoye

Music

Our sung worship is coordinated by a leadership team which comprises Peter Chiverton, Jonathan Clark, Graham Ellsmore, Jean Medcraft-North, Rebecca Pain, Andrew Price and Mark Wilson. They have met several times over the last year to discuss various aspects of our musical worship. A recent focus has been to explore ways in which we can help to engage children in our sung worship (including the use of flags and percussion instruments), as well as to consider how we can use a variety of languages to reflect the diversity of the congregation.

Small choirs were formed for the Community Carol Service, Blue Christmas, Good Friday and Easter Day; the recent Easter choir was particularly well received and it was wonderful to involve members of our youth group.

We are very grateful that a number of generous donations enabled us to purchase a new digital piano towards the end of 2024.

Rebecca Pain

Christ Church Pantry

In July 2024 we opened the Christ Church Pantry to meet a need within our congregation. The pantry runs out of the John Newton Room and is open after the 10am Sunday service. We receive donations of food, toiletries, and baby items from both members of the congregation and from the Community Food Link (CFL), which we are very grateful for.
We have a varying number of people who come each week, and they can take whatever items we have that they need. The pantry is open and manned by different people each week, they put donated items out and are there to help as required.

We try to put out updated shopping lists every few months, although they sometimes come out late! We are also thankful to receive shopping bags.

Katie Garner

Sunday Prayer Ministry

Christ Church continues to be blessed with a team of people who are willing to pray for others after each of our Sunday services. At present, there are 10 people on the team, with two being available each Sunday on a rota system.

Interaction with prayer ministry by the congregation tends to be understandably variable. It is always helpful when the person leading reminds the congregation of this ministry at the end of the service. Additionally, gracious and gentle reminders to try and leave the Worship Area as a quiet and reflective space are very much appreciated, so that we are able to more sensitively listen and pray with whomever is requesting prayer. This is particularly important with regard for the need for prayer needs to be treated with privacy and confidentiality. When there is no-one who comes forward for prayer, the team members usually use the time to pray for each other.

From my own perspective, I highly value this ministry and I'm always so moved by the love and compassion I am shown. I hope and pray that others feel the same.

Some members of our congregation are brilliant at connecting with others over tea and coffee, and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit to pray wherever the need has arisen!

Going forward, it may prove beneficial for the Prayer Ministry Team to meet with Jonathan and discuss if there is any support or training needed. There may come a time when we need to increase our provision of prayer ministry or at least have a pair on stand-by. With any growth of the team in the future, it might also be of benefit to balance the ratio of women and men on the team, whilst not neglecting the fact that God calls those He has chosen.

Becky Cassini

Songs of Praise

Songs of Praise is an occasional informal event on a Sunday afternoon when we gather together to sing our favourite hymns and enjoy spending time together over a cup of tea and some cake. This was proposed in response to the fact that with so much amazing new Christian music, many of the traditional hymns and songs were not being sung. Interestingly however quite a few favourites have been comparatively modern. If they wished, people choosing hymns have explained their choice and sometimes the story behind the hymn is shared.

Many thanks to those who have helped in different ways and to those who have come along and sung heartily!

Janet Scott

Midweek Life at Christ Church

The office is normally open Monday - Friday mornings, and most afternoons; occasionally it will be closed due to sickness, holidays or staff working from home. If staff are in the building by themselves the main door will be locked and you are asked to call the office for entry.

The Well

The Well has continued to be open during the past year on weekday mornings and once a month on Saturday afternoon. There are always people around to chat to visitors attending the Repair Cafe too. Thanks go to those who give up their own time to host The Well usually one or two mornings a month.
The Well provides a welcoming space for anyone from the community or from the church and it is obvious from the comments that have been made that it is much appreciated.

Janet Scott

Tuesday Lunches

Tuesday Lunches take place on the 1st/3rd Tuesday of every month, 12.15pm for a 12.30pm start. People who wish to come for lunch are asked to book if possible and we generally serve about 25 people, some of whom are church members and some of whom come from the community (this includes our helpers who eat with the visitors). We serve a two course meal based around a jacket potato, a mixed salad and a dessert.

There is no set charge for the meal - people give what they feel the meal is worth or what they can afford. It is not a problem if they are not able to give anything, they can still have a meal and eat with us.

I have a loyal team of helpers and without them these lunches could not happen - there are generally 4 people working with me in the kitchen during the morning (Liz Boddy, Judith Read, Gill Wilson and either Denise Bain or Christine Embleton) ... but not all the preparation happens in the kitchen - John, for example, sets up the tables and chairs in the Shaftesbury Room. Lots of people help clear the Shaftesbury Room after the lunch, but this is generally overseen by Katie Phillips, Janet Scott and Mary Boys, whilst Sue Strawson counts the donations.

If you are free at lunchtime on the first or the third Tuesday in the month why not come along and eat with us? Oh...and if you'd like to join our team of helpers either regularly or on an occasional basis please talk to me or one of the team - you do not need to be able to cook, if you can follow instructions you will make a very good helper!

Marianne Sales

Tuesday Craft Group

This is a relaxed informal group who meet every Tuesday afternoon from 2-4pm. We bring our own work and members are always glad to give advice if they can. One member is making kneelers for her church, others are making toys for Christmas boxes. Some people are crocheting blankets. These have been much appreciated while we have had no heating in the church! Some people just enjoy chatting. When the Shaftesbury Room is available we meet in there, otherwise we meet in the foyer. We're a flexible group of between 8 and 20 attendees. We are a mixture of church members and people from the community.

Sue Strawson

Midweek Service

We have a service every Wednesday at 10am. We have a small team of people who take it in turns to lead the services. Communion is held once a month, the other weeks are Morning Prayer in a variety of styles. We always have someone playing the keyboard for us, so are able to include hymns/songs in the service.

We can range from 8-20 people each week; for some people this is the only service they attend, others come on Sunday as well.

Sparklers

Sparklers runs on Monday and Thursday mornings 10-11.30 during term time. Parents and carers need to book online as spaces are limited for safety reasons, we limit the number of childminders in each session to give priority to parents/carers who are at home.
The children have a variety of toys to play with, which have been donated, our Local One Stop have very generously supplied us with biscuits, chocolate and toys. There is also a craft or play dough activity as well.

Our new story time has proved a great hit and we are working on smaller bible stories that are age appropriate that we can use. We finish every session with our Sparklers prayer.
On average we have approximately 36 children per session plus 30 adults and then the team..
We are very blessed to have an incredible team of volunteers who give their time to help serve our community, we couldn't provide the supportive environment we do without them..
The charge for Sparklers remained static for 5 years, but there has been a modest increase since Easter.

Tonya Butler

Twinklers

Twinklers is a small group of 6/7 mainly 1st time mums with newborns, the aim is to provide a safe space for chat and support. The mums and babies stay in Twinklers for a term, meeting on a Wednesday morning. This group is intentionally run as a closed group, aiming to encourage friendship and self support. They meet in the creche, and Tonya is there to facilitate and provide refreshments. We also have a set of baby scales if they want to weigh their babies.

By keeping the group small, it helps the mums to build confidence and help each other. At the end of the term the group then move onto Sparklers where they can continue to support each other with the challenges and celebrations of having a small child.

We were happy to welcome a representative from Healthy Families who was able to give advice on dental care and weaning, and hope they will be able to attend again.
There is no charge for Twinklers.

Tonya Butler

Outreach Ministry to Children

Alongside the outreach work that takes place during the week in our building, we also reach out to our local schools. Unfortunately Great Binfields School is still not wishing to have our input, but Jonathan has done interactive sessions with Year 5 at Four Lanes School and Year 3 at Marnel School. We've maintained our link with the local uniformed youth organisations, who joined us again on Remembrance Sunday.

Jonathan Clark

Open the Book

I have been running an Open The Book team since 2011 and at the moment we have the joy of going into Marnel Junior to share Bible Stories with the whole school. Classes compete to get to assembly early in the hope that their class will be picked to help us tell the story. It has been a great privilege to share with the children the teachings and Miracles of Jesus during the spring term and as I write this it is actually World Book day so on Monday I told the children that we dress up in costumes of our favourite book characters every time we come in to do Open the Book we don't have to wait for World Book day. Some of my team have being doing Open the Book with me since we started at Great Binfields, for which I am very grateful but we could do with some more team members so if you are free on a Monday afternoon between 1pm and 3pm please let me know. You would need to have a DBS and join Open The Book through the Bible Society. For more information speak to me or one of my team, Sue Strawson, Katie Phillips, Cathy Foster, Paul Webb , Una Urry, Janet Scott, or have a look at this link.
https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/

Maggie Chiverton

Lettings

The building continues to be used for a range of activities including a breakfast/after school club, a variety of U3A groups, music and drama rehearsals, Zumba, home-ed science workshops, board games, and even local and general elections. Two other churches use our building on a weekly basis, and we have also hosted other church groups including One Church, Deanery Synod and the local Baptist Association. The number of one-off bookings for parties has remained relatively steady, averaging at one per fortnight.

Although we rely on the income from these Lettings, we are conscious of maintaining a balance so that the building remains available for our own mission and ministry as well as for those wishing to hire a space.

Rebecca Pain

Administrative Information

Christ Church is located in Chineham, Basingstoke, and is the Church of England Parish Church (part of the Diocese of Winchester). It is also a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) jointly held with the Baptists (Southern Counties Baptist Association), The Methodist Church (Berkshire and Hampshire Borders Circuit) and the United Reformed Church (Wessex Synod). The LEP has a Constitution and Sharing Agreement agreed between the four denominations.

The correspondence address is Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, Hampshire, RG24 8LT. The Church Council is a charity registered with the UK Charity Commission, number 1142640.

Objectives and Activities

The ecumenical Joint Church Council (referred to simply as 'the Church Council') of Christ Church has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent and other denominations' ministers in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The Church Council is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our church community. The Council maintains an overview of worship in the parish where we aim to put our faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus. (See earlier sections for details.)
- Provision of pastoral care for people of all ages living in the parish. (Including many of our regular groups.)
- Support community life by provision of community centre space for local groups to use. (In particular we continue to be pleased to host before- and after-school childcare run by the local Willowdene business.)
- Missionary and outreach work – by giving prayer and financial support.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the buildings and facilities of Christ Church and the Church Centre complex. The PCC is specifically responsible for this; for details of how the PCC works as part of the Church Council, please see our separate 'How We Work' document.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of Church Council members is set out in the Church Representation Rules, the Constitution, and interpreted by our 'How We Work' document. All regular worshippers are encouraged to become a Member of Christ Church, to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the Church Council.

The Church Council has the following Groups or Teams which it delegates parts of its work to, each with Terms of Reference:

- Mission Support Group: responsible for detailed activity supporting our mission partners, and deciding how our mission support tithe should be distributed.
- Facilities Management Group: responsible for deciding priorities for maintenance and refurbishment work, then managed by our Facilities Coordinator.
- Pastoral Coordination Team: responsible for managing pastoral care, including selection, training and support of the pastoral care team.
- Team Resourcing Group: responsible for detailed work to support staff management (including pay and conditions) and recruiting for paid or volunteer team members.
- Green Team: moving on our EcoChurch and wider environmental response.

Church Council members who served between 2 May 2024 and 10 May 2025 were:

Title/Role	**Name**	**Dates (if different)**
Denominational Ministers (ex officio)	Jonathan Clark (Chair, Anglican) *Vacant* (Baptist) Martin Beukes (Methodist) *Vacant* (URC)	

Church Wardens (ex officio)	Katie Garner Olu Ojo-Oratokhai (Vice-Chair)	
Treasurer	Stuart Woosnam	
Ordinary Members	Olufunke Akinleye Amanda Eves Gareth Rowlands Rachel Wilson Andrew Young	Until November 2024
Deanery Synod Representatives (ex officio PCC)	Graham Ellsmore David Josey *vacant*	
Denominational Representatives	*vacant* (Baptist) *vacant* (Methodist) Denise Bain (URC)	

- The Lead Minister is also a member of the Basingstoke Deanery Synod, and Christ Church can appoint up to 3 lay members to this Synod.
- The Methodist Minister, Lead Minister, and Methodist representative are members of the management team of the Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Circuit and Connexion.
- The URC Minister, Lead Minister, and URC representative are voting members of the Wessex Synod.
- The Baptist Minister, Lead Minister, and Baptist representative are voting members of the Southern Counties Baptist Association.

Safeguarding

During this period the Church Council has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. As part of this the Church Council has Safeguarding as a standing item on its agenda and the Safeguarding Policy was reviewed on 18 March 2025.

Liz Lang continues as our Safeguarding Officer, and Alex Bain as our DBS Officer, both liaising with the professional officers at the Diocese of Winchester. Liz hopes to step down from this role in the coming months.
The main work has been (helped by Rebecca Pain) ensuring that all our staff and volunteers have completed the relevant training recently enough. We have also updated our Safeguarding 'Dashboard' (helpfully provided by the Church of England) and are in the process of writing role descriptions for our volunteer positions.

Data Protection

Rebecca Pain is our Data Protection Officer. No changes have been made to our Data Protection Policy this year.

We continue to display notices informing congregation members that we film our services, but aim never to show people except those who come to the lectern to contribute. We have occasionally removed sections of a service from the YouTube recording when particular children accidentally wander 'into the shot'.

Behind the Scenes

Pastoral Care

Our aim is to offer pastoral care with integrity and in a way that honours God and all those involved. The Pastoral Care Team is a group of volunteers who try to offer friendship and practical help when needed as we try to "follow Jesus in every way".

As members of Christ Church, we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all in our community. It is the responsibility of each one of us to care for one another and to seek to help others when they are experiencing hardship or problems that, at least for the moment, seem beyond their ability to cope.

The Holy Spirit has equipped some with particular pastoral gifts, and more time to exercise them. These people come together as our core Pastoral Care Team, along with Home Group leaders and Ministers. But we know our limits: the pastoral care team doesn't seek to replace the services provided by social services, GPs and NHS, ambulances, professional carers or any other professional body.

The team aims to

- visit and keep in contact through phone calls and provide some social contact for those who cannot physically get to church and to offer Home Communion for those who are housebound or in Care Homes;
- provide prayer, spiritual comfort and a listening ear;
- provide lifts to church/appointments with doctors, hospitals etc as friends;
- support people in need of professional support by flagging up or sign-posting where people can get help;
- provide temporary support in emergencies/illness e.g. meal trains, babysitting.

But it's important to remember the Team's limits, as they:

- do not provide counselling services
- are not a substitute for social services.

Denise Bain

Facilities Management Group

2024 OVERVIEW

The year was challenging with respect to our building maintenance as it was dominated by the breakdown and restoration of heating to the church building. Due to discontinued failed parts on old boilers, we lost heating to the building in February 2024. Thanks to a team of hardworking staff, dedicated Facilities Management Group (FMG), a supportive Church Council and a patient community of worshippers and users, heating was eventually restored to the building in February 2025.

Nonetheless, we completed an energy audit in April to guide how we should prioritise our continuous improvement journey on energy usage and efficiency. Our facilities coordinator oversaw the usual routine maintenance of our site and equipment including appliance PAT testing several lighting repairs. The FMG organised a well-attended Autumn Clean event in October and we also reviewed our fire safety procedure in the year.

The FMG team had a standing meeting slot of 3rd Sunday of the month. The group core (Lead, Coordinator and Team Expert) met at least four times in 2024. The group communicated regularly on urgent matters via a dedicated FMG WhatsApp group where other members too were updated.

MORE DETAILS ON KEY 2024 PROJECTS/SPEND

Boiler Replacement *Completed in February 2025, 6 months beyond the August 2024 target and almost £6k over budget. The original contractor, despite seemingly knowledgeable and most responsive at the quotation and early project stage turned out incompetent to resolve heating circulation issues resulting from installing a heat exchanger which they recommended and added to the system. *The overspend was for a second contractor who did reworks and restored heating to the building. *Discussions ongoing to recover some of the overspend from the balance of the initial contractor. *The CoE Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC), have refused to grant retrospective permission for the recently completed boiler replacement work, after over 11 months from the Faculty Application caused by their unacceptable delays and unrealistic considerations.
Energy Usage and Spend * We used 26.95KWh of (Green Tariff) electricity costing £8.8k and 61.32KWh of gas costing £5.5k
Inspections & Audits *The 2023 Quinquennial Inspection report was received in May. Key points raised were roof moss removal, tree canopy control, external door redecorations and damaged ceiling replacements. *We completed an energy audit in April, which recommended LED lighting and timers changes in a 1-year short term, building insulation and solar panels in the medium term and heat pump replacement of gas boilers in the long term (2030).

* We obtained quotations and preliminary site assessment by potential vendors for solar panels. *We were unsuccessful at securing a grant for solar panel installation. *We managed to secure a small grant towards some internal LED lighting.

OUTLOOK ON 2025

The Key Projects/Activities below are the main focus of 2025	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Velux windows repair (including moss clearing)				
*Worship Area Lighting Control Replacement **				
High Level Cleaning & repaint (Wesley, Worship)				
Spring/Autumn Clean				
Wesley Hall Upgrade (Buy-in, Ideation, Quotation)				
Solar Power generation (Further Investigations)				
Review vendor selection process to avoid a TS Gas-type issue				

*Requires a volunteer project leader

Olu Ojo-Oratokhai

Mission Group

The Mission Group reports to the Church Council giving recommendations for our tithing. Our practice is to support charities for a period of years, enabling them to plan activities for the future. Each of the members of the group have a link to a specific charity and keep in touch with them throughout the year.

CCC currently support the following:

- Cathy Bartram @ Wycliffe - review due 2026
- Evangelical Action Brazil - review due 2026
- Smile Uganda - review due 2025
- Sat7 - review due 2027
- B:United - this is an ongoing review, the money is supporting whoever is heading Christian youth work in Basingstoke
- Compassion - ongoing support of a child
- Street Pastors - support given as requested
- Town Chaplaincy - support given as requested
- Junction 5 - support given as requested
- Night Light Winter Shelter - support given as requested

Katie Garner

Social Team

We are currently rebuilding our social team. We're aiming to gather together volunteers who are happy to either lead or help with events we're holding throughout the year.
Events planned so far for 2025 are Songs of Praise services, Church BBQ, welcome meetings, Harvest Bring and Share lunch, Women's breakfasts, an International Sunday and a Christmas Festival.
If you would like to help with any of these events please either contact the Church Office or talk to Katie Garner.

Christ Church Home Groups

We have a number of homegroups running throughout the week; if you would like further information please ask the church office. We have reports from the following groups:

Tuesday Evening

Over the past (church) year, our group has:

- Studied Elijah, John's Gospel and 1 Corinthians
- Taken communion together twice
- Had a Christmas social (with all our favourite Christmas treats!)
- Organised the CCC BBQ in September
- Had many prayers answered!

We meet fortnightly on a Tuesday evening in Old Basing, and have space for new members. We use study materials that guide the leader of the session through the readings and questions, and we share the leading of each session amongst us.

Current home group membership is - Mark Teahan, Bev Teahan, Katie Garner, Jim Garner, Katie Nickerson, Aidan Nickerson, Sue Russell, Judy Woosnam, Sue Handslip, Pete Chiverton and we also keep Lesley Aitchison included in all of our emails.

Bev Teahan

Thursday Afternoon

We meet at a member's house every 1st/3rd Thursday from 2-3:30pm.
We use various study guides, during the last year we have spent the most time on looking at SAT 7. We found this a particularly rewarding study. In January we enjoyed a lunch together at a member's house. Currently we are looking at Lent from various aspects. At the moment there are five of us in this group.

Sue Strawson

Thursday Evening

I co-ordinate the homegroup which meets twice a month at Jean and Martyn Wilde's home in Chineham. We usually meet in term-time from 7:30- 9pm on the 1st/3rd Thursdays of the month but are flexible to the needs of the group and their busy lives. The group is currently comprised of the following people: Jean and Martyn Wilde, Nigel Foster, Helen Winkle, Christine Daly, Kim Austen and myself. Although Christine and Kim are not current members of Christ Church, we very much value their presence and participation in the group. During discussions about the size of our homegroup, we have agreed that we could probably offer one more place, mainly due to not wanting to over-burden Jean and Martyn. They are kind and generous hosts and we are very grateful for them.

Since the last Annual Meeting, we have studied: Proverbs, Daniel, The Apostle's Creed, How to hear God (a short study series), and we are now using a studying guide looking at 1 Timothy and Titus. We generally take turns to lead and our discussions are often wide-ranging and challenging. We feel that through reading the Bible, our discussions and prayer/reflection times that we are supporting each person's faith in a loving and encouraging way. Our evenings usually follow the same format: chat and catch-up; study; prayer/reflection time. We may look at studying David or Elijah next.

Becky Cassini

Mums' Group

Members of the group are: Martha Clark, Jumoke Akinbusoye, Amy Mills, Patience Ndaga, Debbie Jiki, Shirah Blackwood, Julian Okoronkwo and Julianne Adebimpe.

Some of the topics/books we have discussed in the past:
- Bible Chapter study: Galatians
- Book study 'The Freedom of self- forgetfulness' Timothy Keller
- Topical Bible Study

This year, we have started with a topical Bible study format of discussion where we explore a topic and look at it in different cultural contexts and look at what the Bible says about it.
Meeting days: We used to meet physically during the weekends. Now we meet virtually, every other Wednesday.

Jumoke Akinbusoye & Martha Clark

Christ Church in the Wider Community

Members of Christ Church also take part in Christian work and activities in Basingstoke. These include volunteering for CFL, Street Pastors, Basingstoke Foodbank, B:United, Basingstoke Town Chaplaincy, The Safe, Anna Chaplaincy, Junction 5 and One Church Basingstoke. We have reports on some of these activities.

Community Food Link (CFL)

CFL is a volunteer-led project based in Basingstoke & Deane. We collect fresh food that cannot be sold from our partner supermarkets and sort, repack and deliver it to our distribution partners, charities, schools and playgroups to help the most vulnerable in our society. I have been involved since the beginning of the Covid pandemic and have seen it grow so much. To give you an idea of the growth I have quoted Dave from the latest CFL newsletter:

David has been volunteering with CFL for 5 years. Here is his perspective on how the project has grown since he joined: "On a Saturday evening, I used to collect from two supermarkets using my own car, take the food back to the United Reformed Church (navigating around numerous Deliveroo drivers), sort it all myself and pack it into the three or four freezers and fridges. Now, on Saturday evenings, I collect from eight supermarkets in the fantastic "new" van and take it all to K18 where at least two sorters process it all and store it in rooms full of freezers, fridges, and tables. One thing I definitely don't miss is lugging the crates and boxes up and down the stairs at the URC – K18 is such a great resource for us and makes the whole process so much easier and more efficient. It's been great to see so many new volunteers joining the team too. There were fewer than twenty when I started, and there are several times that number now – it's wonderful to see more and more people "catching the vision". Some things haven't changed, however. Everyone is still so appreciative of what we do – not just the recipients of our food, but also the staff at the supermarkets and other places we collect from – they are always so glad to donate to us. And although there's inevitably the odd hiccup, CFL continues to be really well organised and fun to be a part of!"

There has also been growth in how the individual hubs run where the food is passed on to clients. I have been involved with the Friday Hub at Oakridge where over 50 people gather each week to collect food. A warm hub organised by Marianne Sales provides warmth, tea, coffee, soup and pastries to those waiting and Jo Weineck and Josephine Childs are part of the team offering hospitality whilst I and others sort the food ready for distribution. We hold back some pastries for a youth hub where nearly 100 young people from the Vyne and South View Schools meet up for a drink and a snack with Yvonne and Ray, Methodist Circuit youth leaders.

Others with links to Christ Church are involved in collecting sorting food at K18 (Judi and Onwa Wonci), and Liz Lang helps at the Youth Hub outside the URC on London Street where up to 200 young people stop to grab a snack and some conversation on their way home from school or college.

The amount of food we get in each week varies. After Christmas we often have more than we can sensibly cope with and at the moment we are having a lean time. CFL was formed to redistribute food waste and therefore in an ideal world there would be no food for us to pass on, however we know that over 2000 families a week visit our hubs to collect food and they would not do this if it was not needed.

Maggie Chiverton

Looking Ahead

After a pandemic (2020), a refugee crisis (2021), a war in Europe (2022), a multi-nation conflict in the Middle East (2023), and huge changes in international trade and alliances by the new US Administration (2024 on) we've got used to unwelcome surprises. Oh, and we're now well into the age of AI, which is starting to disrupt many sectors. When we have no idea what our world or even our nation will look like in a few months, let alone into the next generation, it makes us even more grateful that we have a "solid rock ... a firm foundation" in our God.

Last year we saw again how Ruth and Naomi trusted God in dangerous and uncertain times. So we go forward choosing to trust the Almighty and loving God who knows the end from the beginning. We will do this by dwelling in God's word together, learning to trust more that He is "good all the time", as we hear more testimonies of Him at work in our ordinary lives. We will continue to see how to love Him with more of "our Head, Heart and Hands": by praying, learning, worshipping, supporting, reducing our impact on the planet, welcoming the stranger, having church family time together, and spreading his good news beyond the church walls and our YouTube channel.

Those things should be true every year. But what's specific for us in 2025-26? Well, I'm praying that we can make significant progress on:

- Deepening our life of prayer, with bigger and bolder prayers for God to be at work in us, and through us in the Chineham area.
- Continuing to become more open to the Holy Spirit's work of transforming, equipping and guiding, both corporately and individually.
- Work with our new Children, Youth & Families Leader to build the team to respond positively to requests for Baptisms and Thanksgiving services from outside the church family.
- Providing separate Sunday morning groups for children aged 2-3, 4-7 and 7-10.
- Drawing new church members into using their God-given gifts to serve the rest of our church family.
- Training, encouraging and involving new people to contribute and serve in our many areas of ministry, thus increasing our capacity ready for greater local outreach and a third weekly service.
- Restructuring how our Church Council works with a few new supporting Action Groups.
- Using our Facilities Development Fund to improve lighting in the Worship Area, and noticeably improve the comfort and usability of our Wesley Hall.
- Investing in ways to reduce our monthly running costs.

Jonathan Clark

CHRIST CHURCH CHINEHAM

Charity Registration No. 1142640

Annual Finance Report

2025

Contents:

Pages 1-3	Commentary
Page 4	Report of the Financial Examiner
Pages 5-6	Statement of Financial Accounts - as required by the Charity Commissioners
Page 7	Accounts - Balance and Summary
Pages 8-9	Detailed Accounts

Signed:

K. Garner

J G Clark.

Katie Garner
Warden

Jonathan Clark
Lead Minister/Vicar

Christ Church Chineham, Reading Rd. Chineham, Basingstoke, RG24 8LT

T: 01256 474280 e: office@christchurchchineham.org.uk w: christchurchchineham.org.uk

Commentary for the Christ Church Chineham 2025 Financial Statements

At the start of 2025 new accounting software was adopted, namely Expense Plus. This made the day-to-day running of the accounts more accessible and generally easier to run. However, during the year Christ Church operated without a Treasurer, and this required extra input from the Leadership Team. These annual accounts have been prepared by Anne Daw who is a former Treasurer, hence accounting knowledge of the church, but is not a member of the Church Council and hence does not have Trustee responsibility. These accounts have been reviewed and accepted by the Church Council.

The Team

Behind the scenes Steve Woods has been responsible for the book-keeping in the new software. Jim Garner has paid in the cash and cheques into the bank, Peter Chiverton has made the claims for gift aid to HMRC, bank payments made by Funke Akinleye and Rebecca pain has looked after the lettings bookings and invoicing etc. Most of the other tasks have been done by the Leadership team and members of the Church Council. In 2025 the payroll was prepared by an external bureau "Safe Hands".

Overview

The accounts show a total balance at the year-end of -£31K, £2.4K below the budgeted figure. At the year-end we have £27K in unrestricted savings left plus £36K designated to further facilities improvements. We have £50K operating reserves.

The following sections cover main items of Income and Expenditure, and other important notes.

Income

- Giving was higher than expected due to weekly collections and one-off donations being higher than budget. Planned giving was lower than expected, although £1K higher than previous year.
- Lettings income was close to budget, despite having to delay our yearly increase in lettings rates by 4 months, and give discounts, all because of the lack of heating at the start of 2025.
- The Gift Aid for the year is lower than the budget by £3.7K partly due to the December gift aid not received from the Parish Giving Scheme until January 2026, and partly due to unclaimed gift aid on cash not processed until 2026.

Expenditure

- This was the first of a planned two years investing savings into our new Children's Youth and Families worker.
- The Church Council decided to cap our giving to the Diocese of Winchester at the same level as last year (£70K) to avoid dipping further into our reserves. This is lower than the £81K they requested. (We do not intend this to be a long-term position, as the Diocese pay for our Lead Minister, his housing, some training and significant supporting services for Safeguarding and DBS.)
- Additional building costs related to the new boiler installation not initially functioning.
- Complete re-fit of the smaller kitchen in the old wing; that only required fitting costs, as the furniture was donated by Howdens.
- Replacement of radiators in the Wesley Hall.
- Replacement of automatic door mechanism in inner lobby.
- Continuing programme of yearly planned maintenance.

- £3K of legal fees due to a Diocesan Tribunal regarding the new boiler installation. The Church Council unanimously decided to withhold this from our Diocesan contribution, though because of an issue at the bank, this will be shown in the 2026 accounts instead.

Use of Restricted/Designated Funds

- The Facilities Development Fund was used this year for the costs of the smaller kitchen re-fit.
- The donor of the gift that formed the restricted Lectern Fund requested in the year that as a suitable replacement lectern had not yet been found, it should be un-restricted. It was therefore transferred to the General Fund.

Mission Support

Each year we give long term financial support to chosen Christian Organisations that do God's work in the world. The policy is to give one tenth of the budgeted income from giving plus gift aid. In 2025 we gave the following:

Sat 7	£2,400
Compassion (Child Sponsorship)	£384
Cathy Bartram / Wycliffe Bible Translators	£2,400
Evangelical Action Brazil	£2,951
Smile Uganda	£3,025
B:United	£1,200
Night Light Winter Shelter	£250
Junction 5	£250
Town Chaplaincy	£250
Engage Worship	£50
Evangelical Alliance (subscription)	£200
One Church Basingstoke(subscription)	£170
TOTAL	£13,530

Accounting Policies and Practices

The accounts for Christ Church Chineham are prepared using a receipts and payments basis.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 as prescribed by the Business Committee of the General Synod of the Church of England. These are similar to those of other denominations.

General Funds represent the funds of the Church Council that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the Church Council. Designated and restricted funds are only used for their stated purposes.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the Church Council is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of Church groups that owe their affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

All fixed assets are fully depreciated in the year of purchase. All consumable items, whether for Church use or for re-sale, are accountable for gross at the time of purchase. Income from all sources is recognised when received. All expenditure is accounted for when it leaves the bank. Interest is accounted for when received.

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s10 of the charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on moveable Church furnishings held by the Church wardens on special trust for the Church Council and which may require a faculty for disposal since the Church Council considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable Church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvements, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities, and the Managements accounts.

Items of equipment are written off when the asset is acquired.

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Christ Church Chineham Ecumenical Church Council - Charity No. 1142640

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ('the Trust') for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set on pages 5-9.

Responsibilities and Basis of the Report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Christine Holland CPFA

9 Ellerton Close

Theale

Reading

RG7 5QN

Christine Holland CPFA

Date: 2025

2025 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Prior Year
Receipts					
Donations & Legacies					
Donations	£106,713	£0		£106,713	£102,465
Gift Aid	£23,218	£0		£23,218	£27,162
Grants	£0	£0		£0	£800
Charitable Activities					
Ministry	£6,194	£0		£6,194	£5,069
Investments					
Bank Interest	£1,717	£0		£1,717	£1,927
Trading Activities					
Admin Income	£0	£0		£0	£0
Book & Card Sales	£154	£0		£154	£211
Fund raising	£0	£0		£0	£0
Lettings	£67,126	£0		£67,126	£63,956
Other					
Diocesan Fees	£0	£361		£361	£516
Loans Received	£0	£0		£0	£0
Other Income	£73	£3,594		£3,667	£1,303
Total receipts	**£205,195**	**£3,955**		**£209,150**	**£203,409**
Payments					
Charitable Activities					
Building & Facilities	£61,419	£754	£3,519	£65,692	£45,977
Denomination Support	£72,499	£0		£72,499	£86,259
Ministry	£8,469	£0		£8,469	£10,363
Mission Support	£13,530	£0		£13,530	£13,055
Other Expenditure	£0	£234		£234	£0
Payroll	£65,390	£0		£65,390	£49,903
Raising Funds					
Cost of raising funds	£0	£0		£0	£0
Governance Costs					
Diocesan fees	£0	£361		£361	£543
Support					
Supporting Services	£7,867	£0		£7,867	£6,412
Other					
Staffing Expenditure	£2,745	£0		£2,745	£0
Charity Collections	£0	£3,360		£3,360	£912
Grant Repaid	£0	£46	£0	£46	£0
Other Expenditure	£50	£0		£50	£0
Total payments	**£231,969**	**£4,755**	**£3,519**	**£240,243**	**£213,424**
Net Receipts / Payments (before transfers)	**-£26,774**	**-£800**	**-£3,519**	**-£31,093**	**-£10,015**
Fund Transfers In	£1,000	£0	£0	£1,000	£0
Fund Transfers Out	£0	£1,000	£0	£1,000	£0
Net Movement of Cash Funds	-£25,774	-£1,800	-£3,519	-£31,093	-£10,015
Total Cash Funds Brought Forward	£52,882	£4,500	£90,000	£147,382	£157,397
Total Cash Funds Carried Forward	£27,108	£2,700	£86,481	£116,289	£147,382

2025 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS (continued)

Assets:					
Current Assets at 31st December:			**2025**	**2024**	***Variance***
CAF Bank Main			£23,430	£11,454	£11,976
CAF Bank Lettings			£58,054	£102,630	-£44,576
CCLA Savings			£34,805	£33,298	£1,507
			£116,289	**£147,382**	**-£31,093**
	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Designated**	**Total**	**Prior Year**
Represented By:					
General (Unrestricted)	£27,108	£0	£0	£27,108	£52,882
Reserve (Designated)	£0	£0	£50,000	£50,000	£50,000
Facilities Development Fund (Designated)	£0	£0	£36,481	£36,481	£40,000
Facilities Fund (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Youth Fund (Restricted)	£0	£2,700	£0	£2,700	£2,700
Lectern Fund (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1,000
Appeals Fund not CCC (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Diocesan Fees (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Grants received (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£800
Total Parish Funds	**£27,108**	**£2,700**	**£86,481**	**£116,289**	**£147,382**
			Bank Balances	***£116,289***	
At the year-end there was £514 in cash from Christmas services to be banked in January					
	There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as the pence are not shown				

BANK BALANCES					
		01-Jan-25	**31-Dec-25**	**variance**	
CAF Bank Main	*Current Account*	£11,454	£23,430	£11,976	
CAF Bank Lettings	*Current Account*	£102,630	£58,054	-£44,576	
CCLA Savings	*Savings Account*	£33,298	£34,805	£1,507	
	Total	**£147,382**	**£116,289**	**-£31,093**	
FUND BALANCES					
		01-Jan-25	**31-Dec-25**	**variance**	
General Fund	*unrestricted*	£52,882	£27,108	-£25,774	
Reserve Fund	*designated*	£50,000	£50,000	£0	
Building & Facilities	*designated*	£40,000	£36,481	-£3,519	
Building & Facilities	*restricted*	£0	£0	£0	
Grants received fund	*restricted*	£800	£0	-£800	
Youth Fund	*restricted*	£2,700	£2,700	£0	
Diocesan Fund	*restricted*	£0	£0	£0	
Lecturn Fund	*restricted*	£1,000	£0	-£1,000	
Appeals Fund (not CCC)	*restricted*	£0	£0	£0	
	Total	**£147,382**	**£116,289**	**-£31,093**	
SUMMARY					
Income	**2025 Accounts**	**Budget**	**Variance**		
Giving	£106,713	£105,500	£1,213		
Gift aid	£23,218	£27,000	-£3,782		
Interest	£1,717	£1,500	£217		
Lettings	£67,126	£68,000	-£874		
Ministry	£6,194	£5,700	£494		
Other Income	£588	£1,000	-£412	The budget included an expected	
				£1,000 grant - not received	
charities collections income	£3,594	£0	£3,594		
	£209,150	**£208,700**	**£450**		
Expenditure					
CMF	£72,499	£73,000	-£501	only 50% of CMF given to URC	
Mission Support	£13,530	£13,400	£130		
M inistry	£8,469	£10,200	-£1,731		
Payroll	£65,390	£70,485	-£5,095		
Building costs, ins, utilities + projects	£65,692	£69,125	-£3,433		
Supporting Services	£7,867	£6,920	£947		
Other expenditure including grant spending	£3,202	£0	£3,202		
charity collections paid	£3,594	£0	£3,594		
	£240,243	**£243,130**	**-£2,887**		

	2025 DETAILED ACCOUNTS					
INCOME						
Category		**2025 Income**	**2025 Expenditure**	**2025 Budget**	**Variance at y/e**	
Donations	Planned Donations	£91,746		£95,000	-£3,254	
Donations	Collections	£6,731		£5,500	£1,231	
Donations	Donations	£8,236		£5,000	£3,236	
Gift Aid	Gift Aid	£23,218		£27,000	-£3,782	
	Sub-total	***£129,931***		***£132,500***	***-£2,569***	
Lettings	Lettings	£67,126		£68,000	-£874	
Ministry	Book sales	£154		£200	-£46	
Ministry	Children & Families	£0		£0	£0	
Ministry	Community building	£434		£500	-£66	
Ministry	Flowers	£497		£200	£297	
Ministry	Fund raising	£0		£0	£0	
Ministry	Sparklers	£4,050		£3,000	£1,050	
Ministry	Sundries	£111		£100	£11	
Ministry	Tuesday lunches	£1,102		£1,700	-£598	
Ministry	Youth	£0		£0	£0	
Other Income	Bank Interest	£1,717		£1,500	£217	
Other Income	Charity collections	£3,594		£0	£3,594	
Other Income	Grants (GF restricted)	£0		£1,000	-£1,000	*Expected grant not received*
Other Income	Diocesan Fees	£361		£0	£361	
Other Income	Other	£73		£0	£73	
	Sub-total	***£79,219***		***£76,200***	***£3,019***	
	TOTL INCOME	**£209,150**		**£208,700**	**£450**	
				Continued.....		

	2025 DETAILED ACCOUNTS (continued)				
EXPENDITURE					
Category		**2025 Income**	**2025 Expenditure**	**2025 Budget**	**Variance at y/e**
Denomination Support	CMF Baptists		£1,000	£1,000	£0
Denomination Support	CMF Methodists		£999	£1,000	-£1
Denomination Support	CMF URC		£500	£1,000	-£500
Denomination Support	CMF WDBF		£70,000	£70,000	£0
	Sub-total		***£72,499***	***£73,000***	***-£501***
Mission Support	Mission Support		£13,530	£13,400	£130
	Sub-total		**£13,530**	**£13,400**	**£130**
Building & Facilities	Development Projects		£3,519	£0	£3,519
Building & Facilities	Facilities projects		£31,057	£36,675	-£5,618
Building & Facilities	Insurance		£2,864	£3,000	-£136
Building & Facilities	Kitchen & Cleaning		£5,330	£3,700	£1,630
Building & Facilities	Routine maintenance		£5,633	£6,000	-£367
Building & Facilities	Utilities		£17,288	£19,750	-£2,462
	Sub-total		***£65,691***	***£69,125***	***-£3,434***
Ministry	Adult discipleship		£274	£500	-£226
Ministry	Book & Card Sales		£40	£200	-£160
Ministry	Children & Families		£1,188	£500	£688
Ministry	Clergy Expenses		£638	£800	-£163
Ministry	Flowers		£1,200	£1,200	£0
Ministry	Outreach		£279	£350	-£71
Ministry	Pastoral & Welfare		£288	£500	-£212
Ministry	Social and Community		£737	£250	£487
Ministry	Sparklers		£570	£525	£45
Ministry	Sundries		£474	£350	£124
Ministry	Training & Development		£216	£1,000	-£784
Ministry	Tuesday lunches		£1,144	£1,200	-£56
Ministry	Worship		£1,115	£1,825	-£710
Ministry	Youth		£308	£1,000	-£692
	Sub-total		***£8,469***	***£10,200***	***-£1,731***
Staffing	Payroll		£65,390	70485	-£5,095
	Sub-total		***£65,390***	***£70,485***	***-£5,095***
Supporting Services	Bank charges		£209	£120	£89
Supporting Services	Communications		£3,180	£2,300	£880
Supporting Services	Fees & Subs		£435	£600	-£165
Supporting Services	IT & AV Equipment		£911	£3,000	-£2,089
Supporting Services	Office Licences		£3,132	£900	£2,232
	Sub-total		***£7,867***	***£6,920***	***£947***
	Charity collections + exp		£3,594	£0	£3,594
	Grant repaid		£46	£0	£46
	other exp		£50	£0	£50
	Dio fees		£361	£0	£361
	Staffing Expenditure		£2,745	£0	£2,745
	Sub-total		***£6,796***	***£0***	***£6,796***
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**£240,242**	**£243,130**	**-£2,888**

CHRIST CHURCH CHINEHAM

Charity Registration No. 1142640

Annual Finance Report

2025

Contents:

Pages 1-3	Commentary
Page 4	Report of the Financial Examiner
Pages 5-6	Statement of Financial Accounts - as required by the Charity Commissioners
Page 7	Accounts - Balance and Summary
Pages 8-9	Detailed Accounts

Signed:

K. Garner

J G Clark.

Katie Garner
Warden

Jonathan Clark
Lead Minister/Vicar

Christ Church Chineham, Reading Rd. Chineham, Basingstoke, RG24 8LT

T: 01256 474280 e: office@christchurchchineham.org.uk w: christchurchchineham.org.uk

Commentary for the Christ Church Chineham 2025 Financial Statements

At the start of 2025 new accounting software was adopted, namely Expense Plus. This made the day-to-day running of the accounts more accessible and generally easier to run. However, during the year Christ Church operated without a Treasurer, and this required extra input from the Leadership Team. These annual accounts have been prepared by Anne Daw who is a former Treasurer, hence accounting knowledge of the church, but is not a member of the Church Council and hence does not have Trustee responsibility. These accounts have been reviewed and accepted by the Church Council.

The Team

Behind the scenes Steve Woods has been responsible for the book-keeping in the new software. Jim Garner has paid in the cash and cheques into the bank, Peter Chiverton has made the claims for gift aid to HMRC, bank payments made by Funke Akinleye and Rebecca pain has looked after the lettings bookings and invoicing etc. Most of the other tasks have been done by the Leadership team and members of the Church Council. In 2025 the payroll was prepared by an external bureau "Safe Hands".

Overview

The accounts show a total balance at the year-end of -£31K, £2.4K below the budgeted figure. At the year-end we have £27K in unrestricted savings left plus £36K designated to further facilities improvements. We have £50K operating reserves.

The following sections cover main items of Income and Expenditure, and other important notes.

Income

- Giving was higher than expected due to weekly collections and one-off donations being higher than budget. Planned giving was lower than expected, although £1K higher than previous year.
- Lettings income was close to budget, despite having to delay our yearly increase in lettings rates by 4 months, and give discounts, all because of the lack of heating at the start of 2025.
- The Gift Aid for the year is lower than the budget by £3.7K partly due to the December gift aid not received from the Parish Giving Scheme until January 2026, and partly due to unclaimed gift aid on cash not processed until 2026.

Expenditure

- This was the first of a planned two years investing savings into our new Children's Youth and Families worker.
- The Church Council decided to cap our giving to the Diocese of Winchester at the same level as last year (£70K) to avoid dipping further into our reserves. This is lower than the £81K they requested. (We do not intend this to be a long-term position, as the Diocese pay for our Lead Minister, his housing, some training and significant supporting services for Safeguarding and DBS.)
- Additional building costs related to the new boiler installation not initially functioning.
- Complete re-fit of the smaller kitchen in the old wing; that only required fitting costs, as the furniture was donated by Howdens.
- Replacement of radiators in the Wesley Hall.
- Replacement of automatic door mechanism in inner lobby.
- Continuing programme of yearly planned maintenance.

- £3K of legal fees due to a Diocesan Tribunal regarding the new boiler installation. The Church Council unanimously decided to withhold this from our Diocesan contribution, though because of an issue at the bank, this will be shown in the 2026 accounts instead.

Use of Restricted/Designated Funds

- The Facilities Development Fund was used this year for the costs of the smaller kitchen re-fit.
- The donor of the gift that formed the restricted Lectern Fund requested in the year that as a suitable replacement lectern had not yet been found, it should be un-restricted. It was therefore transferred to the General Fund.

Mission Support

Each year we give long term financial support to chosen Christian Organisations that do God's work in the world. The policy is to give one tenth of the budgeted income from giving plus gift aid. In 2025 we gave the following:

Sat 7	£2,400
Compassion (Child Sponsorship)	£384
Cathy Bartram / Wycliffe Bible Translators	£2,400
Evangelical Action Brazil	£2,951
Smile Uganda	£3,025
B:United	£1,200
Night Light Winter Shelter	£250
Junction 5	£250
Town Chaplaincy	£250
Engage Worship	£50
Evangelical Alliance (subscription)	£200
One Church Basingstoke(subscription)	£170
TOTAL	£13,530

Accounting Policies and Practices

The accounts for Christ Church Chineham are prepared using a receipts and payments basis.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 as prescribed by the Business Committee of the General Synod of the Church of England. These are similar to those of other denominations.

General Funds represent the funds of the Church Council that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the Church Council. Designated and restricted funds are only used for their stated purposes.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the Church Council is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of Church groups that owe their affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

All fixed assets are fully depreciated in the year of purchase. All consumable items, whether for Church use or for re-sale, are accountable for gross at the time of purchase. Income from all sources is recognised when received. All expenditure is accounted for when it leaves the bank. Interest is accounted for when received.

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s10 of the charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on moveable Church furnishings held by the Church wardens on special trust for the Church Council and which may require a faculty for disposal since the Church Council considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable Church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvements, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities, and the Managements accounts.

Items of equipment are written off when the asset is acquired.

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Christ Church Chineham Ecumenical Church Council - Charity No. 1142640

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ('the Trust') for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set on pages 5-9.

Responsibilities and Basis of the Report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Christine Holland CPFA

9 Ellerton Close

Theale

Reading

RG7 5QN

Christine Holland CPFA

Date: 2025

2025 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Prior Year
Receipts					
Donations & Legacies					
Donations	£106,713	£0		£106,713	£102,465
Gift Aid	£23,218	£0		£23,218	£27,162
Grants	£0	£0		£0	£800
Charitable Activities					
Ministry	£6,194	£0		£6,194	£5,069
Investments					
Bank Interest	£1,717	£0		£1,717	£1,927
Trading Activities					
Admin Income	£0	£0		£0	£0
Book & Card Sales	£154	£0		£154	£211
Fund raising	£0	£0		£0	£0
Lettings	£67,126	£0		£67,126	£63,956
Other					
Diocesan Fees	£0	£361		£361	£516
Loans Received	£0	£0		£0	£0
Other Income	£73	£3,594		£3,667	£1,303
Total receipts	**£205,195**	**£3,955**		**£209,150**	**£203,409**
Payments					
Charitable Activities					
Building & Facilities	£61,419	£754	£3,519	£65,692	£45,977
Denomination Support	£72,499	£0		£72,499	£86,259
Ministry	£8,469	£0		£8,469	£10,363
Mission Support	£13,530	£0		£13,530	£13,055
Other Expenditure	£0	£234		£234	£0
Payroll	£65,390	£0		£65,390	£49,903
Raising Funds					
Cost of raising funds	£0	£0		£0	£0
Governance Costs					
Diocesan fees	£0	£361		£361	£543
Support					
Supporting Services	£7,867	£0		£7,867	£6,412
Other					
Staffing Expenditure	£2,745	£0		£2,745	£0
Charity Collections	£0	£3,360		£3,360	£912
Grant Repaid	£0	£46	£0	£46	£0
Other Expenditure	£50	£0		£50	£0
Total payments	**£231,969**	**£4,755**	**£3,519**	**£240,243**	**£213,424**
Net Receipts / Payments (before transfers)	**-£26,774**	**-£800**	**-£3,519**	**-£31,093**	**-£10,015**
Fund Transfers In	£1,000	£0	£0	£1,000	£0
Fund Transfers Out	£0	£1,000	£0	£1,000	£0
Net Movement of Cash Funds	-£25,774	-£1,800	-£3,519	-£31,093	-£10,015
Total Cash Funds Brought Forward	£52,882	£4,500	£90,000	£147,382	£157,397
Total Cash Funds Carried Forward	£27,108	£2,700	£86,481	£116,289	£147,382

2025 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS (continued)

Assets:					
Current Assets at 31st December:			**2025**	**2024**	***Variance***
CAF Bank Main			£23,430	£11,454	£11,976
CAF Bank Lettings			£58,054	£102,630	-£44,576
CCLA Savings			£34,805	£33,298	£1,507
			£116,289	**£147,382**	**-£31,093**
	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Designated**	**Total**	**Prior Year**
Represented By:					
General (Unrestricted)	£27,108	£0	£0	£27,108	£52,882
Reserve (Designated)	£0	£0	£50,000	£50,000	£50,000
Facilities Development Fund (Designated)	£0	£0	£36,481	£36,481	£40,000
Facilities Fund (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Youth Fund (Restricted)	£0	£2,700	£0	£2,700	£2,700
Lectern Fund (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1,000
Appeals Fund not CCC (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Diocesan Fees (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Grants received (Restricted)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£800
Total Parish Funds	**£27,108**	**£2,700**	**£86,481**	**£116,289**	**£147,382**
			Bank Balances	***£116,289***	
At the year-end there was £514 in cash from Christmas services to be banked in January					
	There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as the pence are not shown				

BANK BALANCES					
		01-Jan-25	**31-Dec-25**	**variance**	
CAF Bank Main	*Current Account*	£11,454	£23,430	£11,976	
CAF Bank Lettings	*Current Account*	£102,630	£58,054	-£44,576	
CCLA Savings	*Savings Account*	£33,298	£34,805	£1,507	
	Total	**£147,382**	**£116,289**	**-£31,093**	
FUND BALANCES					
		01-Jan-25	**31-Dec-25**	**variance**	
General Fund	*unrestricted*	£52,882	£27,108	-£25,774	
Reserve Fund	*designated*	£50,000	£50,000	£0	
Building & Facilities	*designated*	£40,000	£36,481	-£3,519	
Building & Facilities	*restricted*	£0	£0	£0	
Grants received fund	*restricted*	£800	£0	-£800	
Youth Fund	*restricted*	£2,700	£2,700	£0	
Diocesan Fund	*restricted*	£0	£0	£0	
Lecturn Fund	*restricted*	£1,000	£0	-£1,000	
Appeals Fund (not CCC)	*restricted*	£0	£0	£0	
	Total	**£147,382**	**£116,289**	**-£31,093**	
SUMMARY					
Income	**2025 Accounts**	**Budget**	**Variance**		
Giving	£106,713	£105,500	£1,213		
Gift aid	£23,218	£27,000	-£3,782		
Interest	£1,717	£1,500	£217		
Lettings	£67,126	£68,000	-£874		
Ministry	£6,194	£5,700	£494		
Other Income	£588	£1,000	-£412	The budget included an expected	
				£1,000 grant - not received	
charities collections income	£3,594	£0	£3,594		
	£209,150	**£208,700**	**£450**		
Expenditure					
CMF	£72,499	£73,000	-£501	only 50% of CMF given to URC	
Mission Support	£13,530	£13,400	£130		
M inistry	£8,469	£10,200	-£1,731		
Payroll	£65,390	£70,485	-£5,095		
Building costs, ins, utilities + projects	£65,692	£69,125	-£3,433		
Supporting Services	£7,867	£6,920	£947		
Other expenditure including grant spending	£3,202	£0	£3,202		
charity collections paid	£3,594	£0	£3,594		
	£240,243	**£243,130**	**-£2,887**		

	2025 DETAILED ACCOUNTS					
INCOME						
Category		**2025 Income**	**2025 Expenditure**	**2025 Budget**	**Variance at y/e**	
Donations	Planned Donations	£91,746		£95,000	-£3,254	
Donations	Collections	£6,731		£5,500	£1,231	
Donations	Donations	£8,236		£5,000	£3,236	
Gift Aid	Gift Aid	£23,218		£27,000	-£3,782	
	Sub-total	***£129,931***		***£132,500***	***-£2,569***	
Lettings	Lettings	£67,126		£68,000	-£874	
Ministry	Book sales	£154		£200	-£46	
Ministry	Children & Families	£0		£0	£0	
Ministry	Community building	£434		£500	-£66	
Ministry	Flowers	£497		£200	£297	
Ministry	Fund raising	£0		£0	£0	
Ministry	Sparklers	£4,050		£3,000	£1,050	
Ministry	Sundries	£111		£100	£11	
Ministry	Tuesday lunches	£1,102		£1,700	-£598	
Ministry	Youth	£0		£0	£0	
Other Income	Bank Interest	£1,717		£1,500	£217	
Other Income	Charity collections	£3,594		£0	£3,594	
Other Income	Grants (GF restricted)	£0		£1,000	-£1,000	*Expected grant not received*
Other Income	Diocesan Fees	£361		£0	£361	
Other Income	Other	£73		£0	£73	
	Sub-total	***£79,219***		***£76,200***	***£3,019***	
	TOTL INCOME	**£209,150**		**£208,700**	**£450**	
				Continued.....		

	2025 DETAILED ACCOUNTS (continued)				
EXPENDITURE					
Category		**2025 Income**	**2025 Expenditure**	**2025 Budget**	**Variance at y/e**
Denomination Support	CMF Baptists		£1,000	£1,000	£0
Denomination Support	CMF Methodists		£999	£1,000	-£1
Denomination Support	CMF URC		£500	£1,000	-£500
Denomination Support	CMF WDBF		£70,000	£70,000	£0
	Sub-total		***£72,499***	***£73,000***	***-£501***
Mission Support	Mission Support		£13,530	£13,400	£130
	Sub-total		**£13,530**	**£13,400**	**£130**
Building & Facilities	Development Projects		£3,519	£0	£3,519
Building & Facilities	Facilities projects		£31,057	£36,675	-£5,618
Building & Facilities	Insurance		£2,864	£3,000	-£136
Building & Facilities	Kitchen & Cleaning		£5,330	£3,700	£1,630
Building & Facilities	Routine maintenance		£5,633	£6,000	-£367
Building & Facilities	Utilities		£17,288	£19,750	-£2,462
	Sub-total		***£65,691***	***£69,125***	***-£3,434***
Ministry	Adult discipleship		£274	£500	-£226
Ministry	Book & Card Sales		£40	£200	-£160
Ministry	Children & Families		£1,188	£500	£688
Ministry	Clergy Expenses		£638	£800	-£163
Ministry	Flowers		£1,200	£1,200	£0
Ministry	Outreach		£279	£350	-£71
Ministry	Pastoral & Welfare		£288	£500	-£212
Ministry	Social and Community		£737	£250	£487
Ministry	Sparklers		£570	£525	£45
Ministry	Sundries		£474	£350	£124
Ministry	Training & Development		£216	£1,000	-£784
Ministry	Tuesday lunches		£1,144	£1,200	-£56
Ministry	Worship		£1,115	£1,825	-£710
Ministry	Youth		£308	£1,000	-£692
	Sub-total		***£8,469***	***£10,200***	***-£1,731***
Staffing	Payroll		£65,390	70485	-£5,095
	Sub-total		***£65,390***	***£70,485***	***-£5,095***
Supporting Services	Bank charges		£209	£120	£89
Supporting Services	Communications		£3,180	£2,300	£880
Supporting Services	Fees & Subs		£435	£600	-£165
Supporting Services	IT & AV Equipment		£911	£3,000	-£2,089
Supporting Services	Office Licences		£3,132	£900	£2,232
	Sub-total		***£7,867***	***£6,920***	***£947***
	Charity collections + exp		£3,594	£0	£3,594
	Grant repaid		£46	£0	£46
	other exp		£50	£0	£50
	Dio fees		£361	£0	£361
	Staffing Expenditure		£2,745	£0	£2,745
	Sub-total		***£6,796***	***£0***	***£6,796***
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**£240,242**	**£243,130**	**-£2,888**