

Parish of St. Luke Farnworth with Cronton Mission Annual Trustees Report of the Parochial Church Council for 2021

Thanks to the teams from the Justice Service who have transformed our churchyard so everyone can enjoy God's creation.



Our Mission Statement

"We strive to live by faith, to be known by love and to connect people to Jesus and one another".

Our Vision

*God's love is Learn from each other
Outreach to all in our community
Vitalise personal growth and discipleship
Ensure all feel welcome and encourage belonging*

Team Rector Reverend Bob Pearson **Team Vicar** Reverend Lyn McIver

Local Ministers Sue Smither, Clare Liptrott and Lesley Firth

Web site St-luke.co.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

Every 5 years a quinquennial report has to be produced and submitted to the Diocese. One was produced in 2016 and unfortunately the one produced in 2021 shows little progress has been made re maintenance and enhancement of the church owing to a delay in obtaining a faculty and the pandemic. There is also a visit from the Archdeacon to review our objectives and our plans for the future. Due to the pandemic restrictions this visit took place in 2022. In preparation for the visit a document was produced reviewing our 2021 objectives and stating objectives for 2022 so Section 3 will give you an overview of 2021 using the headings provided by the Diocese and Section 4 states our objectives for 2022.

The Friends of Farnworth Church Restoration and Regeneration Appeal was relaunched on Heritage Day 2021 to raise funds to complete the outstanding work on the roofs of Bold Chapel and the Nave, as well as restoration of the Bell Tower and the provision of toilets and a kitchenette in church. This will require a great deal of support from, not only the congregation but also the wider public. We do hope you will join us in this Appeal and be part of the future of this wonderful building.

The churchyard looks amazing thanks to teams from the Justice Service who have worked relentlessly in all weathers to clear the churchyard of brambles and tend the areas around the graves. This has inspired us to launch a conservation project to develop a valuable resource for educating the public about conservation and celebrating the wonder of God's creation. Canon Law requires a churchyard to be 'kept in such an orderly and decent manner as becomes consecrated ground'. The churchyard belongs to the whole community represented by the parish, not just to its legal owner or the small group of parishioners who worship regularly in the Church.

The churchyard was created to provide a permanent resting place for members of the Christian community as close as possible to their place of worship. The building and churchyard and their tombs, both within and outside the building, should be cared for with this in mind.

At the same time, Christian belief is that the non-human world has value because it is valued by its creator, God. Plants and animals deserve our care too. Managing the churchyard is thus not only a ministry to the human users but also to all the species living there.

We aim to manage the churchyard in a manner which provides a habitat and refuge for threatened species with the hope of maintaining and, when possible, increasing the biodiversity in our community.

2. AIMS and PURPOSE

The first and most important aim of the St Luke's Church with Cronton Mission Parochial Church Council (PCC) is working with Team Rector Reverend Bob Pearson, our minister, to promote in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

Legally, the PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the church parish and the maintenance of the building, the Bridewell and the churchyard, and for promoting the mission of the church.

Our purpose is to provide a church family within which people can grow as Christians and help one another and the community around us with the many problems faced by individuals.

Safeguarding is of paramount importance to us. Our Safeguarding Officer ensures that we follow Diocesan Guidelines diligently ensuring that all necessary checks are made on church members and staff who work with children and vulnerable adults; we aim to promote the best possible safeguarding culture. Going forward, Cronton Mission agreed that a separate committee was no longer required. A positive result of the Pandemic was the development in the collaborative working together of the Parish. Cronton continues to have PCC representation.

3. REVIEW of 2021 OBJECTIVES

a) MISSION and MINISTRY

To continue to use Zoom to take church into the home.

Blessed with Wi-Fi installed in church prior to the pandemic, this enabled us to use Zoom for services. At the start Bob and Alison were the only people in church when the service was Zoomed, but this gave a better worship experience than from Bob's study.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

Despite the restrictions, 10.30am services were held in church when possible and on Zoom. Congregation members valued the opportunity to worship from home and feel engaged and part of the church family; members in church and at home appreciated that details of services and events were promoted on the screen each week. Those still using Zoom have expressed their appreciation and gratitude and how it has kept them feeling connected and part of the worshipping community. We chose to use Zoom online at service time rather than post a recording our website, so people feel part of the service.

When services could be held in church, the monthly 8am HC and 6pm HC services took place with laminated service sheets. Unfortunately, the heating failed in October 2021, this resulted in a drop in attendance at all services as the church was so cold. Services took place at Cronton Mission on Easter Sunday, Whit Sunday, and then weekly from August including Morning prayer, Holy Communion and Café Style worship. Due to pressures of work, the Lay Missional Lead role could not continue. As a result, Cronton is now served by all Lay Ministers in addition to the Team Rector. New young families have joined the weekly congregation.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Mid-week 9.30am HC and MP services were held in church when possible and laminated sheets used. Each Wednesday the church is open until 4pm (Open Door) for people to visit for a guided tour and/or quiet prayer. Games Galore in the afternoon is an opportunity for fellowship whilst people play board games.

b) CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE MINISTRY

To promote Toddler church, Messy church & All Age worship.

To further develop links with Farnworth CE and Cronton CE Primary Schools.

WORSHIP

The plan was to continue with Toddler Church, Messy church and All Age worship but

following feedback from parents, grandparents and carers the Lay Ministers introduced a monthly service for all age groups - JAM (Jesus And Me) Club so all family members can attend together. This new fresh expression is less onerous on the Lay Ministers who prepare and lead the sessions. The number attending is steadily increasing. Families from Jam Club attend Sunday morning services at St Luke's church and Cronton Mission. JAM club children join Sunday Club children and members of the Scout and Guide Group at special services such as the Nativity, Mothering and Father's Sunday. The children took part in the Toy service. On Epiphany Sunday, a family placed the Kings in the nativity scene under the altar and a family lit one of the Advent candles.

Weekly activities for children based on the Lectionary Bible readings, are produced by a Lay Minister, they are circulated and posted on our website. Hard copies are provided in St Luke's church in an area set aside near the front of the church for the JAM creche which has toys and books with a religious theme. The activities are used at Cronton Mission and are especially welcomed by parents for the children as at present a meeting room for Sunday School is not available owing to Covid restrictions. Some families feel more comfortable moving between Cronton Mission, St Luke's church and Zoom. Cronton Mission hold 2 Café Style services each month, so different needs are met across the parish. Sunday Club at St. Luke's church use the same activities as a base, but the Leader enhances as necessary to improve the experience for the children who meet for 45 minutes before going into church when they tell the congregation what they have achieved based on the activity. Children from the creche join in too. This has proved a very popular part of the service with the congregation.

We were presented with the Child Friendly Church Award by Sue Mitchell and the Sunday Club children produced a Children's Charter which is on display in church.

SCHOOLS

Cronton CE Primary School: Weekly collective worship on Zoom led by Rector. SIAMS inspection did not take place due to Covid and is expected to be completed in the school academic year 22/23. PCC foundation governors will continue to prioritise health and safety, outstanding education provision and Christian distinctiveness. The Ethos Group was suspended and is now facilitated by a PCC foundation governor who also leads weekly worship.

Farnworth CE Primary School: twice weekly collective worship in school, when possible, otherwise Microsoft teams and PowerPoint Presentations used by Rector and Lay Minister. School values influence the input from Ministers. For this school year the values have been chosen by the parents. Because of restrictions both the school choir led by our Lay Minister and the Ethos group have not been possible. Our Lay Minister works closely with the school Lead on worship and Ethos Group meetings will resume asap. This is also the case for Open the Book which is very popular with children and the 'actors' (members of our PCC) too.

c) OCCASIONAL / PASTORAL OFFICES

To revise Baptism service.

To improve the welcome to church

To update our 'Church near You' entry.

To provide more services for the bereaved and lonely people.

People enquiring about baptisms, weddings and funerals can find directions to the appropriate information on our website. Our 'Church near you' entry directs people to our mobile website, so information is current. The mobile website is designed to be easily viewed on a mobile phone.

BAPTISMS The order of service was revised to make it more user friendly and easier to be understood by people who are not regular church goers. The service is presented on the screen. Baptism visits were held on Zoom when restrictions were in place, and this has continued so the families of the children to be baptised have the opportunity to meet each other before the service.

WEDDINGS The plan to have a service for wedding couples married in recent years was put on hold in 2020 and then 2021.

FUNERALS When restrictions were in place funeral ministry and planning continued on Zoom which was appreciated as family members not living locally could be involved. Funeral services in church were Zoomed when requested.

PASTORAL The Time to Remember service was well attended despite the situation and many took home the service booklet. Numerous compliments and thanks were received. There were more requests for home communion.

d) FESTIVALS

To promote our website at every opportunity

Our website is kept current by a warden who is our Web designer. All services for the week and special ones such as Lent, Holy Week and Easter, Harvest Festival and our variety of services at Christmas and events are displayed along with the weekly children's activities. Information on Giving through the Parish Giving Scheme is on our home page. Links to websites for schools are provided.

EASTER - As church was closed, a prayer washing line was set up outside church and young and old pegged prayers on the line. This created a social media presence. As did Holy Week Wreaths which were on the gate of St Luke's church porch, Cronton Mission door and St Ambrose church gate. Each day our Lay Minister added pictures and Bible verses to the wreaths starting on Palm Sunday through to Easter Sunday to show the journey of Jesus. In the past Experience Easter has been held in church for the school children and one year church members supported the Experience actually in school, it is hoped that this valuable way of portraying the Easter story will take place in church in future.

HARVEST - Services for the school children are usually held in church in addition to the traditional Sunday festival; although this was not possible donations for the local Foodbank were collected in Farnworth school and at church during the Sunday service. Everyone gave generously. Key stage 2 children at Cronton prepared a PowerPoint presentation which formed part of the Harvest Café Style worship.

REMEMBRANCE - At St. Luke's church Sunday Club and Crèche children presented wreaths on Remembrance Sunday. Barry Ingram presented a wreath of behalf of the congregation. A Lay Minister prepared a short Remembering service for use in school. A school service at the cenotaph was cancelled due to high number of Covid19 cases in school. KS1 and KS2 made wreaths for display at the Community meadow and our Lay Minister led a service there. Some of the children from school attended.

Following cancellation of the Village service by the Parish Council, Cronton Mission joined worship at the Methodist chapel.

CHRISTMAS - Both local Primary schools used St Luke's for their Christmas presentations though numbers were obviously restricted in-line with the restrictions.

For the first time Christingle services were ticketed as in the past 400 people have attended each service (3pm and 5pm on Christmas Eve). Numbers were limited to 250 and

adults were asked to wear masks and take a lateral flow test before attending. The PCC takes the safety of people in church very seriously. The congregations were delighted to be back in church as in 2020 the service was Zoomed; the Lay Ministers produced and distributed a great number of Christingle packs from the church porch which were appreciated by everyone.

e) MAKING A BIGGER DIFFERENCE

To continually review our Risk Assessments.

To use Zoom to hold events such as a quiz.

To make the Toy Service an annual event.

To facilitate the Cronton community to be self-supporting in taking over the drop-in sessions.

SOCIAL ACTIONS

OPEN CHURCH/DROP IN - On Saturdays in church led by Rector and Lay Minister on Saturdays for reflection, prayer and quiet time at special times in the church year.

EVENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY - Neither our annual Summer Fair with Rose Queen tradition nor our involvement with the school at their Christmas market were possible but monthly online quizzes were hosted by PCC member from Cronton on Zoom through lockdown. M.U. held a coffee morning in church. The annual Heritage Day was held despite restrictions and church tours took place as well as a self-guided tour of the churchyard with challenges for children.

COMMUNITY

DROP-IN CENTRE - In the Cronton Parish Office with weekly meeting led by Lay Minister was started but owing to pressure of work decision made to ask the local community to take over. The Cronton Parish Council are now leading this initiative.

CHURCH IS OPEN - Open Door and Games Galore on Wednesdays provide community interaction. The range of activities could be expanded when the toilets and kitchenette are in place.

USE OF THE MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES - Foodbank weekly donations, Christian Aid week and Toy service which is now an annual event supporting the Kings Cross project. As well as donations made during the service, the church was open on Saturday for school and community to donate toys. The response was overwhelming.

BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY - Because of the restrictions this did not take place.

f) RULE of LIFE

To hold a Bible study/prayer group in the Rectory.

PRAY - Lay people write and present their prayers at services. A planned Bible study/prayer group at the Rectory was not held owing to Covid restrictions.

READ - Lay people read the New Testament and Gospel in church. The slideshow contains an image pertaining to the reading displayed whilst the reading is given. Daily bible readings are in our bi-monthly magazines. Prayers from Bulletin circulated to PCC members e.g., 12 days of prayer before Bishop Paul steps down.

LEARN - The children's learning journey starts with the JAM creche in church, Sunday Club, JAM club and Café Style worship. The weekly children's activity produced by a Lay Minister provides continuity between all these aspects. Café Style gives the opportunity for discussion as well as worship.

SERVE - Lay Ministers produced and delivered packs to residents of Bridewell Court some of

whom are housebound or preferred not to leave their homes, and also to families with young children enabling them to engage with craft activities based on bible stories. This excellent outreach was very much appreciated.

TELL - Holy Week and Easter were a different for the second year running but created a presence on social media. To help us all to engage, and to continue to feel part of a worshipping community, Holy Week Wreaths were set up. Pictures and Bible verses were added each day to the wreaths starting on Palm Sunday through to Easter Sunday helping us all to think about the journey of Jesus.

GIVE - as well as the monetary aspect, the service for volunteers 2 years ago was appreciated by volunteers and resulted in more people volunteering from serving tea to reading in church.

PRAYER - Prayer cards are distributed and are available in church for people to take home. In Bold Chapel there is a book for people to request a prayer and the opportunity to light a candle whilst praying themselves. Sunday Club write their own prayers on special occasions such as Mothering Sunday. Prayer cards are distributed on Mothering Sundays and at other times during the year. Mothers' Union include prayer at every monthly meeting.

At Easter as church was closed a prayer washing line was set up outside church and young and old pegged prayers on the line. This created a social media presence.

Living in Love and Faith - 5 sessions were held in the Widnes Deanery 2 of which took place at St. Luke's church. Prayer is a major part of both school's Ethos groups.

g) PLANTING NEW CONGREGATIONS

Birchfield Community Meadow which provides the opportunity to promote our services especially Jam Club at St Luke's church and Café Style worship at Cronton Mission.

Nursery at Bold which is held in building (originally used as a school then a mission) owned by Diocese has a clause in the lease for 1 hour worship each month. Parents and children who attend the nursery could be invited to a monthly service perhaps JAM CLUB could be held at different locations each month.

4. Objectives for 2022

a) MISSION and MINISTRY

To continue to use the screen to promote services and events.

To Zoom services even after the pandemic is over as people who are infirm or ill are not excluded.

To promote Open Door to the wider community.

b) CHILDREN'S and YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY

To continue to maintain and develop links with Farnworth and Cronton schools and develop links with Lunts Heath CP school.

To establish links between Cronton ethos group and attendance at Sunday Worship. Ethos group to lead termly Café Style worship.

To promote JAM Club and services and events for children by WhatsApp, on Facebook, on our website and by text marketer.

To encourage children and adults to consider confirmation.

To renew Child Friendly Church Award.

c) OCCASIONAL / PASTORAL SERVICES

To hold a Blue service in the period before Christmas.

To hold a monthly drop in facility such as a coffee morning for the lonely, sad and bereaved with the opportunity for fellowship and prayer.

d) FESTIVALS

To explore innovative ideas to promote Easter and Harvest festivals.

To introduce Remembering Festival Experience for school children and church families.

To work with the Diocesan Giving team to increase the uptake by new givers at Sunday services, occasional services and special services.

e) MAKE A BIGGER DIFFERENCE

To hold Bring One Friend and Back to Church Sundays.

To support a local charity for a year.

To hold events in church to encourage the community to come into church.

f) RULE of LIFE

To hold a bible study/prayer group at the Rectory

To organise a Giving Appeal - Generosity Week in Lent across the church and Mission.

To inform the congregation at Cronton Café Style of the need to support the ministry to promote Outreach and pastoral care there through regular giving.

To provide a 'Good Box' permanently at Cronton Mission for online giving.

To hold a service of thanksgiving for volunteers (every 2 years).

To have a display of doves in Bold Chapel to provide a peaceful place for prayer and the opportunity to write a prayer on a dove.

To invite children from Sunday Club, Jam Club, Farnworth CE and Cronton CE Schools to make doves with a prayer.

g) PLANTING NEW CONGREGATIONS

To explore possible use of the facility at Bold.

To take the church to the people with continued involvement with Birchfield Community Meadow.

h) CONSERVATION PROJECT

To create an atmosphere which is comforting to grieving visitors.

To encourage educational use of the churchyard.

To aid the understanding of our natural and cultural heritage and the importance in God's creation.

To enhance the amenity value of the churchyard.

To investigate the use and promotion of Fairtrade products.

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW Yvonne Horabin

St. Luke's church

The funds of the church are, in the main, made up of three sections:

1. **Endowment Fund** - Generally, only the interest is available for the PCC's use, not the capital. There have been no withdrawals from Investments in 2021

2. **Restricted and Designated funds** - This is for monies for specific purposes, i.e., Major Repairs, Bridewell etc. In 2021 this also included the fundraising for the excess required regarding the Insurance claim re the boiler fire of £5,000 and the replacement of copper cable for the organ, of £4,000 which had corroded due to lack of heating in church.

Donations were received to cover the Boiler shortfall and a proportion of the Organ repairs

by February 2022; however, funds were transferred from the General fund to cover any initial shortfall.

3. General Fund - This covers the income and expenditure of the day to day running costs of the church which again have been running at a deficit of around £30,000, even after keeping expenditure as low as possible and no large gas bills due to no heating from October 21 to February 2022. The majority of this deficit was monies owed to the diocese for Parish share at the yearend of £26,000. However, we have been very fortunate in receiving further monies this year from the Church Commissioners of £33,270 which is firstly to cover the outstanding parish share from 2021 and the remaining £7,270 against the Parish Share for 2022. £2,000 was transferred from the general fund to the Restricted fund for the Boiler and Organ repairs to cover a shortfall in funds.

The Income from Regular givers has reduced this year due to people not attending church due to no heating and sadly also due to a number of them that have died this year.

Balances @ 31/12/2021 - Endowment Funds £172,898, Restricted funds £10,618 Designated funds £1,862 and General Fund £4,333.

Charitable Giving The following donations were made:

Children's Society - The Christingles were held in church but owing to restrictions a collection was not taken but online donations raised £330 for the Children's Society.

Christian Aid - Due to the pandemic restrictions, no fund raising was possible for Christian Aid. Details were distributed asking people to donate direct to Christian Aid.

Foodbank - As well as regular food donations to Foodbank (thanks to Barry Ingram for taking items to Foodbank) on a regular basis, appeals for specific items such as donations for the Toy Appeal were posted on the website and on Facebook, circulated to schools and published in the magazine. Parents and children from Farnworth School and Cronton School continued to support Foodbank.

Toy Service - for the second year it was possible to hold a service in church. The response of the congregation, the schools and the community donating toys, gifts and toiletries for the Trinity Kings Cross Appeal was overwhelming.

5. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE and MANAGEMENT

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. There are no other related trusts. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church members are registered on the Electoral Roll and therefore eligible to stand for election to the PCC. The PCC operates two subcommittees: The Standing Committee and Friends of St Luke Farnworth. PCC members receive Health and Safety training and are CRB checked. Other training includes trustee responsibilities, risk assessment and safeguarding procedures.

SAFEGUARDING Margaret Campbell 0151 424 6039 07376112836

Safeguarding Officer for St. Luke's church and Lead Recruiter Margaret Campbell.

Safeguarding Officer for Cronton and Deputy Recruiter for Cronton is Debbie Doyle.

Deputy Recruiter for St Luke's church is Lynn Keeling. Lay Ministers complete safeguarding training as part of their Bishop's licence.

Safeguarding policies are displayed in St Luke's church, the Bridewell, at Cronton Mission and on the church website. The policies are reviewed annually and agreed and signed at the first

PCC meeting after APCM. Commitment to safeguarding is an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. At the back of the Church there is a printed copy of the Parish Safeguarding Handbook and Policies and procedures for a Safer Church. Also, there is a list of contact numbers of people to be informed if anyone has concerns, with regards to a safeguarding issue. The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) is utilised for volunteers working with Children and Vulnerable Adults. However, the PCC has overall responsibility to ensure that all activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults are professionally managed and supervised. We continue to work closely with Pauline Ruth and the Halton Safeguarding Children and Adults Board. All checklists are completed when received from the Diocese. The latest one was January 2022. If children or vulnerable adults are involved go the full protocol including DBS is utilised. Less formal process if no involvement re children and vulnerable adults but still includes job description, rules etc. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Margaret Campbell.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

All the congregation's information is stored in a safe place, and we respect the individual's privacy, and do not share their personal information with other organisations.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Policies are reviewed annually and displayed in church and under Policies tab on the church website. There are over 3,500 graves in the churchyard so the inspection of graves is a time-consuming task that will always be ongoing. The Commonwealth Graves plaques presented by War Graves Commission are displayed in the churchyard. We are vigilant about the security of the church and your safety. A list of current First Aiders is in church. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Churchwardens, who are totally committed to all aspects of Health & Safety.

CHURCHYARD - The Churchyard policy re reservation of a plot and Diocesan guidelines are displayed in church and on the church website.

PROCEDURES - The PCC operates under a mature system of controls and procedures developed over many years of operation. Finance and operational issues are routinely monitored as part of regular PCC meetings. When planning activities for the year, the PCC considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with advancement of religion.

BUDGET - An annual budget is prepared to monitor short term viability. Actual results compared with budget are reported to the PCC quarterly. The investments held by the PCC are reviewed by the Standing Committee. All assets are insured, levels reviewed and approved by the PCC.

RESERVES POLICY - No charity can operate for any length of time without reserves. There are low available reserves, so a major effort will be needed to re-build reserves to a working level, say a minimum of six months costs (minimum £50,000) and to re-build a contingency for future maintenance costs.

CONTINGENCY PLANS - The Scout and Guide building can be used for services in the event of the Church becoming unusable for a limited period. Geographically there is little or no experiences of terrorist activity in any Churches and the risk rating of any problems in this subject area is very low, but as a place of worship open and welcoming to all vigilance is paramount at all times.

ELECTORAL ROLL - 163 on the 2021 roll. (New roll in 2025)

6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Team Administrator Lesley Howell 07399784219 eastwidnesteam.2942@gmail.com

www.st-luke.co.uk

Charity Number 1133042 Parish number 744

Bankers

Barclays Bank

Legal Advisor

Hill Dickinson & Co LLP

Independent Examiner

Nadia Hague FCA Vanguard Accountancy Ltd, Liverpool

Architect

Alex Finlason Pickard Finlason Beech House

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the work and roles and responsibilities of the PCC.

PCC members	Position	Until	
Reverend Bob Pearson	Team Rector ex-officio		
Reverend Lyn McIver	Team Vicar ex-officio		
Barry Horabin	Warden 2016 & Deanery Synod ex-officio	2022	
Pat Johnson	Warden 2018 & Deanery Synod ex-officio	2022	
Rob Leech	Warden 2020 ex-officio	2022	
Colleen Harper	Warden 2020 ex-officio	2022	
Lesley Runcorn	Deanery Synod ex-officio	2022	
Yvonne Horabin	Deanery Synod ex-officio	2022	
Reverend Bob Pearson	Deanery Mission & Pastoral committee	2022	
	Joined		
Sandra Vanezis	Reader in church	2021	2022
Alma Marshall	Baptism Assistant	2012	2022
Margaret Campbell	Safeguarding Officer	2018	2022
Jeff Evans	Reader in church	2020	2022
Lynn Keeling	Sunday Club Leader	2000	2023
Sue Smither	Lay Minister (was ex-officio)	2019	2023
Barry Ingram	Deputy Warden	2020	2023
Deborah Doyle	Cronton representative	2020	2023
Clare Liptrott	Lay Minister (was ex-officio)	2019	2024
Gail Beswick	Sides people contact	2000	2024
Dorothy Lightfoot	Children's Society	2000	2024
Stephanie Couzens	Cronton Representative	2021	2024
Sandra Lacey	Secretary (co-option)	2014	2022
Andrew Seadon	Church photographer (co-option)	2021	2022

Worship Attendance

St Luke's	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sunday 8am average	16	14	No services	10
Sunday 10.30am average	62	68	26 (20Zoom)	39 (7A2CZoom)
Sunday 6.00pm average	21	19	No services	10
Wed 9.30am average	16	19	12	12
Baptisms	56C	53C 4A	17 until March	27

Baptism monthly average	118A 35C	110A 27C	82A 28C	90A 30C
Confirmation	7C	2C	11C	0
Funerals Church	27	16	14	21
Funerals crematorium	11	16	10	5
Weddings	11	9	0	5
Christingle	569	663	60 on Zoom	490
Christmas Eve Midnight	103A	83A	35 (5 Zoom)	38A 3C
Christmas Day 1030am	43A 1C	41A 1C	22A 1C	28
9 Lessons & Carols	88A 26C	123A 20C	No service	32
Cronton	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sunday 1030am average	33A 14C	17A 9C	25 until March	From Aug 16A 8C
Christingle	26A 23C	32A 23C	No service	No Service
School Nativity	105A 95C	No record	No service	No Service
Christmas Day	31A 13C	No service	No service	No Service
Baptisms	2	1	0	3
School Eucharist	100A 120C	No record	No record	None

These attendance figures were affected by the pandemic.

Giving and Stewardship

Unfortunately, because of the pandemic and its effect on attendance at church our deficit has been increased, shortfall in income of approximately £500 per week. We cannot continue to keep asking our regular givers to increase their giving, we need more regular givers, preferably using Parish Giving Scheme. If we had 100 new givers donating even £10 per month plus gift aid of £2.50, this would reduce the deficit by £1250 per month. Please encourage other people to give regularly to St Luke's and Cronton Mission.

For more information on giving please contact Barry Ingram.

Gift Aid	2018	2019	2020	2021
Tax reclaim	69	53 SO	47 SO	32 SO
St Luke's	9	27 envelopes	29 envelopes	11 envelopes
Cronton		12	6	5
Regular	£6936.82	£9380.21	£4778.84	£900.40
Yellow	£709.23	£959.52	£237.50	£507.75
Total	£7646.05	£10339.21	£5026.34	£1408.15
Stewardship scheme	2018	2019	2020	2021
St Luke's	45	41	38	35
Cronton	8	11	10	5
Total number	53	52	48	40
Value	£14566.67	13,087.34	£5400.81	£3929
SOs	2018	2019	2020	2021
General Fund	40	39	42	26
Fabric Fund	6	5	8	4
Value	£16,451	£16,248	£14,398	£10,826

Tax Efficient Giving

WEEKLY GIVING	Up to £1	£1 to £1.99	£2 to £2.99	£3 to £3.99	£4 to £4.99	£5 to £9.99	£10 to £14.99	£15 to £19.99	£20 and Above	total
Envelopes	5	1	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	14
SO	1	3	4	0	3	4	1	4	0	20
Fabric fund		2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
Total	6	6	5	0	3	8	6	4	0	38

Other Regular Giving

WEEKLY	Up to £1	£1 to £1.99	£2 to £2.99	£3 to £3.99	£4 to £4.99	£5 to £9.99	£10 to £14.99	£15 to £19.99	£20 and Above	Total
Envelopes	0	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	6
SO	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	4
Fabric fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	2	0	4	2	1	0	1	10

Part of the reduction in the figures for the Stewardship Scheme is reflected in the increase in membership of the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Total Givers to PGS in 2021 was 33 - £19,395.90 received £4,569.18 tax refunded.

Please note all these figures were affected by the church closure for long periods due to the pandemic and no heating in church

7. REPORTS ON CHURCH LIFE

a) Deanery Synod

The Deanery Finance Group met to plan 2022 allocation across Deanery but it was difficult when churches are struggling to pay parish share in 2021. A member of Liverpool South who had already reorganised parish share discussed their experience. Our treasurer attended a Group seminar in March expecting discussion on Parish Share, but attendees were given a case study to reduce the number of clergy and number of churches to discuss in groups. The Parish Measure was completed on 1st May 2021 to make the administration of St. John's and St. Paul's more streamlined. There are now 7 parishes in the Deanery - St. John and St. Paul - Transform Widnes, 2 parishes in the Benefice of South Widnes: St. Mary Widnes and St. Mary Hale and Halebank, 2 parishes in the East Widnes team: St. Luke with Cronton Mission and St. Ambrose, St. Basil and All Saints and St. Michael and St. Thomas. Rev Roland Harvey stepped down as Area Dean and Rev Peter Dawkin is now Area Dean. The Deanery Secretary and Deanery Lay Chair also relinquished their roles.

b) Friends of St Luke's Church

We are continually grateful to the people who support the Friends group with their monthly donations by standing order. These regular donations amounted to £996 and other donations amounted to £2460. This money is used to support the current restoration projects.

The main work of the Friends group is to support the various fundraising events and fairs. Unfortunately owing to the pandemic restrictions there was only 1 event, the Mike Blue concert and raffle which raised £840. In September we held our annual Heritage Day Celebration with guided tours round the church and Farnworth's Historic Village. Just under a hundred people attended. Many of the people attending used the new guidebook which explains details at every point indicated in the guide. Volunteers were on hand to answer the many questions that emerged. The guide and the information on the pull up banners answered and prompted numerous questions all of which we were able to answer. The guide and banners were produced by Rob Leech, one of our new Wardens who presented our information in a very readable and presentable package. Refreshments were provided for the slightly exhausted village tour participants who had asked many questions during the walk, all of which were answered by our intrepid guide Geoff Poole.

c) Mothers' Union

Having last met immediately prior to lockdown in March 2020, members were delighted to meet up again in Church for the renewal of vows service in September 2021. We were grateful to Rev Bob for leading the service of Holy Communion. We were also proud to induct a new member, Joy Miller, into the group but sad to note the loss of four previous members, Barbara Houghton, Doreen Whimperley, Dorothy Wall and Barbara Jones; may they rest in peace. There were further meetings in October and December and members enjoyed a Christmas Meal together at the Upton Tavern. A full programme has been arranged for 2022, including a garden party in the summer and a trip to **Hoghton Towers**, the home of the Bold family descendants. As well as our usual support of the Foodbank, JAM Club, baptisms, etc, at St Luke's, we are also providing support to the Women's Refuge and to Brennan Lodge which supports people who are temporarily homeless.

The Group meets in Church at 7.30 pm on the second Wednesday of each month except August and all are welcome, whether or not they themselves are mothers or even fathers! Membership costs £26.00 per annum to cover branch, diocesan and national headquarters expenses. The group's events are organised by a committee consisting of joint leaders Christine Turner, Jackie Whitehead and Colleen Harper, along with Rita Poole, Janet Littler and Sue Connolly. We are one of two branches in the Widnes Deanery, the second being at St Michael's in Hough Green. Colleen also represents the Deanery as Trustee at Liverpool Diocese events.

We look forward to another year of fellowship, prayer and support both locally, nationally and even internationally.

d) Uniformed Organisations

In December Moon Meadow Scout and Guide HQ held Sing-a-long-a-Santa to celebrate the completion of the roof repairs and the re-opening of the building. Thank you to everyone who supported fundraising efforts for this project with generous donations - you are all superstars!

The 12th Widnes Beavers and Cubs, Aquila Explorers and 16th Widnes Rainbows began meeting at Moon Meadow for the first time since March 2020 and both Brownie groups started again.

We are currently looking to put a new team of leaders together so our Scout group can also begin meeting again - if you are interested in getting involved with the Scouts or know of anyone who would be interested, please let me know, it would be a shame if this group could not start up again. Clare Liptrott 07976549410

e) East Widnes Team Council

Since 2018 the Team Council has not met, but, when necessary, Clergy, Readers, Wardens and Treasurers met to discuss the way forward for the Team.

CHURCH GROUPS

Bell Ringers

Tuesday practice 6.30pm Nigel 01514953894

Bridewell Bookings

Barry 01514232492

available for hire by small groups.

Churchyard working party

Monday 9.30am to 12.30pm. Barry 01514249887

Choir

Wednesdays practice 6.15pm Director of Music Paul Delaney
07778042553

Church Cleaning group

Wednesdays and as required. Yvonne 01514249887

Flower Arranging team

Wednesday & Friday mornings. Lesley 01514231759

Mothers' Union M.U.

Second Wednesday 7.30pm in church Colleen 01514244351

Open Door in church

Wednesdays 10am to 4pm Barry 0151 423 2492

Wednesdays 1.30pm to 3.30pm Games Galore

contact Pat 01512577737

Saturdays first each month 10am to 11.30am

Cuppa & Chat. Join us for coffee, fellowship and prayer

contact Sue 07962012916

Parish Review

farnworthreview@yahoo.co.uk Philip 07710030973

This report was approved at a meeting of PCC members on 25th April 2022. If you spot any mistakes, please contact PCC Secretary 07761672030 sandralacey47@yahoo.co.uk so amendments can be made before the report goes to the Diocese and the Charity' Commission.

8. ACCOUNTS

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed