

2023/24

ANNUAL REPORT



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CONTENTS

<u>Opportunities to Serve</u>	3
<u>Pastor's Report</u>	4-7
<u>Pastoral Assistant's Report</u>	7-8
<u>Children's Leader's Report</u>	8-10
<u>Administration</u>	11
<u>Building and Maintenance</u>	11-12
<u>Health and Safety</u>	12-13
<u>Safeguarding</u>	13-14
<u>Youth</u>	14-15
<u>Oasis</u>	16
<u>Student Liaison</u>	16-17
<u>Trinity Mission Team</u>	17-18
<u>Outreach and Evangelism</u>	18-20
<u>Foodbank</u>	20-21
<u>Bexley Winter Shelter</u>	21-22
<u>Prayer</u>	22-24
<u>Small Groups</u>	24
<u>Catering</u>	25
<u>Worship</u>	26
<u>Women's Ministry</u>	27
<u>Finance</u>	28
<u>Financial Statement</u>	29
<u>Get In Touch</u>	30

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Serving in the life of Trinity is a great way to feel connected into the community, as well as being a biblical part of life as a church. So, whether it's on a Sunday morning, during the week in one of the groups and projects we run, or in the background, we're always happy to have new people on teams.

Here are some of the teams that have serving opportunities at the moment. But if you have a certain area you would like to serve in outside of these, don't hesitate to get in touch with Andy at any point via the contact details at the end of this report.

- Pastoral Care Page 7
- Family Events Page 8
- Building and Maintenance Page 11
- Health and Safety Page 12
- Youth Page 14
- Oasis Page 16
- Praying for University Students Page 16
- Trinity Mission Team Page 17
- Outreach and Evangelism Page 18
- Bexley Winter Shelter Page 21
- Prayer Page 22
- Small Groups Page 24
- Catering Page 25
- Worship / Live Stream Page 26

Pastor's Report

**“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”
(2 Chronicles 7:14).**

As you read through the reports in this booklet, you will find plenty of inspiration to praise God, who has been ever faithful to us and is clearly at work amongst us. But I pray that you will also find much to inspire your intercession and to give you confidence to cry out to God for more. For, as per the prophecy we were given some years ago inspired by a century-old wisteria plant at Eltham Palace, I believe the best is yet to come for Trinity.

Staff recruitment has dominated this year. Good administration is vital for the effective work of the church, but sadly often goes unnoticed until something goes wrong. So, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Kerry O’Sullivan for her fifteen years of faithful and proficient service as our Administrator. Thank you, also, to Geraldine Alliston, Louise Brady, Jill Holland and Caz Kirby-Smith for their service in covering the work while we recruited a replacement (we also used this time to redesign a mobile-friendly newsletter, which is a part of our communications overhaul, in which Karen Thatcher continues to assist us). I’m sure you will agree that Alice Costar has made an excellent start, already bringing some helpful fresh ideas as our new Administrator. I encourage you to get to know her, not just as our Administrator, but as a friend.

Whilst the process to recruit a paid Youth Leader (in partnership with CRiBS) has been, at times, painfully slow, we believe that it has led us to absolutely the right person in Isaac Givens and we are excited by the prospect of him joining us from Texas. As I write, we have been accepted as a sponsoring organisation and are awaiting guidance as to how to complete the next steps. Leaving his family and culture behind in the USA will be a huge change, so again, it is vital that we surround Isaac with friendship and support, as well as a committed team of proactive YP Workers, who will share the burden of the work. We particularly need female Workers, not least because Lorraine Sansom has given notice of her need to step down from YP in September. We give her our sincere thanks for staying on a year longer than planned to see us through this academic year.

It was truly wonderful to baptise Emmanuel Wachira and Lizzie Hall on Easter Sunday, and I know that many of you were touched by their testimonies! I maintain that a church our size ought to be seeing far more baptisms each year than we do, so I urge you to join me in praying for this. For more news of our efforts in outreach and evangelism, please see my separate report later in this booklet.

Another highlight was how well we engaged with the Bible in One Year programme. It does not matter whether or not we completed the whole Bible last year; what matters is that people have been *enjoying* a healthy habit of *daily Bible reading*, reading the *whole* counsel of God, and *talking to one another* about their readings. I pray we will continue these good habits in 2024, whether through this or a different Bible-reading programme, but for more information of this programme, please visit: <https://bibleinoneyear.org/en/>.

My 'What's The Point Of Reading ...?' preaching series was also designed to aid this habit, by exploring the key messages of several books of the Bible. This was again complemented wonderfully by our team of preachers, and by our increasingly excellent all-age services (everywhere I visit, people are praising what our Children's Leader, Debs Harmer, does – of which this is the most visible element)!

Our grateful thanks, too, for the teams who continue to provide our excellent children's and youth ministries, from Crèche and Trinity Tots, through GodZone, to YP. God continues to answer our prayers for more children, especially young children, and it was a particular joy for me to be able to bless three new babies this year – one at a naming ceremony at home, and my first blessing of twins in church!

At the other end of the spectrum, it is always an honour to walk with people through their grief, which in this last year included conducting funeral services for Brian Stapley and Alan Abernethy. This leads me on to pastoral care, the need for which seems to be ever increasing. I am indebted to our Pastoral Care Assistant, Janet Grist, and the group of volunteers who regularly visit or support the neediest in the fellowship, which frees me to be available for a much wider scope of pastoral care as needs arise.

We are conscious of increasing needs, which will likely further increase in the coming years, and also that some of our most stalwart carers may themselves be more in need of care as they age. So, there is a need to bolster our Pastoral Care Team in order to support Janet in ensuring regular visits to the elderly and those in greatest need among us. We are also looking to establish a Pastoral Care Network to better support the whole congregation, with the aim that each Network Leader will touch base semi-regularly with a specified list of people (this would be a lighter role than the Pastoral Care Team). Thank you to those who have already offered to help and I will be contacting you again in due course. We are still in need of more help, too. But we want to launch this well with good training, which I am still sourcing / adapting to our needs (other pressing needs having limited the time I could give to this thus far).

Small Group Leaders will automatically become Pastoral Care Network Leaders for their small group. We are grateful for their dedication to this task. Small Groups are a brilliant way to meet people, make closer friendships, and support one another as Christians; so please speak to Jill Holland or to me if you are interested in joining a group, or if you could help host / lead a new group. The current details are as follows:

Day	Frequency	Time	Where	Leaders	Availability
Tue	Fortnightly	7:30pm – 9:pm	Sidcup	Ron & Eileen Jones	Currently full
Thu	Fortnightly	2pm – 3:30pm	Trinity	Jill Holland & Caz Kirby Smith	Some spaces
Thu	Weekly	7:30pm – 9pm	Welling	Steve & Jayne Furber	Currently full
Thu	Fortnightly	8pm – 9:30pm	Zoom	Pat & George Garrett	Some spaces
Thu	Weekly during term time	8pm – 9:30pm	Belvedere	Matt & Steph Harris	Currently full

I have loved getting to know more about the different home cultures represented within Trinity (and sampling the food), through our Cultural Prayers Evenings. Our thanks to all who have led a session and to Caz Kirby-Smith for the initiative. Likewise, we are very much benefitting from hearing from our sent / partner missionaries through our Zoom Prayers. Prayer meetings happen twice monthly, at 8pm on Wednesdays: one by Zoom and the other in person (details are always in the newsletter). I strongly urge you to join in these corporate acts of prayer for the work of the gospel and the church.

All this helps to make Trinity a family, as have our church lunches and the various Trinity Family Events (which have always been wonderful occasions, if sometimes sparsely attended). Similarly, I have been delighted by the harmonious and conscientious engagement with some important issues in our Church Members' Meetings. Disagreement sharpens our discernment of God's will for his church, but *how* we disagree is even more important.

Wider afield, please pray for healing within the Baptist Union of Great Britain from a painful, uncertain and divisive two-year consultation period, following a request to remove the bar on Baptist Ministers living in active same-sex relationships. Effectively this would have redefined the Union's definition of marriage by the back door, and so I am personally relieved that BUGB Council voted in March to uphold the existing bar. However, this is unlikely to be the end of the issue, so please pray for wisdom for our leaders as they deal with the fall-out, including the London Baptist Association Regional team and our own Regional Minister, Claire Nicholls. How easy it is to be distracted from the call to make and grow disciples for Jesus Christ!

Returning to Trinity, I am excited by the many ways in which this booklet demonstrates our commitment to preaching and living the gospel of Jesus Christ, and I commend these reports for your perusal and prayers of gratitude, as well as thanking everyone who has played their part in the life of the church this year.

However, we must not become complacent. Rather, we should use what has gone before as inspiration to earnestly seek *further growth*. There remains so much to be done. Once-great Britain is now a very far cry from the godly nation it claimed to be, and we can never be content when thousands upon thousands of residents of Bexley Borough know nothing of our glorious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. The challenge is that every revival in history has been preceded by both a concerted dedication to *prayer* on the part of God's people and a passionate recommitment to *holiness*.

This is the "If... then" of our verse for the year. "**If** my people, who are called by my name, will *humble* themselves [submit to God's ways] and *pray* and [earnestly] *seek my face* and *turn* [repent] from their wicked ways ... **then** I will *hear* from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will *heal their land*." The vision is far more than a thriving church; it is societal transformation. Let us each regularly examine our ways to check that they are in line with God's revealed Word; and let us pray earnestly, individually and together, for a wide awakening to a living faith in Jesus Christ and for consequent societal transformation in this borough, this land and beyond; and let us go on praying for it for as long as it takes for those prayers to be answered. Amen?

Yours in Christ,

Andy Banks

Pastoral Assistant's Report

I continue to be committed to my role as Pastoral Care Assistant. I have really valued the support of others in the church, who have visited the housebound or supported them in other ways such as accompanying them on hospital appointments.

My role is to oversee and provide both spiritual and practical support for folk who are vulnerable, in need of extra attention or struggling with mental health issues. Sometimes a 'listening ear' or a phone call is all that is needed. Communication is a key element in my role, which means that it is essential I am kept in the loop by those who are supporting others. We continue with the 'Deliveroo' of cakes and scones to our housebound family where possible, and I know this is much appreciated.

I attend a weekly Pastoral meeting with Andy and a Deacon. We spend that updating any information on church family members, discussing and praying for any needs and any further input that may be needed. I also attend a weekly Staff Meeting. As mentioned in previous reports, I still find Oasis a good source of news / needs of our church family.

I am involved, along with others, in the monthly visit to St Margaret's Care Home, where we present a 'light' service, consisting of singing, a gospel talk and prayers. This is one of the 'highs' of my role, to see the impact that even this short time spent with these vulnerable people can make. Thank you, St Margaret's, for inviting us.

I would like to give a special 'Thank you' to Elaine Camp, who has been there to encourage me, especially during any 'low' times, and has helped me to maintain 'me' and my sense of humour and smile.

My vision is that eventually the church members will be able to provide the support and expertise etc for the most needy in church, so that the role of Pastoral Assistant can be made redundant. If you feel you are being drawn to get involved with this part of church life, please contact me for a chat.

Finally, I would like to thank the following people who I know of, who regularly visit and support others: Bryn Roach, Caz Kirby-Smith, Irene Woosnam, Eileen Jones, Anne Linley, Andrew and Claire Altman, Sarah Mills, Pam Mills, Ruth Martin, Martin and Lorraine Sansom, Isaac and Cynthia Osei-Kwame and Elaine Camp. If I have forgotten anyone, please accept my apologies.

Janet Grist

Children's Leader's Report

Crèche

Our Crèche is available on a Sunday for our youngest children from birth to the age of three. Sarah Mills leads the team, which includes Cynthia Osei-Kwame, Anne Linley, Ciku Nyandusi, Hilda Agyeman, Catherine Gould, Linda Brady and Shola Bamisaye. The team set up a range of activities for the children to play with during the service and do the valuable job of giving parents the chance to sit in the service, without worrying about entertaining their young ones. This year has seen a rise in numbers; please pray that our numbers grow even more in the coming year.

GodZone

Trinity is very blessed to have a huge number of children attend each week and I love to see the stream of children and young people head out to their groups each week.

On a Sunday morning, we split into different groups and meet in the halls at the back of the building. Alpha and Beta are currently still joined together and the combined group is led by Debs Harmer and ETTY Haworth, with help from Adam Harmer, Fiona Banks, Elaine Camp and Eileen Jones. Each week we learn more about the Bible through stories, songs, games and craft. Our numbers can vary greatly from week to week, but we always have lots of fun whether there are 3 or 13 of us!

Gamma meets in the middle hall and are led by Claire Altman and Sadye Kemp, with help from Angela Roach and Libby Isaac. This group is for children in school years 3 to 5 and they explore the Bible through activities based on the Scripture Union resources. The group are keen to offer their thoughts and opinions and especially love exploring Bible stories through drama.

Delta meets in the upstairs classroom and is led by Kerry Ann Reid and Gareth Roach with help from Kerry O'Sullivan and Chidi Emodi. The children move into Delta in Year 6 and stay here until they move into YP in Year 9. The children are encouraged to think more deeply about Bible stories and really consider how they can apply what they are learning to their own lives. They are a great group who always impress me with their Bible knowledge when I cover Delta and who usually challenge me with their questions too!

All that happens in GodZone on a Sunday is only possible because of the brilliant team I have supporting me. I want to thank them for all their energy and the time they regularly give, as I know many of them have busy jobs too. Thank you to Mandy Card, Paul Bryant and Monica Benson who are our emergency helpers and step in to cover at short notice. I would also like to thank Beth Kemp and Victoria Oluwafemi, who have stepped down from the team in the last year – your contribution to GodZone is really appreciated.

GodZone camp took place at Caroty Wood in June, when we took 30 children to Tonbridge and spent a very hot and sunny weekend having fun together and learning more about God. The weekend is a great opportunity for the children to spend an extended period of time together and it was brilliant to see existing friendships deepening and new ones being formed. Our talks focused on the theme 'One Way', where we explored how Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. It was great to see the children thinking carefully about what they heard and to have the opportunity to discuss this further and answer some of their questions during our group discussion times. I am deep in preparations for this 2024's camp and I would appreciate your prayers for another successful weekend.

This year has seen fewer family events than usual, as we evaluate the best way to move forward with these. We enjoyed a picnic at the manse, a light party and a New Year's Eve party. If you would like to get involved in planning and running a family event, then please get in touch.

I continue to feel incredibly grateful to work with our GodZone children and have the opportunity to lead them closer to God. We have an amazing group of children who are lots of fun to spend time with and who regularly impress me with their knowledge and skills in many areas. I would encourage you to pray for them as they begin to make their faith their own and face challenges along the way. I thank God for all He is doing in GodZone and would appreciate you joining me in praying that God will continue to grow this work and that Trinity would continue to be a family, where all are welcome.

Trinity Tots

Trinity Tots is our weekly playgroup for preschool children and their parents and carers. We meet every Wednesday during term time in the back and middle halls of the church building. I have a brilliant and dedicated team including Linda Brady, Nikki Hall, Anne Linley, Irene Woosnam and Angela Roach. I am so grateful for their commitment and enthusiasm and the effort they have made to develop relationships with the families that attend.

Each week the halls are set up with a range of toys and activities to cover all areas of development. We have quiet areas where children can enjoy a book, and areas where children can develop their imagination through role play and small-world play. The back hall is our messy area where children can explore the craft table, sand, water and other sensory activities such as the rainbow rice, as well as ride bikes and use the climbing frame. Halfway through the session the children enjoy a drink and snack, while the adults have a much-needed cup of tea or coffee and a chat. We finish each session with a song time and bubbles, which is enjoyed by all!

Each of our sessions are booked online by our families; this means that although we have our regular returning families, we often have new people come along. We have seen a large number of new families and I also feel this year has been an important one in developing our relationships with our existing families. We have been able to get to know their stories a little more and also to offer practical and prayer support on a number of occasions. We are keen to develop an environment where everyone feels welcome when they come through the door and we try our best to ensure one of the team chats to each family at some point during the session.

Please continue to pray for Trinity Tots, the team and our families. Pray for the development of relationships with all who attend and for opportunities to have meaningful conversations. We would love to see some of our families begin to regularly attend Trinity on a Sunday, although we recognise the importance of sowing seeds in their minds through interaction with our church family in this group.

Debs Harmer

Administration

I started my role as Trinity's Church Administrator in December 2023 and I am very grateful for the warm welcome I have received. A special thank you goes to Kerry O'Sullivan and Geraldine Alliston who have patiently answered all my questions. I work three days a week, usually Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:30am – 4:30pm. I am responsible for production of our weekly newsletter, maintaining ChurchSuite and the church diary, minuting Church Members' and Deacons' Meetings, maintaining the website and editing the Annual Report. I am also involved in some building and maintenance tasks. I liaise with the Charity Commission and the Baptist Union to ensure we have submitted all the annual information they require.

I am working with Andy and Karen Thatcher, an external communications consultant, on implementing the communications review. This has internal and external elements, and includes building a firm foundation for Trinity's ChurchSuite. This is our database of members and friends and provides a central hub for contact details, our calendar, rotas, registers of attendance for Godzone and YP. Please contact me if you have any questions or are having trouble accessing information.

My role includes some aspects of building maintenance, including fire alarm checks and contract management. As part of this I am conducting a key holder review to make sure that we have a correct record of all the current key holders, that they are currently involved in a ministry for which they need keys, and that they have acknowledged the policies.

As staff, we meet together each Tuesday morning for a short devotional and to pray together. This is a good opportunity to check in as a team, and allows me to gather items of prayer and praise, or notices for the newsletter. If you have something to include in the newsletter, please email me by Thursday afternoon each week.

Alice Costar

Building and Maintenance

This year has seen the long overdue upgrade of the church office. This included damp proofing and insulation works on some walls, redecorations, new carpeting and the installation of low-energy lighting as well as a wall-mounted fan heater. The work was successfully completed by PBL Group, which undertook the work at the manse last year and which was the most competitively priced of the firms we approached for the work in the church office. Thanks to Simon Davidson for managing the works on site while Dave Camp was on holiday.

We also undertook repairs to the manse (75 Standard Road), including repairing the conservatory roof. It is likely that the whole conservatory will need replacing in the course of time, given its age, and this is something that the church should ideally be saving towards.

Likewise, there will be some more significant works required to the second manse (75A Standard Road) in the course of time, including repairing and updating the under-floor heating and the boiler system. Some of this work is quite intrusive and so the timing of these works needs carefully considering.

The only works required at the chapel this year were replacing multiple light fittings that had failed, as well as getting the gutters cleared. There is some damage to the guttering which will need to be fixed in due course, but given the height involved, this is not a simple or cheap job! We hope to sort this matter out over the summer months.

If you see any required repairs around the chapel, please do let me know, or another member of the Diaconate. I do find this very helpful as keeping an account of all 3 buildings can be a challenge!

I wish to thank Dave Camp and Rob Kemp for their help with building matters. I find their help incredibly valuable. If any members of the fellowship feel they have expertise or time to share with the church to help look after the buildings God has placed in our care, please do contact me .

Jon French

Health and Safety

I would like to start by thanking Dave Camp and Rob Kemp for their invaluable help in this area. If you have expertise in matters of health and safety, which you feel could benefit the church, please do contact me.

The actions taken this year were simply repairs to fixings and fittings that had failed, as well as annual maintenance. The fire detection system was tested and the remedial works required were completed. This included replacing out of date fire extinguishers, fixing emergency lighting that had failed, and replacing the kitchen door-stop so that it will automatically close in the event of a fire alarm. Where appropriate, light fittings were changed to fire-rated light fittings.

I would like to thank Paul and Tracy Sydee, who have taken on the role of keeping the outside of the building clean and tidy. This also included clearing moss and debris from the fire escape.

Time ran away with us in organising a fire drill, but it is our intention to attempt this in 2024, aiming to minimise disruption to a worship service whilst also looking to undertake a drill when the church is well attended.

Adhering to Health and Safety requirements is the responsibility of all members at Trinity, and so if you see any issue, or behaviour, that you feel compromises the safety of the church or attendees, please do contact myself or another member of the Diaconate.

Jon French

Safeguarding

We take Safeguarding very seriously at Trinity as we want to make sure we keep our children, young people and vulnerable adults safe from harm as far as it is in our power to do so. This applies to all activities in church, on trips, and during any social media communications.

Updated Safeguarding Guidelines: The guidelines that accompany our Safeguarding policy have been updated this year and have been reviewed on an annual basis. These are available to all DBS-checked adults to help them understand how child safeguarding works at Trinity and what to look out for to keep children and young people safe.

This year, with the agreement of the church membership, we have changed the procedures in church for reviewing the policy. It will now be reviewed by key stakeholders in Safeguarding. This includes the Designated Safeguarding Persons, the Safeguarding Trustee, along with key Trinity staff.

GodZone Visits: ETTY Haworth and Debs Harmer have visited and reviewed the teaching and safeguarding practices within each GodZone team over this year.

Safeguarding Children Training: Awareness of the importance of safeguarding, and everyone's shared responsibility for the safeguarding of children and young people, is shared with the church during the yearly Commissioning Service. In addition, refresher safeguarding training for all those leading and helping in children and young person groups will take place in May.

DBS Checks: Kerry O’Sullivan, Andy Banks, Alice Costar and Nikki Hall have been carrying out the DBS checks for all our children’s and youth workers. Some of these have been in person and some via Zoom. All leaders and helpers have current DBS checks.

Designated Persons for Safeguarding: Martin Sansom and Joy Sanger continue to be our Designated Persons for Safeguarding, for which we thank them. They are independent of the workers and if ever a safeguarding need arises, they can be contacted for advice. Please remember that the safety of our children is our responsibility of all of us. If you have a concern, please speak to Martin or Joy.

With the increase in the numbers attending our children’s and young people’s groups we are currently in the process of adding a third Designated Safeguarding Person to the team. We are also developing a dedicated email address for the safeguarding leads that can be used for reporting any concerns.

Safeguarding Adults at Risk: The Church has a comprehensive Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy and set of guidelines, which is reviewed regularly. Training in this will form part of the new training that will be given to all those involved in pastoral care. Our Designated Persons for Safeguarding serve both children and adults at risk.

Safeguarding Trustee: ETTY Haworth continues to be the Safeguarding Trustee on the diaconate. She has over three years’ experience in school safeguarding and is trained as a Designated Safeguarding Lead, with a Level 3 Safeguarding for Education award.

ETTY Haworth

Youth

Trinity young people’s group (Trinity YP) provides a comprehensive youth programme for teenagers aged 13 to 18. The youngsters we support are from 24 families in the fellowship. Our aim is to provide a safe and supportive space in which our youngsters can grow into well rounded adults. Helping each youth to develop a personal faith and commitment to Jesus as their Lord and Saviour underpins all that we do.

The committed team leaders, working together to deliver interesting and relevant content to our brilliant YP, are: Josh Dixon, Prince Dumi, Lizzie Hall, Elaine Mason, Jessie Osei, Lorraine Sansom, Jack Sydee, and Emmanuel Wachira. We also welcomed Adubea Baidoo to the team in September.

We would also like to thank the helpers from the fellowship without whom we would not have been able to deliver YP Friday activities. These include Angela and Gareth Roach, Andy Banks, Linda Brady, Caz Kirby-Smith, Jill Holland and Ciku Nyandusi.

Friday and Sunday programmes

YP Fridays is headed by Prince Dumi and Jack Sydee. It meets on the first three weeks in each month. On the 4th Friday, the youth are encouraged to organise their own activities. A core group of about six regularly come to YP Fridays to enjoy the many different activities, which include games, cooking, fun team challenges and the opportunity to socialise.

The Sunday teaching programme continues to be varied and relevant with input from YP leaders, guest speakers and some of our past and present YP. The topics covered reflect the aim of the YP team to equip our youngsters to live out their faith in their everyday life. The interactive group activities and discussions are bible based and contemporary. The youth freely voice their opinions and ask great questions. As well as sessions on biblical teaching, we have presented sessions on mental and spiritual wellbeing, asking questions such as 'Lord, who do you say I am?' and looking at the role of doubt in building faith. Other session topics have included peer pressure, the Christian view on money, and the transition from home to university / work. More recently, we have tackled big issue topics on sex and marriage – different relationships from a Christian perspective. On the theme of living out our faith in the real world, guest speakers have shared their experiences of working in Christian organisations, such as London City Mission, International Justice Mission, the Salvation Army and Evergreen Care.

The numbers attending on a Sunday continue to increase from a core group of 10 to about 16. We are expecting these numbers to increase again as there are a significant number of teenagers due to join us from Delta in September.

Thanks and Prayer Needs

We recognise the unique position of the YP work in our church community, and its importance in the lives of our youth. Your prayers for the teenagers and for the team are essential. We thank God for the recruitment of a new Youth Leader; the booking we have secured for the YP weekend away in September; and the past YP members who have returned to share their experiences of living as a Christian at university / work.

We ask for prayer that the process of the new Youth Leader joining us would be smooth; for an increase in the number of YP coming, especially on Fridays; and for additional leaders to join the team. Looking further into the future, we ask for prayer for the planning of the YP weekend away; for those taking examinations this year; and those who will be leaving YP to start higher education / work.

Lorraine Sansom

Oasis

Oasis is Trinity's coffee morning. We are open on Tuesdays between 10:30am – 12pm. We have a great team of volunteers who take on various roles: baking, serving, washing up and clearing away.

Jan and I hope that Oasis provides a calm, caring environment where you can just sit and enjoy a drink and homemade cake or join in on catching up on news or general chat. We also hope to offer support if needed. We have a few non-Trinity regulars.

We took the decision to move Oasis from the chapel into the middle hall. We have never regained our pre-COVID numbers and the middle hall provides a much cosier atmosphere. It also makes the logistics of running Oasis much easier. All the money raised is given to the Foodbank, and this last year we have donated £1,520.

Jan and I would like to thank our 'Oasis Crew': Claire Altman, Irene Woosnam, Kim McColl, Joy Sanger, Geraldine Alliston, Monica Benson, Angela and Gareth Roach, Sarah Mills, Jill Holland, Pam Mills, Anne Linley, Scilla Stirling, Beryl and Stan Hutson, Joan Hildick, Roy Burman, Bryn Roach, Simon Davidson, Jason Vaughan, and Paul and Tracy Sydee. We have also recruited into our ranks David and Helen French and Eileen Jones.

We are always in need of more bakers and servers. Cakes can be left in the kitchen on Sunday, if preferred. If you find yourself at a loose end one Tuesday morning, come in and join us for a chat and a cuppa – not to mention some delicious cake.

Elaine Camp and Janet Grist

Student Liaison

Our student numbers have increased greatly this year to 21 (we had 13 last year)! Their names and places of study are displayed in the chapel and we are grateful to everyone who has taken a name from the resources provided and prays for their chosen student(s). There are plenty of name cards left if you haven't already got one!

Our role is to establish a link with the students, to keep in contact while they are away and welcome them back in holiday times. This year we have been able to make contact with newer members of the church and make ourselves known to them during their term breaks – it is lovely to put a face to names! We also have some students who are on gap years and living at home, some of whom attend Trinity regularly which is a joy to see.

We are hoping to organise a time for the students to meet together this summer at our home (hopefully for a barbecue!) so we can share together some of their experiences and joys, as well as worries and concerns that we can pray about. Please pray that we will be able to hold this event and many students will come and meet together.

We have also started supporting the work of the YP on some Fridays and getting to know some of our 'next year students'!

Please pray for the students at this time of examinations, finding new accommodation for next year and getting ready for summer jobs, holidays and returning home. Thank you for your continued prayers for the students (and us!) How great it is that we serve a God who is always there to guide us in all circumstances!

"See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared." (Exodus 23:20).

Gareth and Angela Roach

Trinity Mission Team

Trinity supports various Christian ministries, both overseas and in the UK. This year we have enjoyed some very good learning sessions via Zoom. Andrew Harwood told us about his work with refugees for OM in Halesowen. Steph Harris shared about the work of the International Justice Mission in London. Louise Brady is now working for the London City Mission so it was great to hear from her. Jason Vaughan told us the latest news from CRiBS – work in schools right here in the Borough of Bexley. Finally, we heard from Andrew Osenton who has worked for Youth for Christ in Sunderland for years. All are people who spend their days working for Christ. It was good to hear what they do and pray for them.

In January, we were able to meet face to face with Dave and Michele Mahon, back in England for a month. It was a joint event with Sidcup Baptist Church. They are settling in their new location, both of them teaching at the seminary in Trujillo in Peru, a lovely seaside city quite different from the steamy Amazon town of Iquitos. Their three children found it harder to accept the change from home schooling to the International School, and they missed all their little local friends. Do pray for them all.

It has been lovely to have Helen and Ilir Dervishi here from Kosova since November, and so exciting to see their new born twin boys who arrived just before Christmas. Teo and Aron are both healthy, sturdy little boys who look totally different. They are all back in Kosova now. Ilir is looking for some paid employment as their work with the Bridge charity is finished now. They will both be continuing to serve in their church there. Pray for them too.

Lastly, Janet and Peter Dallman working for OMF in Japan. They are the only couple we have not seen, although we are hoping for a Zoom with them. They went back to Tokyo in January 2022 but are due home this July. They enjoy living in Tokyo with its many beautiful parks and gardens. They are happy in their present church which is very outgoing. They have both preached in Japanese, which takes hours of preparation. They regularly organize or take part in retreats and training courses. They visit, support and mentor OMF staff all over Japan. This year particularly they have been busy supporting a large number of new staff using their language skills to help them with interactions with GPs and banks.

If you would like to join our small group praying for all these folk, please see me. We meet in the afternoon and would love you to join us.

Beryl Hutson

Outreach and Evangelism

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” (Colossians 4:2-6).

Even when in prison, Paul’s overwhelming passion was to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. To that end: he devoted his prayers and sought the devoted prayers of others (vv.2-3); he sought to hone his presentation skills to make the gospel as *clear* and easy to understand for outsiders as possible (v.4); he urged *wise living* (v.5), *gracious speech* (v.6) and the insight to be able to “make the *most of every opportunity*” (v.5). Everything he was and did was orientated to make the gospel of Jesus Christ as attractive as possible, without compromising its truth. In our freedom, should we have a lesser goal?

This year we consolidated a number of outreach initiatives. Trinity Tots continues to be highly sought-after, with some really meaningful conversations with some of the parents; Oasis has made a successful transition to the middle hall, which has benefitted the sense of fellowship; and we continue to offer our buildings to enable the ministries of Foodbank, Bexley Winter Shelter and Street Pastors (see separate reports, where given).

Our services are a very welcome fixture at St. Margaret’s Residential Home in Sidcup, where we have continued to build good relationships with staff and residents (and sometimes their families). One highlight this year was seeing a significant growth of interest from one non-Christian resident before he died.

We don't know for certain what response he made to Jesus because, by that stage, he was unable to articulate a clear thought pattern, but we were able to commit him to God's mercy with more hope than we would have had a year ago. This shows the value of this work. Our thanks to the dedicated team of speakers, musicians, and befrienders. We have lost a couple of team members, so we would value others joining the ministry, especially musicians who could lead the worship sometimes.

Our Alpha Course this year was in some ways the best yet (since we restarted them), as we began with more genuine non-Christians, alongside people from within the church who are still exploring faith. Sadly, for different reasons, most of those from outside the church did not stay for the whole course, but we did see some spiritual progress, and we trust that God will water the seeds sown. This was followed by our first Freedom in Christ course for many years, which, whilst more a discipleship than evangelistic course, has proved once again very fruitful in growing disciples.

It has also been encouraging to hear within our Sunday services about various mission initiatives including:

- Nia and Erin joining United Beach Missions in the Gower
- Charlotte's involvement with Nottingham University Christian Union Events Week
- Ilir and Helen's work in Kosova
- Andrew and Sara's ongoing ministry to refugees in Halesowen
- An update from Simon, Caroline and Isaac regarding the new direction for Azar
- An update from Dave and Michele Mahon
- Steph's presentation about International Justice Mission
- A visit from Tim Fielder from London City Mission.

A number of us participated again in the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association 'God Loves You' tour event at the Excel, where over 1,000 people made new or renewed commitments to Jesus. James Martin led our involvement in the inaugural Erith Praise open-air event in July which raised the profile of Jesus around Erith pier. Another event is in planning for this coming July. Likewise, Trinity band led the Churches Together in Bexleyheath Good Friday service in the Broadway, where we estimate over 100 Christians gathered to celebrate Jesus' death, with some (hopefully) fruitful conversations with passers-by. Thanks to James (again) and Jon & Helen French for their efforts.

Our main new outreach venture this year was to become a collection point for Operation Christmas Child. We were very encouraged by the way that the church (literally) bought into this venture in filling shoe boxes for children who would otherwise not receive a Christmas present. As far as the collection point goes, we recognise that we opened for too many hours, but we have learnt from the experience for next time and it also proved a wonderful opportunity for fellowship for those who volunteered to staff the collections.

The Outreach and Evangelism Committee continues to meet and to plan for the future. One idea in the pipeline is a specific 'Seeker Service' one Sunday morning in the Autumn, where the entire service will be geared to clearly and attractively presenting the gospel to those who may be unfamiliar with it. Please be praying ahead of time as to who you could invite to this service. A further avenue of interest is that we have been approached by the Sea Cadet unit in Trinity Place to see if we can support the spiritual aspects of their work. Isaac Givens is keen to pursue this once he is settled, so watch this space.

None of this, however, is possible without prayer backing, and it certainly will not be successful in bringing people to Jesus without prayer backing. So, even if you do not feel it is right to get involved with any of these ventures, please devote yourselves to pray that God will open a door wide for our message. We long to see his Kingdom grow and many more people come to faith and be baptised.

Andy Banks

Foodbank

The Foodbank at Trinity is one of the four Trussell Trust Foodbanks in Bexley led by the Avery Hill Christian Fellowship. At Trinity we are open twice a week, Mondays 12pm – 2pm and Fridays 10:30am – 12:30pm. To access the Foodbank, clients need to obtain a voucher code directly from us or from one of the many agencies signed up with us, e.g., medical centres, schools, charities and churches. We have our own Trussell Trust phone line, organised by Margaret Kemp, to issue voucher codes to Bexley residents. Margaret, David Bingham and I are three of the people who cover this phone line Monday to Friday 10am – 1pm. Voucher codes can also be issued by the Citizens Advice Bureau, which operates a national free helpline Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm.

All the food / goods donated are weighed in, recorded and sorted by expiry date. My thanks go to the many hard working and committed volunteers who work tirelessly to make the two sessions at Trinity run smoothly. Anne Linley, Jean Nixon and Paul Bryant have been regular volunteers from Trinity as have been others who have helped us during our busy times of Harvest (October) and Christmas.

We collect donations from some of the local supermarkets and from the local churches. Asda and Sainsbury's in Bexleyheath, Tesco and Lidl in Welling and Tesco in Sidcup collect donations in trolleys to be found at the front of the stores. In 2023, Trinity fellowship donated a total of 947kg of food and other goods. Over £1,800 came in gifts from Oasis and individuals, for which we are very grateful.

Unfortunately, the need has now begun to outstrip the amount we receive by donations but we have been fortunate to receive grants from governmental and non-governmental institutions. This has allowed us to buy in essential food and goods as needed. The extras funds have also meant that the Bexley Foodbanks have been able to employ a Citizens Advice Bureau adviser to support and offer advice to many of our clients.

During this past year 2023 we have fulfilled a total of 1,252 food parcels helping 1,770 adults and 1,366 children, which is a 24% increase on 2022. We processed 29,808kg of food / goods and distributed 27,817kg to clients.

We are grateful for the continuing support and encouragement that we receive from Trinity. I would like to thank all the hardworking volunteers, about 20, including folks from Trinity who not only support the sessions but also collect food from supermarkets. Simon Davidson, and others outside Trinity, regularly collect food donations from the supermarkets.

I would like to express my appreciation to Gill Bates and Kate Harris, the two Bexley Foodbank managers. Trinity Foodbank would not operate without their organisational skills and tireless work. Logistically, they keep Trinity Foodbank well supplied from the Foodbank's central warehouse in Crook Log. Transporting food and goods in and out, liaising with organisations to provide different items are only a few of the essential parts of their job. Gill and Kate are also part of the Trinity Foodbank team here on Mondays and Fridays.

Martin Sansom

Bexley Winter Shelter

It's hard to believe a year has passed since I last provided an update on the activities of Bexley Winter Shelter (BWS). It's eight years since life was given to the ambition of a group of Bexley churches wanting to address homelessness in our Borough. Since its inception, a dedicated group of volunteers, mainly of the Christian faith – some of other faiths and others of no faith – have collaborated nightly during the months of January, February and March. Together, these diverse teams give up an evening a week to feed and entertain (and, sometimes, be entertained by) up to a dozen guests, all of whom are experiencing homelessness and have been temporarily put up by BWS in nearby bed and breakfast accommodation.

The Trustees unwisely congratulated themselves at their preparedness well ahead of the 2nd January 2024 start date. Little did we know that, on 20th December 2023, we would find ourselves without a venue on three evenings of the week!

We were immensely grateful, therefore, to Andy and the deacons who at very short notice agreed to increase our occupation of Trinity's kitchen and hall from one to four evenings a week.

A very positive development as we prepared for 2024 was the recruitment of our current Guest Case Worker (GCW). She has been a blessing; an answer to prayer and to the needs of our guests, in relation to both accommodation and other support needs.

This year I was struck by a younger than usual contingent of guests – two of them keen to know what it means to be Christian. Another, the same age as my daughter, had left home with nowhere to go – as her safest option. Our GCW helped her into permanent accommodation and supported her ambition to secure an apprenticeship in the film production industry. We are hopeful she will shortly be offered a place but, again, prayerful support would be welcomed.

We have definitely felt the power of your faithful prayers but please keep them coming as we look to identify and secure a permanent home for BWS. We have no affiliation with our local authority but are seeking from them the proactive support that shelters in other regions enjoy from theirs. Unfortunately, the current official stance is that Bexley has enough provision and to increase it will only encourage the homeless of other regions to seek refuge in ours. More prayer, please!

If you would like to volunteer and / or cook for our guests when we reopen in January 2025, please submit your details via the volunteering section of our website, www.bexleywintershelter.org.uk

Sean Knights

Prayer

During the last year, we have seen changes in the way we pray together: it has been an encouraging time meeting on Zoom and praying, supporting our local mission and outreach organisations in the community and nation. We will continue to cover all the mission links it is possible to arrange on a global level, to Zoom face to face, learning about the mission activities of our links, family and fellowship. I will always be amazed at God's faithfulness and goodness in the way he answers prayer. It is very reassuring to see God at work in our Trinity family and fellowship.

Our verse for the year, 2 Chronicles 7:14, is an important feature in our prayers and we continue to look forward to receiving the promised blessings: that we will be heard from Heaven, and our sins will be forgiven, and our land healed, as we 'who are called by His name' turn from our wicked ways, humble ourselves and pray, and seek His face.

Prayer is the area where the enemy is most at work to prevent us from seeking God's face. I would like to encourage you to keep on praying, God has answered so many prayers, which have blessed us and for which we praise him. I am sure many of you could add to this list of blessings! I would like to extend a big thank you to all who have prayed for the fellowship over the last year – you have blessed us!

Prayer Opportunities:

Sundays: Prayers before the service at 9:30am in the lounge upstairs.

Wednesdays: On the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 8pm (see newsletter for details): Zoom Prayers (Week 2) and Gathered Prayers (Week 4). Two hours a month is not an excessive ask – be part of the blessing!

Prayer Ministry Team: We are available to pray with anyone at the end of Sunday morning services: please sit in a seat at the front to indicate you require prayer.

If you have a sensitive prayer request, please contact Caz on ckirbysmit@aol.com, and the team (10 people) will be asked to pray confidentially.

Prayer Vine

The Prayer Vine, originally the Prayer Chain, has continued to be a source of encouragement, support and blessing this year. Thank you to all the 70 members and to God who has so often answered our prayers, and has heard every one.

We were accidentally given a new name at this time - Prayer Vine, which I really like so we are now known by this name! The email address is usually on the newsletter and is: prayer@trinitybexleyheath.org.uk. Send requests here, if you want the church to pray. Sometimes, things need to be kept more confidential. In these cases, contact Caz, or a member of the team, and the 10 members of the Prayer Ministry team will pray confidentially.

I am happy to report that we now have the special Trinity prayer email given above, which makes both data protection and security better. I would like to remind you to delete these emails once you have prayed so that personal information about others is not kept on your computer, for data protection purposes. People who move away from the church are only kept on the prayer vine for up to a year, unless they contact me. I usually get in touch to check.

You don't have to be a Church Member to be on the prayer vine as a prayer person, but you do need to be a regular attender. We don't just pray for each other but for people and circumstances known to us, where we have been asked to pray. It is important that we always get the person's permission to have a large number of people praying for them.

God has been good to us and it is a blessing to have so many people who faithfully pray for others at Trinity. Thank you, every one of you.

Scilla Stirling

Small Groups

Small Groups form an important part of any healthy, thriving church fellowship. They provide a safe place for friendships to be formed and grow, and for pastoral care at grass roots level. A group will typically have around 10–12 members and joining is open to anyone who attends Trinity regularly.

We currently have five groups meeting on different days and at different times, including one via Zoom. They each follow a similar pattern, allowing time for fellowship, Bible study and prayer. No-one is forced to do anything and just listening is fine until you feel comfortable. Details are listed below and can also be found on the notice-board in the middle hall. The good, and not so good, news is that while there are spaces in the Thursday afternoon and Zoom Groups, all the face to face evening ones are currently full! We would be pleased to open more groups so if you would be interested in hosting, leading, or just joining one please get in touch.

Jill Holland

Day	Frequency	Time	Where	Leaders	Availability
Tue	Fortnightly	7:30pm – 9pm	Sidcup	Ron & Eileen Jones	Currently full
Thu	Fortnightly	2pm – 3:30pm	Trinity	Jill Holland & Caz Kirby Smith	Some spaces
Thu	Weekly	7:30pm – 9pm	Welling	Steve & Jayne Furber	Currently full
Thu	Fortnightly	8pm – 9:30pm	Zoom	Pat & George Garrett	Some spaces
Thu	Weekly during term time	8pm – 9:30pm	Belvedere	Matt & Steph Harris	Currently full

Catering

Baptist churches are often known for their catering and Trinity does not disappoint. We have many talented people who are willing to serve in a variety of ways, the most noticeable being refreshments after the Morning Service. This is a great way to get to know people and only takes about an hour. If you would like to serve in this way, please get in touch with Jill Holland. Currently there are four teams, which means a volunteer would be called upon roughly once a month – more helpers would make it less frequent.

People also get involved in other ways: from 'Taking a Meal' to church folk; Alpha Course suppers; Alpha and Freedom in Christ Course awaydays; or baking cakes for GodZone or YP camps. There are also those who serve behind the scenes, perhaps vacuuming the back hall or mopping the floor after refreshments on Sunday, or helping to serve and clear up faithfully for each Alpha Course meeting.

Last year a new venture we trialled was 'Church Lunch at Home'. Some volunteers offered to serve lunch in their homes and others offered to eat it! This seemed to go down well with those who took part.

Trinity hosted two large events for Women of Faith, Bexley, namely the 'Be Still and Know' Conference in October and 'Advent for Women' in December. Both required helpers to offer gallons of tea and coffee, together with tasty treats. December also meant mince pies and the legendary mulled fruit punch (non-alcoholic). More mince pies were required for the GodZone Nativity and the Carols by Candlelight and Christingle services. I think we got through almost 400 in total!

On Easter Sunday we held a Bring and Share Lunch for around 90 people! The food at these events is always amazing – and plentiful. This year the variety was wonderful, with many cultural dishes in evidence. I am always very grateful for everyone who just swings into action and works so hard to make these big events possible. From setting up tables and chairs, clearing up afterwards, and helping to prepare and serve the food. A particular mention must go to those trojans who 'person' the dishwasher afterwards and get through mountains of washing-up without complaint.

Thank you to everyone who has helped over the last year in whatever capacity. You make it a pleasure to serve in this way.

Jill Holland

Worship

The worship team is responsible for bringing together the sung element of our services, from the words to the music, and for delivering sound both at home and in church to the congregation. Our aim is to create space for people to engage with God, and for God to work in his people.

The highlight this year, for me, was Christmas. We went back to having a choir for our carol service. Special thanks to Liz Bryant for the work she put into making that happen. We had the kids involved too, which was a great opportunity to show how crucial our kids are to what goes on here at Trinity. They did a fantastic job; many thanks to Debs Harmer's organisation.

A special mention to Leo Beaumont for continuing to facilitate the livestream; he works so hard to make it happen. There are too many names to mention individually in the worship team but I am extremely grateful for you all, and the variety you bring to our services. I know others are too.

One exciting addition to our music team is Hannah Morgan on the flute! I've enjoyed hearing this new sound in our band. Carlton Reid has joined our ProPresenter team this year and has done a great, diligent job of learning this role. Jason Vaughan has been playing cajon for us this year, which has brought another great new sound to our services.

I want to thank Abel and Annabelle Bamisaye who served on the tech team and are off studying at university now, and Lizzie Hall, who stepped down from ProPresenter this year. Thank you for the sacrifices you have made for the church.

This next year, my goal is to help us to expand our view of what worship is and to understand more about the role of worship in the church. I would love to see us embrace different forms of creativity that enable us to find the ways we, as individuals, best connect to God. If this sparks inspiration, then please get in touch!

If you would like to be a part of the worship team, please let me know. If you don't see your instrument being played, we can make room for that. Please come and have a conversation with me if you feel you can help on the music or tech side of the worship team.

James Martin

Women's Ministry

Hosting the Women of Faith events is always a blessing and pleasure and October 2023 saw the return of a full-day conference at Trinity entitled 'Be Still and Know'. We welcomed around 100 women for a day of teaching, worship, prayer, sharing, workshops and cake! Our main speaker, Tracey Campbell, who ministers at Emmanuel Community Church in East London, spoke passionately about 'Rest as Resistance', reminding us of the importance of proactively taking time regularly to rest, following the pattern set by Jesus.

The afternoon workshops offered a chance for everyone to dig deeper into the topic or try creative ways to 'Be Still' with God. Our thanks to Karen Thatcher, Nikki Hall, Julia Beaumont, Linda Brady and Liz Thatcher for leading these sessions and to Caz Kirby-Smith for the wonderful prayer room. The conference was a great success and we have had feedback that everyone enjoyed the day and met with God in their own way. We are very grateful to all who helped make the day a success and especially to those men who joined us to serve: Jon French, James Martin, Leo Beaumont, Jason Vaughan and Jesse Osei. We really couldn't have done it without you!

Our annual Advent for Women event was hot on the heels of the conference, with just a 6-week gap. We once again gathered at Trinity at the beginning of December to refocus, refresh and remember the reason for Advent. Louise brought us a message based around 'Celebrating in the Waiting', reminding us of the importance to celebrate even the small moments in life, the stepping stones along the journey even when we still have a long way to reach our goal. We created 'celebration jars' to encourage us all to proactively celebrate through the year. For those women who joined us, have you been using yours? It's never too late to start if you've forgotten!

Looking ahead, we are planning a future conference, perhaps for 2025, and are considering dates and potential themes. Please pray for us as we seek the Spirit's guidance and wisdom for ourselves and the Women of Faith events. Thank you for your continued love and support and a particular thank you to our wonderful team: Linda Brady, Nikki Hall, Cynthia Osei-Kwame, Ciku Nyandusi, Caz Kirby-Smith, Lorraine Sansom, Beth Kemp, Karen Thatcher and Jill Holland.

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you.

May He guide you through the wilderness and protect you through the storm.

May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you.

May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

(From Celtic Daily Prayer – Morning)

Helen French and Louise Brady

Finance

We are grateful to God for all that we have and receive financially; and continue to trust and look to him to provide for our needs as a church. Praise the Lord indeed that we have exceeded our budgeted income by over £14k (£189k vs £174k). For more details, see the [Financial Statement](#).

We are unique and blessed by Jesus as a body in his name and, like any family, the church needs money to do its job as God wills it and to take care of its members. We are very grateful to all who give generously, and continue to do so, to enable us to continue to participate in his mighty and glorious work in and through us. We know that the money coming into our church is given by all of us faithful people who long to serve God, build his kingdom and believe in our church's mission. With that in mind, we understand that we have a great responsibility to be wise with how that money is distributed and spent.

Financial Year 2024 / 2025

We have stepped out in faith to set a budgeted income from gifts and offerings of £190k, approximately a 9% increase on the set budget for 2023 / 2024, to fund the ministries that God has given us to perform and to meet our legal and organisational obligations as a charity with properties to steward. This is a stretching target, especially given the loss of a few members. However, we are confident that God will provide for all our needs and give us what he knows we need to continue his mighty work here on earth for his glory and honour.

A few ideas we hope to implement or have already implemented are listed below.

- Fellowship offering reinstated with an average collection of £477 per month in 23 / 24.
- Employment of a Youth Leader using additional funds from 2022.
- Regular support for the International Justice Mission.

Gift Aid

If you don't already do Gift Aid, and you pay tax, please do speak to me. Any gifts received under the Gift Aid system allow us to claim an extra 25% of the gift from HMRC, at no extra cost to the giver. I am happy to say that at least 90% of our income is Gift Aided.

Our sincere thanks go to those who are involved with the responsibility and hard work of maintaining and producing the finances of the church, including Daniel Kwalombota (Independent Examiner) and Isaac Amoateng who has stepped into the role of Deputy Treasurer, focusing on statutory accounts and monthly financial analysis. Also, Andy and the deacons for their help in managing the finances, particularly Isaac Osei (payroll); Ron Jones (banking); and Jon French (pensions and payroll).

Yohan Keerthiratna

Financial Statement

Trinity Baptist Church, Bexleyheath Financial Year to 31 March, 2024		GENERAL FUND BUDGET		
Mar-24				
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	£	
CATEGORIES	23/24	YTD	Var to Bgt 23/24	
SUMMARY				
INCOME	243,272	255,392	12,120	
EXPENDITURE				
Ministry & Evangelism	87,267	81,670	5,596	
Giving & Support	48,612	51,700	(3,088)	
Operating Expenses	72,124	70,786	1,338	
Balance Sheet Items	35,269	35,761	(492)	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	243,271	239,917	3,355	
PROFIT / (LOSS)	0	15,475	15,474	
INCOME ANALYSIS				
Gifts and offertories	174,739	189,185	14,446	
Tax Recoverable	42,250	38,793	(3,457)	
Rental Income - Manse	21,253	21,104	(149)	
Rental Income - BCU/BWS	5,000	5,260	260	
Other Income	30	1,050	1,020	
	243,272	255,392	12,120	
EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS				
Pastor & Expenses	39,256	39,733	(477)	
Children's Worker	10,882	11,104	(222)	
Administration	18,857	12,255	6,602	
Pastoral Assistant	12,760	12,659	101	
Deficit Recovery Contributions	12	12	0	
Evangelism & Special Events	2,000	1,354	646	
God Zone & YP	3,000	4,403	(1,403)	
Pulpit & Guest Speakers	500	150	350	
Ministry & Evangelism - subtotal :	87,267	81,670	5,596	
Appeal Response Fund	6,900	7,400	(500)	
AZAR	1,251	1,348	(97)	
Baptist Missionary Society	3,413	3,679	(266)	
CRIBS	7,786	8,392	(606)	
LBA - Home Mission Fund	2,900	3,126	(226)	
Operation Mobilisation - Andrew Harwood	11,631	12,536	(905)	
Overseas Missionary Fellowship - J & P Dallman	12,630	13,613	(983)	
Helen & Ilir Dervishi	1,200	705	495	
LCM - L.Brady Support	900	900	0	
Giving & Support - subtotal :	48,612	51,700	(3,088)	
	19.98%	20.24%		
2nd Manse (75a) rates & utilities	5,000	4,944	56	
Building maintenance & repairs	20,000	12,242	7,758	
Catering	500	1,027	(527)	
Chapel cleaning & upkeep	9,000	9,950	(950)	
Chapel rates & utilities	19,000	18,757	243	
Eqpt Maintenance / Repairs / Additions	5,500	8,967	(3,467)	
Governance	525	1,175	(650)	
Insurance	4,500	5,378	(878)	
Manse rates & utilities	400	323	76	
Stationery & Postage	500	1,128	(628)	
Subscriptions & Licences	4,200	5,631	(1,431)	
Sundries	500	369	131	
Training	500		500	
Web-site	2,000	897	1,104	
	72,124	70,786	1,338	
Loan And Interest Repayments	35,269	35,761	(492)	
	35,269	35,761	(492)	

Get in Touch

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