

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING REPORTS



13th May 2018

Pastoral Report

Thanks once again to our loyal Pastoral Visitors; please remember to pray for them. Especial thanks to Paul and Pauline Ellingworth who have given faithful service over many years.

Sadly, during the past year we have recorded the deaths and given thanks for the lives of Bunty Young, Yvonne Kennedy, Kay Polson, Mary Farquhar, Ron Hughes and Helen Smith.

Happily, we can celebrate the births of Amaris, Chiamaka and Jaydon. We rejoice with their parents on their safe arrival.

In July we held a Mum's and Children's Tea Party which was hugely enjoyed by all. We hope to repeat this during the summer, inviting all Church members and friends.

Pastoral visiting is a shared commitment for all Church members; we are known as a welcoming Church and to all who have joined us this year, we give thanks. Our prayer is that we continue to show open hearts to all who worship with us.

Anne Hubbuck

O.A.K.

This year the OAK annual service was held at Crown Terrace, which was well supported by the congregation from St Mark's and, of course, ourselves!

The Monday-Friday OAK café continues under the management reconstituted a year or so ago following the retiral of several former leaders after long service. In addition to paying customers, the café also provides free meals for those in difficult circumstances. Once a quarter there are special lunches for specific causes, and a generous donation was made last year towards the rebuilding of the toilets at Christ the King of Kings primary school for children of an inshore fishing community in Jamestown, Accra, Ghana; and this year (17th May), towards the building of a library space in the school. (If you would like to add a donation to that cause, please contact me).

Several of our members continue to work in the café. Currently, the café is seeking to add to its number of helpers. This is not a daily commitment, but if you feel able to assist for a couple of hours or so on a particular day your help would be much appreciated. The CTM contact is Michael Dyer, who also serves on the management board.

Michael Dyer

Crèche and Sunday Club

Crèche and Sunday Club have worked together for some years, but as the age gap between the children has grown this is no longer possible. Crèche facilities are available in room 4 and I hope that in the coming year we will be able to staff it again for our new youngsters.

Sunday Club is now in Room 1. This has been a good move both for the children and also for the ability to organise and store resources which are now easily accessible. In terms of resources we have explored a new edition of Luke's Gospel especially written for 7-11 year olds. It is written in a modern style familiar to the children and full of illustrations, changes in text size, question marks, creating a very busy page with a fairly limited amount of text. It comes with a 'workbook' which Malvin has enjoyed.

About from the main bible story we have been learning the Books of the Bible through games and crafts and my thanks to Dawn who had us singing the 'Matthew, Mark, Luke!'.

Just recently I attended the 'Jump Conference' focusing on 'God's story, Our story, and My story'. The speaker was the storyteller Bob Hartman. He told us the story of Zacchaeus and we were engaged from his first words. One of his comments was that we are so familiar with the bible stories, but he challenged us all to re-tell God's story passionately and playfully, whilst also engaging the parents. There were also workshops on prayer, resources and a very interesting discussion on 'the way forward' after the Bible story. It was a really stimulating and helpful day, which I will share with the children.

We value your prayers for the children and their families.

Anne K.

Prayer Meeting

A midweek prayer meeting takes every two or three weeks on a Wednesday at 7:30pm in Room 4; please check the notice sheet for details. Different members of the group take turns to lead and we usually spend time in open prayer for the needs of the world and of our congregation as well as having a time of more structured worship, including some hymns or worship songs and a Bible reading. We are a small group and would very much welcome others coming along to join us, even if you are only able to attend occasionally.

Jackie

In addition, a small group meet to pray most Sundays at 10.10 am for 25 to 30 minutes, before the service. Do join us. Contact Sarah Sim on 07909 760859.

Ghana Bible Study

The Ghana Bible Study Group, following notes published by the Methodist Church Ghana, continues to meet weekly, offering an opportunity to consider the same scripture passages as the members of our sister church, St Peter, Accra. Our discussions are mostly lively, thought-provoking, open-minded, wide-ranging, and even orthodox at times. We would, however, much value additions to our number: the more perspectives, the better. Regular attendance is appreciated, but we welcome those who can only come occasionally.

Michael Dyer

Monday House Group

We are currently meeting on a Monday afternoon. We have studied Paul's letter to the Romans and the Gospel of John during the last year. Both were fascinating, demanding and led us to want to know more. We are currently using one of the 'York Courses' - 'On the third day'. The resources were compiled as a reaction to the long build up through Lent and Holy Week to Easter. It looks at the impact of the resurrection on how we live our lives and its impact on the church and in our homes.

Our numbers are small but the discussions are excellent. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Women's Fellowship

Our 2016-2017 session culminated with a well attended walk and lunch at Haddo House. Since September we have continued to meet on the last Monday of the month and we used our September meeting to prepare the service for Harvest. October and November meetings were occupied with Christmas Crafts and in January we focused on New Year Resolutions when Carol distributed booklets entitled "Day by Day" and "Holiness and Justice". We supported the work and witness of Open Table by spending a morning sizing clothes to be distributed to our Sunday evening guests. As a result of our discussions on "Reinventing the Church", "Mental Health" and "Being a good neighbour", topics raised at the 3G Youth Conference in Southport, we were prompted to hold an Afternoon Tea Party for the Congregation on Wednesday 25th April. This was so popular that we plan to have a repeat event in July. Read the notices to find the date.

Thanks to the popularity of bacon rolls with stallholders and customers over £350 has been donated to Action for Children.

We have a core membership of 12 and average attendance of 8. New members will be very welcome. Details of our May meeting and our June walk and lunch will be announced in the notices.

M.D.C. May 2018

Church Flowers

Each week flowers are placed in the Church to the Glory of God and to aid our worship.

We all have different things which help us to focus on God and for some the flowers placed at the front of the Church are important. The display in the porch is part of the warm, welcoming environment which we aim to offer to all who enter the building.

Colours chosen may reflect the time of year, what is available in the shops, what has been requested or just what suited my mood at the time.

Flowers come in many shapes and sizes. Some last weeks, some only a few days. Lilies are usually closed when purchased and can take a full week to open. I buy them at the same time as the previous week's flowers and take them home so that they have heat and light to encourage them to bloom. Our Church is cool and dark during the week and so is wonderful for keeping flowers fresh once they are open.

Where do the flowers come from? Most of the flowers are bought from a supermarket which stocks a range of Fair Trade, as well as British flowers. Sometimes I take in flowers or foliage from home.

Caring for flowers is relatively easy. It is best to add flower food to the vase and then add water. If there is not any flower food with your flowers there is usually some under the sink in the small kitchen. The stalk ends of flowers begin drying as soon as we purchase them and so it is best to cut at least one inch off the bottom before they are placed in a vase to allow them to take up water. (There is an old pair

of scateurs in the small kitchen). Remove all leaves that are likely to be below the water line as well as any that are not looking healthy.

Cost of flowers varies but you do not need to pay a fortune to have a wonderful display. Look for flowers which are in season or on special offer.

We are all have our favourite colours and flowers. If you would like to contribute to our Church's flower display you might like to provide flowers for a Sunday which is special to you. Possibly a birthday or anniversary. Please sign your name on the flower rota on the right hand side of the porch. There are lots of gaps this year. Flowers should be placed in church at least 10 minutes before the service begins.

I enjoy placing flowers in the Church – but would prefer not to do it every week.

Carol Reeves

Delivering flowers to elderly, housebound, those with something to celebrate or an illness was a task which May Barbour and then Ron Hughes did well. We desperately need someone, or a group of people, to take on this valuable role.

If you enjoy talking to people then maybe this is something you could consider. It may be a lot for one person to do this but if several people could work together then it could be an enjoyable experience for all concerned.

Fairtrade

As a Fairtrade Church we have continued to use Fairtrade coffee, tea sugar and biscuits for all our catering.

It has been a disappointing year for Traidcraft sales. Most weeks sales have been between £3 - £10 (which represents one packet of tea, one coffee and a bar of chocolate), with the occasional takings of over £20. As a result it has been decided to open the stall once a month in the hope that it will make a better impact, and bring into focus the reason why we promote Traidcraft products in the Church.

For those who have joined CTM recently, this is as much part of our caring mission as the Open Table and our support to St Peter Church, New Achimoto. It is well known that the Fairtrade mark shows that the producers and their workers are receiving a fair price for their product.

Traidcraft is a Christian organisation, working around the world, helping small producers of Fairtrade quality goods, who cannot produce the quantities required by supermarkets, to get fair prices and protection from exploitation by unscrupulous dealers. No child labour is involved – children can be where they should be – in school.

Please do look at what is on offer next time the stall is open and try some of the teas, coffees etc. – prices differ little from equivalent popular brands. Each time we enjoy Fairtrade food we know somewhere far away a farmer is now able to feed his family too.

JO

Open Table

After a slow start, Sunday nights have really taken off. Thanks to Sarah promoting Sunday evenings at hostels and with the Council, and moving to every Sunday, we now have 15 – 22 visitors every week. A number are now regulars, but every week seems to bring at least one new face. We have built a little community which is generally relaxed, feels very welcome and is really appreciative of what we do. Typically, we give our visitors a three-course meal, prepared by Sarah, Carol or myself, with much appreciated donations of desserts or soup from time to time. There is also a well-used clothes bank, books, games and a table of Christian leaflets and meditation cues.

We have a dedicated group of helpers, but we need more please! We are getting by, but it would be so much less stressful if we could know before the day who is able to help. If people can't make the Sunday evening, setting up the tables after the morning service is a huge help to us!

Open Table has been funded by a donation from the Ogilvie Trust and then a wonderful donation of £2000 from the 'Far and Wide' charity in Stonehaven; we have also appreciated anonymous donations put in the collection plate.

Street visits are a bit more uncertain. Throughout the winter we took soup and sandwiches to people on the street, along with hats, scarves and gloves. Unfortunately, we have so few helpers that we are struggling to get a visit out every week, though when we do we are seeing fewer people, and other organisations out there. We are therefore keeping this outreach under review as we go forward and considering whether we should focus on Sundays.

Thank you all for your practical support, donations, prayers and encouragement in this ministry.

Alix.

Table Tennis

With almost all matches complete, our A team are in 2nd place, and the B team in 4th place in Division One. This is the first time that we have had **two** first division teams retaining Division One status at the end of the season. New to Crown Terrace this season were Andrzej Frandzelski - in the A team, and David Tetteh (from Ghana) in the B team. Practices continue throughout the summer, and all are welcome. Please contact me if interested.

Nigel Herbert (nigelherbert1@gmail.com)

Follow the teams at ... <https://www.tabletennis365.com/Aberdeen>

Tables > Adtta League 2017-18 > Division 1								
#	Team	P	W	D	L	SF	SA	Points
1	Aberdeen University Eagles	16	15	1	0	126	34	126
2	Crown Terrace Methodists A	16	11	0	5	103	56	103
3	Triangle Swifts	14	9	0	5	95	44	95
4	Crown Terrace Methodists B	16	10	0	6	93	67	93
5	Aberdeen University Harriers	16	9	0	7	79	81	79
6	Grammar Hooligans	13	8	1	4	76	54	76
7	Triangle Athletic	15	3	0	12	46	104	46
8	Shell Gashers	16	2	0	14	42	118	42
9	Grammar Surfers	14	0	0	14	19	121	19

Individual Averages > Adtta League 2017-18 > Division 1

Player	Team	Played	Won	% Win
Martin Richens	Crown Terrace Methodists A	33	28	84.85%
Dennis Oon	Crown Terrace Methodists B	39	31	79.49%
Sebastian Wolejnio	Crown Terrace Methodists A	35	26	74.29%
David Tetteh	Crown Terrace Methodists B	42	30	71.43%
Gregor Ksiazek	Crown Terrace Methodists A	41	23	56.10%
Andrzej Frandzelski	Crown Terrace Methodists A	27	13	48.15%
Mohammad Namavar	Crown Terrace Methodists B	27	11	40.74%
Nigel Herbert	Crown Terrace Methodists B	36	9	25.00%

Financial Report

THE MAIN ACCOUNT (UNRESTRICTED) from 1st September to 30th April, 2017-18.

Figures in parentheses are those for the corresponding period in 2016-17.

Income £28,333 (£33,861)

Expenditure £35,370 (£33,403)

So the deficit over the first eight months of the Methodist financial year was £7,037, (surplus of £458).

A special donation of £5,000 was made to our Minister towards the cost of a car so that he could fulfil his responsibilities in Church and Circuit. This largely wiped out the surpluses we had made in the previous four years (after a run of deficits earlier).

Much Church recurring expenditure occurs in the first half year and one also has to take into account a tax refund under "Gift Aid", so the position is not as bleak as it appears at first glance, but it is not good.

On RESTRICTED FUNDS, expenditure was £4,881 mainly on refurbishing the building after earlier water damage. Restricted income was £2,020 which has been transferred to the new "Internal Organisation" for OPEN TABLE and related activity.

Jack Hubbuck