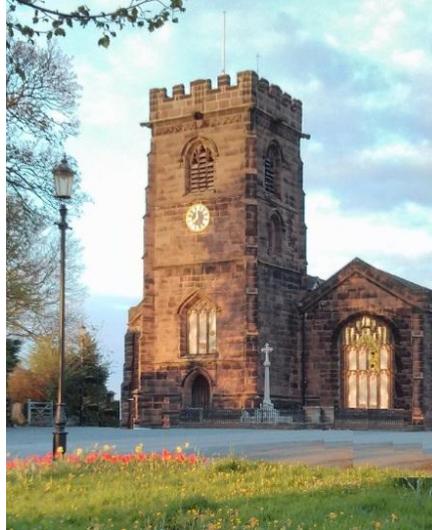


**Anglican Diocese of Chester-Middlewich Deanery
Methodist District of Stoke on Trent - Northwich and Winsford Circuit
Church of St Mary the Virgin, Weaverham**



**Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Ecumenical Church Council
For the year ended 31 December 2013**

Incumbent

Reverend Andrew Brown, The Vicarage, Church Street, Weaverham, NORTHWICH, Cheshire, CW8 3NJ

Associate Vicar

Reverend Jenny Brown also of The Vicarage

Minister

Reverend Dr Duncan Iburri, 11 Townfield Court, Barnton, NORTHWICH, Cheshire, CW8 4UT

Secretary

E J C (Ted) Smith, 13 Long Acre, Weaverham, NORTHWICH, Cheshire, CW8 3PT

Treasurer

John J C Freeman, Stable Court, 20a Leigh Way, Weaverham, NORTHWICH,
Cheshire, CW8 3PR

Banks

Santander, Bridle Road, BOOTLE, Merseyside, L30 4GB
CCLA Investment Management Ltd., Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street,
London, EC4V 4ET

Honorary Independent Examiner

Kevin D Pickering, 5 Withens Close, Weaverham, NORTHWICH, Cheshire, CW8 3JJ

Registered Charity Number: 1135093

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WEAVERHAM – ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ECUMENICAL
CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 2013**

St. Mary's Church is situated in Church Street, Weaverham. It is a local ecumenical partnership between the parish church of the Church of England in the parish of St Mary the Virgin in the Middlewich Deanery and Chester Diocese and the Methodist Church within the Northwich/Winsford Circuit and Chester & Stoke District. The partnership looks for support, encouragement, advice and overview to the sponsoring body Churches Together in Cheshire. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Church Street, Weaverham CW8 3NJ.

ECC members who have served in the year are:-

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------|
| <i>Incumbent:</i> | Revd. Andrew Brown | Chairman |
| <i>Associate Vicar:</i> | Revd. Jenny Brown | |
| <i>Methodist Minister:</i> | Revd. Dr. Duncan Ibuuri | |
| <i>Wardens:</i> | Louise Parry | |
| | Ted Smith | Secretary |
| <i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod:</i> | John Freeman | Treasurer |
| | Peter Wilkinson | |
| | David Whitfield | |
| <i>Methodist Representative:</i> | Marie Jones | |
| | David Whitfield | |
| <i>Representatives from lay church roles:</i> | Linda Jones | |
| | Jules Sanders | |
| | Mike Sanders | |
| <i>Elected members:</i> | | |
| Jean Bracegirdle – (elected 2013) | Ruth Kunzi – (elected 2012) | |
| Ken Baird – (retires 2014) | Jackie McCall – (elected 2012) | |
| Chris Bone – (elected 2012) | Robert Owens – (elected 2013) | |
| Chris Hornby – (elected 2013) | Derek Wilson – (elected 2012) | |
| Carol Johnson – (retires 2014) | Sue Winnington – (retires 2014) | |

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of ECC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the ECC.

Objectives and activities

St Mary's ECC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd. Andrew Brown and Methodist Minister the Revd. Dr. Duncan Ibuuri in promoting the whole mission of the Church: pastoral; evangelistic; social and ecumenical in the ecclesiastical parish. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the buildings associated with the church.

In the last year St Mary's ECC have been utilising the Chester diocese 'Growth Action Plan' process in order to focus our efforts on spiritual and numerical church growth. The vision statement for St Mary's Ecumenical Church, Weaverham:

St Mary's Church Weaverham, sharing the light and hope of Jesus with our community.

Achievements and performance

Church attendance

In 2013 a new electoral roll was created onto which 140 people were enrolled, a decline of -29 percent compared to the previous year. Average weekly attendance for 2013 was 153, a decrease of -7 percent from 2012; this decline is also reflected in children attending Junior Church. The general view of the ECC was that we have an aging congregation and that we need to encourage young folk into church. The onus is on us all to achieve this aim.

Review of the year

The full ECC met eight times during the year with an average level of attendance at 70 percent. The Fabric and Standing Committees met between meetings and reports of their deliberations were circulated to the Standing Committee and discussed at ECC meetings where necessary.

The structure of the ECC meetings continues to incorporate a time of prayer and agenda items for 'People and Mission' as well as 'Business and Reports'. This is driven by our desire to serve Christ within our local community, whilst maintaining the organisation, structures and fabric needed to support the mission.

St Mary's is fully integrated as a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) between the Anglican and Methodist churches in Weaverham. We worship at the Anglican Church building with our services varied between Anglican and Methodist styles and leadership. The Methodist home group continues to meet on a regular basis which enables spiritual nurture and support to continue. Throughout the year activities and events have benefitted from the input and support of Methodist members.

As a church, we have continued to follow the Growth Action Plan process and the achievements for 2013 included:

- Classic car and toy festival providing outreach to the community.
- AG & Kate acoustic, country and gospel concert.
- Continuing a pastoral care plan called 'Can we Help?' to provide practical support to St Mary's church members.
- Continuing to run a successful Kids Holiday Club.
- Continuing to run successful CHAOS events for children and accompanying family members.
- Ministry to all of the five local Weaverham schools.

The church continues to support a wide range of groups and events that are aimed at meeting the social, spiritual and practical needs of our members, from home groups and music groups to Men's Society and Mothers Union. We have also continued to develop activities that connect with the wider community, such as Hope Café, mums and tots group, kids holiday club, holiday at home for the retired, men's breakfasts and curry nights, knitting group, regular Saturday evening Rejoice services, a Lent course, and special Christmas and Easter services.

Once again a large group from church attended the Keswick convention for a week of uplifting spiritual teaching.

This year the plan for the refurbishment of Church House was realized, with building works commencing in November and due for completion in May 2014. The plan to extend Church House is continually being developed, applications for charitable funding are ongoing.

We are very grateful to our many friends and supporters who are helping to make our vision for the Lighthouse project, the refurbishment of Church House, a reality. Major funders include WREN, Cheshire West and Chester Rural Support, The Veolia Environmental Trust, Joseph Rank Trust, Garfield Weston and Norwood and Newton.

Other funders include Ecclesiastical Insurance, CEMEX, Brian Wilson Trust and Rank Foundation. Both our Parish Council and our Cheshire West and Chester local Councilors have contributed. The project has been fully supported by the generosity of members of the congregation from St Mary's church and from fund reserves.

The main church building is in very good condition and maintenance has been ongoing. No major work was necessary in 2013.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE ECUMENICAL CHURCH COUNCIL OFSAIN'T MARY THE VIRGIN, WEAVERHAM

This report on the financial statements of the ECC for the year ended 31 December 2013 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church of England Accounting Regulations 2006 (the Regulations) and Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act). As members of the ECC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirements of Regulations and Section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church of England Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the ECC and a comparison of the financial statements with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given on the financial statements.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act, to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Kevin D Pickering - Hon Independent Examiner - March 2014

| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
|----------------------------------|-------------|----|-------------|-------------|
| C Income from investments | | | | |
| Church deposit account | 977 | | 977 | 1166 |
| Wayleave | 20 | | 20 | 20 |
| War Memorial | | 40 | 40 | 41 |
| TMCP | <u>53</u> | | <u>53</u> | <u>75</u> |
| | 1050 | 40 | 1090 | 1302 |
| D Church activities | | | | |
| Giving | | | | |
| Overseas missions | 3166 | | 3166 | 3376 |
| Overseas development agencies | 900 | | 900 | 900 |
| Home missions | 2225 | | 2225 | 2125 |
| Others | 800 | | 800 | 725 |
| Ministry | | | | |
| Parish share | 55244 | | 55244 | 53605 |
| Circuit fee | 4640 | | 4640 | 4640 |
| Other ministry costs | 4302 | | 4302 | 3698 |
| Church running and maintenance | 17129 | | 17129 | 17052 |
| Church House improvement project | 25451 | | 25451 | 7712 |
| Training | 1773 | | 1773 | 2519 |
| Magazine | 131 | | 131 | 125 |
| Churchyard | | | | 132 |
| Church House | 4267 | | 4267 | 4269 |
| Administration | <u>3343</u> | | <u>3343</u> | <u>3360</u> |
| | 123371 | | 123371 | 104238 |

During the year the PCC employed an organist and vergers, both part time, no payments were large enough to attract social security payments. Together they equate to less than one full time employee. Reimbursement of out of pocket expenses were made to some PCC members all supported by the necessary invoices.

| E Balances at 31 December | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| Current accounts | 42424 | | 42424 | 5287 |
| Deposit account | 172538 | | 172538 | 165561 |
| Church House | 1505 | | 1505 | 4333 |
| War Memorial deposit | | 612 | 612 | 572 |
| War Memorial 74 CBF shares | | 933 | 933 | 834 |
| Methodist Church Purposes fund | | <u>4718</u> | <u>4718</u> | <u>4718</u> |
| | <u>216467</u> | <u>6263</u> | <u>222730</u> | <u>181305</u> |

Approved by the Ecumenical Church Council at its meeting held on 24 March 2014 and signed on its behalf by:



Reverend A Brown (Incumbent)



J J C Freeman (Treasurer)