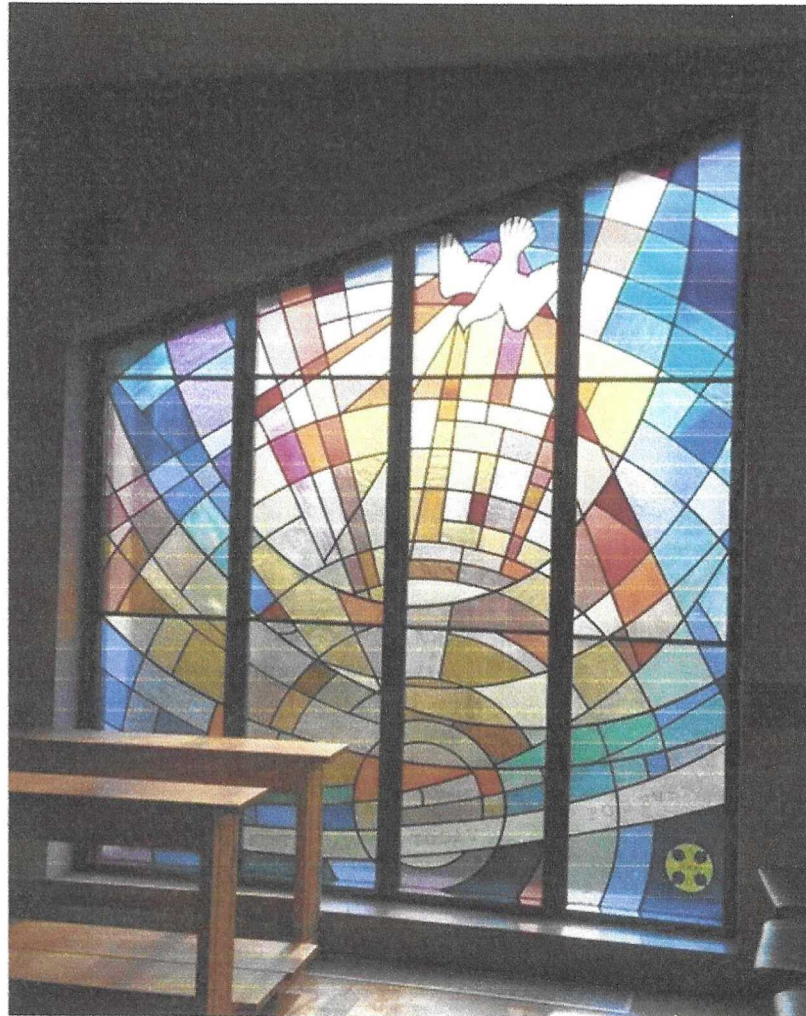


**Anglican, Methodist & URC Community  
St Augustine of Canterbury Church  
North Springfield, Chelmsford**

**Reports including the financial report for the 2024 AGM**



## **Information**

### **Ministers:**

The Revd. Caroline Brown  
The Vicarage  
St Augustine Way  
Chelmsford  
CM1 6GX

The Revd. Mark Pengelly  
30, Park Avenue  
Chelmsford  
CM1 2XB

### **Church Officers:**

Church Warden – Val Jellows  
Deputy Church Warden – Janet Matthams  
Church Steward, Methodist Church – Doug Hayton  
Church Steward, Methodist Church – Pamela Scammell

**PCC Members** (in addition to the Ministers and Officers listed above) who have served during the year

Treasurer – Carolyn Smith – co-opted  
Church Council Secretary – Deborah Wilkes – lay rep.  
Safeguarding Officers – Val Jellows & Carolyn Smith  
Cristian Bora – Deanery Synod rep  
Ben Torkornoo – lay rep.  
Linda Raymond - lay rep.  
Helen Leverett – lay rep.  
Jenny Murphy – lay rep  
Methodist Circuit rep. (ex officio) – Sheridan Pengelly

Bank:

National Westminster PLC  
4-5 High Street  
Chelmsford  
CM1 1FZ

Independent Financial Examiner:

Mary Betley  
Yew Tree Barn  
Pleshey

St Augustine of Canterbury Church is situated in St Augustine Way, North Springfield, Chelmsford. It is part of the diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. It is part of an ecumenical partnership shared between the Roman Catholic Church; Church of England; Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.





## St Augustine of Canterbury, North Springfield Reports for 2024 APCM

### The Vicar's Report

AGMs are really good for looking back over the past year and remembering all the good work we have done, and the fun times we have had and looking at what's next. We are in a good position as a church to face whatever is next. We have continued to grow in this past year especially in the second half of the year with both young and older people joining us and we have also been deepening our discipleship.

I am aware I am retiring in June and I know that God gives us what we need for what he is calling us to next. St Augustine's church is a small but growing church blessed with faithful welcoming people, who are listening to God and considering how they can serve God and our local community.

Please do take the time to read this report as it represents lots of work and care and how God is at work in our midst. I am aware I have named names of those who are leading initiatives but it wouldn't happen without lots of people playing their part and willingly and cheerfully doing what is needed to make things happen, so a big thank you to you all – Hooray!!

#### ***Youth and children's work***

Wonderful work is going on with our children and youth.

Rainbow tots, a group for carers and toddlers has started. Two Mums, Grace and Martina came to me separately saying they wanted to do it and now it's a reality with a team of helpers and Pam and Deborah liaising with them. Pam leads a story, a song and a prayer.

It is good that every week we have an exciting and appropriate way to share the love of God with our younger members, either in all age worship or with team rainbow. We are gifted with a congregation with a sense of fun and willing to join in and young and old seem to appreciate a more interactive all age service.

Team Rainbow has settled down and there are times, usually linked to festivals and Mothering Sunday, when we have a bumper crop of children and carers. Pam and Deborah lead this monthly with Jenny and Charlotte helping when needed. Our young people and families add such a sense of joy and life, and there always seems to be more of them than when I count the actual numbers!

Messy church is now established 3 times a year in half term and feels like a sustainable pattern valued by families inside and outside the church, led very ably by Pam.

Charlotte Tew has a huge commitment to our youth knowing the love of God and has been working ecumenically to achieve this. When one door has closed another has opened. There is a danger when work is invisible on a Sunday that we don't realise it's happening, and this is an example of that.

#### ***Outreach and social***

Our outreach has really expanded over the past year. Craft and chat has blossomed under Val's leadership, and we now have B&B (Beverage and Bible) organised by Cristian, Jenny and Pamela monthly in The Endeavour pub with lively discussions and friendship as well as board games led by Deborah and Ian. There is plenty of laughter which is always a good sign.

Our fundraising activities, such as the Christmas fayre (led by Pam), Cream Teas (Deborah's initiative) and Railway Exhibition (led by Carolyn and Andrew Smith) and are great in that they raise much needed funds as well as building our relationships with the local communities, and much thanks to all those involved in making them happen.

#### ***Ecumenical work and play***

Given we celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary it has been a big year for us, going to Canterbury on a coach with our Catholic sisters and brothers as well as a wonderful service and reception afterwards with leaders from all the Christians involved in our church.

The Indian Orthodox church now worships twice a month in our building and joined us on the Good Friday walk of witness. This is a real blessing.



We took a lead on the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, with a service with Bishop Guli, Bishop Alan and David Chapman the Methodist Chair of District in Chelmsford Cathedral with joint choirs from both Cathedrals, as well as services in other churches in Churches Together in Chelmsford including the Quakers. We have also had more links with Christians Together in Chelmsford and took part in the Walk of Witness and the outreach in the town centre on Good Friday. The new chair is keen to have more involvement with the Cathedral and took part in the pre-interview process of deciding on the qualities needed for the new Dean.

The youth work and the Little Free Pantry/pop up food bus are examples of ecumenical working in action.

### ***Social outreach***

It is great to see the Springfield wombles back in action litter picking locally on a weekly basis (organised by Pam).

The Little Free Pantry is now regularly used by families and people in our community, people giving what the can and taking what they need. It is based entirely on trust, and relies on the generosity of people in the community and a church member checks it daily and is led by Pam. We now have good access to food from supermarkets close to the sell by date. This initiative has highlighted that something more is needed and the pantry is frequently empty.

We are delighted that the Pop up food bus, is starting on 25<sup>th</sup> April where people become a member and pay £5 weekly to supplement their weekly shop and get between £20-30 of goods. This is a system where people are helping themselves and the intention is that it is sustainable. There is also a chance to chat over tea which is valued by many who come.

### ***Deepening discipleship***

Discipleship is an interesting thing and deepens when we get into action so the examples above of outreach and social, ecumenical and social action all help us deepen our discipleship. As Christians it is good to be in action.

It is our intention that weekly worship is a space in which people can renew themselves for the week ahead, have a sense of space and peace and God's love, God with them, so this is a key element of us all deepening our discipleship..

- This Lent we have been undertaking a prayer course Praying like Monks, Living like Fools and we are wanting to set up a team of Prayer Warriors as a result. The second part of this course is now underway as the book we are using had more to offer and it is clear that it has been profound for people (including me).

### ***Special mention***

Above I have focused on families and children but we are blessed by having older people in our congregation who have made themselves at home and being here with us and bring wisdom and care. I remember when Deborah's father Ian was with us and brought the sense of being a church elder ( and challenged me especially about involving children). Now we have a team of elders which is great.

Also we have adults who are committed to the growth of this church and including younger people, some of whom are on our Leadership Team and Church Council.

### ***Foundations***

Good solid foundations are so important. We have a capable and enthusiastic Leadership Team and Church Council making decisions about the way forward for the church, all of whom deserve our sincere thanks. We have a good Treasurer in Carolyn, secretary in Deborah, GDPR officer in Doug, Safeguarding officers in Val and Carolyn. Val is a great Church Warden as well as being our Authorised Lay Preacher and leading services. She is a whizz with stats and technical things creating beautiful and creative power points for our services. Doug and his team of organists Pam and Gail liven our worship with their playing.

Thank you to you all for all you do and who you are and bringing your lovely selves to making our church the place and welcome that it is.

Thank you  
Revd Caroline Brown



## Fundamentals

### **Report on the Fabric of St Augustine of Canterbury - Val Jellows**

The JMC council met a few times during 2023 and a sub-group of it did arrange a very successful Joint celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the church.

We are still awaiting the final documents regarding the sharing agreement, but this has recently been looked at by the Archdeacon of Chelmsford.

Over the last year several things have taken place:

- The Indian Orthodox Community started using the church on the first Sunday (between 1pm and 6pm) of every month and there has been a good income from this. They have recently also started to meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month.
- A grant was received from the Walter Farthing Trust of £4000 to go towards the cost of the roof repairs done in 2022.
- There has been some work done on lights inside and out of the church.
- In order to make the entrance to the Car park safer, some yellow tennis balls have been added to the chains to make them more visible.
- There has been request for more storage space for the Indian Orthodox Church and the Rainbow Tots group. This is being explored.
- The group received a safety report which was looked at in detail.

The group received the Quinquennial report but still need to look at it in more detail and consider the work that needs to be done.

The problem continues to be funding and the impact of the majority change of ownership of the building. This is something that needs to be considered if we want to keep St Augustine's a thriving, worshipping and growing church.

### **Statistics for Mission – Val Jellows**

Each year, the Church of England asks us to provide statistics about our church. Similar statistics are completed for the Methodist church and the URC.

The key month for the Anglican Church is October although they do ask for information about Christmas and Easter.

The report below needs to be read along with the charts supplied marked as the Dashboard for St Augustine of Canterbury

#### ***1. Attendance Summary, (2012-2023)***

- a. Christmas – in 2023 there was a continued rise in the number of people attending services especially the Christmas Eve Crib service. Also, Christingle and the Joint Carol service attendance was higher although the numbers for these services are not included as the dates for these fell outside the count period for Christmas.
- b. Easter – in 2023 it appears that the numbers dipped but we still had a good attendance on Easter Day but fewer families came with children for the Easter Egg hunt.
- c. Average week in October – The figures for October were affected by the large number of people who attended the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary service, Messy Church and that less school services were held that month.
- d. Usual Sunday – our usual Sunday worshipping community looks like it has stayed the same but during the second half of 2023 there has been an encouraging increase of people attending Sunday morning worship.
- e. Worshipping Community – during 2023, there has been an encouraging increase with new people joining our community.

#### ***2. Worshipping Community, (2014-2023)*** The Church of England decided in 2015 that the returns for the electoral roll and counts for special events and October count were not a true reflection of the actual



worshipping community of a particular church. For this section we are asked to count people who worship on a regular basis (about once a month) or would do so if health and other issues did not prevent them. The figures recorded are for those who form part of the worshipping community at the end of each year. There are two graphs - one divided into age groups and one which records leavers and joiners. In 2022 Revd Caroline and myself did a lot of groundwork to establish who were a part of our worshipping community. This has helped us get a truer figure for the year 2023.

- a. Age groups – There has been an increase in all age groups although we do not have any teenage children currently.
- b. Leavers and Joiners During 2023, 20 people (all ages) joined our community and 12 left mainly as a result of moving away from our area.

### **3. Usual Sunday attendance 2013-2023**

The figures for 2023 do not show any change but this is not a true reflection as it is an average figure and we have noted that during the second half of the year the attendance on a Sunday seems to have increased.

### **4. Average Weekly Attendance in October 2013- 2023**

The figures for the October count showed a good increase but as previously explained, October 2023 was an unusual month for St Augustine. In the early part of the month, we hosted a Joint celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of the church. During October the school for various reasons did not have as many services in church but there were additional Harvest Festivals and Messy Church.

### **5. Percentage Children 2013-2023**

The percentage of children taking part in services has stayed the same except for October when there were fewer school services.

### **6. Baptism, marriages and funerals 2013-2023**

- a. Baptisms - there have been fewer baptisms this year.
- b. Funerals – no comment as the numbers for these are not in our control.
- c. Marriages – the church does not seem to appeal to couples wishing to marry but we did get some requests to read the banns of people who live in our parish.

### **7. Electoral Roll 2015-2023**

The numbers on the Electoral Roll were higher last year and hopefully this is encouraging sign.

Finally – as I said last year, statistics can be interesting, and they do tell us about certain aspects of our church and we are seeing small signs of growth. However, they do not tell the whole story about St Augustine's which is that of a community of welcoming worshipping Christians committed to helping our wider area and the world.

### **Cherish – Marie Scofield**

Cherish is now held once a month, on Zoom, & is much appreciated by those who attend, some of whom are unable to attend church, for various reasons. Sometimes Rev. Caroline or Val leads a service & sometimes we listen to Evensong. There is usually a short time after the formal session to catch up on any important news. All are welcome so perhaps other church members would like to join us.

### **Deanery Synod of Chelmsford – Cristian Bora (Chelmsford Deanery Synod Rep.)**

I just wanted to share a bit about what went down at the latest Deanery Synod meetings I went to. The finance report was pretty good news. Our deanery's doing better than most with paying our shares, the deanery had paid an average of 71% of the requested share by the end of October, which compares with an archdeaconry average of 64% and 18 of our 33 benefices have paid the full 83% (or more). Full payment at this stage would be 83%. There's also some exciting stuff happening with the Eco Church initiative. Linda



Percival is leading the charge, aiming to get all our churches to be more eco-friendly. Some churches are already doing amazing work reducing their carbon footprint and getting involved in community and global environmental efforts. It's inspiring to see churches leading by example on this. We have 2 golds – the Cathedral and St John's Moulsham; 5 silver St John's Danbury, St Mary's Widford, St Augustine North Springfield, Church of the Holy Spirit Forest Drive, All Saints Springfield; 3 bronze St Mary Broomfield, St Andrews Chelmsford, St Andrews Sandon.

We had a Q&A session with Bishop Adam, where he talked about the importance of healing in faith and how prayer plays a big role in that. He also showed us his unique cross made from recycled materials, which was a cool symbol of caring for the environment.

We had a deanery day about celebrating our community, sharing inspiring stories, and getting some solid advice from people who've seen success in their areas. It was a brilliant chance for everyone to connect, especially for those of us in similar roles or facing similar challenges in our churches.

Tim Ball shared the Rev Fumilayo challenge. Rev Fumilayo goes out at lunchtimes and asks people in the street if they would like prayer. Incredibly positive response and some are now coming to church as a result of these encounters. We can all do this.

### **Progressive Christianity Network (PCN) – Jenny Murphy**

Our PCN discussion group has existed as an offshoot of the national association, PCN Britain, for eleven years now. ([www.pcnbritain.org.uk](http://www.pcnbritain.org.uk))

Progressive Christianity recognises the value and significance of tradition and the scriptures in the shaping of Christian faith. But faith must be of today, not just the past. Some people have difficulty in comprehending the miraculous events described in the Bible and want to question elements of church teaching. Our group offers the opportunity to do just this as we try to help each other resolve such problems. We continue to meet monthly, on the second Sunday at 6.15pm, via 'Zoom'. The dynamic of our group has changed over the past few years, and we now no longer meet in person at church. Relying on 'Zoom' is not ideal and we have had some technical issues but meeting virtually is preferable for many who live some distance from Springfield and is essential for those with medical constraints. We currently have 24 members with a monthly attendance of between 8 and 12.

Our recent discussions have been centred around the book "Lies we Believe about God" by Wm Paul Young and have included such difficult questions as;

Is God actually in control?

Does God want to use me?

Do you need to get saved?

Is God involved in my suffering?

Was the cross God's idea?

All ideas and opinions are respected and remain private to the group and so it is liberating to be able to ask advice from the other members, some of whom are church leaders and Biblical scholars.

### **North Chelmsford Ministry and Mission Partnership (MMP) – Doug Hayton**

MMPs were first established by Bishop Stephen, the previous diocesan bishop. A number of churches were encouraged to work together as a unit or partnership to encourage the sharing and more efficient use of resources and to provide a network across the diocese. To encourage this some functions were delegated to the MMPs, for example, with regard to some aspects of finance and deployment of ordained and other resources.

Unfortunately, in some areas, possibly not helped by the covid pandemic, there was little enthusiasm to even get them off the ground. However, a number did succeed including that for North Chelmsford, of which St. Augustine's is a member. Each MMP had a council made up of an ordained and lay person from each church, which met regularly to discuss issues affecting some or all of the 12 churches in the MMP.

Bishop Guli, the current diocesan bishop on reviewing the success or otherwise of the MMPs has decided to take the diocese in a different direction, though she has stressed that she is happy for those MMPs which are successful to continue. The consequence of her decision is that any decision making powers of substance



have been taken back to the centre. Our MMP now therefore meets on a more informal and less frequent basis. With the shortage of priests, however, it still undertakes the important task of trying to ensure that every church's spiritual and pastoral needs are met.

### **Revision of Electoral Roll – Doug Hayton**

Under the Church Representation Rules (CRR) every lay person is entitled to have their name entered on the Church Electoral Roll (CER) provided they meet the following criteria :-

- i) they are baptised
- ii) they are 16 or over
- iii) they live in the parish
- iv) they live outside the parish but have habitually worshipped at St Augustine's for the last 6 months.

Being a member of the CER gives those members the right to attend and vote at certain meetings, for example, at the AGM or a formal church meeting.

The CRR require that the CER is revised each year shortly before the AGM. After the revision in 2023 there were 37 names listed on the CER and two further names were added during the course of the year. Written notice was given on 5 April 2024 that this year's revision would be carried out between 13<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024. The results will be reported at the AGM.

Under the CCR a new CER must be prepared every six years and the next occasion when this will happen is 2025. This means that next year all members who wish for their names to be listed on the CER, whether or not they are currently members, must complete a new application to do so.

### **GDPR – Doug Hayton**

A review of our Privacy Notice and Privacy Policy and other related matters was due to be carried out in Autumn 2023. However, earlier in the year the government introduced some legislative amendments about which the Church of England promised new guidance. Unfortunately, the publication of the guidance was delayed so the review was postponed.

As I write this report (March 2024) this review has now commenced, and a report will be submitted to the Church Council in May 2024. The policy of the church council sets out how personal data is kept and there is an obligation to set out how data is used, kept securely and kept up to date. There is likely to be a need for those who keep data to certify that they have done so.

A progress report will be presented at the AGM.

### **Safeguarding – Carolyn Smith**

Val Jellows and Carolyn Smith are joint Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO). We remain mindful of what has happened in the past and current concerns and will be following diocesan guidance on recruitment and risk assessment of church activities.

Enhanced DBS checks have been completed for everyone who is eligible. We are required to renew a DBS check every 3 years and people will be invited to renew as and when appropriate. DBS checks are required for all clergy, members of church council and certain others depending on their role in the church. Carolyn is lead recruiter on this and can be contacted if people have any queries.

In addition to the online safeguarding training, we have also delivered a face to face course which was attended by the majority of the church council. We aim to deliver a further face to face course later in the year, however if anyone wishes to take the online training, please contact Carolyn or Val and we will help facilitate this.

We would encourage anyone who has concerns about the safety or welfare of a child or adult to contact us. Contact details are available on the website and church notice board and to ensure confidentiality a dedicated mobile phone has been purchased for this purpose and the number for this phone is 07729746842. Anyone ringing this is invited to either leave a voicemail message or send a text.



## Youth & Children's Work

### **Team Rainbow – Pamela Scammell**

This has been a shared responsibility this year, with Deborah, Pamela, Caroline, sometimes Charlotte and Jenny, usually arranging material from the suggestions in 'Roots' a website for Church Planning. Children have continued to add a colour to their rainbow each time they come along, and on the completion of a rainbow they are awarded a badge. The first Sunday of the month is an All age service so children's activities will be arranged in the service. During the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays children exit the main service after the first song. Children usually return to the service in time for Communion or for the notices and the last hymn. Generally, a parent accompanies their child. A child needn't be accompanied by a parent if they are confident enough to be left, and if there are other parents so the Lead is with at least one other adult. Numbers vary at Team Rainbow, sometimes being one to occasionally 10! Also, ages range from 18 months to 17! Generally, the average is 3 – 6 years. This is quite a challenge for the organizer to prepare something interesting for a variety of levels and have something put out just for play if a very young child comes along. This session is also a responsibility and an honour to consider the parents who join their child. They join in helping their child with the discussions and prayers, so this can be thought provoking for them too!

### **All age Worship – Caroline Brown**

We have had All age worship on the first Sunday of every month. It is a challenge to create services that are suitable for young and old alike. The Roots liturgy and ideas for craft are the backbone of what we do, and sometimes need considerable adaptation to work in our situation.

Average attendance at this has been 8 children and 26 adults with higher attendances at Christingle (10 children, 31 adults), crib (27 children and 57 adults) and Easter (7 children and 26 adults). Some families come to this service most months as their only service. We also continue to have attendance from our regular churchgoers which is good. The pattern is to have craft activity available in the same room as everything else is happening. There is usually a real buzz and we have had small group discussions and one time we had a moving activity around flints which were 65-85 million years old.

### **Rainbow Tots – Grace Carey**

Springfield Rainbow Tots meet in the Church Hall, on Friday mornings during term-time from 10 am until 12 pm. Providing a small meeting place for local parents and carers to socialise and bring their little ones to play, the group caters for children aged from Birth up to school age. A home corner, cars, tent and tunnel, tuff tray activity, dolls, books, puzzles and a baby corner are regularly on offer and the children have enjoyed a variety of crafts each week with activities such as play dough, biscuit decorating, painting, colouring and making cards. We have a blessing and a prayer each week at the end of the session along with a story, singing songs and nursery rhymes.

The group was originally set up in December 2023 by two local mums, Grace and Martina. We have amazing help from our volunteers Pam and Deborah and Simon each week. We often get some other people who may help us in the kitchen if we need cover. With generous donations of toys and equipment from the local community and support from St Augustine's church, together with the Church leasing the Hall on a regular basis and agreeing to store the equipment, the new group was up and running with dozens of children attending weekly.

When we started in December 2023, with the Christmas party, with a special visit from Father Christmas! The children loved it and it was such a lovely day. We were supported by the church to help start up this event. The group is going very well with some families regularly coming on a weekly basis and also every week we welcome new members of the community.

Fridays (term-time) 10 am - 12 pm

£1:50 donation suggested per family including drinks and snacks/biscuits. Allergies are catered for.

### **Bishops service in church on Tuesday – Caroline Brown**

Most Tuesdays in term time half the school comes to church and a class from Foundation year to year 6,

will lead the service with a minister from one of our local churches who will introduce the service and do a talk.

In the last year there have been considerable changes in the ministers leading services including the loss of Revd Ramona and we now have no Methodist input, which is a shame. Revd Andy from Church of our Saviour has stepped forward to lead more frequently, and we have been blessed by all 3 of our Catholic colleagues, including Fr Paschal who is building his relationships in the school with the children and on the governing body which is welcome. His guitar playing and storytelling is also valued, as is his lively approach to leading services.

Claire McDonald is a governor and her approach and experience of working in schools is very valuable. Caroline is also a governor and has been the lead for pastoral support for staff and both have taken part in the recent SIAMS inspection where the inspectors experienced the vibrant Mothers Day service with all the school in the church.

### **Springfield primary – Caroline Brown**

Links have been developed over the past year with Springfield primary focusing on the festivals of Easter and Christmas. Children have come into church and Caroline has been asked to go into school to meet parents and do drama for Christmas.

### **Tiddlywinks pre-school – Caroline Brown**

In a similar fashion to Springfield primary, pre-school children have come into church for the festivals and have sung songs and engaged with the stories.

### **Messy Church – Pamela Scammell**

Messy Church has been following a pattern of taking place on the Wednesday of each Half Term break, 2-4pm. Parents have become accustomed to knowing the date and know to expect it. Last year the themes were Air, Wind, and Fire – relating to stories from the bible and eco themes. The last 2 sessions, in Autumn and Spring were important Biblical characters – Jonah and then Noah. The May Messy Church will hopefully be planned for outside relating to eco issues and appreciating God's world. We have had a super group of helpers, who volunteer to help with the food, help with crafts or clear up after. The session generally has an hour of crafts, where children wander where they wish from table to table. Then they go to the small chapel for a short service, songs, story and prayer. Next, families return to the main hall for a snack.

### **Youth Work – Charlotte Tew**

We continue to work to try and develop links across the deanery.

We managed one 'mass' event last summer when youth from across Chelmsford joined us at All Saints for a rounders and pizza evening. The event was quite well attended with about 25 young people. Many were from Central Baptist church, some from St Marys Great Baddow, one from Broomfield, about 6 from All Saints/St Augustines' and North Springfield Baptist Church.

Sadly, the youth group at All Saints has closed. This was in the main due to the death of one of the leaders and personal circumstances for 2 of the other leaders. However, on the flip side, in response to an increase in families with children in the 12-16 age group attending North Springfield Baptist Church, since September Ronald and Karen Heard have been running a youth group entitled God's Royalty.

Things started in the summer when it was agreed a youth group could be supported by the church – so a community car wash was organised to raise funds for essential items such as furniture, table tennis etc. This was really well attended and achieved a sum in the region of £200 which was enough to 'kit out' the upstairs area of the church to make it an appealing space for the youth to relax and chat, with the downstairs area being used for table tennis, craft etc.

Sessions normally follow a structure of 30-45 mins social time, followed by a structured session upstairs with a few group games followed by a short bible study followed by a bit of time for prayer, before finishing with a bit more social time. The idea is that it is to be a safe space for young people to discuss issues relevant for them, and challenges they face, along with celebrating achievement.



Whereas normally the group meets at the church, this month a bowling evening was offered as a bit of an outreach activity and once again was attended by young people from a few different churches which totalled about 15 young people, and we hope to do more.

As a final update, I attended the Chelmsford Deanery day on February 19<sup>th</sup>. I was asked to deliver a 10-minute talk sharing some of what we had done to connect youth and hopes for the future. This was really to raise awareness of what we are doing which will hopefully develop greater connections in the future.

## Deepening Discipleship

### **Bible & Beverage-** Cristian Bora

I'm excited to share what's been happening with our Bible & Beverage (B&B) get-togethers at the Endeavour pub every month. We've had such a good time talking about the Bible, sharing laughs, and really getting into some deep conversations.

Our B&B nights are all about hanging out, enjoying a drink, and diving into the Bible together. Whether we're talking about Christmas, Easter, or just having a regular chat, there's always something interesting going on. Sometimes we stick to our plan, and sometimes we just go with the flow, but it's always great. The most people we've had at once was 11, which was awesome. We see our regular friends often, but it's also super cool when someone new drops by. It shows that our group is welcoming.

One thing I've noticed is that not everyone knows about our meetups. I think if we talked about it more at church or posted some notices, even more people might come. It's such a relaxed spot to ask questions and chat about anything from the Bible.

#### ***Ideas for Getting the Word Out:***

1. **Talk About It More:** We could use church announcements or our social media to remind everyone when the next B&B night is happening.
2. **Invite Others:** If all of us bring one friend, imagine how lively our discussions could get!
3. **Feedback Time:** Maybe at the end of each meetup, we can ask what everyone liked or what they want more of. This way, we can make our nights even better.

Bible & Beverage nights are special because they're about coming together as friends to explore our faith. Let's try to spread the word so more folks can join in the fun. Here's to more amazing nights of chat, laughter, and good company.

Thanks for being a part of this, and let's make the next year even better!

### **Prayer Warriors -** Deborah Wilkes

The group started as a Lent group and met every Sunday evening, led by Revd. Caroline and based on the book 'Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools'

Although Lent has now finished everybody has found it so worthwhile that the group is starting again.

## Community Outreach

### **The Little Free Pantry –** Pamela Scammell

This has continued to be looked after and replenished by a rota of people from both Communities. Other people add to the pantry whenever they can and many put donations in the plastic box in the church entrance. The Pantry is used very regularly, sometimes twice a day it is almost emptied. This year there were no incidents of vandalism, so we have started putting donated glass bottles of produce in the pantry. Sometimes adverts and notices are put in the box as information for the users. There are two WhatsApp sites – 'Little Free Pantry' for those who are on the rota to check its state, and the other – 'Little Free Pantry Alert', for those who give and those who use. If someone puts in fresh produce, those on the WhatsApp are alerted and know to go and get it if they wish, a great initiative! We successfully applied for and were granted over £800 to be spent on food and toiletries for the Pantry. Jenny has kindly agreed to store it until it is needed.



### **Craft and chat – Val Jellows**

Since the first meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Craft and Chat group has continued to meet on a monthly basis on a Monday morning. People bring craft they are working on, like jumpers and blankets and some play scrabble. But the vast majority of people come to chat and share stories over a hot drink and a piece of cake.

We now regularly get ten people and sometimes some new faces. It is lovely to see that members of this group have started to take part in other events organised by the church and some are regularly attending church. Everyone is most welcome to join us, and we look forward to seeing you at the next Craft and Chat.

### **Fundraising – Christmas Fair & Cream Tea - Pamela Scammell**

This year we arranged two main events raising money for the church funds. In Summer '23 we had an afternoon Tea, which included a few stalls and raffle. At Christmas, we had more stalls, some from outsiders, and some Games to add fun for Kids. Refreshments and an arranged visit to see Santa raised some money. Jenny did some research and made recommendations for next year's planning, which was useful, such as better planning for floats for each stall, stall holders should know more in advance which stall they are on so they can prepare gathering items and a record about the amount each stall raised should be kept to help with the planning the following event.

### **Games Evening – Deborah Wilkes**

Started on the last Monday of September. Though only a small number of people attend this number is gradually increasing and we all have a fun time. We bring along our own snacks and our own games and so a different one(s) is played at each evening. Come along and join us, on the last Monday of the month 7 – 9pm. Ian is looking forward to winning a game sometime.

### **Litter Picking – Pamela Scammell**

The Springfield Wombles, about 4 or 5 of us, met once a week on a Wednesday or Tuesday, walking around the parish picking up litter. Items are sometimes placed into different bags for recycling. We have a WhatsApp group so we can see who is coming and who to wait for if they will be late home from work! We usually stroll and pick up litter from 6pm -7pm weather permitting.

## **Ecumenical Work**

### **Week of prayer for Christian unity – Jenny Murphy**

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was for the eight days - January 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>. This is the week traditionally set aside for this internationally recognised event. The theme for 2024 was "Go and do likewise" and materials were prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso.

The parable of the Good Samaritan was chosen as the focal scripture passage. Although very well known, this parable always challenges indifference to suffering and calls our attention to the bonds that unite the whole human family. It was used in our Sunday morning service, but the theme extended over the whole week.

Churches of different denominations hosted prayer and worship meetings each day; some via computer links and others in church buildings, some during the day and others in the evenings. Several people from our church attended services at the Cathedral, River Church, Melbourne and Springfield Park Baptist Church. It was good to worship in different settings and share some lively worship.

We prayed for all those who face violence - especially violence centred on issues of identity and belonging – and those in groups within communities, including people from ethnic minority backgrounds and people seeking asylum, who may feel particularly vulnerable. We were asked to reflect on what it really means to love our neighbour.

### **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Service & Outing) – Jenny Murphy**

2024 marked the fortieth anniversary of our church. In May 1983 the shared church, St Augustine of Canterbury, opened for its first services and on June 3<sup>rd</sup> that year there was a service of dedication led by representatives of all four churches involved: Anglican, Roman Catholic, Methodist and United Reformed Church.



After forty years, we thought some celebrations were in order, and so we planned an outing and a special commemorative service.

### ***Outing to Canterbury***

A special coach trip to Canterbury (where else?) was organised for our whole church community on Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup>. This was planned jointly for us to celebrate our forty years of friendship and sharing. Together with our Catholic friends, we spent an excellent day exploring the city, visiting attractions, making new friends and worshipping together in the Cathedral.

The coach departed from church at 10.00am and didn't return until nearly 9.00pm, there being so much to see and do in Canterbury. We started at St Augustine's Abbey where we could explore the ruin and learn more about our patron saint. After a picnic lunch we then split into groups and wandered at will, many visiting St Martin's Church, which was in existence before Augustine arrived in Kent. Some of us discovered the beautiful Franciscan Gardens with its picturesque 13<sup>th</sup> century chapel that sits over, literally, the River Stour. Others browsed shops and enjoyed relaxing with a drink, either in a cafe or sitting outside in the sunshine.

We came together for evensong at the Cathedral – an Anglican service shared with our Roman Catholic friends, including two priests. It was a fitting way and a fitting place to share our joint commitment to St Augustine's, Springfield, to show gratitude for the past forty years and to pray for future blessings.

### ***40th Anniversary Service***

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October we held a service of celebration to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the church. Guest church leaders from each of the four denominations were invited to share in conducting the worship, alongside our resident clergy: Rev Caroline Brown and Fr Martin Harvey. We welcomed two bishops: the Rt. Revd. Alan Williams, Roman Catholic Bishop of Brentwood, who led the service, and the Rt. Revd. Laurie Green, retired Anglican Bishop of Bradwell, who gave the sermon.

The New Testament lesson was read by Val Jellows, current church warden, who also read at the very first church service at St Augustine's forty years ago. At that time, the Anglican priest was Rev Oswald Trellis and the church warden was Brenda Stone, both of whom were in the congregation that evening. Rev Mark Pengelly, our current Methodist superintendent, read the Gospel lesson.

Rev Laurie Green, in his sermon, acknowledged our shared faith in Jesus and recalled the time when the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie, who favoured ecumenism, prayed in Canterbury Cathedral with Pope John Paul II. How appropriate that we, too, of different denominations, shared prayers in Canterbury Cathedral back in July.

Prayers of intercession were said by Rev Dr David Chapman, Chair of Beds, Essex and Herts District, Methodist Church, and Rev David Coaker, Eastern Synod Clerk and Minister of Grays United Reformed Church. It was good to see so many clergy of different denominations from local churches as well as former ministers and priests in the congregation.

The choirs of the Bishops' Primary and New Hall Secondary Schools sang a selection of celebratory songs as well as joining together with the church choir and musicians of St Augustine's for the hymns, which included: "Let us build a house where prophets speak", "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God", "The Kingdom of God is justice and joy" and "Christ be our light!" The service was one of anointing and commissioning. The two bishops blessed the oil before the clergy anointed the hands of each member of the congregation as they came forward. The prayer was that the oil might serve as a bridge that united everyone in the church regardless of their denominational background and remind them of their shared commitment to love, serve and heal in God's name.

After the service, the furniture in the main hall was rearranged and tables laid with refreshments. Friends past and present were able to chat and enjoy some beautifully prepared canapes and a glass of wine. All the catering was prepared by Beatrice Ellis, a member of the Roman Catholic community, who also made a magnificent iced fruit cake on which was painted an image of St Augustine. The Deputy Lady Mayor, Cllr Jude Deakin, gave a short speech before cutting the cake.

This truly was a very special service of celebration which was attended by over three hundred people, eighty-five of whom were children.

### **URC Mission Partnerships – Deborah Wilkes**

The URC, like all denominations, does not have enough ministers for the number of churches and Eastern synod has been working for some years on a solution.

While doing this it has been realised that inadequacy is enough (remember the feeding of the 5000) and we are called (Acts 2, 43-47) to share our resources with glad and generous hearts and to remember that we are all called to be ministers of God and to go and be disciples and to make disciples.

Putting this in the context of church congregations we are being asked to work together as a team (A Mission Partnership) and to share resources. The Minister is not meant to be looked on as someone to go and preach 25% of the time here, 10% of the time there but as someone who can help with certain projects and perhaps working out what the role of a church might be now and in the future. One safeguarding officer perhaps, one Bible study etc. LEPs are meant to be included in the framework.

Our mission partnership, is currently known as Chelmsford and South West Essex Mission Partnership and includes us, Christ Church, Church of Our Saviour, Howe Greene, Ingatestone, Billercay, Hutton & Shenfield, Wickford, Grays, Basildon and Hockley and it is envisaged there will be two URC ministers. (Four, of the above are LEPs)

The current starting point is conversation, coming together to get to know each other and neighbouring churches and building relationships.



## Financial Review

Whilst the financial statements show that 2023 has continued to provide financial challenges, with general costs increasing, we can also see that the generosity of people with their time, talent and money has also helped us grow and give back to the wider community. This includes Rainbow Tots, a new group for young children and their carers that was launched in December and continuing to operate the Little Free Pantry.

Total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds were £21,386, (£21,718 in 2022), and total expenditure was £23,451, (£23,392 in 2022) which are detailed in the R&P account and attached notes.

Whilst we were not in a position to pay our parish share in full, (£36,511 was the assessment for 2023), we did pay in full the £15,000 which we had offered. Although we are not in a position to make a further additional payment.

There has been some increase in both loose plate collections and regular planned giving following generosity week in the autumn. At the end of 2023 we had 11 donors signed up to the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). This is provided through the Church of England and has the benefit of allowing donors to give anonymously if they wish and also decide on frequency of donations eg monthly, quarterly, yearly or as a one off, and for the church gift aid is claimed monthly from HMRC on our behalf and there is no charge for administration. People are also able to make contactless payments through using a QR code or through SumUp. SumUp is especially useful for payments such as Banns and at fundraising events, although a small charge is made for this.

Fundraising activities were also successful, so a very big thank you to everyone who organised, helped and supported the various events over the year. People are also able to raise funds for us by registering with Easy Fundraising when shopping online at selected retailers (this includes Amazon) Details of how to join are on church website – <http://staugustinespringfield.org.uk>

The value of the CBF investment fund shares has risen over the year and rising interest rates have meant that the amount we received from bank and investments was higher than 2022. We were also successful in applying for a fuel grant of £760 from the diocese, which was paid over to JMC.

In addition to the charitable donations paid out (note 9b) we also raised £107.50 (before gift aid) for the Children's Society at the Christingle service, which was given to Karin Seeman (Children's Society representative) to deposit, and therefore does not show in our accounts.

Additional expenses incurred during 2023 included contributing towards the 40th Anniversary Celebration, Food Hygiene courses for people who regularly help in the kitchen and a donation to EcoChurch after we successfully gained our Silver award.

A restricted fund has been started for the Little Free Pantry, which is being used to purchase additional items, as demand is causing frequent topping up. This includes the money raised at the 40th anniversary celebration service.

With regard to the honorarium for Mary Betley (Independent Examiner), Mary has advised that she would donate this back to St Augustine's and we have provided her with a small gift instead.

The net result for the year was that both income and expenditure were higher than budgeted, although the amount of reserves needed was less than anticipated. Taking this into account, together with the work around stewardship that started in the autumn we have determined that we can increase the amount we pay towards our parish share to £16,500, although this is still less than 50% of the assessed amount of £34,868.

The total known balance on unrestricted funds at the year end (including cash, bank balances and investments at market value ) amounted to £21,214 (2022 - £21,688)

### **Reserves Policy**

The reserves policy of the Church Council has been reviewed. The Church Council aims to keep approximately three months general running costs in reserves. In addition CBF deposit fund (£3,571 at 31/12/23) to be restricted to cover emergency/unplanned building /maintenance costs.


The Church Council recognises its responsibility to increase its contribution towards paying parish share and gradually increase its contribution towards payment in full. Therefore monies remaining will normally be used to increase contribution to parish share and/or mission within the parish.

We will continue to maintain shares and investment in CBF Fund.

It is the policy of the Church Council to invest any unrestricted funds in excess of £10,000 with the CBF Church of England Funds. As we have yet to pay our parish share in full, no additional monies were invested, other than dividends and interest received in 2023.

Any other balances are invested in an ordinary deposit account with the National Westminster Bank plc. The balance remaining at 31 December 2023 is after deducting appropriate income and expenditure.

Approved by the Church Council on 1st May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Signature: .....  
The Revd Caroline Brown (Chair)



**Anglican, Methodist & URC Community  
St Augustine's Church  
North Springfield , Chelmsford**

**Independent Examiner's Report  
to the CC of North Springfield, Chelmsford**

This report on the financial statements of the CC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 18 to 24 , is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act").

**Respective Responsibilities of the CC and the examiner**

As members of the CC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

**Basis of this report**

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 Guidance* , 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the CC and a comparison of the accounts 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 such 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 by the financial statements.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :

( 1 ) 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; and
- 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

( 2 ) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

...2 May 2024....



**Anglican, Methodist & URC Community  
St Augustine of Canterbury Church  
North Springfield , Chelmsford**

**Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2023**

	General Fund		Totals				Totals	
Notes	U	R	2023		U	R	2022	
	£	£	£		£	£	£	
<b>Cash Funds</b>								
Bank current and deposit account	8669	230	8899		10089	53	10,142	
CBF deposit fund	3571		3571		3,215		3,215	
	<u>12,240</u>	<u>230</u>	<u>12,470</u>		<u>13,304</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>13,357</u>	
<b>Other Monetary assets</b>								
	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>					

**Investment Assets**

406.08 CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income shares (market value)	<u>9179</u>	<u>8384</u>
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The historical cost of these shares was £5000

**Other assets**

Electric Piano (original cost)	1,499	1,499
Printer (original cost)	<u>284</u>	<u>284</u>
	<u>1783</u>	<u>1783</u>

**Liabilities**

1

(paid over after 31 December 2023)

CDBF - Diocesan Fees(2023)	72	72	142	142	CDBF - Diocesan Fees (2023)
Rev. Caroline – funeral fees	155	155	10	10	Rev. Caroline – funeral fees
Rev. Caroline – expenses	206	206	53	53	JMC – roof tiles
Zoom	94	94	61	61	Charitable donation Childrens society
	<u>527</u>	<u>527</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>266</u>	

**Credits (monies received but paid in after 31 December 2023)**

loose collection	264	264	291	291
planned giving	40	40	21	21
rainbow tots party	114	114	16	16
			61	61
	<u>418</u>	<u>418</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>389</u>

The notes on pages 20 to 23 form part of these accounts

Approved by the Church Council on 4th May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

*Caroline Brown*



**Anglican, Methodist & URC Community  
St Augustine of Canterbury Church  
North Springfield , Chelmsford**

**Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 December 2023**

General Fund Receipts & Payments Account				2023		2022			
(R = Restricted, U = Unrestricted)				U	R	Total	U	R	Total
	Note	£	£	£			£	£	£
Receipts									
Voluntary Receipts									
Regular Giving	2	18,008	367	18,375			18,493	2,378	20,871
Receipts from activities for generating funds	3	2,026	890	2,916			1,278		1,278
Receipts from Church activities	4a	203	908	1,111			1636		1,636
Receipts from investments/bank interest	5	457		457			311		311
Receipts - Missionary & charitable giving (earmarked charitable fundraising)	9a		218	218				225	225
Total Receipts		20,694	2,383	23,077			21,718	2,603	24,321
Payments									
Church Activities	6	22378	810	23,188			21392	2000	23,392
Church activities(CDBF fees)	4b	823		823			1193		1,193
Missionary & charitable giving	9b	250	218	468			17	164	181
Total Payments		23,451	1028	24,479			22602	2164	24,766
Excess of Receipts over payments		-2,757	1,355	-1,402			-884	439	-445
Cash & bank accounts at 1 January 2023				10,142					11,384
Cash & bank accounts at 31 December 2023 (excluding CBF deposit fund)				8,899					

The notes on pages 20 to 23 form part of these accounts

**Anglican, Methodist & URC Community  
St Augustine of Canterbury Church  
North Springfield , Chelmsford**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**1 Accounting Policies**

*Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements*

The financial statements of the CC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value

*Funds*

Unrestricted General Funds represent the funds of the CC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the CC. These include funds designated for a particular purpose by the CC.

Restricted General Funds are accounted for separately within the General Fund and are expended solely according to the restriction(s) placed upon the donation(s) by the donor(s)

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the CC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of other Church groups that owe an affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Subject to the above, receipts and payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

*Statement of Assets and Liabilities*

The following assets are recognised but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

- Fixtures, fittings and equipment where the CC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £500.
- Amounts owing from the Inland Revenue where a formal claim has been made.
- Any other amounts owing to the CC.

Closing bank balances as shown in the receipts and payments account.

Investments are shown at historical cost

The following liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

**Note 1** Creditors for goods and services where the supply has been received and invoiced by 31 December 2023. Includes Parochial fees payable to Revd. Caroline and CDBF that were not paid over in 2023.



**Anglican, Methodist & URC Community  
St Augustine of Canterbury Church  
North Springfield , Chelmsford**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	<b>2023</b>			<b>2022</b>
	<b>U</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>Total</b>	
		<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>
<b>2 Regular Giving</b>				
Planned Giving (gift aid bank & envelopes)	2,213		2,213	2,228
Other planned giving(PGS)	8,781		8,781	8,704
Loose plate Collections	2,127	180	2,307	1,969
All other giving/Donations	1451	187	1,638	3661
Gift Aid recovered(see note 10)	3436		3,436	4309
	<b>18,008</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>18,375</b>	<b>20,871</b>
<b>3 Receipts from activities for generating funds/Miscellaneous income</b>				
Cream Teas	257		257	152 Cream Teas
Coffee/small donations	160		160	144 Coffee/small donations
Christmas Fayre	863		863	882 Christmas Fayre
Easy fundraising	97		97	100 Easy fundraising
Danceathon	128	130	258	
Harvest supper	407		407	
Rainbow tots party	114		114	
Fuel grant		760	760	
	<b>2,026</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>2,916</b>	<b>1,278</b>
<b>4 Receipts &amp; payments from Church activities (gross - including monies due to CDBF )</b>				
<b>4a Receipts</b>				
Fees (Banns)	162		162	171 Fees (Banns)
Fees (funeral)		681	681	1349 Fees (funeral)
Fees(funeral received in error)		227	227	
Fees (other)	41		41	116 Fees (other)
	<b>203</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>1111</b>	<b>1636</b>
<b>4b Payments</b>				
Fees - weddings/funerals paid to CDBF	286		286	362
Fees – funeral paid to Rev. C Brown	310		310	731
Refund of funeral fee received in error	227		227	100
	<b>823</b>		<b>823</b>	<b>1193</b>
<b>5 Receipts from Investments</b>				
Interest CBF Deposit Account	106		106	40
Dividends received from CCLA Investments	250		250	250
Bank Interest	101		101	21
	<b>457</b>		<b>457</b>	<b>311</b>
<b>6 Church activities</b>				
Diocesan parish share	15,000		15,000	15,000
Clergy expenses (these were received and paid over after year end)	206		206	255
Cost of services (inc stationery)	514		514	714
Buildings maintenance	4,440	760	5,200	6,155
Insurance	297		297	347
Governance costs(see note 7)	494		494	313
Fundraising expenses	166		166	119
Sundries (see note 8)	571		571	257
Children/Youth work	221		221	215
Charitable giving(see note 9b)	469		469	17
Little Free Pantry(LFP)(see note 11)		50	50	
	<b>22,378</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>23,188</b>	<b>23,392</b>

**Anglican, Methodist & URC Community  
St Augustine's Church  
North Springfield , Chelmsford**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**7 Governance costs**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
Website	12	14	Website
Music Licence	313	254	Music Licence
Subscriptions and Courses	35	45	Subscriptions and Courses
Sundries – honorarium, registers	40		Sundries - honorarium
Zoom	94		
	<u><b>494</b></u>	<u><b>313</b></u>	

**8 Sundries**

Refreshments	14	22	Free Pantry Launch
Church mobile topups	30	28	Confirmation books
CCS course	150	150	CCS course
Postage	7	14	Keys
I Know Church	33	20	Mugs
40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration	139	3	Overpayment
Food Hygiene courses(x6)	138	20	Study Guides
Eco Church	60		
	<u><b>571</b></u>	<u><b>257</b></u>	

**9 Missionary and Other Charitable Giving (gross)**

**9a Receipts -(earmarked charitable fundraising)**

DEC earthquake appeal	88	164	LMDC charity
Sanctus	130		
		61	Children's Society
	<u><b>218</b></u>	<u><b>225</b></u>	

**9b Payments (charitable giving)**

Bleed kits	104	164	LMDC charity
Sanctus	130	17	Discretionary hardship
DEC earthquake appeal	160		
Childrens Society (2022)	74		
	<u><b>468</b></u>	<u><b>181</b></u>	

**10 Tax Recoverable**

2023	3436	874	2021
		3435	2022
total	<u><b>3436</b></u>	<u><b>4309</b></u>	



Anglican, Methodist & URC Community  
St Augustine's Church  
North Springfield , Chelmsford

Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 December 2023

<b>11 <i>Little Free Pantry (restricted fund)</i></b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>
Receipts	280
Payments	50
Balance carried forward	<u>230</u>

# SfM Dashboard for the Parish of North Springfield: St Augustine of Canterbury in the deanery of Chelmsford

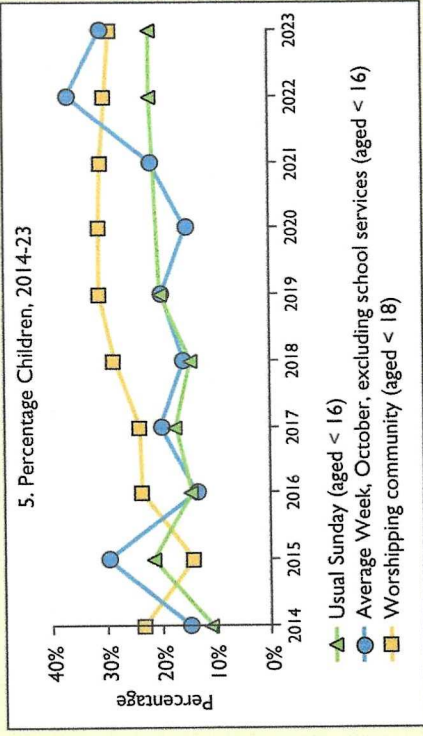
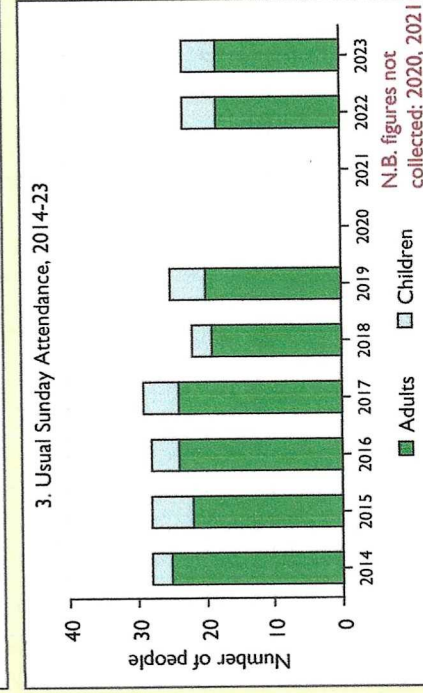
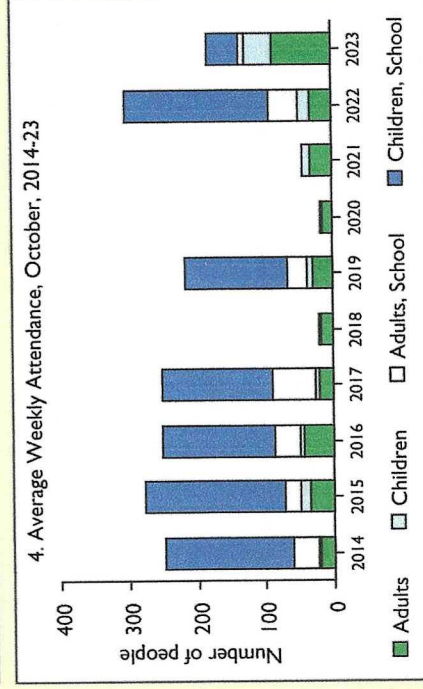
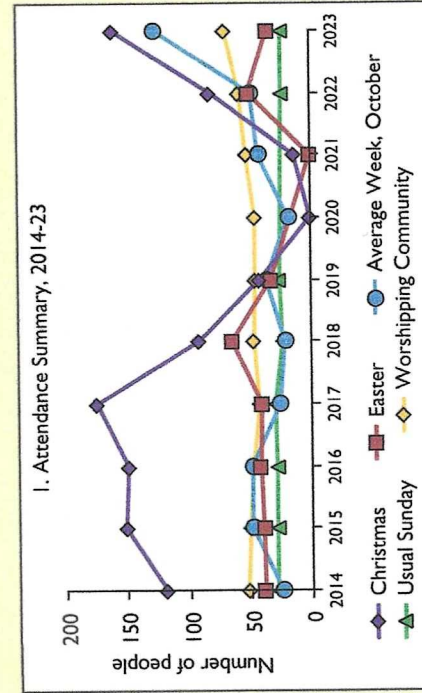
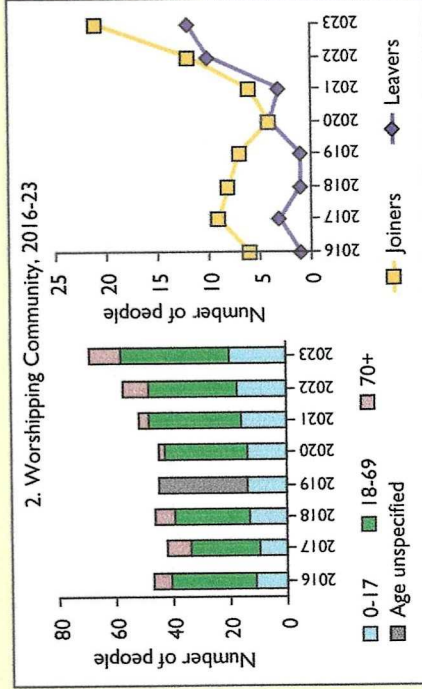
## Parish Census and deprivation summary

Parish	Diocese	National
Parish population (2021): 10812		
% aged 0-19	26%	23%
% aged 20-44	35%	33%
% aged 45-69	31%	29%
% aged 70 & over	7%	14%
% Christian	45%	44%
% non-Christian religion	8%	17%
		11%

Parish deprivation rank (IMD 2019): 10786  
(1=most deprived parish in the Church of England, 12,239=least deprived)

For more detailed census & deprivation info: see <http://arcg.is/IRa54CS>  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/researchandstats> and  
<http://www2.cuf.org.uk/poverty-england/poverty-map>

Number of churches in parish (2024): 1 Parish Code: 580642



This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the parish  
**Attendance statistics:** taken from annual Statistics for Mission returns.

Average weekly attendance: attendance at Sunday and midweek church services & fresh expressions in October; Figs 1 & 5 do not include attendance at services for schools.

Easter: Easter Eve & Easter Day; Christmas: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.  
Baptisms: all baptisms & thanksgivings.

Marriages: marriages and services of prayer & dedication after civil marriages.  
Funerals: those held in church & at crematoria/cemeteries.

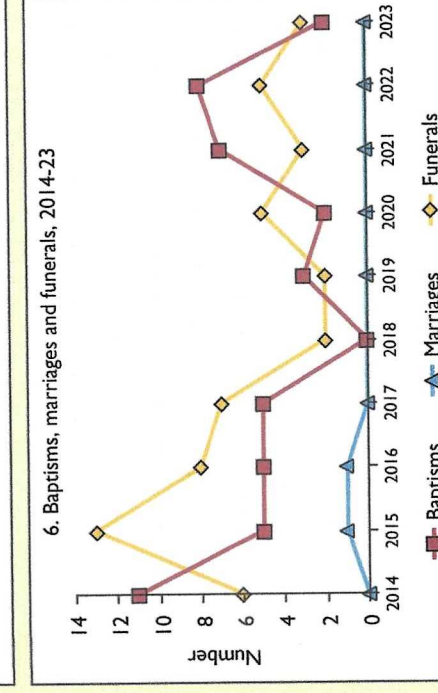
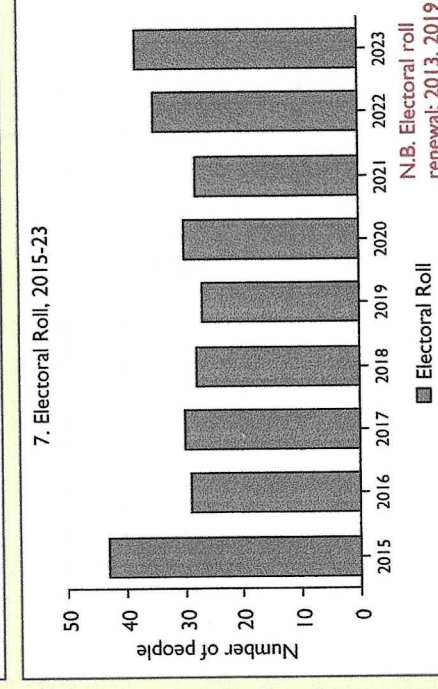
Because of pandemic-related church closures, Easter figures were not collected in 2020.

**Census data:** taken from the 2021 national Census.

**Deprivation statistics:** IMD taken from the English Indices of Deprivation, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, Sept 2019.

The above statistics have been mapped onto parish boundaries so are approximations.

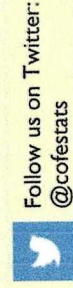
For more information, see: <https://www.churchofengland.org/researchandstats>



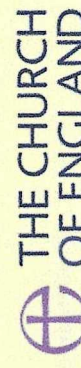
Variations in attendance from year to year may be the result of changes in the number of churches that submitted returns, or changes in parish/benefice structure.

Number of churches included in returns: 2014 1; 2015 1; 2016 1; 2017 1; 2018 1; 2019 1; 2020 1; 2021 1; 2022 1; 2023 1.

Produced by Data Services, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 27/03/2024.



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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



## SfM Dashboard Data for the Parish of North Springfield: St Augustine of Canterbury in the deanery of Chelmsford

Report	Field	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1. Attendance Summary, 2014-23	Christmas	118	151	149	174	91	41	0	13	81	160
	Easter	38	39	41	40	64	32	-	0	50	34
	Average Week, October	24	48	48	25	21	36	18	42	48	126
	Usual Sunday	28	28	28	29	23	25	-	-	23	23
	Worshipping Community	52	50	47	42	46	45	45	52	57	69
2. Worshipping Community, 2016-23	0-17			11	10	13	14	14	16	17	20
	18-69			30	24	26	0	29	32	31	38
	70+			6	8	7	0	2	4	9	11
	Age unspecified			0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0
Worshipping Community (Joiners & Leavers), 2016-23	Joiners			6	9	8	7	4	6	12	21
	Leavers			1	3	1	1	4	3	10	12
	Adults	25	22	24	24	19	20	-	-	18	18
3. Usual Sunday Attendance, 2014-23	Children	3	6	4	5	3	5	-	-	5	5
	Adults	20	34	42	20	18	29	15	33	31	87
	Children	4	14	7	5	3	7	3	9	18	39
4. Average Weekly Attendance, October, 2014-23	Adults, School	35	23	38	64	0	30	0	0	43	9
	Children, School	188	205	163	160	0	150	0	0	210	45
	Usual Sunday (aged < 16)	10.7	21.4	14.3	17.2	14.5	20.0	-	-	21.7	21.7
5. Percentage Children, 2014-23	Average Week, October, excluding school services (aged < 16)	14.7	29.7	13.5	20.0	15.7	19.7	15.3	21.7	36.8	30.6
	Worshipping community (aged < 18)	23.1	14.0	23.4	23.8	28.3	31.1	31.1	30.8	29.8	29.0
	Baptisms	11	5	5	5	0	3	2	7	8	2
6. Baptisms, marriages and funerals, 2014-23	Marriages	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Funerals	6	13	8	7	2	2	5	3	5	3
	Electoral Roll		43	29	30	28	27	30	28	35	38
7. Electoral Roll, 2015-23											