



# Annual Report 2018



 **St Peter's Battersea**  
Loving God | Being family | Bringing hope

[www.spb.church](http://www.spb.church)



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## Vicar's Introduction

It feels like the end of a long and challenging odyssey. Imagine travelling by land and sea from the Horn of Africa to London. The last part of your voyage is a TGV from the 'les Alpes Maritimes' via Paris to Kings Cross St Pancras. On this last leg you have just exited the channel tunnel and are speeding towards the terminus. This describes with some alacrity the stage in which we find ourselves on the sometimes painful and often frustrating journey, which has led to this point in the development of our buildings: the new St Peter's Battersea. We have often spoken about the end. We have even declared that this is the last time that such and such would take place in St Peter's Centre. We have dreamt about it. But it was always some far off country. Now at last we are here. As I write we are preparing to receive the coloured glazing into the new church, which will signal the final stages and completion of this herculean project. We are confident that the new church will be handed over to us in July 2018.

The last few years has found us worshipping in the centre, somewhat hidden, out of sight and hard to find. This may have been no bad thing in God's economy. It has helped to push us out into the community, for example: going out in pairs with offers of prayer to our neighbours and commuters on midweek mornings; continuing to put on summer events under the banner of God loves Battersea; launching a partnership with four other community organisations and providers in the Falcon Group. St Peter's continues to be a missional church that goes out, reaches out beyond its walls and confines to tell others and show them that Jesus is alive and in the business of bringing hope and transformation. This document is a precis of a wonderful year in the life of our church family. It is accompanied by a short film which gives flavour and fragrance to the culture of our lives together around Jesus. There is so much to be grateful for.



In early June 2017 I took a sabbatical and holiday which took me away for four months. I am so grateful to the staff team, our church wardens, the Exec and PCC members who with our small group leaders shared the missional and pastoral reins in my absence and helped lift the load of leadership. My journey of rest and refreshment included a personal pilgrimage to St Aidan's, Telegraph Creek. This wee church in the north of British Columbia was built by my grandfather Reverend Fred Thorman and his friends almost a century ago. It is an outpost of the Anglican church reaching

out to the Tahltan First Nation, an indigenous tribe in North America, as well as the throngs of people who poured up the Stikine river in the 1920's with the hope of a better life. My trip helped connect me with my missionary heritage and amazed me as I took in the scope of my grandparents endeavour and sacrifice as they set out to share the message of Jesus Christ in the Yukon and North West Territories of Canada.



Before I set off, I encouraged the PCC to seek the Lord. The goal was to listen in prayer, to dream, to write down or draw what they believed God was saying about his priorities for St Peter's in the coming season. This task launched a process of reviewing and refreshing our vision for St Peter's. When I returned the PCC spent a morning praying together, looking at other church's visions for inspiration, clarity and spark. We shared with one another what drew us to follow Jesus, what kept us abiding in him and why we chose to do this at St Peter's. You may find some of these stories on our website. Some weeks later the PCC met again and began writing out vision statements trying to distill our vision into a sentence. These meetings were supported in prayer by the Exec in between times. Finally Nick Wyke and David Atkinson supported me in hammering out the final version of our vision statement, which we share today (please see overleaf.) I am excited and expectant by what God will do as we live out of this vision for our church and move into the new building in a few months time.

I would like to thank everyone who has served at St Peter's over the past year. As well as those leaders I mention above, I am particularly grateful to the following for their constant, unwavering support and encouragement both of my leadership and teaching ministry at St Peter's: Anna Macle hose & Tom Biddle (both former wardens), Clare Lyons and Didi Wilson (our new wardens), Jules and David Atkinson, Laurence Callaghan, Ken Chechinski, Phil Dorman, Madge Chambers, Pete and Ursy Bacon (all for their championing of my preaching.) Steve and Charlie Davies have often shown me the face of Christ in their hospitality, by giving an open invitation to me and the children to come and share a meal with them at any time! These times of replenishing and team of constant encouragers have been a steady stream of support over the last twelve months. I am deeply grateful to these who have led in this way and to others who have joined in the ministry of encouragement. Thank you. It is such an honour to lead and serve at St Peter's Battersea. I wait with eager anticipation to see what God will do as together we practice:

Loving God; Being family; Bringing hope.

*Sola Gloria Deo.*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Malone', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Patrick Malone  
Vicar

# Our Vision

Loving God | Being family | Bringing hope

**in Battersea & beyond**



## Vision clouds

Loving God

Being family

Bringing hope

Encountering God through **passionate worship**, **prophetic & healing prayer** & revelation from the **Bible**

Becoming more like Jesus in all areas of our lives through **joy-filled\* gatherings**, **small groups**, & **mentoring**

Being a blessing to people from all walks of life\* through **community events**, **personal connections** & **risky prayer**

\*Joy is expected, but no guarantees

\*in particular those who are often overlooked

# Ministry areas

## Children & families

It has been another brilliant year for the children's ministry at St Peter's – 8 all age services, over 80 children attending Sunday or midweek groups over the course of the year, and more new babies welcomed into the church family. Kaf and Charlie have been overseeing the children's ministry whilst we seek to appoint a new Children's Pastor.

### **Pebbles**

Pebbles has now become a firmly established ministry with a growing team and increasing numbers of children staying for the sessions as babies have grown into toddlers, ready to play and worship together. There are 14 children attending regularly, with an average weekly attendance of 8. We now have Bible story time and craft response every week, are learning new songs and have seen many children grow in confidence to settle in the group and join in with their friends.



### **Rock Solid**

Our average weekly attendance in Rock Solid is 10 children aged 3-9, and 29 children have attended at least once this term. This year the children have been learning about Jesus' parables, the story of Moses and the life of Jesus in Matthew's gospel. Lego remains very popular with the children, and they have particularly enjoyed prayer journaling, storytelling using Playmobil figures and exploring different ways of worshipping alongside the usual crafts, games and upbeat all age songs. This term Rock Solid have also been out 'on location' filming a music video to Bright City's song 'Forcefield'. We can't run these groups without the church family members who love and serve our children on team and this year we've welcomed 4 new people (or returning after a break) to the Rock Solid and Pebbles team.



## Little Chefs

Our pre-school cooking group, Little Chefs has gone from strength to strength this year, with many new families connecting in to St Peter's and more creative healthy recipes. Children are welcomed in with a snack, prepare their meal with help from their carers, are led in songs, a Bible story, craft and games before eating together round the table. The Bible story is a central part of our session, exploring Old and New Testament stories using props, actions and creativity. One carer recently commented that she was learning as much about the Bible as the little chef she brings with her! Over the course of the year, thanks to Kaf, Charlie and our 'big chefs' Patricia and Anna, we have welcomed 39 families, with an average of 12 children cooking each week. 30 of these families do not attend any other regular groups at St Peter's and 5 have since started coming to Big Chefs, Life, Parenting Courses or Sunday Celebrations.



## All Age Celebrations

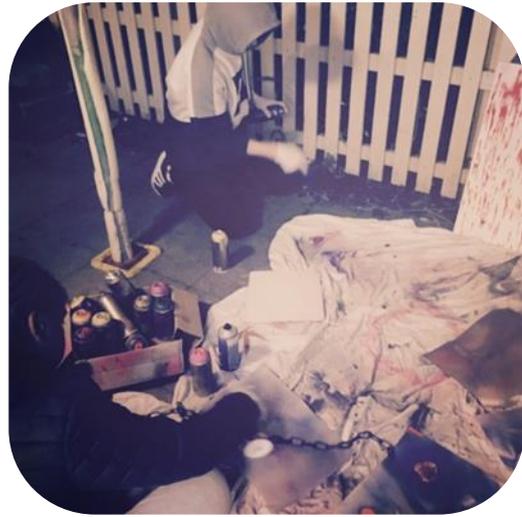


All age worship continues to be a highlight on the term card at St Peter's, with antics such as balloon sheep hockey, origami house prayers and the ever-popular competition leaderboard. We held two more café-style services this year, and had another full Christingle celebration in December, welcoming some new families who had connected with us at Follow the Star the day before.

# Youth

## Youth Fridays

We run a youth group every Friday. We have a youth discussion from 6:45-7:30pm. It's been a relaxed and positive space for the youth to talk about the issues that are pertinent to them whilst also looking at a Biblical perspective. So far we have around 3-8 youth attending. After the discussion we then have youth group running on until 9:30pm. Youth group has generally 12-16 young people attending every week. The majority of the young people are from the local area. We have a range of activities available from PS4 to table tennis, pool and table top games. We have a creative area, using a variety of art and design techniques. The young people have been really excelling at using spray paint. We also have lots of active games, like dodgeball, that enable team bonding. We have one or two trips per term. The last few have been ice skating and skate boarding. We also have an unconventional trip called 'park in the dark' – this involves walking along the river to eat at McDonalds, and then play old skool games like bulldog, it, and hide and seek in the park. It has been an absolute runaway success - much to our surprise and delight!



## Youth Sundays

Youth Sundays has gone from strength to strength this year, with more young people attending and a growing number of team. It now meets weekly on a Sunday morning with 10 regular members and an average of 6 young people attending each week. We have adjusted the age range, now from Year 5 to Year 9, with the hope that we will be able to develop a new group for older youth (age 13+) later this year.



Youth Sundays is a lot of fun, with plenty of games, edible treats, Bible study, and creative ways of praying and responding to the Bible together. This term young people have made themselves a new year's resolution discipleship training plan, thought about how the Trinity is like an electric fan and have reached a high score on Bop-It of 94! It is such a privilege to have young people as part of our church family and we're really thankful for the team who have made this ministry possible this term.

## Youth Climbing

Youth climbing runs on a Monday 5-6:30pm at the Climbing Hangar London. We now have 8-10 regular youth climbers. The climbing is run by Ali, who has worked as a climbing instructor, and Andy Beech, who is a qualified personal trainer.

We have established a really positive relationship with the Climbing Hangar staff and regulars. Their enthusiasm for our climbing project has helped Andy and Ali recognise that this is quite an evangelistic opportunity alongside a chance to empower the youth. Two of the regular climbers who have

been in Ninja Warrior UK even did a Saturday masterclass free of charge for our group.

The youth have bonded so well through their climbing. There is always a great deal of good humour and mutual encouragement alongside the impressive physical feats!



# Women

This year has seen some exciting developments in the women's ministry, as we've tried new ways of broadening our reach and appealing to the interests of women on the margins of church.

The weekly LIFE Bible study group now regularly hosts groups of 6-14 women of no faith, strong Christian faith and even Muslims who come together to discuss topical and relevant life issues through the lens of the Bible. As one regular says, "It is amazing to look at (women with) such a range of faiths and all being comfortable to be there to read the Bible and pray...a really beautiful sight! "

Our relationship with the Ahmadiyya Muslim women has been strengthened by a small contingent attending a Peace Symposium at their mosque in January, and last month Kaf represented the church at a women's Interfaith conference.

We now have a Book Club as an extension of LIFE and last month had a film night, both of which were easy for women to invite their friends to. The film night in particular inspired thought-provoking discussion. We watched 'Made in Dagenham' to tie in with the centenary of the Women's right to vote and our series on Strong Women of the Bible, uncovering some lesser known strong characters such as Hannah, Manoah's wife and the daughters of Zelophehad. We've also spent some time in Romans 12v2 working out what it means not to conform to the pattern of this world, and how the Bible may teach us something different to what we hear at the school gate or in the media. We've tackled subjects such as ageing, motherhood, how we spend our money and time.



In December a group of 8 women from the church were refreshed at the New Wine Women's Day which talked about being 'Saved, Strengthened & Sent'. A timely subject for all the changes afoot.

We had our first Big Chefs event at Christmas. Intended for mums of Little Chefs children, the purpose is to bless them with an evening of hospitality and to encourage them to stay a part of St Peter's even after their children have started school. For many of these women, Little Chefs is their first and only point of contact with the church, and as every mother knows it is hard to have proper conversations when you're looking after children.

An evening of cooking led by Tri Benton, dinner, craft and testimonies by Charlie and Kirsty have encouraged open discussions about faith. It's a popular event, with spaces for our current capacity of 16 women going quickly, and some guests bringing friends from outside of the church. We hope to do the next one in the Summer term.

## Men

The men at St Peter's continue to make a significant contribution to the life of the church, across its ministry areas. We are grateful to God for what he has been doing in the lives of each and every man in the church and celebrate what they bring to the life of the St Peter's family. We continue to gather each quarter for a curry evening – an ideal chance to meet and catch up as a group. The most recent one was hosted at the vicarage where we watched something to nourish our prayer lives and grow in confidence in hearing God's voice; it was a great time together.

As mentioned last time, we opted not to run a fixed "men's ministry". This decision was taken in recognition of the time pressures of family and work commitments. Instead, we decided to facilitate a few informal events, hosted by those most interested. Men continue to meet socially in trips to the pub and cinema. A couple of bike rides have also taken place.



We continue to pray for the men of St Peter's but also for those connected to St Peter's historically or through partners or children. In the wider community we are seeking God's direction on how best to reach out to men, especially the disaffected and the marginalised.

## Older people

Living life is a group that meets every Tuesday between 2:30-4:30pm at the Centre. The group is predominately aimed at the 60+ years but we've been delighted to see it blossom into an intergenerational community with our youngest member being 3 years old! The group consists of around 8-10 regular attendees and a number of committed volunteers.



We are really encouraged by the number of men that attend Living Life. We have a 40:60 (of women to men) ratio which is rare in 60+ community groups.

We usually start our time together with refreshments, music, table top games and chat. We then have a lunch of soup together and move into a 15 min Bible study/discussion and prayer time. We recently had Kaf join us and we shared the Eucharist together which was a beautiful moment to share as a community. After our prayer time our youngest members of the group arrive with homemade cakes which are always greatly appreciated! We work these off with regular chair based fitness run by Madge.

Ali, Daphne and the Living Life community are so encouraged to see the way God is moving in this group. They felt led to start small and gently build a solid foundation of love and community. God has honoured this greatly as connections and confidences are flourishing.



The evangelistic impact of this community is so encouraging. A number of people from the community who don't attend church are attendees and others from the estate have shown an authentic interest. We have taken Living Life on tour – visiting local community housing Doris Emmerton to share soup, chat and the Eucharist together.

We've even had one "frail Living Lifer" get herself to church on her walking frame for the first time!

# Loving God

## Worship

As is the case each year, it's important to remember that everything we do as a church must be soaked in worship and fuelled by prayer. At St Peter's those involved with worship and prayer are committed to serving and equipping the church to passionately pursue God's presence and truth whenever we meet.

Much of this happens within Community Groups, prayer triplets, private times of devotion etc, but there are also spaces that are dedicated to growing in our practice of prayer and worship.



Waiting Room is now in its fourth year, and its momentum continues. With 6 or so sessions a term, fortnightly on Sunday evenings, between 8-15 folks find Waiting Room to be a spacious time together. It's a place to wait on the Lord and while there is no set agenda for the evening there is often a blended mix of free and open worship, prayer ministry and listening to God. Attendees often talk about it being a place of refreshing, being encouraged in their faith, how they love being caught up in God's presence as we pour out passionate worship to our creator.

The worship team has gone through a bit of shrinking over the past year (due to changing individual circumstances of members), but a faithful bunch has continued serving the church family on Sunday mornings and evenings (at Waiting Room) as we seek to lead and facilitate more spontaneous and prophetic expressions of worship where everyone can have a tangible encounter with the loving presence of God. On Sunday mornings, times when some of the regular elements of services are stripped back a bit have allowed more space for church family participation, particularly in worship, sharing testimony and growing in the ministry of the Spirit.



# Prayer



The intercessory prayer flame has been kept burning at Thursday morning's InnerSeed, which continues to meet at the Centre at 7.30am. Fuelled by pastries, the faithful core of intercessors regularly call upon the Lord to guide, provide and release His favour (among other things) on St Peter's, the surrounding community and wider world; particularly mission partners and the persecuted church.

Over the past year there have been two sessions of '24 hour prayer', including one for the worldwide 'Thy Kingdom Come' initiative. The passionate prayers showed that the heart to call down heaven is fully alive at St Peter's and an unbroken chain of pray-ers (even through the small hours of the night) covered all we are doing as a church in prayer.

The 'prayer room' at the Centre (which can be used by any of the church family during office hours) is starting to gain a little momentum and it would be lovely to see it more frequented in the year ahead.



## Bible



In our age of overloaded information, it is as important as ever to have an emphasis on the revelation of God's Word in all of our meetings. Opening the Bible together or on our own remains at the heart of Christian discipleship. In our Sunday morning gatherings over the last year we started by exploring the lectionary (very unusual for us!) for the first half of the year. This

is a three year cycle which leads us through the whole canon of scripture, the Bible, by populating every Anglican prayer and worship service with readings. We then worked through the parables in Matthew, looking at Jesus's teaching on the kingdom of God.

St Peter's continues to be a training church for those in the ordained ministry, so we have a variety of experience and depth in our speakers as we are training a curate and two Ordinands (we said goodbye to Tosin back in January). We have had over a dozen different speakers on the team this past year.

The community groups have been studying different themes over the year. Some have been going through a particular book of the bible, such as the gospel of John, while others have been doing more thematic material on God's heart for simplicity, love and justice.

# Being Family

## Community Groups

Community Groups (CGs) are a vital part of the St Peter's church family – providing a place of discipleship, fellowship and where lives can be shared. There are currently 5 groups meeting, with 79 people taking part. Each week the groups meet in homes for food, worship, Bible study and prayer.



CGs also play a key role in serving and reaching out to our community -

through helping run the night shelter, making community events happen and sacrificially serving on Sunday mornings to help ensure that the services run smoothly. If you want to get involved with life at St Peter's, and feel part of the church family, there is no better way than joining a CG!



worship space was a particularly special moment.

In the summer term CGs met together for two training evenings on 'boldness in prayer' led by Didi and David. These were described as "challenging and inspiring" evenings – encouraging us to be courageous in praying for our friends, family, colleagues and anyone else we might meet. In the spring term there was the opportunity for CGs to pray in our new building on two evenings, which was really exciting. Worshipping for the first time in the new

## Mentoring

We have just embarked on our first ever church-wide Mentoring Programme at St Peter's. A total of 26 women and 12 men have been partnered with a mentor or mentee, with their first meeting scheduled to take place this month. It's a pilot scheme, running until September when we will review together the successes and struggles of one-to-one discipleship. Out of this programme we hope that every believer will grow deeper in their relationship with Christ or help another to do so. We have a mentor support team in place (Patrick, Didi, Kaf and Charlie) and a library of books on discipleship available for loan.

It's been a privilege this year to run a parenting course facilitated by the organisation Kidsmatter, helping a group of four mainly single parent families to develop skills and confidence. According to one mother, "Since doing the course my son wants to spend more time with me". Another said of the six session course, "I've loved it and feel like I'm not alone". This group is committed to carry on supporting one another and we hope to run more Kidsmatter courses later in the year, if the demand is there.

We have also begun an evening parenting course using Care For the Family resources, and meeting in the homes of the five participating families, to give the fathers and mothers a chance to attend at least one session together.

Whether we are mentoring our peers or our children, we are excited about supporting and growing together.



# Bringing Hope

## Community Events

We have strengthened our community links with local housing for the vulnerable and elderly this year. Kaf and the team have been visiting George Potter House, a residential nursing home, monthly to worship and share communion together with some of the vulnerable residents. Living Life have been 'on tour' three times to the community lunch at



Doris Emerton Court sheltered housing, with delicious soup, tabletop games and a chance to talk about faith and community with local residents.

We have also formed a strategic partnership with four other local groups (KLS, Providence House, Caius House, Carney's Community) – together known as the Falcon Group. It is early days for this partnership, but together we will be looking at how we can help local people reach their potential as workers, volunteers and members of the community.

### Summer

We returned in July to the Falcon Road Festival, organised by Big Local SW11 and involving many local organisations. This year we had a large area on the park near the live music stage, and were able to meet a lot of new people with the help of our comfy deckchairs, polaroid photos and free ice-cream! For the children we had photo frame and DIY pin-wheels crafts and some ambitious fresh pasta making from the Little Chefs team.

In August we hosted another God Loves Battersea event at York Gardens Library. Professional family photographs were popular once again, as were our BBQ and inflatable bungee run. Living Life set up a relaxing tent for board games and conversation whilst inside we had Pino's Ozimzim band creating a party atmosphere that kept us going through the patch of heavy rain mid-afternoon! It was great to engage spiritually, with a number of team chatting and praying for those they were meeting, and people writing their hopes and prayers on the large blackboard.



## Christmas

'Follow the Star' was our Christmas community event, held in the centre and welcoming Dash the donkey and other farm animals to our stable area in the garden. We had a dramatic retelling of the Shepherds' story three times throughout the morning in our 'studio theatre' hillside, complete with UV light and glowing face paint, as well as a visit from Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. The crafts were popular again and it was wonderful to gather around the stable at the end of the morning to sing a couple of carols with St Peter's own brass band.

Carol singing at Clapham Junction station was a big hit again, connecting with lots of people on their way home from work and bringing some Christmas cheer with prayer, mince pies and hot chocolate!



## Easter

Lots of the church family went back to the station before Easter to bless people with chocolate eggs, and it was great to be out meeting people and having a chance to pray with them. Live gospel music and a chance to write on our 'Hope Board' helped people to connect with us in a new way this Easter.



The Easter Egg Hunt this year was even bigger than previous years: we had over 100 children come and 19 new families who connected with us for the first time. We continued to build on our practice of showing original sketches, to retell the Gospel story for all ages. Two women at the empty tomb came across a sleepy Roman soldier. Together they told the good news of the resurrection in our astro-turfed Easter garden. Chicks, ducklings and rabbits drew a crowd, and many children (and adults!) successfully completed our Easter Egg Hunt Trail.

## StreetSeed

Over the last few years the staff team has been going out onto the streets around Clapham Junction in pairs on Wednesday mornings, to pray for those we come across in the community. In the last year we've been a bit more intentional about inviting the wider church family to join us at StreetSeed, in particular writing a weekly blog to chart our experiences: [www.spb.church/streetseed-blog](http://www.spb.church/streetseed-blog)

If you don't read it regularly do have a look through, where you will see stories of people being healed, blessed and surprised to encounter hope on the streets of Battersea.



## Night Shelter



This year we continued to be part of the Wandsworth night shelter run in partnership with Glass Door and six other churches in the area. Our CGs, along with some extra volunteers from the church family, did a fantastic job of providing a warm welcome and a delicious meal every Tuesday night for 22 weeks.

Getting to know the guests (which this year included women as well as men) and hear their stories has been a really important part of the shelter. We don't yet have the final figures for the 2017/18 shelter, but as of the beginning of March: about 50 guests had been rehoused, 22 had gone into employment and 20 had been reconnected to their country of origin (at their request).

# Mission Partners

As a church we want to remain thankful for what God gives to us, and keep that giving going by being generous and giving to others. For every pound that St Peter's receives through gifts or rent, 10 pence is given away to missions. In 2017 we allocated £17.8K in regular giving and one-off gifts:

Regular giving:

- **Mark and Jess Simpson** are missionaries in Brazil, ministering to children and running Alpha groups.
- **International Justice Mission** fight for justice for victims of abuse and campaign for the freedom of some 45 million slaves around the world today.
- **Open Doors** reach out to persecuted Christians. We also gave to their Nigeria crisis appeal to help families facing famine. In October a speaker from Open Doors came to speak at our morning celebration, which was a great chance to engage with their work in more detail.
- **Regenerate** work with young people in Roehampton and Ashburton.



One-off gifts in 2017:

- **Pastor Lapson Mbewe** (a friend of the Bruce family who runs an orphanage in Malawi)
- **Tearfund's East Africa appeal** (helping those affected by the severe drought)
- **Children's Society** (working to support vulnerable children in the UK)
- **The Delport family** (previous members of St Mark's now working as missionaries in Ibiza)
- **ACET** (working to provide relationships and sex education and HIV prevention and care for vulnerable groups in Nigeria, India and the UK)
- **Care for Cambodia** (to help fund an evangelistic youth camp)
- **Glass Door** (sponsorship for six members of St Peter's who slept rough in support of this homeless charity)
- **Bintu in Burkina Faso** (a friend of the Davies family who needed help to build a house)
- **Pastor Joseph** (a friend of the Bruce family who is church planting in Uganda)
- **Trinity Church in Puerto Rico** (for relief work in Puerto Rico following the hurricane)
- **Global Leadership Development Fund** (working to encourage, equip and inspire Christian leaders globally)
- **World Vision Myanmar appeal** (working to support refugees from Myanmar, mostly from the Rohingya people group)

- **Mike Campbell Foundation** (seeking justice for victims of torture and abuse in Zimbabwe)
- **Acacia Partnership Trust** (for the construction of a chapel in a prison in Burkina Faso)
- **Nehemiah Project** (providing a home and support for men with a history of addiction to transform their lives)

We have also carried over £2.9K to add to our mission giving in 2018. We look forward to hearing your suggestions for this year's giving.

## Safeguarding

St Peter's has continued to hold effective and loving safeguarding as a priority throughout this year. Safeguarding is all about how we show God's love and care to those around us, particularly children and vulnerable adults. Since any of us can be vulnerable at different times in our life, it's a responsibility we all share. The Safeguarding Sub have met regularly this year, updating risk assessments and documentation and responding to any issues as they might arise. Our Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs) Ken Checinski, Verah Gondwe and Peter

Wolstenholme remain as your primary contacts for any concerns about the safety or welfare of anyone at St Peter's, and sit on the Safeguarding Sub of the PCC alongside the clergy.



# Staff team



Patrick Malone  
(Vicar)



Kaf Smith  
(P/T Curate –  
maternity leave  
from April 2018)



Sarah Lewney  
(Operations Manager)



David Atkinson  
(Buildings Transition)



Ali Mulroy  
(P/T Ordinand  
overseeing youth)



Charlotte Bruce  
(P/T Women &  
Mentoring – maternity  
leave from Dec 2017)



Charlie Davies (P/T  
Women & Mentoring  
maternity cover and P/T  
Children's Pastor cover)



Helen Taylor  
(P/T Community Pastor –  
maternity leave from  
March 2018)



Jo Hossain  
(P/T Worship Pastor –  
started April 2018)

P/T = Part time

2017 has seen the staff team preparing for a lot of changes – both within the team and with getting ready for the new building.

Helen, in her role as community pastor, continued to amaze the team with the variety of projects she managed this year - from running the Glass Door night shelter to representing St Peter's at the Battersea Welcomes Refugee group, from overseeing community events to starting the partnership with the Falcon Group. She is now on maternity leave for a year.

Kaf has now completed the formal elements of her curacy training and is due to be signed off by the Bishop any day. She has continued to be an organisational powerhouse, as well as bringing her creative skills to all age services, community events and more. The AVM is her last work duty before her maternity leave!

Sarah has been enjoying the new challenges involved in stepping into the Operations Manager role. Getting her head around the new building, recruitment and the finance audit has given her lots of areas to grow in as she continues to be a bedrock of stability over this time of transition.

The handover of the women & mentoring ministries from Charlotte to Charlie, as Charlotte's maternity cover, has gone really smoothly, with Charlie continuing to build on the amazing work Charlotte has done. In particular it has been exciting to see the first steps for the pilot of a mentoring scheme. Charlie, with her usual incredible enthusiasm, has also provided wonderful cover for the Children's Pastor role, whilst recruitment is underway.

We said goodbye to one of our St Mellitus Ordinands, Tosin, at the beginning of this year. His acting skills, BBQ abilities and warm & welcoming personality are all greatly missed. Ali, our other ordinand, will be moving on this summer. She has spanned the generations at St Peter's this year, with leading on the launch of Living Life (our over-60s group), as well as continuing to oversee the youth ministries – bringing her special artistic touch to everything she does.

David has begun to handover Operations Manager and Worship Pastor responsibilities to other team members, freeing him up to really focus on the new building. He has done this with admirable good humour, attention to detail and general unflappability.

We have been excited to recently welcome Jo onto the team as our new Worship Pastor. We are excited by Jo's passion for worship and her pastoral heart, and look forward to seeing what her future at St Peter's holds.

We are looking forward to welcoming a Youth & Outreach Pastor to the team very soon, and recruitment for an Administrator, Children's Pastor and Facilities Coordinator continues.



# Buildings

It's hard to imagine, but we can say with some confidence that this will be the last time the report is written when the new building is not finished!

The new building has been a tumultuous road, with many set backs and delays. However, we have recently seen photos (below) of the digitally printed stained glass windows which have been the cause of so many delays. So we're on the final straight!



There have been a number of opportunities to enjoy the new building already, not least the Midnight Mass service in the community hall; our first official service in there! It was so packed we had to get more chairs from the Centre to accommodate everyone! We've had a number of prayer meetings in there, as well as showing round lots of schools and community organisations.

It will be a wonderful base of worship and mission, but being able to meet in the Centre is still a stable blessing for this time of transition.

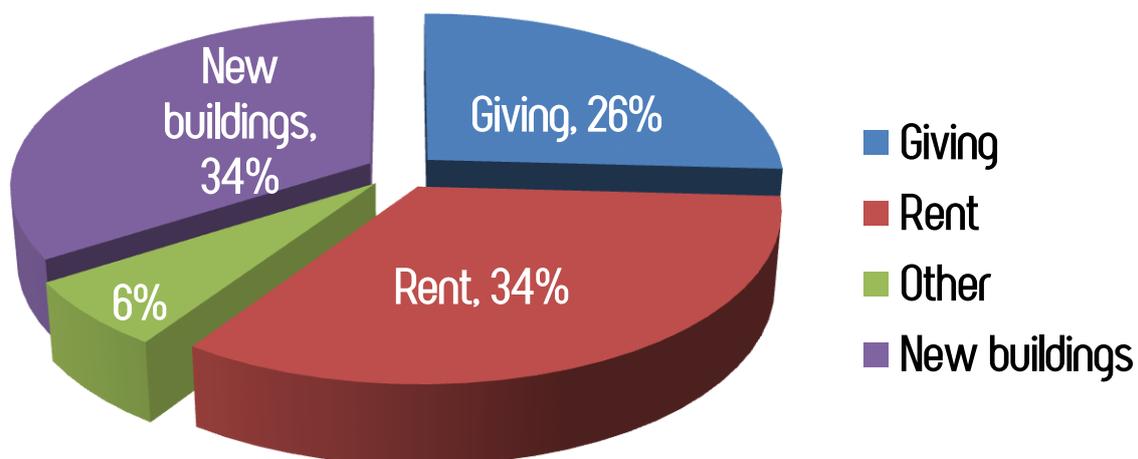


# Finance

Here is a high level summary of the 2017 church finances. If you would like to see a copy of the full annual accounts there is one available on the church noticeboard, or you can ask the church office for a copy.

## Income

**Total income = £375,513 (£331,261 budgeted)**



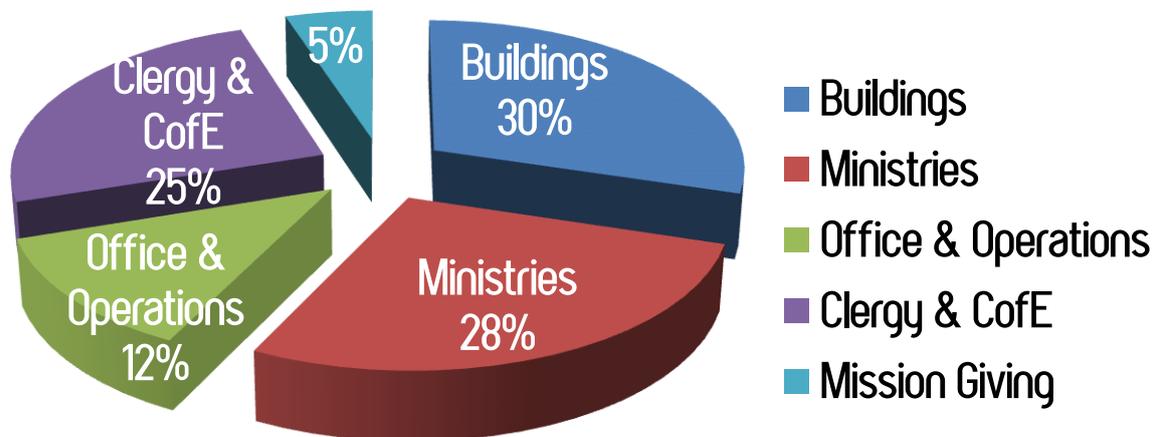
Thank you to all of you who have been giving so faithfully to the church in this last year. As you will see, a large proportion of our income comes from the church family, so a massive thank you to everyone who gives to the church.

The reason our income was greater than anticipated in 2017 is because we have received more money from the developer as compensation due to the delays than anticipated. This led to an increased proportion of our funding coming from 'new buildings', and therefore a decrease in the proportion of our income coming from regular giving.

Rental comes from three flats in the new development and from Banana Moon who use the Centre for the nursery.

## Expenditure

Total expenditure = £348,084 (£354,878 budgeted)



Buildings expenses covers expenditure on the new building, as well as upkeep and maintenance of the Centre.

Ministries expenditure is the cost of running all our regular activities, the cost of the outreach events that we run etc.

Office & operations expenditure is IT and office costs plus a portion of staff salaries.

Clergy and CofE expenditure covers provision for all clergy and ordinands.

We give away 10% of our giving & rental income to mission partners. We don't tithes on the money we get from other sources (e.g. reading bans, insurance claims or funds from the developer) and our income and expenditure are not currently equal. These two factors mean that mission giving does not make up 10% of expenditure.

### **Closing the gap**

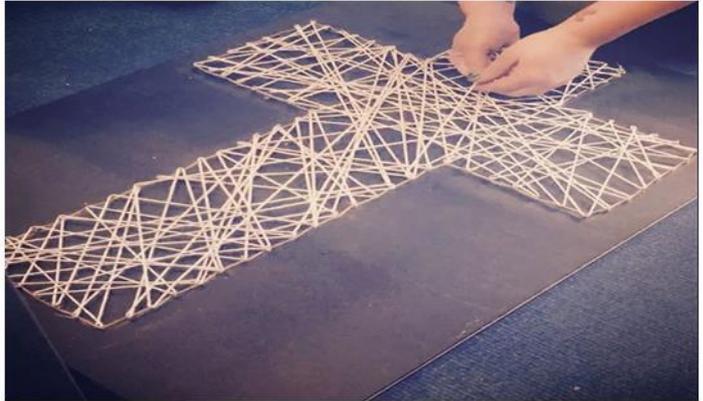
The PCC's vision has been to build capacity for St Peter's being a bigger church family. This means budgeted expenditure currently outstrips budgeted income (although in 2017 income was higher than expenditure due to penalty payments paid by the developer of the new building to St Peter's due to the ongoing delays). We expect that the gap between income and expenditure will be closed through a variety of means over the next two years:

- Rental income from new building and Centre
- New people joining and giving
- Existing church family reviewing giving
- Continuing to look for expenditure efficiencies
- Investment income
- Grant opportunities

Delays in the completion of the new church building mean that some of these expected ways of closing the gap have been delayed, in particular rental income and giving from new people joining. The PCC's current financial plan is to have a balanced budget by 2020. In the meantime the gap will be covered by an expected one off payment from the developers received on the completion of the new church building.

### **Financial picture in a nutshell?**

- God has blessed us financially to do what we believe He's called us to do
- Delays with the new church building mean we are in a very similar financial position to last year
- We expect to run at a shortfall for the next two years, but to have a balanced budget by 2020
- The expected income increase is due to come from rental, giving changes, investment income, grants etc



 **St Peter's Battersea**  
Loving God | Being family | Bringing hope

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