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Annual Report 2019

of

Cloverfield Community Church - An Anglican and United Reformed Church Local Ecumenical Partnership.



Cloverfield Community Church seeks to be:

- a welcoming place where **Christ's** love can be seen & experienced.
- a united family **caring** for one another; worshipping, praying and learning together
- a **committed** group of God's followers who bring his words & works to others.
- a hub for the local **community**

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Financial Report 2019/2020

2019 has been a reasonable year for me as treasurer. There was increased activity at the start of the year as the kitchen project was finally completed and paid for but after that the year went smoothly.

We have taken in more money from hall bookings, in the region of £3000. Cash giving is down but overall giving has stayed pretty stationary. We got a slight increase in our tax rebate approx £200.

Expenditure has increased, £7500 increase on our Parish Share giving, approx £500 on our URC mission giving and £1000 increase in our utility bills.

Taking the kitchen fees and the loan to St Cuthberts out of the figures we would have been in surplus again to an approx figure of £6000 ish.

We can't rest on our laurels though as Parish Share will be increasing by over £2500 for the next 2 years and our utility bills will keep rising. That said we can and will, if we don't lose any of our bookings, continue to pay our way so that has to my priority as treasurer.

Neil Glen.

Treasurer.

Home Groups

Afternoon Homegroup— The afternoon home group meets fortnightly and we are fortunate to be able to enjoy the hospitality of Maggie and David Williams in their cosy Monksgate house. Our normal attendance is around 10 which seems to be the right number to get lively discussions going. We have used various study guides and we try to choose these prayerfully and democratically when we need to move to another topic. Currently we are exploring prayer. We have valued the leadership and preparation of both David and Monroe. We always include prayer and the time to share some of our personal concerns and joys has been an important part of bringing us closer together and, of course, to God. *Corinne*

Evening Homegroup—We have been diminished in numbers with several regular attendees moving from the area and so there was a break from October 2019 until January 2020 when the group did not meet. We have enjoyed various studies and are currently using *Praying to an Unlimited God in Unlimited Ways* By Paul and Paula Weston. However few of us meet we enjoy our time of fellowship, prayer and chat. If anyone would like to join us they would be most welcome. *Maggie*

Men's Discipleship Meeting

We meet at 43 Highlands on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm. This meeting is for any man who is wishing to explore the Bible and to go deeper in their spiritual walk with The Lord. We have discussed various passages of the Bible and various issues and question raised by those who attend. If you require any further information, please speak to *Neil or Peter V.*



Buildings and Fabric Report For 2019

Due to the way our reporting cycle works, this is the year that I can record the fact that we have a new kitchen! It has now been in use for almost a year and has been very well received. It is a measure of God's grace that we set out with the thought that it may take some time to raise the money and with a few options from a basic rebuild, to a full-on commercial style kitchen. Suffice to say our cup has been overfilled! The full cost of the kitchen was just under £43k; almost all of this coming from grants. In fact, although the church initially earmarked £2k towards the project, in the end we only used about £500 from our own funds. Big thanks of course must be given to TADDS our partners in this project. Their enthusiastic support has made a great deal of difference. It is hoped the new kitchen will increase the attractiveness of the building to hirers and allow us to build on the community of users that provide various services from here. I used the phrase 'a community of hope' in many of the funding applications, as I believed that this captured the essence of the use of the building.

We have previously discussed a project to renovate the Ladies toilets, with plans for new sinks and cupboard units and a full redecoration. This project still remains 'on ice' while we consider other pressures on our finances.

General maintenance/gardening tasks are largely done during the monthly Works Day and we are gradually ticking off a number of jobs that have been hanging around for some time or which are included in the Quinquennial buildings and fabric report (copy on the church Dropbox folder). Most of these are now complete but we are due for reinspection in 2020, so we need to keep this in mind.

Thanks go to all involved in the Works Days, but I am also aware that often jobs are just done by someone who sees the need and just gets on with it on their own, so thanks to those people too. Remember the Works Day is not just for DIY type jobs, but is also a good focus for many other administrative and cleaning tasks, e.g. tidying and reorganising storage areas, restocking Sunday Mix resources, etc. *Tim*

Worship Group

Leading worship is not about performance of music, but about enabling people to find a way to connect to God through music and songs. We do try to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit during times of worship and to follow where he seems to be leading us. It would be great to have your thoughts from time to time as to whether we are there or not! We have a small group of talented musicians who regularly play, but it would be great and is probably an area for prayer to have more musicians, perhaps with a goal of having two autonomous worship groups available. If you feel led to be involved in either playing, praying or leading, just ask.

We do have a list of songs that are 'known' and arranged for the instruments that we normally have, but if you have a favourite song or hymn that we don't use please let me know and I will try to learn it and arrange the music. If you have the sheet music even better! *Tim*



Children's Work

The Creche Report:

We have up to 4 children regularly in the creche where they enjoy the numerous toys available and look at books which can involve Bible stories. There are 7 adults available to cover this but some are parents. It would be good if there were enough volunteers for this so that the parents can enjoy worship and a break from their pre-schoolers. *Heather*

School Children (4yr – 11yr)

Hazel, Jean and myself met 25th February to discuss how things are going with the children.

Since the end of last summer, we have been working through the HeartShaper book, Primary Edition for ages 5-11. This, like most other children's church programmes, comprises a year's worth of consecutive ready-to-go lesson plans with guided leader's notes and activity/quiz pages. However, all leaders are finding that this book, possibly because it tries to accommodate a wide age group, is not best suited to the ages of the children currently in our group, (about 5-8), and we are always having to simplify the topic. We also find it to be quite rigid and rather dull in places. Last Sunday we started a series of DVD's entitled Relive Easter, which is a 6 week programme and so will take us up to the All Age Easter Worship day on Easter Sunday. After this we will follow the Lectionary readings, as per adult church, using a range of online resources. We hope this will enable the whole family to share at home the topic that's been discussed at church that day.

We have also agreed to maintain a folder at church to keep our lesson plans in, which obviously then can be used again at some point in the future.

We would like to purchase some International Children's Bibles (x6), a set of Max Lucado DVD's and some Music DVD's – Doug Horley/Ishmael, plus some better

quality drawing pens/pencils and are looking into placing orders for these things very soon.

Finally, we have all agreed to have quarterly catch ups to discuss how things are going. *Maggie W*

Youth Group (12-18yrs)

Unfortunately, we still do not have the numbers in this age group and, as far as we know, none of our congregation have children in this age bracket which might be interested in attending. It is still the case that everything is ready to go when the need arises.

Church Warden's Report

The job of churchwarden means that I have an automatic position on the PCC of St.Cuthberts and this year I have attended a number of meetings to represent Cloverfield, along with a few of our other folks who have been voted on to the Council. This is important as although we are a separate church we still have strong links with them.

Under our constitution there is a Joint Ecumenical Council which provides a means of formal consultation with both St.Cuthberts and the URC. This meets 3 times a year and I also attend as part of my role.

In a normal Anglican Church I would have other responsibilities, most notably for the fabric of the building, but in Cloverfield we decided that role should be separated off and although I am part of the regular work group I once again record my thanks to Tim who takes the lead on the premises. *Geof*

SILVERTHREADS

Silverthreads is now 10 years old!!

When Roy and I moved to Thetford and Cloverfield church, Bishop David pointed out that there was nothing for the older generation, so we decided to start Silverthreads (the name goes with the age!)

After Roy died there was a huge gap in my life and the clubs, in stepped Neil doing all the jobs I couldn't do and much more, he is invaluable.

The club has gone from strength to strength with the 3 amigos, Sandra, Maxine and Debs also Susan and Carla.

There has been one hiccup that has upset me lately, somehow something I said had been misconstrued, It was thought that I did not run the club through the church, this is so far from the truth the club in my mind has always been run as an OUTREACH of the CHURCH and always will be. The problem has been resolved and I am now very happy.

We all had a great 10th anniversary party in September 2019, finishing the year with a trip to the circus at Great Yarmouth and a fish and chip supper, and enjoying our Christmas party with some good entertainment.

Every week at the club we have some entertainment, ranging from Music, Talks, bingo, quizzes, games and exercise. With a membership of about 50 people the club can be seen as an asset to the Church. With all the members enjoying an afternoon tea of sandwiches, cream scones and cakes all washed down with cups of tea and coffee. *Moya*



Gift Aid Report

In 2018/19 the church received a £3038 gift aid payment, thank you to everyone who gift aids their giving! This year's amount will be similar, no new gift aiders this year.

If you do pay UK income tax, and already give regularly please think about gift aid. You don't have to promise an amount each week, and if your circumstances change or you move away you can just stop without any formalities.

You can set up a standing order, transfer to the church account when you want, or I can give you a set of green envelopes. You can put cash or a cheque inside. Some people give weekly, others monthly, others as and when. It's so flexible ! Just have a word with me. If you have any concerns, do ask me.

Some people use the green envelopes designed for visitors, why not ask me for a set of your own green envelopes. Then you won't need to fill in your address each time ! *David Romanos*



Summary of the Year 2019

Regular events

House Groups, Men's Discipleship Group, Prayer Meetings, AWA Meetings, Silverthreads

Twining Events

We were visited by 4 adult members of clergy/congregation from Holmsund in Sept. 2019, Young Leaders Visit Oct 2019

Mission Events

Easter Egg Hunt, Beetle Drive, Light Night,

Services and events

The Sunday Mix (TSM), our all age café' style church continues along with Abide, a more reflective evening service. Community Carol Service, Crib Service, Operation Christmas Child, Fairtrade Sunday.



Mission Support

We continue to support Graham and Nicola Aylett,. We are preparing for Sol and Anna's mission in Pakistan

Building Related

Kitchen refitted, foyer furniture purchased. Accessible toilet repainted. New car park signs fitted. Gate to garden fitted. Monthly works days for regular maintenance.



Pastoral Work

The Pastoral Care Team continues to support members of the congregation.

Confirmation

We supported a member Gill T as she was confirmed in a service at St. Cuthberts

Website

Our website is now fully functional including a prayer request function.

Fellowship

Breakfasts, bring n share lunches, picnic in the parks, Beetle Drive

Prayer

Our Prayer Ministry Team continues to grow, we pray for Cloverfield Estate, bi-monthly prayer meetings, we hosted 24/7 prayer event.

Operation Christmas Child

We established a monthly stall selling items suitable for the shoeboxes, we also acted as a drop off centre for boxes in Thetford. 339 boxes left the church in November.



Fairtrade

We held special service for Fairtrade Sunday, We also now have contract with Kingdom Coffee for Fairtrade refreshments. We have also held Fairtrade stalls in church.

Thetford Christians Together

We are represented at the quarterly meetings and have joined TCT activities such as helping at the Night Shelter, 24/7 prayer event, Walk of Witness.

Alpha

During sabbatical of Minister church covered the Alpha course instead of sermons. A team also helped the Salvation Army and Hope Church to deliver Alpha to some of the homeless community and others in the town.

Ministerial Cover

The year started with Rev'd. Helen Jary commencing her 3 month sabbatical. It was a testing time for us all, but also a time of preparation. Not long after her return it became clear that God was calling Helen to move on. Despite her initial reticence, she trusted in God and left us in October. We were prepared. Louise one of our AWA's also moved away from the area to commence her ministerial training.

Thank You's on Behalf of The Leadership Team (in no particular order)

The Pastoral Team and Heather who coordinates

The Prayer Ministry Team and Jean and Peter who coordinate

To the children, creche and young peoples workers

Those who attend PCC, Joint Council and TCT meetings on our behalf

Those who pray before the services

Those involved in leading services or preaching—our AWA's

Everyone who helps in any way with The Sunday Mix

Those who count money on Sundays

The worship group members

The puppeteers

Those who do Bible readings

Those who lead intercessions

Those who provide a welcome on the front door

Those who provide drinks and refreshments at services and events

Those who make and serve drinks and Moya who coordinates

Those who wash up and tidy up

Those who set up for services and clear up afterwards

Those who help with mission and social events

Those who deliver flyers, invitations and Christmas cards

Those who wash the laundry and take the rubbish home

David who deals with Gift Aid

Geof for Church Warden role

Gill for co-ordinating distribution of Beacon and Contact Magazines

Corinne for Notice boards

Heather who brings communion bread

Those who chat to visitors and make them welcome

Those who coordinate, lead and host home groups

Those who coordinate, lead and host the men's group

Those who clean the building

The fabric team and those who attend the jobs mornings

Those who do DIY at other times

Those who manage the sound desk and operate it on Sundays and other days and upload files

Shauna for managing the copyright returns

Moya for Silverthreads and her team

Neil—for handling bookings, opening up the church, and being Treasurer

Bob and Maggie for garden work

John for his cards to give to people

Heather, Corinne and Maggie for Foodbank box emptying

Corinne for keeping Fairtrade links going

Those who provide lifts to people to get to church

Those who complete all those unseen tasks.

Tim for managing the kitchen refit

To everyone who makes our church a family.

I hope everyone has been included please forgive me if I missed someone.

Pastoral Care report:

Everyone who comes to church is in a Pastoral group. There are 8 Contacts who endeavour to pray and support their group. During this interregnum it is important that we support one another and that everyone feels cared for. I am grateful for 2 new Contacts this year, Adrian and Anna, and was sorry that Monroe felt he needed to step back from this. I thank him for all he did and I know he went the extra mile for people in his group. Thank you Monroe. I hope you feel this system is working but I am always open to new ideas and how to improve things.

The Pastoral Contacts are: Gill Baker, Jean Vale, Adrian Frank's, Neil Glen, Anna McInnes, Corinne Brindle, David Williams and myself, *Heather Nicholls*.



Church Garden

Grass mowing, litter picking and hedge cutting and some flower bed maintenance have all taken place during the year. There is a need for a fair amount of cutting back of shrubs, ivy etc and it would be helpful if there was more help with these tasks and clearing all the arisings. Since Peter Vale has installed a gate onto the children's area at the rear of the church there has been far less of a problem with dog mess and litter in that area. Any volunteers would be very welcome. *Maggie*

Prayer Ministry

As a team we have provided prayer support at each of our Sunday Services held at Cloverfield Community Church, except the third Sunday of the month when we have our all age service, The Sunday Mix. On this Sunday we hold our Abide Service in the evening where the Prayer Team are also available to provide prayer support for those in need. We have also led a number of these Abide Services as a team since Helen moved to Oulton Broad.

We have met together on several occasions to pray for our church family, those who have requested prayer for themselves and others and since Helen's announcement of her departure, praying for our New Minister to be found. We continue to make ourselves available to all who would like us to pray for themselves or others in their own homes or ours. *Jean and Peter*



Note about Annual Report 2019

As we are without a Minister for Cloverfield Community Church, at the time of the AGM, the annual report has been compiled by the Church Secretary, Shauna Peacock. I hope that this reflects all that we have achieved over the past year.

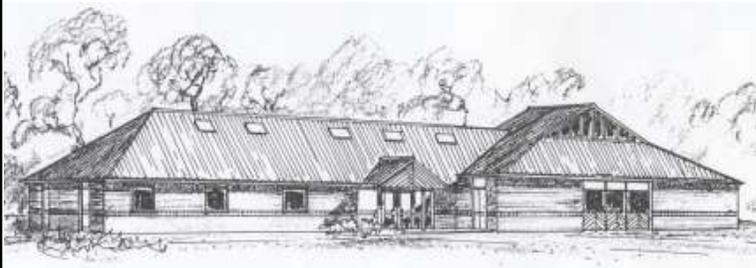
CONTACT INFO

Currently Vacant: Minister of Cloverfield Church & Team Vicar

Rev'd Dr Peter Herbert: Team Rector
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Rev'd Tony Heywood: Thetford Team Vicar to-
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...& there's also your 'Pastoral Contact'



We value:
...Worship
...Word
...Ministry

