



Christ Church Felixstowe APCM reports

For the Year ending December 2025

Introduction

2025 was a busy year for Christ Church, as you can see from even glancing at the reports contained here. Do take a read through: there is so much to give thanks for and to celebrate here in the life of our church.

I am grateful to all the many people who have volunteered their time, energy, effort, and finances to help enable the life and mission of Christ Church, and I commend these reports to you.

Dom.

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Alpha



In 2025 we had twenty guests attend two Alpha Courses, 'Spring Into Life' which started in February, and in the Autumn a 'Harvest Alpha'. The team and I saw many deepen their faith or invite Jesus into their lives for the first time and go on to be baptised!

A huge thanks to our wonderful hospitality and catering team for providing excellent meals every Friday, and for all our group hosts and helpers.

What is Alpha and who is it for?

All are welcome! Alpha is for anyone who wants to know about the Christian faith, explore important questions of life, or brush up on the basics. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Everyone is welcome. No two Alphas look quite the same, and no question is too simple or too complex!

The pre-plan for 2026 was to advertise an Alpha Course starting early January at our many Christmas and pre-Christmas events.

We'd love to consistently run more Alpha courses – and perhaps explore another type of seeker / explorer course to supplement this and ensure we never have too big a gap. Personal invitation is by far the best way to invite folks to Alpha, and we want to allow every opportunity for people to explore their faith and receive an invitation to know Christ more.

Finally, if anyone with a heart for outreach and wonderful coordination skills would like to take on the administrator role to help facilitate this or would like to be on team to help run future courses, do let me or Dom know!

Rev Peter Livey. Alpha Administrator



Bible Course

We ran the Bible Society's 'Bible Course' in the church, starting in September and running through to early November. This was really well received by all who attended (and there were consistently good numbers throughout), and helped many people to understand the big picture of the Bible more fully than they had before. The course involved weekly videos, personal study, and a text book (which the vast majority of participants purchased). There was a strong sense that we would like to run similar courses again in the future.

Dom Turner

Christ Church Does...

Christ Church Does... are free community events for families, that combine entertainment, craft and games, refreshments and activities, and much more.

Now in its 3rd year there were two events of 'CCD Summer Fun' and 'CCD Christmas.' The community came along in their hundreds as we offered opportunities for families to have fun together without any financial burden. The summer event had candy floss, music, games, face painting, crafts and much more; including an appearance from TV's Bluey for the younger children. At the Christmas event in addition to Father Christmas, when all the children received a gift, we had the biblical characters of Mary, Joseph, Gabriel, a king, shepherd and inn keeper for the children to find out more about the Christmas story.

We were delighted to welcome Grange School choir to perform at both events, and the link has developed through these events and other contacts. Of course our own musicians along with George and Sparkle and a gifted team of 45+ volunteers, including our catering team, made these events happen and created a positive vibe.

Our prayer is that those attending will encounter something of Jesus love and that church is a positive experience. Please pray for the events on July 4th and December 5th this year, when we will evolve the format further by utilising the upstairs of the church building and at Christmas use the outside for some important four-legged creatures.

The Christ Church Does.... planning team.

Church Services

Through the year we offered a mixture of lectionary-based services and sermon series. Our Encounter evening service had a 'Remember when...' series, before it ended in July. In the mornings we had a series on Philippians and another on the theme of Openness. We celebrated the normal seasons: Easter; Harvest; Advent, and Christmas. We also had a number of special events: in February we saw Liz and Peter licensed; Dom was licensed in March; the youth led a brilliant all-age service in November.

Dom Turner

Church Wardens' Report

1. Overview

We are pleased to report that the church building and its contents remain in a generally good state of repair. Our primary focus this year has been on improving safety standards and enhancing the internal environment for both regular worship and community use.

2. The Fabric (Building & Internal Improvements)

Lighting Upgrade: A significant project was completed this year to replace several aging light fittings, both inside and outside of the building. The old units have been replaced with energy-efficient LED alternatives. This has not only improved visibility but will also contribute to a reduction in our annual electricity costs. Thanks go to Barbara and Tony for arranging this.

Stage Area: A metal edging has been applied, replacing the damaged plastic one.

Lantern: We are a step closer in getting the lantern replaced, with architects producing several options, which were proposed and agreed at the PCC. Our ongoing thanks to Keith for pursuing this.

Seating & Furniture: Following the routine safety inspection, several chairs were identified as having loose joints or worn upholstery. These have now been repaired, thanks to the sterling efforts of Steve Harding and all at the Men's Shed. We continue to monitor the condition of all seating as part of our monthly maintenance walk-through.

The sound desk area has been cleared, which has opened up more space, and allowed for a more welcoming reception upon entering the worship area. The office has been decluttered, which has created space for two people to work more comfortably in that room.

Upstairs, the old sofa has been removed.

3. Health, Safety, and Compliance

Fire Safety: In accordance with our latest fire risk assessment, all internal fire escape signage has been replaced. The new signs meet current legislative standards for brightness and clarity, ensuring that exit routes are clearly marked even in the event of a power failure.

4. The Church Grounds

The grounds continue to be well-maintained thanks to the dedicated efforts of our volunteers. A new shed has been erected to accommodate supplies for use by Manna, which unfortunately had to be repaired, after an attack of vandalism.

5. Acknowledgments

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the army of volunteers, who help keep the church running, and those who assist with minor DIY tasks. Their vigilance helps us address small issues before they become costly repairs.

Jason and Richard

Core Ministry Team

The CMT supports the vicar, act as vision bearers, and concern themselves with the overall spiritual health, pastoral health, and direction of the church.

In March 2025 we were excited to have our new incumbent, Revd. Dominic Turner join us and continue to have a CMT most months. Other members of CMT include Revds. Peter & Liz Livey (clergy), Richard Farnworth and Jason Wilson (churchwardens), Chris Moran and Dee Balshaw (elected members).

Our main work in 2025 in addition to that detailed above, has been to discern new vision.

We also enjoyed coming together with the PCC and CMT at our second annual vision day facilitated by Revd. Malcolm Macdonald and his team. We attended LYCiG (Leading Your Church into Growth) course which completes in May 2026. We also considered and offered the Bible Course and 40-Days of Prayer to the church.

Proverbs 11:14: "Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in many advisers, victory is found."

Isaiah 41:10: "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Rev Peter & Rev Liz Livey (co-chairs)

Dennies (children's Sunday group)

The teachers and helpers are privileged to teach Christ Church's amazing children and continue to be amazed by how much we learn from the children.

On behalf of the church I would like to thank the team of volunteers who show Jesus in their interactions with the children and guide them through the Bible and how it transforms lives. We sadly say goodbye and give thanks to the faithful service of Tracey and Alison from the team and warmly welcome Soo, Steve, and Eleanor who have joined us this year.

Soo has agreed to share the Coordinator role with me which has strengthened the leadership of the team .

Big and Little Dennies have now joined together, which makes better use of our team members, allowing 3 or 4 available in each session. We have advanced plans to change the format of Dennies. Soo and I will arrange a meeting for parents, carers and interested parties to explain changes.

Please continue to pray for the team and the children and that the new format builds on the past and will transform and further develop young lives on their faith journey.

Beryl Sheppard on behalf of the team.

Eucharist Helpers

The team have been trained and regularly lay the altar for communion. They have had to adapt to provision for new stations. The regular team are Pat George, Lucy Agnew, and Kay Chester who help communion run smoothly and aid worship.

Liz Livey



The Firs



Since restarting this ministry we have completed a full year of services at The Firs, Grange Road, Felixstowe, celebrating everything from Harvest to Pentecost (Dom's wonderful air-puffer machine!), Palm Sunday to Remembrance.

There are usually between 20 and 30 people at the service - staff, residents, family members and some of our own congregation. It is the second Sunday of each month at 4.15pm, for about 20 minutes. Rev Dom Turner, Mark Adams and Dee Balshaw have led the services, always making them as visual and interactive as possible, involving family members in readings and prayers.

This year Christ Church has also donated a floor-standing lamp for their Namaste room, a space for quiet reflection.

Richard Woolnough suggested and then crafted a fabulous Cross which is kept in the main lounge and used whenever we conduct a service. The plaque reads 'A gift to the residents, staff & families of The Firs with love from Christ Church Felixstowe, December 2025'. This was dedicated in our morning service on 14 December.

In last year's report we said it would be wonderful if others in our congregation got involved in this ministry and, as a direct result of the KWACC day, Penny Hull offered and has now joined the team.

Jesus doesn't leave us when our faculties begin to fail so it is a huge privilege to enable worship in this setting.

Dee Balshaw

Flower Arrangers



Our team of flower arrangers at Christ Church bring the beauty of God's creation in nature to the Sunday Services. We arrange for every Sunday except the first of the month. This is when we keep out of the way of the puppets or other activities at the All Age Service.

In December we have the Advent Crown. At Easter and Harvest all the arrangers come together in order to fill the church with flowers. Our mechanics are sustainable, using pin holders and coated chicken wire inside the containers.

Flowers are distributed after the service to those with birthdays, the sick, the bereaved or those who are either celebrating or distressed in some way. Members of the congregation can nominate a date when they can donate money towards the cost of the flowers for a celebration or in memory of a loved one etc.

During the year Jo Harris joined us as an arranger and Carol Robinson retired. Jo also stepped down when her job changed and we thank them both for their service in this way. Maureen Maidment joined us following the KWACC day at the end of the year. Sue L, Yvonne, Maureen, Jayne & Heather T all derive much pleasure from creating the arrangements. We are always happy to welcome new arrangers to the team.

Heather Trevorrow

Forty Days of Prayer

From November 10th to December 19th, we spent forty days together as a church praying and fasting. We encouraged people to fast on Mondays, and there were regular prayer sessions every Tuesday morning (via Zoom), Tuesday evening, and Thursday afternoon. We began and ended the season with a gathered celebration at the church.

During this time there was no agenda, other than to listen to God. Many words, pictures, and scriptures were shared: and these are being used to help shape the new vision for the church, which should be launched later this year.

Dom Turner

Friday Night Football

Friday Night Football sessions run 7-8pm at Felixstowe Academy's all-weather pitch. They provide an opportunity for interaction between Christian and non-Christian menfolk.

Kim Balshaw is supported by Ady Ilie in the administration of this outreach activity, with Ady doing the majority of the Friday evening work.

The activity is managed via a Facebook group. Attendance varies between single figures to two dozen. There are participants from other churches in Felixstowe and some Salvationists travel from as far away as Stowmarket and Bury St Edmunds.

The governance of the activity is being codified, with Kim and Ady progressing towards the Leadership level of CofE safeguarding training.

With effect from academic year 2024/25, the pitch hire charge increased from £30 to £35 per session. The fees have remained at £4 for adults and £2 for students, and are proving sufficient to cover the increased hire charges.

The operating surplus for the year up to Easter 2025 was split two ways:

1. £281.53 to support the attendance of Ady and his family as staff at a Christian outreach summer sports camp in Montenegro.
2. £140.76 to support a football tournament run by the Salvation Army's East Anglia Division that in turn raised funds for their Young People's Summer Camp.

Kim Balshaw

Growing Together

This is our church membership course (you don't need to be a member to come to our church, this one is necessary however if you want to be involved in leading groups/other ministry teams/joining leadership). It is a one-day exploration of the Book of Acts and on completion of the course participants become 'covenanting members' of Christ Church Felixstowe.

It was a joy this year to welcome Soo, Glennie, Jill, Dan, Trudy, Eve, and Shawn as covenanting members of Christ Church. I am sure you also will have got to know them and what great folks they are!

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much" – **Helen Keller**

"From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." – **Ephesians 4:16**

Rev Peter & Rev Liz Livey

Homegroups

At Christ Church, we believe that small groups are an essential part of our offering to the congregation to help each person become more engaged with their walk with Christ and more 'plugged in' to church. If we want 'To know Christ more and make Him known', (our vision statement), then these small groups are a place where, together with new friends and old, you can learn more about what it is to be a follower of Jesus and how you can share your faith with others.

During the year, a new group opened, primarily taking in some of those who had recently completed Alpha. This means that we now have six 'home group' style groups meeting regularly, either in homes, in the church,



or sometimes over Zoom. Groups tend to pray and study the Bible together alongside developing closer relationships which are supportive. Members value the safe space of the groups, getting to know others in depth and being encouraged to engage in wider church life through them.

An additional group, Family Footprints meets after church on the first Sunday of the month. Here families get a chance to get to know other families within the church in a relaxed couple of hours over lunch, games and a chat.

An influx of new attendees at church and those completing Alpha means that we really do need to look for new people who would be able, and willing, to lead new small groups. If you would consider being the person who 'sees the need and meets the need' then please come and talk to me. If you have just started church, or indeed been attending for years but never got round to joining a group, do talk to me. If we can squeeze you into an existing group, we will. If not, you can join a waiting list (and this gives me a more realistic view of what the need is).

I'm grateful to all the leaders of the groups and those who have stepped up to lead or host when needed. Each one works hard to provide supportive spaces where members become friends and grow to know and love Jesus more together.

Wendy Rayner

Hospitality Report

We continue to have a wonderful team of volunteers who provide, each week, a first class service of freshly baked cakes and savouries, teas, coffees, squash etc, after every service.

If you would like to join our team, please let Dot or Richard know. Unable to bake? Shouldn't be a reason for not volunteering, we will be forever thankful for your support.

In Christ we live.

Dot and Richard Woolnough

Ignite Youth

Ignite Youth is for young people in school Years 7 to 13. We meet on Sunday mornings as part of the service. The aim of sessions are to study God's word together and pray together. Examples of themes for this year have been studying the book of James and studying milestones in Jesus' life and ministry.

During the year we continued to meet occasionally on a Sunday afternoon with youth from Bethesda Baptist Church Felixstowe and it has been great to see some of our youth inviting non-church friends to come along.

Some events have included Sizewell weekend away, attending Noel Robinson worship event and a Light Party (on Halloween night).

Our young people have been involved in the worship and tech team throughout the year and have got involved in the puppet ministry in All-Age services. November's All-Age Service was a Youth-led service with our young people running the service including – welcome, worship singers, prayers, drama sketch and sermon!

During 2025, we had the privilege of witnessing 3 of our teenagers be baptised which was amazing!

In September, we had 5 young people move up from our Dennie's children's group to Youth.

At the end of 2025, Kevin and Illia joined the volunteer youth workers team.

We thank God for these young people in our church, and we would appreciate prayer for our youth to grow closer to God but also in supporting each other in their faith. I would like to thank Ady, Nicoletta, Julia, Kevin and Illia for their time and continued commitment to this important ministry.

Christos Constantinou

Kingdom Work at Christ Church (KWACC)

On Saturday 25th October, we ran a ministry fair at the church, which we called KWACC. This saw a whole variety of people, who all have responsibility for different areas of church life and ministry, come together with many who were seeking to know more about the life of the church, and who were looking to join in. On the day we had presentations from different ministry leaders, and various stations throughout the church building where people could ask questions, find out more, and sign up as volunteers.

We saw a number of new volunteers come forward through this day.

Dom Turner.

Little Fishes Room / The Crèche

It was decided that the crèche would work better for the parents to stay with their babies and toddlers as the room is small and most parents want to stay. I have observed that not many families use the crèche full time but don't think we could do without it, it is needed for nursing mothers and the children when they get restless.

Sue Harris

Manna Pop Up Shop

In preparing to write this report we re-read the report we wrote for 2024 and we could just 'cut and paste' and submit an almost identical report as little has changed. We continue to be grateful to God for his faithfulness and grace. We had an average of more than 100 customers at Manna each fortnight and continue to see new people each time from both Felixstowe and Ipswich. We have a large number of volunteers who help both at Manna itself, setting up each Manna Monday morning and clearing up afterwards. We've created somewhat of a 'monster' that takes a huge amount of time to collect, store and present food and the commitment of all the volunteers makes this possible. The Manna Leadership Team of Kim, Dee, Keith and Heather T, Helen and I allow us to support and advise each other and cover when we are absent for whatever reason. The £3 donations for a bag from customers and the giving from Manna supporters enables us to buy ambient essentials to supplement the food we are given by supermarkets or 'buy' from FareShare. It also means we can pay the church for the electricity we use for the fridges and freezers and for things like printing ink and photocopier costs to neutralise the impact Manna has on church finances.

We do want to support our community by feeding the hungry and ensuring waste food is used rather than sent to landfill but our core purpose is for customers and volunteers to have a personal faith in Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. We are thankful for answered prayer as several customers have attended church and CCD events, joined Alpha courses and been baptised.

Helen and Mark Adams

Missions Team

Christ Church has supported missions locally, nationally, and internationally since its beginnings, and we give 10% of our income to mission.

During 2025 the mission board in the worship area was regularly updated to display that month's supported mission, and any other general correspondence and news updates. Connection information is additionally displayed with links to each mission. Each mission organisation on a rota basis has a month of focused display, intercessions, and details appear on the notice sheet. During this month on a staggered rotation there may be a speaker from the organisation.

Excitingly we now have a church representative for each mission, aiding greater connection and communication between the church and these organisations, and we are grateful to them for all this input.



Christ Church supports ten mission organisations which are Hope Trust, Inspire, Tearfund, Tools with a Mission, Ministry of Music, Boost, Mission to Seafarers, Felixstowe Town Pastors, The Compass, and Open Doors.

Fundraising activities have often been a way of supporting the missions too, while providing a good night of fun. One of the fundraising events which took place last November was the enjoyable Tearfund Quiz night which raised £700.

Every blessing

Barbara Gilbert, Rev Liz Livey

Missions Team Co-ordinators

Online presence

We've been working to improve our website, and in 2025 we had 24,472 visits to the homepage. 14,870 of these clicked on the 'new to church' button and saw the pop-up. Website statistics are never completely accurate, but even allowing for visits from search engine 'bots' it's clear that we are generating interest in the church. In fact, our "I'm new" page received a staggering 391,515 viewers (and even if 95% of these are false hits, that's still around 19,500 real visitors, many of whom will have come directly to this page from a search engine).

Facebook is doing well, too. We had 119,475 views in 2025, of which 3,395 lasted more than 3 seconds (which is a significant milestone in Facebook terms).

On YouTube things are also growing. There were 7,220 video views in 2025, up 22% on the previous year. In total, around 1,500 hours of video was watched (up 28%). We also picked up 42 new subscribers (163% more than 2024).

Dom Turner

Pop-up Café on Wednesdays.

This was born because there was nowhere for the Haven Health Wellbeing Walkers to go for a cuppa, a chat and a natter - a prerequisite after a walk!. So, after asking for permission to use the church foyer - the Pop up Cafe opened on Wednesday 19th February 2025 and, with the exception of two cancellations because of bad weather - has been open every Wednesday since. The number of walkers coming back to the church has grown from four on the first day to twelve most weeks and a total of 320 by the end of the year. Most walkers come from Felixstowe and Walton but there is one gentleman who often comes on the bus from Ipswich.

Lucy Agnew

Prayer Group.



On Tuesday evenings the church is open at 7.30 pm for prayer although sometimes over the past year we met on a different evening when courses have been run on Tuesdays.

We share prayer requests and answers to prayer at the beginning of our time.

We have a song which you may join in with or listen to.

There is praise, worship, bible verses may be shared then intercession for world and local situations and lifting up of people to the Lord. We pray for church groups and others hiring our room and the mission groups we support. Sometimes we sit in silence in the Lord's presence together.

Do come and join us in this vital ministry of the church.

Sheila Harris

Prayer Ministry



Since the early '90's a prayer ministry team has been available at the end of most weekly services and other events. The authorised Prayer Ministry Team are Revds. Peter and Liz Livey, Alan and Alison Rhodes (deputy leaders), Christine and Peter Butt, Glenn George, Tracy Wilson, Sheila Harris, Lynn Hayward, and Jane Scarlett. All completed safeguarding and DBS checks.

During 2025 a prayer ministry course took place for those interested in prayer ministry and also attended by small group leaders. Christ Church are linked with the New Wine Network, who also offer training, and some team members attended a day course on 'Hearing the voice of God and practising the prophetic' in October.

Prayer ministry is something the team like to encourage others to be part of and to involve other church members where appropriate. If you are a covenanting member of CCFX and would like to know more about possibly joining the team, we are looking to expand this ministry so please have a conversation with one of us.

We thank the Holy Spirit for His continued love, answers, and presence, and the privilege of walking with and praying for individuals during times of rejoicing and more testing of times.

Rev Peter & Rev Liz Livey

Prayer Ministry Co-ordinators

Safeguarding

Can I start with a huge thank you to Andrew Chennery for his work taking on the Parish Safeguarding role when Adel stepped down. During 2025 Andrew stepped down from his various roles in church and we thank him for all that he did supporting the smooth and safe running of our church.

I took over the role and am very pleased to announce that Janice Turner has volunteered to assist. Currently I will remain as the named Safeguarding Lead for the church but Janice will share the role in terms of supporting members with training and DBS checks as well as the important job of working alongside Dom, the PCC, CMT and all church members to ensure that Christ Church remains a safe and supportive place to be and meet with Our Lord.

During the year many members of the church completed the Leadership Training through the diocese. This is training that needs to be completed by anyone leading any church based group. In September we held a meeting with many of you who took part in this training to discuss implications from this training.

Although there have been very few safeguarding incidents reported, it remains very important that everyone feels comfortable and able to discuss any concerns that they may have.

Could all church members read the Safeguarding Policy on our website. Those who have any responsibility in the church should also complete the Safeguarding training.

Chris Moran

Sizewell 2025



The increasing popularity of our church weekend away at Sizewell Hall meant we were again blessed with good numbers. There were 60 adults, 16 teenagers and 12 children attending, plus 11 day visitors making 99 people in all. Our new 'vicar to be', Dom was able to visit along with his wife Debs and daughter Hannah.

Our speaker for the weekend, well known to many of us, was Steve Fenning from The Forge Community Church, Debenham, where he is the senior leader. The theme for the weekend was "Living a Connected Life". We looked

at our relationships within four major aspects of our Christian lives.

Andrew Rayner & the Worship Team again led us with wonderful Christian songs, supported by Tony Scarlett on the tech desk. Linda Samonskiene was our chef for the weekend, ably assisted by Keith & Heather, plus teams of attendees on a rota basis. Ruth & Tom Glanville ran the children's work for us again which is always much enjoyed. The ever popular Matt Levett ran the youth work as well as being our Sizewell Duty Manager. The evening entertainment was produced by Jason & Tracey Wilson, followed by a brilliant sing along of old worship songs, with Andrew Rayner & Steve Fenning on piano & guitar.

Thanks to all who contributed in anyway, not forgetting the gifts of cakes.

Another fantastic Sizewell Weekend – to God be the Glory



Keith and Heather Trevorrow

Study Haven

Study Haven has been running every Wednesday evening in church during school term time. We offer a safe and warm place for young people to come and do homework with support and encouragement. The young people get encouragement, help and lots of cake. Please pray that families in need of such support will hear about what we offer and come along. Through this support they can be helped with schoolwork and experience the love of our Lord.

We are also currently able to offer support with Maths and Science. Through 2025 we have helped 2 students from our church families, supporting them with GCSE Maths and Science. We will continue to support these students as they approach their GCSEs in 2026. However, this project has not been as well supported as we should have hoped and we will need to consider if we would find other ways to serve our Lord and His people in our parish.

Chris Moran

Wavemakers

This year we have had quite a few new faces coming with parents, grandparents and child minders. The child minders come from Ipswich with an average of 8 well behaved children. They have said we are one of their favourite groups. I am very grateful for all the helpers we have in the group. We couldn't manage without them. The group still offers refreshments for the children and adults, a different craft each week, plenty of toys to play with, and they all enjoy the singing at the end of every session.

Sue Harris

Welcome Team

A big thank you to all the welcome team for their lovely welcomes to all who come through the doors of Christ Church each week.

We have 15 volunteers on the rota at the moment and we have a WhatsApp group so when someone can't make their day they message and volunteers respond and take on the shift. Sadly Lis, Paul and Carol have stepped down, thank you very much for all you have done. Since the vocation day we picked up 5 new members.

If anyone is thinking of joining the team please have a word with me, Alison.

It would be really good if some youth members of the church could join us, especially for the All Age services, to welcome the families who come, as we did enjoy them being with us for the youth led service.

Alison Rhodes

Worship Team

The bible calls upon us to 'make a joyful noise to the Lord' and I believe that is something we continue to do with passion at Christ Church!

We are blessed to have around 10 people on tech, 10 singers and 10 instrumentalists in the team.

Each Sunday morning we meet at 08:45 to rehearse and sound check – typically with 4 people on tech and anywhere between 4 and 10 people playing and singing. So by the time the service starts we have been at church almost 2 hours and are looking forward to helping lead the worship!

We continue to live stream the morning service – with a few people watching live but usually approaching 100 viewings over the following week. We are gradually looking to further improve the way we do this and there are plans to re-jig things in 2026.

We started worship jams again and that has already led to several new folks getting involved – it has been great to be joined by Katie, Kayla & Eve on vocals in the autumn. We aim to keep doing these 'jams' roughly every 3 months.

The Christmas carol service is always a special one and we use it as a chance to get additional people involved. As usual we played a significant role in the town-wide Good Friday and Easter Sunday sunrise events.

I am continually moved by the dedication and commitment of the team to helping enable our Sunday services – it is a real joy to be part of this lovely bunch of people coming together to worship together.

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Andrew Rayner