



2019
2020

To know Christ and make him known

IMPACT REPORT

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD,
CARSHALTON BEECHES



Good Shepherd
CARSHALTON BEECHES

WHAT'S THE STORY? FROM THE VICAR

It has been a whirlwind of change over the last two years, which find us in a very different place from the end of 2018! In two years we have spent only 6 months worshipping in the church building due to the refurbishment (2019) and then COVID-19 (2020). We haven't had Junior Church for over a year, and there is uncertainty about which of our activities will return and when. In the midst of all this though, there has been much creativity and new initiatives, including the Community Suppa Food Project, mask & scrubs making, the Marathon of Hope, YouTube services and Families@4. And we gained a curate!

What follows in this impact report is a selection of some of the ways we have worshipped, grown in discipleship and served our community. Thank you to so many people who are an active part in all of our regular and one-off activities, to those who pray and support behind the scenes, and above all to God, who is the source of our being, the nourishment to our souls, and the reason that we are here.

The last two years have presented us with an unprecedented opportunity to pray and think through who we are as a church, prayerfully deciding the next steps we take for the church and community now and for the coming years, seeking to be in harmony with God's Kingdom as we move into the future.

My prayer is that as we reflect on our impact over the past two years, and look to the impact we hope to have in the future, we make this journey together as we are rooted in Christ, through our gathered worship; growing in faith, through our everyday discipleship; and fruitful in love, as we seek the well-being of our community.



WHAT'S THE STORY? FROM THE WARDENS

The last couple of years have been full of surprises and a tale of two halves. However, throughout, it has been a privilege to serve as wardens.

2019 was largely a “normal” year – if you can remember what that looked like! We had a full set of Easter and Christmas services, we welcomed Hannah as our new curate, we met at church for Morning Prayer twice a week and the Wednesday Midweek Communion service grew in numbers.

From January 2019, while the church was being refurbished, services were held in the hall and this continued until the Autumn. In the summer a group of about 25 people went to the New Wine conference, which was a great time of fellowship and spiritual growth.

The start of 2020 was similar but, as we all know things changed dramatically in March. Services in person were unable to continue due to Covid but each week Kevin and Hannah have produced an amazing online Sunday service which still continues. Although in church activities were unable to continue we swapped these for cooking and delivering over 3,000 meals to local people who were in need of support. It was very encouraging to see different people getting in involved in this.

Over the summer holidays and at Christmas we provided, and delivered foodboxes to local families and then some learning resources to a local school. Zoom became the way forward with many homegroups and small groups continuing to meet in this way. Via Zoom we had after church coffee, ran two Bereavement Journey courses and also a Lent course.

We would like to thank Kevin and Fran, and Hannah for the way in which they have enabled the community at the Good Shepherd to stay connected throughout this time and to all those members of the congregation who have kept in touch by phone, text, email, letters and a knock on the door – you are truly amazing! Thanks also go to Janet and David Hill, and Mark and Linda Taylor who have kept an eye on the church premises throughout this time.

As Sue steps down after six years we continue to pray for Helen and her new fellow church warden and look forward to seeing all that God has in store for the church as we move forward into the next year.



HOW ARE WE ROOTED, GROWING AND FRUITFUL?

Rooted in Christ: Gathered Worship

The first 9 months of 2019 were spent **worshipping in the hall**, bringing a new sense of intimacy to our worship and the conversations over coffee that followed. Throughout 2019 our gathered worship was conducted through the **Sunday 8am** and **9.30am** services, **Wednesday Communion**, **evening services**, **Messy Church** and **Tiny Tots**, alongside special events such as the Good Friday **Walk of Witness**, **youth confirmations** in church and the cathedral, and our **Christmas services**.

From March 2020 we were unable to gather in-person, so we rapidly embraced technology and watched **pre-recorded services** on YouTube from the comfort of our homes, and used **Zoom** for Wednesday services, small groups, and PCC meetings. Our music team began making **homegrown recordings** of some of our favourite songs and hymns, and many of us joined in the popular photo montages in the services. In recognition that our phased return to gathered worship wasn't catering for families, we started **Families@4** in October, a COVID-safe way of meeting together in family bubbles for worship, communion and creative responses.

Growing in Faith: Everyday Discipleship

Encouraging each other to grow and develop faith beyond our gathered worship is so important, and we have done this through various courses, small groups and other activities. In 2019 we hosted the **Bible Course**, followed in 2021 with **How to Read the Bible**, done on Zoom. At the beginning of 2020 we ran **Alpha**, which was curtailed by lockdown but has become **new small group** led by Hannah to add to the 50+ people across Trinity, Bethany, Bethel, Eden, LOAF, Man Alive, Saga and Willmoor. Some of these groups have been better attended since going on Zoom, which presents opportunities for the future.

In 2019 a group of nearly 30 attended **New Wine** for a week of worship, teaching and hanging out together in tents; Paul and Sue completed the **Bishop's Certificate**, and a group went to St Paul's Cathedral for an evening with Paula Goode, and attended the Spirituality Day. We took part in **Thy Kingdom Come**, gathered in 2019 and virtually in 2020.

Fruitful in Love: Community Well-being

Outreach is an essential part of our faith, as we seek the well-being of our community practically, emotionally and spiritually. Throughout **2019** we continued with our usual regular activities - from **Wednesday Club** to **Good Shepherd Runners**, **Coffee & Craft** to the **Charity Fairs** - and we started new ones, including **Community Suppa**, **Game On**, **Holy Roast** became a regular monthly feast, and we were part of the **Winter Churches Night-shelter Project**.

During **2020** as the pandemic hit we were able to serve the needs of our local community and beyond as **Community Suppa** through Robbie Kurz and a great team became cooked meals for 50 on a daily basis through April, May and June, becoming the **Summer Holiday Foodbox Project** in August and **Christmas Hampers** in December. Alongside this we were **making masks and scrubs**, starting and **joining street WhatsApp groups**, and **volunteering** with the FoodBank and new Foodshop. Two other new initiatives in 2020 were **Parish Nursing**, as Nikki starting exactly at the right time, as the pandemic hit, and we began running the **Bereavement Journey**. Throughout the year we have continued with fund-raising for charity, creative ways of **virtual Fairs stalls**, and the **Marathon of Hope**, the **Virtual Auction of Promises**, **photographs**, **masks** and many other ways.



THE STORY OF THE YEAR - 2019



Messy Church | Coffee and Craft | Tiny Tots | Shepherd Singers | Afternoon Teas | Small Groups | 8am | 9.30am | Junior Church | Pathfinders | Youth | Baptisms | Funerals | Pastoral Care
Holy Roast | Community Suppa in various guises

January 2019: Worship moved to the hall | Essential Repairs Refurbishment Project begins

February 2019: Eight confirmations by Zimbabwe Bishop | LENT: Bible Course

March 2019: The great great good shepherd dog walk | Lent Lunches Appeal

April 2019: Passover seder meal | Good Friday walk of witness

May 2019: Gordon family moved in | Thy Kingdom Come | Pentecost Churches Together

June 2019: Jemima and Eleanor confirmation in Cathedral | Summer Fair | Hannah's ordination and beginning of curacy | Launch of Rooted, Growing, Fruitful

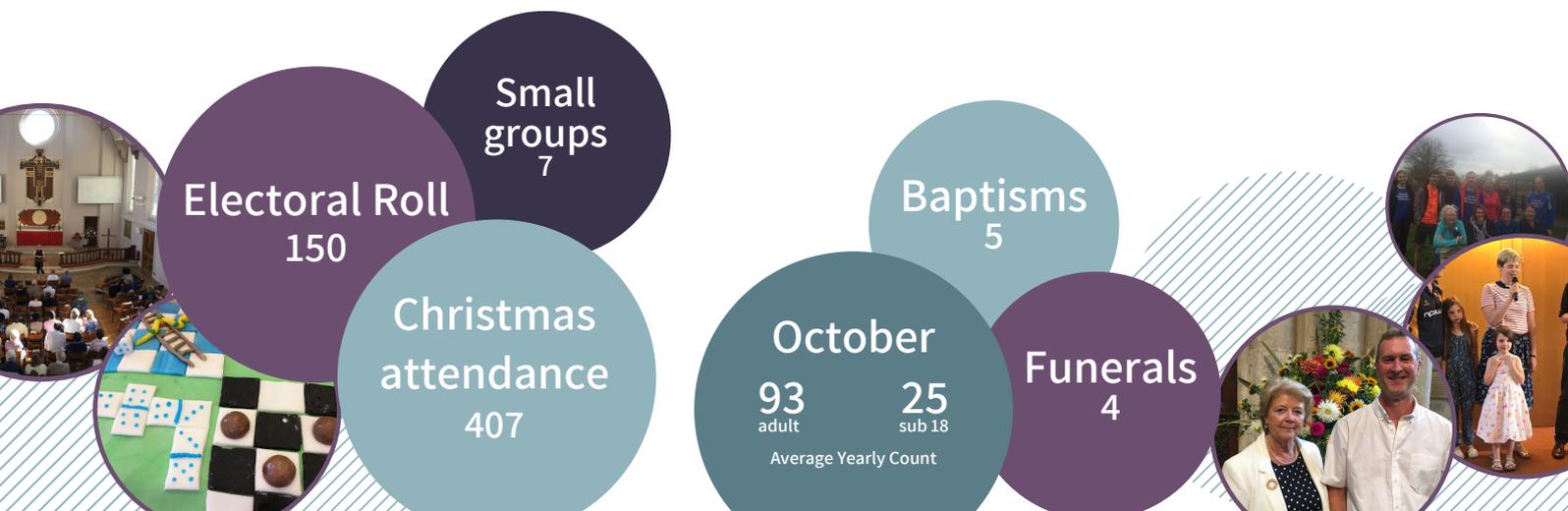
July 2019: BBQ |

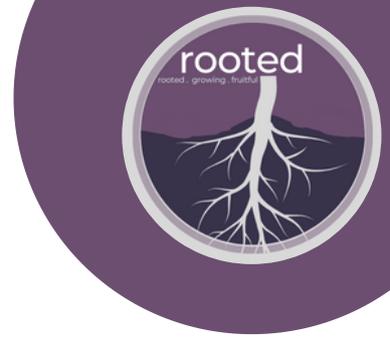
August 2019: New Wine in Peterborough with the wind turbine | The Final Soul Survivor | Summer in the fields - prayer gathering

September 2019: The Forge | Return to worship in the church | **Game on begins** | Paul Moore & Sue Shale graduate Bishops Certificate | 'Beating the Bounds' prayer walk | Croydon Area Lay Conference with Paula Gooder

October 2019: Holy Roast harvest lunch | Memorial Service

December 2019: Christmas fair | Christmas services





2019

THE STORY OF THE YEAR *Rooted in Christ*

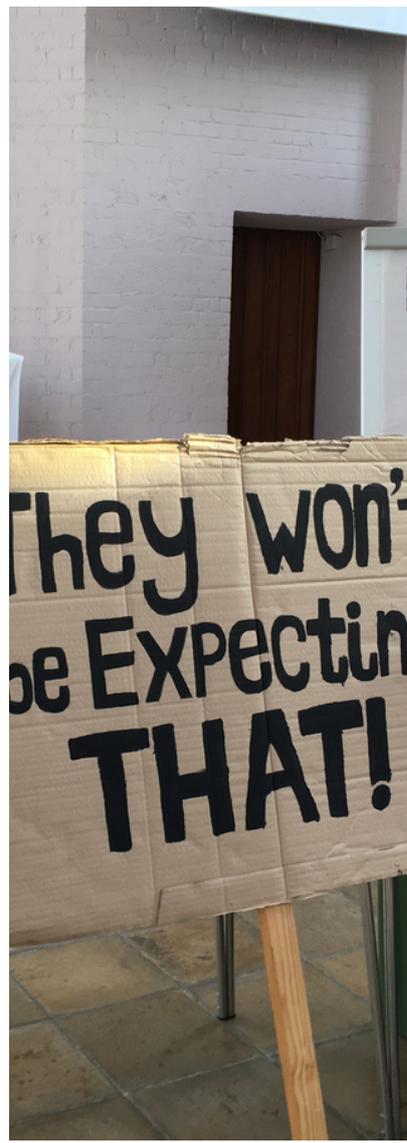




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THE STORY OF THE YEAR

Growing in Faith





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THE STORY OF THE YEAR

Fruitful in love



THE STORY OF THE YEAR - 2020



Messy Church | Coffee and Craft | Tiny Tots | Shepherd Singers |
8am | 9.30am | Junior Church | Pathfinders | Youth | Holy Roast | Game On

January 2020: Alpha | Winter Shelter

February 2020: Peter Brunton's Morris dancing funeral | Leith Hill Families Muddy Walk
LENT Course: How to Read the Bible Course

March 2020: Sutton Schools Work Quiz | Lockdown begins | Church online begins |
Gnome a day Garden View

April 2020: First Zoom Wednesday communion | Community Suppa Food Project begins |
Shine Jesus Shine first recorded song | What's App groups build connections | Easter
Gardens | People helping others with shopping

May 2020: Clive & Mary's Diamond wedding gnome celebration |
Thy Kingdom Come virtual | Michaela's doorstep photos | Masks and scrubs Making |
Labyrinth Prayer

June 2020: 75th Golden Jubilee Celebrations | Take the knee Response | Virtual
Summer Fair Fundraiser

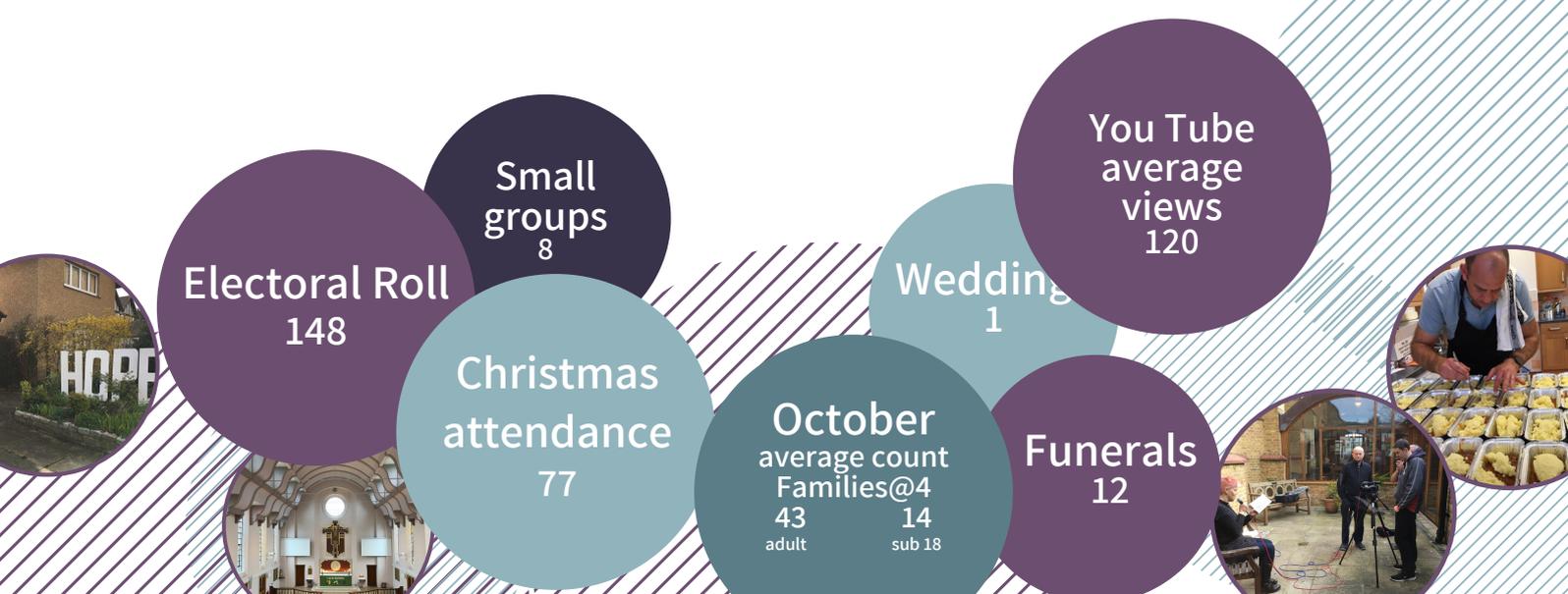
July 2020: Church open for private prayer | Summer holiday FoodBox Project
Nikki starts in Parish Nursing role | Everyone's walking

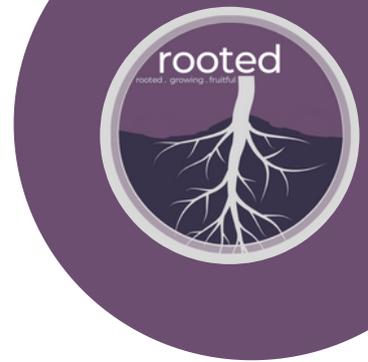
September 2020: Reframed services

October 2020: Reframed Harvest | Families@4 begins | Hannah's Priesting ordination

November 2020: Hope Remembered Memorial Service | Bereavement Journey

December 2020: Marathon of Hope | Doorstep Nativity | Candles of Hope
Reframed Christmas services | Virtual Auction of Promises | Christmas Food Hampers





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Growing in Faith





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