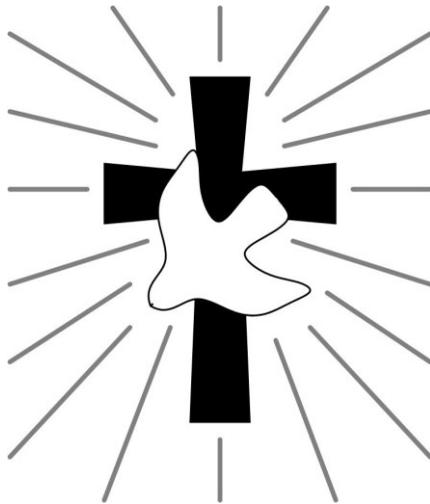


# **Winchmore Hill Baptist Church**



*Together in Christ  
for the World*

# **Annual Report 2016**

## **Introduction**

The Annual Report has been prepared by the trustees to give an account of the Church's activities during 2016 to the membership. It also fulfils the Church's legal requirement to submit an Annual Report to the Charity Commission. The report is divided into two parts:

**Part 1** describes how the Church is organised and financed and gives details of the activities that are normally undertaken by the Church in fulfilling its charitable objective. This part is quite formal as much of the information is legally required to be included in the report.

**Part 2** describes the activities and events that have taken place during 2016 and is much less formal. It aims to give a picture of the life of the Church and contributions have been included from a large number of people.

## **Winchmore Hill Baptist Church**

Compton Road, Winchmore Hill, London N21 3PA

[www.winchmorehillbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.winchmorehillbaptistchurch.org.uk)

Registered charity number: 1134122

**Trustees:**

Andy Potter	Minister
Andrew Forster	Secretary
Ian Blunn	Treasurer
Merdelyn Banton	Deacon
Paul Burt	Deacon
Tim Gillard	Deacon
Carolyn Greenaway	Deacon
Sonia Gumbs	Deacon
Veronica Henly	Deacon
John Melbourne	Deacon

**Custodian Trustee:**

London Baptist Property Board Ltd

The Trust Company holds the deeds of the following properties:

- Winchmore Hill Baptist Church, Compton Road, London N21 3PA
- 29 Orpington Road, London N21 3PD

No property valuation has been undertaken on either property in recent years and the values shown in the accounts are the insured values.

**Advisors:**

- HSBC Bank PLC, PO Box 131, 1 The Town, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 6LD
- CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

# **PART 1**

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The charity is an unincorporated association governed by an Approved Governing Document (known as the “Constitution”) which was adopted on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2009. The rules for the election of trustees and appointment of members are given in the Constitution.

The trustees are the minister, secretary, treasurer and a number of deacons. All of these are appointed by the Church Members’ Meeting. The minister is a permanent employee of the Church. The remaining trustees are elected from amongst the membership and receive no remuneration.

The trustees meet monthly and are responsible for the day to day running of the Church’s work and witness and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church Members’ Meeting for guidance, or may be raised by members for further consideration by the trustees.

The Church Members’ Meeting has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. There were 5 meetings in 2016, including the Annual General Meeting. All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective. New members are enrolled by agreement of the Church Meeting, normally after baptism by immersion upon personal profession of faith, though members may be accepted based on their own public profession of faith.

The job of managing the Church’s finances is carried out by the Finance Committee (led by the Treasurer), whose responsibilities include paying the Church’s bills and salaries, keeping financial records and preparing the accounts. A team of cashiers counts and records the money received from weekly offerings and pays it into the bank.

## **Appointment of Trustees**

At the Annual General Meeting on 18th March 2016 Paul Burt, Sonia Gumbs and Carolyn Greenaway were re-elected as deacons for terms of three years. There were no new trustees appointed and no trustees stepped down during the year.

## **Objectives and Activities**

*The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.*

In fulfilling this purpose the Church aims to engage in activities including:

- Regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching
- Baptism, as defined in the Baptist Union's declaration of principle
- The Communion of the Lord's Supper
- Evangelism and mission, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally
- The teaching, inclusion, welcome and encouragement of young people
- Nurture and growth of Christian disciples
- Education and training for Christian and community service
- Giving and encouraging pastoral care
- Supporting and encouraging charitable social action in the United Kingdom and abroad.
- Encouraging relationships with and supporting Baptists and other Christians.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular services of Christian worship. These services take place each Sunday at 10.30am and occasionally at other times. All

services are open to the public and the times are advertised on the Church's notice board and on the internet. Members of the congregation are encouraged to invite their friends and relatives. Additional publicity is distributed for our special services at Christmas and Easter. There is no charge to attend any worship service.

Activities for adults include mid-week Fellowship Groups for Bible study and prayer. For senior citizens there is a monthly social gathering known as "Thursday Afternoon Club" which includes a short Christian devotional.

There are separate activities for children and teenagers during the morning service and the Church has a close relationship with the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade and provides free use of the premises for their activities as well as hosting a number of joint events.

The minister, who is a paid employee of the Church, is responsible for leading and co-ordinating the Church's activities including the Sunday services, providing pastoral care for the congregation and other people, and equipping and encouraging the membership in their life, Christian witness and service.

All of the remaining work necessary for the operation of the Church is carried out by volunteers, including organisation of and participation in activities, cleaning, preparation and maintenance of the premises, administration, pastoral visits and prayer. A list of all those who carry out this work is given in the document 'Positions of Responsibility'. Many of those who organise activities have written their own account of them and these have been compiled together in part 2 of this report.

The Church provides financial and prayer support to organisations working for the advancement of the Christian faith in the United Kingdom and abroad. These include members of the Church who

are working as missionaries in the Far East and South Africa. The Church is a member of *the Baptist Union of Great Britain* and the *London Baptist Association* and supports other Baptist churches through contributions to the Home Mission fund. The Church also supports local education charities *N:flame* and *Pathway* and is a member of *Churches Together in Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill*, through which it participates in activities with other churches in the area.

## **Public Benefit**

The trustees are aware of the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission and we believe that the activities of the Church which are described above provide significant public benefit in line with that guidance. It has always been the desire of the Church to reach as many people as possible in our community with the Christian message and to welcome new faces into our fellowship.

## **Financial Review**

The Church has a reserves policy agreed by the trustees and the Church Members' Meeting - the latest version was approved in November 2012. The charity holds little in the way of designated reserves as surplus funds are kept in the General (unrestricted) Fund. The intention is to retain a minimum balance in the General Fund equivalent to about nine months expenditure.

In 2016 there was a small increase in both regular and special donations to the General Fund which more than offset a decrease in loose offerings. The level of donations has been stable for the last two years. There was a 24% increase in the income from premises. The amount reclaimed from Gift Aid and GASDS was stable. Income from Trust Funds more than doubled due to an exceptional transaction. This is likely to adversely affect the returns in future

years. There was a small decrease in interest income. Overall General Fund income increased by 5%. Overall expenditure from the General Fund was again broadly unchanged.

This year it was not necessary to pay for building works from the General Fund.

Nearly all the payments related to the large insurance claim at the end of 2014 were paid in 2015. This therefore did not materially affect the 2016 figures. Largely due to the increased income there was a surplus of just over £3,000 for the General Fund. As noted below we anticipate future demands on the General Fund reserves and unless additional income can be identified, will necessitate a re-appraisal of our spending priorities. We intend to manage expenditure from the General Fund such that the balance remains comfortably above the minimum level specified in the Reserves Policy.

The Building Fund benefited from some very generous donations as well as the proceeds of the Thank-offering. Significant repairs to the church façade were undertaken at the end of the year and will lead to this fund going into deficit at the beginning of 2017. It is therefore likely that in 2017 building works will have to be at least partially funded from reserves. The Repairs and Renewals Fund had a zero balance throughout the year in line with our policy of funding all building work from the Building Fund.

The Youth Fund and Fellowship Fund continue to be adequately financed.

The majority of the church's income comes from donations which are given directly by the membership and the congregation. Gift Aid is reclaimed on these where possible and GASDS is claimed on most of the small cash donations. Total donations in 2016 were £49,200, which was approximately £600 more than in 2015. Regular offerings and Gift Aid reclaimed remained constant compared to

2015. Additional income is received from hiring out parts of the building when they are not in use. This income totalled £10,800 which was an increase of about £2,100 compared to 2015.

The majority of the church's expenditure goes on the employment of the minister and the support for mission both locally and overseas. Expenditure on employing our minister including pension and NI costs was £34,900. In addition he enjoys rent free accommodation in the church manse. We spent £18,300 supporting overseas mission and £900 supporting local outreach. We contributed £1,600 to other organisations by way of subscriptions and/or donations.

Concerns for the trustees remain the prospect of large expenditure on the buildings and the limited scope for significantly increasing income. The congregation continues to decline numerically. However there is encouragement that the level of donations remains healthy and the income from letting the premises is bouyant. Notwithstanding the concerns, the level of the General Fund reserves remains currently healthy. Our budget for 2017 again shows a small deficit. We are hopeful that in the coming years we shall be able to meet the challenges outlined.

## PART 2

### **Secretary's Report** *Andrew Forster*

This will be my last Secretary's report as I will be stepping down from the role at the AGM after 7 years. I will be taking on the role of 'Administrator', keeping a number of the secretary's jobs – particularly those that I can still do by tapping away on the laptop while minding the baby! At the time of writing it appears that no replacement secretary will be appointed at the AGM – while many people will find this unsettling, it is not expected to cause any significant disruption as the deacons have been able to produce a plan to divide up the important jobs between me and them so that the show will carry on without a secretary. Many churches are now finding that it is not possible to recruit a secretary and are managing without one. Some are finding ways to adapt to these modern circumstances by streamlining processes, eliminating administrative tasks that are of limited value and making the best use of modern technology to save time (if anyone develops a 'Church Secretary App' for Android, it will be an instant success). I think we are doing really well in this area, and I hope that we can continue to make changes so that our limited time and resources can be spent in outreach, ministry and fellowship and where possible the organisation and administration can take care of itself.

In this report, one of my main objectives is to record the events and activities that have taken place during the year that have not been covered by other reports.

The majority of Sunday services during the year have been led by our minister Andy Potter. When he has been away or has needed a break, we have often called on members of our congregation to take up the mantle, in particular Martin Wells, Tim Gillard and John Burridge. Our missionaries Peter and Janet Dallman and Betty Caplin have all been on home assignment at some point during the

year and it has been good to hear from them on a number of occasions. We have also been blessed by members of other nearby churches leading our services – Seth Delong from Edmonton Baptist, Malcolm Drummond from Palmers Green Baptist, Bob Alloway from Church on the Farm in Tottenham (and formerly minister of Eldon Road Baptist) and Phil Barnard from the London Baptist Association. With Andy leaving us soon, we will be seeing a greater range of guest speakers in the coming months – while the lack of continuity and familiarity from having a different speaker every week can be unsettling, I hope it will be an opportunity to experience the variety of ways that God speaks through different people.

This year we have switched to a new format for Church Meetings, with only four meetings plus the AGM, and each meeting having a particular theme, mixed in with worship and prayer and greater participation from different people. The results so far seem to be positive, with higher attendance at some of the meetings, and the feeling that each one is really achieving something – the deacons would welcome feedback on how the format could be improved further.

On Easter Sunday, for the first time a Sunrise Service was held at 6.30am on Winchmore Hill Green. Those who attended found it to be a moving experience, and there is a plan to repeat it this year.

In the nine days leading up to Pentecost, inspired by a call by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, we studied the booklet 'Conversations at the Crossroads', containing daily readings and inspiration and beautiful artwork depicting images from the passages. Meetings were held every day at different times, allowing members of the congregation to study this together and gain inspiration from each other.

The Church Anniversary was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Our guest speaker was Dr Ruth Goldbourne, minister of Bloomsbury Central Baptist

Church and an expert in Baptist history. As always, the service was followed by a bring-and-share lunch.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> July, on a sunny Sunday afternoon, we held a barbeque and an afternoon of games and activities at Felden Lodge. There was a mixture of Brigade families and members of the congregation, giving a good opportunity for the groups to meet and interact and have fun together.

Suki Khan was brought for dedication at the morning service on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. A large number of family and their friends swelled the congregation.

At Christmas, the Toy Service (publicised as the 'Family Carol Service') and the Christmas Day service were very well attended with a number of visitors. Once again the Highfield School Choir sang carols at the Toy Service and the children enthusiastically participated in the nativity play.

Finally, I would like to thank Derek and Serena Amoako for their regular work editing and publishing Spotlight. I was concerned to hear that they are both going to be in New York for a year, and wondered how we would manage Spotlight without them – however they have reassured me that as the editing and transmission are done electronically, it is no more difficult doing it in New York as in Winchmore Hill. I am grateful for their commitment and wish them well on their new adventure.

## **Membership** *Andrew Forster*

In December, we were saddened by the death of Joy Shriever, who had been involved in so much of Church life over a great many years. Joy had been ill for some time, and while we grieve that she is no longer with us, we take comfort knowing that she is with Jesus, and no longer in pain and suffering. A service of thanksgiving for her life was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January and the Church was completely full to capacity with those who came to remember her.

Also in December, we heard the sad news that Michael Parmiter had passed away a number of months previously, though little is known about the circumstances of his death.

In September, Matthew Burrige requested to transfer his membership to Southcourt Baptist Church in Aylesbury where he had been attending since moving there at the beginning of the year. While it is always sad to lose a member, we can feel happy that a young man who came to faith in our Church is now continuing to live out that faith in a another community and contributing to the fellowship of believers in another Church.

No members were added to the roll during 2016, so the membership number decreased from 62 to 59. However several new people have started coming to the Church regularly and there are a number of people who are well established in the congregation but have not yet decided to seek membership.

2016 may not have been a year of numerical increase, but I think it has been a year where seeds have been planted and new opportunities have begun. As the reports on the coming pages show, our Church has a lot going on and a lot of energy. As we prayerfully consider the directions that God is leading us in the coming months, I have great hope that those seeds will germinate and that our work and witness will yield fruit for the glory of God in Winchmore Hill and beyond.

## **Sunday Club** *Carin Blunn*

Sunday Club has continued to introduce the Christian Faith to the children who come to church on a Sunday morning who range in age from early childhood until the start secondary school. It is sometimes takes a bit of ingenuity to meet the needs of such a wide age group. We do this by telling Bible stories and showing how these are relevant to the children's lives. This is usually followed by a craft or other activity to reinforce the theme. After this the children often have time to build up friendships with each other and the adults while they play with various toys and games. The children all get on very well and enjoy playing together.

We are extremely grateful to Sonia, Sarah, Tina and Debbie who help us when we have a larger group. This year has seen a change in the leaders of the group. After many years, Carolyn Greenaway decided it was time to take a break from leading Sunday Club stopping in the summer. At the end of December, Rachel Forster has also decided to step down from leading Sunday Club. Our thanks go to both Carolyn and Rachel for what they've done in Sunday Club over many years. We are very pleased that Sarah and Sonia now lead Sunday Club with me.

## **Boys' Brigade** *Chris Norman*

Well we have had a really positive year, with lots going on across all age groups.

Before the last AGM, the Juniors got involved in Sport Relief rowing the distance across the English Channel to raise money for Comic Relief and the Church Building Fund. We are pleased to have raised nearly £500 from the sponsored event which was shared between the two charities.

In the lead, up to the summer break our annual programme of 'summer' activities went into full swing, with a range of different activities on offer across the age groups with boys enjoying activities including games in the park, a water based assault course, kayaking, raft building and Quasar.

Just before the end of the session some of our Juniors went along to the Enfield Battalion Junior Section Weekend Camp held at Felden Lodge. During the weekend the boys stayed in tents and did a range of activities including archery, zip wire, rifle shooting, climbing and lots more.

The new session started well in September with all age groups starting up again. Numbers in the Anchors and Juniors age groups continue to grow and across all age groups we have a total of 39 boys in the Company. The Company Section now also meets on a Thursday night following on from Anchors and Juniors which helps with the retention of young people going through the Company. Currently the Seniors programme continues on a Monday with a small number of boys attending on a weekly basis.

During the session, we have run some very successful theme nights, the first being based on the 'Olympics' and the second being based on ITV's popular "I'm a Celebrity" show. These were also 'Bring a Friend nights' where we encourage existing members to bring a

friend along, and we are pleased to have seen a number of new faces on these nights which has helped in seeing all age groups grow.

During the lead up to Christmas boys, leaders and other supporters helped to raise just over £3500 through our Trailer Collection. This year we were collecting money for MacMillan Cancer Support and also towards the work of the Company and we are very grateful to all those that supported us.

The Anchors and Juniors age groups meet on a Thursday evening and continue to run a programme including games, crafts, devotions and other interests. Enfield Battalion events during the session have included the colouring competition, Football Academy, Hare & Hounds race, Pirates Fun Day and trips to Legoland and Colchester Zoo to mention some of the things the boys have enjoyed.

In February, the Company hosted the Battalion Pirates Adventure Afternoon at the church when more than 70 children and their leaders took part in a great afternoon of activities including crafts, games, team challenges and a fancy-dress competition – the church and premises were suitably decorated for the occasion.

The Anchors age group is run by Philip Norman and he is assisted by Kevin Norman, there are currently 14 boys in this age group. The Juniors age group is run by Chris Norman and he is assisted by Oliver Richardson, David Hann and Philip Norman, there are currently 16 boys in this age group.

In March, Company Section members had the opportunity to attend the Battalion Weekend Away at Felden Lodge, enjoying a wide range of activities including Top Golf and sledging at The Snow Centre.

There are currently 5 boys in the Company Section age group, and this age group is led by David Hann with Chris Norman, Philip

Norman and Oliver Richardson assisting. The Seniors age group which currently has up to 4 members attending is led by Chris Norman and David Hann with Andrew Blunn and Philip Norman also working with these age groups.

We have much to look forward to in the next couple of months with our usual range of activities coming up in the summer months. This includes the special Juniors 100 Summer Camp and Fun Day, being held this year as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the Juniors age group.

We would like to put out a special request for those that might be willing to offer some time to help with a specific activity. This could be leading a devotional time, or sharing a skill or hobby with the boys.

Finally, we would like to say a special word of thanks to all those that support the boys and leaders throughout the year. We thank you for your time, thoughts and prayer in all that we do.

## **World Mission Committee** *Barbara Richardson*

The missions committee consists of Rachel Forster, Charlotte Khan, Jenny Lane, Raymond Ong, Andy Potter (Minister), Barbara Richardson (Secretary) and Ian Blunn or Carolyn Greenaway (Finance).

During the year the committee met 3 times for prayer, discussion and planning of events.

It was with great joy that we welcomed Betty Caplin for her home furlough from mid June through to early August. She enjoyed time with family and friends around the country, but most of the time she spent locally in Enfield. This meant she was able to visit different groups at WHBC and at the Enfield Evangelical Free Church.

At around the same time as Betty's return, Pete and Janet Dallman also returned to the UK from Japan and it has been good to have them with us to have a firsthand update of their work. Pete and Janet have been based at Bexleyheath close to Janet's mother and one of their supporting churches, Trinity Baptist Church. They have been undertaking deputation work, speaking at various locations throughout the UK and at the same time Janet has been continuing with her studies in MA in Member Care. When Pete and Janet return to Japan, they will pick up their roles as Training & Development Coordinator (Pete) and Pastoral & Spiritual Care Coordinator (Janet), however Janet has also been asked to take on the role of Field Candidate Coordinator which involves meeting potential missionaries, processing applications and visas etc. This new position means a change in location and they will be based in Tokyo, after 16 years in Sapporo. At the time of writing this report Pete and Janet expect to have their valediction service at St Thomas's Oakwood on June 18th, with the view to return to Japan early in August.

Over the past year we have continued to pray for Helen Foster in her language learning and cultural adjustment. She has made progress with this and with cultural adjustment and also been able to make enquiries for her future work as a water engineer.

Throughout the year, Andy introduced two couples who work in Albania and one couple who worked in Italy, with Baptist Missionary Society. Huw and Alex Anderson with their two children worked in Italy and during the year returned to the UK for further studies. Annie and Dan Dupree with their children, Charis, Isaac and Amaya, work in Tirana, Albania where they have lived since August 2014. Dan is working with the Albanian Baptist Union helping to build community with marginalised groups and those on the fringe of the church. More recently they have started an NGO 'Tek Ura', simply meaning 'at the bridge'. It exists to provide a bridge for spiritual and social transformation. 'Bridging the gap between Baptist Union of Albania and host communities, a bridge for people on the margins, and for different groups who have the power to help'. Mat and Suzanne Gregory with their children Seth and Esther, relocated to Albania in January 2014. They work alongside the local church supporting development projects. Both Mat and Suzanne and the Dupree's work closely together in the Tek Ura NGO and have had many opportunities to reach out to those in need.

Throughout the year there were several outreach events. In June the church held a morning tea for the Queen's birthday celebrations, held in Clifford Wood room and at the front of the church, where we were able to invite people for refreshments and conversation, seeking to be a blessing to local residents and business people. In October during the half term we held a two day kids club along the theme of 'Champions Challenge' which the children fully engaged and had a lot of fun and activity as well as hearing Bible stories. Those involved in the Club were Charlotte, Rachel, Sonia, Keith and Barb. Most of the children who attended were friends of church members.

Earlier in May, an initiative was taken to start English classes by Rachel Forster and Keith Richardson as a means of outreach to some of the many new immigrants to Winchmore Hill but also as a means of building friendships and sharing the love of Christ. On average 6-8 students of different nationalities have regularly attended the classes. Those helping with the teaching are: Sonia Gumbs, Martin Wells, Terry McGee, Coral Burridge and Edward Liang (who has now moved to Germany with his family). At the time of writing Jean Daniels and Ray Ong hope to also help on a regular basis.

As in previous years we welcomed Malcolm Drummond back to speak on the work of Operation Agri and this year we raised £1,440.00 for the work of that organisation in rural communities in Nicaragua ('Health and Hope'), water projects in Nepal and ('Hope for the Future') projects in Uganda.

This year donations to the Home Mission Fund relating to the Christmas Post Box came to £213.00.

The Missions Committee give thanks to God for His enabling and help in support of world mission and local outreach during the last year.

## **Prayer Chain** *Jenny Lane*

*'Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.'*

Philippians 4:6.

There are 9 members of the prayer chain, linked by phone or by email, and we have been privileged to share in the prayer needs of many people during the past year, either members of the Church and congregation or their friends and family. We have rejoiced in many answers to prayer, both great and small, and give thanks and praise to our loving heavenly Father who hears and answers our prayers 'above all that we can ask or imagine.' As song no 97 in Songs of Fellowship encourages us we place into our heavenly Father's hands 'the things I cannot do', 'the things that I've been through', 'the things that trouble me', 'my friends and family' knowing that he longs to hear and answer our prayers and give good gifts to his children.

The Church Motto for 2016 has been especially appropriate for the prayer chain as we seek to 'Rejoice always. Pray continuously... Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.' 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

We shall be happy to welcome anyone who feels they would like to be part of this vital ministry in the Church. As Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote, 'More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.'

## **Flowers** *Binnie Weston*

From my point of view, 2016 was somewhat different as regards my responsibility for church flowers, as I was indisposed for the whole of the second half of the year. On my sudden disappearance from the scene, Sonia Gumbs took over all the responsibilities without any warning, organising the Rota and making sure that flowers were placed every week – which mostly involved doing them herself – and also taking apart and distributing them to folk afterwards.

I am so very grateful to Sonia, not only for doing all that, but also for her offer to continue to help however she could after I picked up the job again at the beginning of this year, which I have accepted in allowing her to give me much-valued breaks by doing some extra arrangements.

And so, Services continued to be enriched by weekly flower displays throughout the year, thanks both to Sonia and also to those people who faithfully provided the means by sponsoring dates. This does bring me to the fact that the Flowers Fund, which provides the flowers on unbooked dates, reached an all-time low at the end of 2016, which necessitated an article in Spotlight telling people that without sufficient funding through sponsored dates in the coming year (2017), we might be in the unprecedented situation of not having flowers on some weeks.

I'm glad to say that up to the present there has been a good response and I of course hope that folk will keep on providing for the Flowers Ministry. It will make all the difference for 2017 if a few new people can provide the flowers on one Sunday during the year. If that is you, you'll find the Rota on the right side of the main doors as you leave the church. An arrangement costs about £15.

As always, the flowers are given after the Services to many different folk – to express love and concern where there is a special need, or just to extend love in God's name to everyone.

## **Maintenance** *Tim Gillard, Philip Norman, John Burridge*

As ever, the Maintenance Committee (Philip Norman, Tim Gillard and John Burridge) and many others who contribute to repairs and upkeep of our buildings, have been busy over the last year.

Activities included:

- Finishing the improvements to the Clifford Wood Room – many thanks to all of those involved and to the Normans in particular for the volume of work undertaken.
- Various repairs to the Carey Hall toilets to address leaks and blockages
- Repairs to the flooring in Carey Hall where large numbers of the wooden tiles started lifting. Subsequently, the floor has been deep cleaned, polished and buffed on two occasions.
- Clearance of ant infestation and repairs to leaking waste pipes in Carey Hall kitchen
- Replacement of spotlight bulbs in the main Church (scary!)
- Restoration of power to the electrical sockets in the new meeting room (old Minister's office) and to the Minister's office (old Youth office) and the addition of a heater to the Meeting room
- Fire safety inspections and replacement of out-dated fire extinguishers
- Spot repairs to pews, touching up paint, improvements to the audio-visual set up, clearing drains, spring clean in the organ loft, clearing leaves, cutting back trees, replacing broken windows, health and safety/insurance

audit, liaison with our neighbours and many, many other activities...

In addition, thanks to all of those who contributed to the annual church work day where we completed various cleaning jobs around the building as well as maintaining the heaters in Carey Hall, painting the radiators in the Carey Hall toilets, adding new flooring to the toilet in the Clifford Wood room, adding wooden liners to the wall in the Carey Hall chair room (to prevent damage to the walls where we store our tables), improving the curtain track in the Elsie Silsby room, high level window and ledge cleaning in Carey Hall and touching up the paint work in a number of locations.

Finally, as everyone will have noticed, we erected scaffolding at the front of the Church in October to make repairs to the brickwork, stone work and roof. This work had become urgent as small sections of brick and cement had started falling to the pavement. Over the following eight to ten weeks we removed and replaced over 500 bricks, repointed, replaced the roofing felt on the BB loft roof and three box gutters, made the two gables and one chimney safe by re-rendering, repaired and secured various pieces of masonry and replaced a number of broken an/or displaced roof tiles. We removed a huge amount of moss and other plant growth and one small tree (!) from the brickwork and the whole of the front of the Church was pressure cleaned. We hope you agree this work has improved the look of the Church as well as making it safe for another few decades...

Phew!

Of course, maintenance activity does not come cheap and as you can see from the (partial!) list above, we need to do a lot of maintenance in our Church. The front of Church works far exceeded their original estimate. Erecting scaffolding is a major part of the cost so, while it was in place, we used the opportunity to address issues we found that were not part of the original specification. As a result, the final bill was over £30,000. We also had unexpected costs during the year such as the repairs to the Carey Hall floor.

Special thanks are due to those who made contributions (many very generous!) to the building fund, but, as at the start of 2017 and after paying all of the bills for the front of Church works, that fund will be several thousand pounds in deficit so once again, we must renew our plea for people to continue making contributions whenever possible. Our annual target of £15,000 to be spent on buildings is ambitious and we will only meet it if individuals continue to give over and above their usual donations to the day to day running of our Church. If you can help us financially, please speak to the Treasurer and know that we are grateful for the funds that enable us to keep our buildings in good shape. In the coming year, we will need to replaster and replace all kitchen units in the Manse kitchen following the leak, a job that is estimated at £8,000 plus, in addition to many of the usual maintenance costs, so all contributions to this work will be gratefully received.

As usual, it is not possible to name everyone who has contributed to the maintenance and upkeep work – there are far too many – but, if you helped in whatever way, please know that you have our sincere thanks.... and of course, the work doesn't end! If you are able to help in any way, whether it be decorating, DIY or cleaning, please let us know as we often

have days down at the church to complete maintenance jobs and would be more than happy for any assistance you can give – please don't be reluctant to come forward. We have plenty of jobs that can be undertaken by individuals of all levels of skill and competence!

Thank you for your continued support & prayers.

## **Thursday Afternoon Club** *Andy Potter*

Although numbers have declined somewhat, Thursday Club retains its identity as a place of fellowship, fun, faith, mutual support and encouragement. The format remains the same – tea, cake, a short devotional, time to catch up with each other. Our membership is drawn from our own church, other local churches and from no church at all and although most of our members are rich in years and many struggle with increasing frailty, our meetings are full of laughter (and occasional tears) and it remains a privilege to spend time with this wonderful group of people.#

A particular highlight this year was our Christmas Special when Charlotte and Katie entertained us with songs and carols and we all enjoyed a veritable feast prepared by Sarah. Thank you to Sarah, Charlotte, Katie.

If you would like to join us, you would be most welcome, and if you have a friend or neighbour who you think would enjoy coming, please invite them. We can usually arrange lifts if these are required and I am grateful to all those who help with hospitality and with driving.

## **Churches Together in Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill (CTPGWH)** *Carin Blunn*

There have been many occasions during 2016 for churches in Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill to worship, work, have fellowship and witness together. These events were planned at the regular CTPGWH forum meetings to which Andy, as minister and I, as church representative, are able to attend. In addition to these meetings the ministers and clergy of the different churches attempt to meet together for lunch during the year. At Easter the Reverend Julia Wiktorska of Winchmore Hill Methodist Church succeeded Father Richard Bolton of Holy Trinity as chairperson.

The year started with the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity when there were opportunities for meeting for prayer in different churches. Following on from these meetings a group of us have been meeting once a fortnight to pray for the different churches and the needs of our area. We have experienced a great sense of unity and blessing as we have met together and friendships have developed and deepened.

Churches Together supported the Homeless Winter Night Shelter which St John's hosted on a Monday night where up to twelve homeless people were offered a hot meal, a bed for the night and breakfast the following morning. The shelter ran from the beginning of January until Easter. Volunteers to help at the shelter came from many of the local churches, including our own and from the local community.

The Churches Together Lent Meetings this year were held at Holy Trinity and consisted of talks given mainly by Church of England priests about their roles in the wider society and how their faith impacted on these roles. We had talks by a prison chaplain, an army chaplain, a hospital chaplain and a politician.

Many of us were able to take part in The March of Witness on Good Friday finishing with a short open air service at Winchmore Hill Methodist Church.

St Monica's again hosted a Good Friday meditation in the evening on the theme of "The wideness of God's Mercy" in which some of the local ministers, including Andy, gave short messages. We were also able to think and reflect more about the meaning of Good Friday through the music of the St Monica's Worship Band.

We met again for worship to celebrate Pentecost at Fox Lane URC. The service took a similar form to the Good Friday Meditation and was based on the Novena material which many of the churches had used up to Pentecost. It included short talks by local ministers and music by the St Monica's Worship Band.

Following the success of last year's pilgrimage or *camino*, Joanna from St Monica's organised a second one along the New River Path, thinking of the river of life and the Year of Mercy.

The Christians Against Poverty Money Course, which aims to help participants better manage their money, was run during the year at various times and meeting in different churches, including our own. Paul Burt has taken a lead in running these courses.

The Churches Together Advent Carol Service was held this year on the Saturday before the first Sunday of Advent at St Monica's and also included an opportunity to learn of the work of the Nightingale Hospice and to contribute to their Light up a Life appeal.

The year concluded with the Nativity Trail in mid December when different sections of the Christmas story were enacted in the churches along the route. Children were encouraged to dress up as biblical characters or animals.

## Winchmore Hill Baptist Church

### Accounts for the Year ended 31st December 2016

#### General Fund

	Note	2016	2015
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Loose Offerings		4,452.67	4,647.05
Regular Offerings		42,439.00	41,916.05
Special Donations		2,280.00	1,784.00
Captain Pierce Johns Trust		1,803.75	825.00
Income from premises		10,805.00	8,709.00
Special Collections		0.00	316.36
Gift Aid		9,143.00	9,203.26
GASDS		914.47	879.99
Interest	3	208.76	230.86
Miscellaneous Income	4	0.28	80.00
		<u>72,046.93</u>	<u>68,591.57</u>
<b>Payments:</b>			
Ministry	5	35,317.56	34,195.54
Mission	6	20,813.00	21,932.76
Upkeep of Premises	7	10,188.71	9,731.88
Organisation	8	2,153.34	2,332.32
Miscellaneous	9	289.36	7,745.21
Youth Fund		0.00	700.00
		<u>68,761.97</u>	<u>76,637.71</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		3,284.96	(8,046.14)
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<u>64,151.34</u>	<u>72,197.48</u>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>67,436.30</u>	<u>64,151.34</u>

#### Youth Fund

	Note	2016	2015
<b>Receipts:</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Winchmore Hill Girls' Brigade		1,499.02	0.00
General Fund		0.00	700.00
		<u>1,499.02</u>	<u>700.00</u>
<b>Payments:</b>			
10 <sup>th</sup> Enfield Girls' Association		1,499.02	540.00
Youth Activities/Equipment		505.00	
Youth Projects (Grants)	10	37.94	0.00
		<u>2,041.96</u>	<u>540.00</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		(542.94)	160.00
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<u>1,558.52</u>	<u>1,398.52</u>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>1,015.58</u>	<u>1,558.52</u>

**Fellowship Fund**

	Note	2016	2015
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Donations		0.00	70.00
Captain Pierce Johns Trust		601.25	275.00
Gift Aid		0.00	12.50
		<u>601.25</u>	<u>357.50</u>
<b>Payments:</b>			
Sundry Payments		320.00	280.00
		<u>320.00</u>	<u>280.00</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		281.25	77.50
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<u>1,455.56</u>	<u>1,378.06</u>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>1,736.81</u>	<u>1,455.56</u>

**Denning Trust**

	Note	2016	2015
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Baptist Union Corporation		0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Payments:</b>			
Payments		0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		0.00	0.00
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<u>468.37</u>	<u>468.37</u>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>468.37</u>	<u>468.37</u>

**Building Fund**

	Note	2016	2015
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Donations		8,962.00	10,310.00
Thank-offering		1,968.64	2,585.00
Gift Aid		1,401.25	2,252.50
GASDS		0.00	41.25
		<u>12,331.89</u>	<u>15,188.75</u>
<b>Payments:</b>			
Sundry Payments		26,987.81	6,182.49
		<u>26,987.81</u>	<u>6,182.49</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		(14,655.92)	9,006.26
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<u>16,435.66</u>	<u>7,429.40</u>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>1,779.74</u>	<u>16,435.66</u>

**Repairs Fund**

	Note	2016	2015
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Donations		0.00	0.00
Income tax recovered on gifts		0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Payments:</b>			
Repairs		0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		0.00	0.00
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

**Special Collections Account**

	Note	2016	2015
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Designated Loose Offerings			
Good Friday (Tearfund)		214.56	0.00
Thank-offering (Building Fund)		1,660.00	2,585.00

Harvest Offering (Operation Agri BMM)		1,440.00	1,578.00
Christmas Day			336.80
Tearfund		297.55	
Cliff Burr ridge Memorial Service		0.00	525.55
Christmas Post Box (Home Mission)		213.00	105.80
Gift Aid & GASDS			935.29
Building Fund	Gift Aid	282.50	
	GASDS	26.14	
Tearfund	Gift Aid	5.00	
	GASDS	98.98	
Operation Agri	Gift Aid	192.50	
BMM	GASDS	32.18	
Home Mission	Gift Aid	31.25	
	GASDS	13.68	
		<u>682.23</u>	
		<u>4,507.34</u>	<u>6,066.44</u>
<b>Payments:</b>			
Disbursements		2,708.64	2,918.09
Building Fund (Transfer)		1,968.64	3,008.75
General Fund (Transfer)		0.00	316.36
		<u>4,677.28</u>	<u>6,243.20</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		(169.94)	(176.76)
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<u>543.53</u>	<u>720.29</u>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>373.59</u>	<u>543.53</u>

## Legacies

	Note	2016	2015
<b>Receipts:</b>			
		0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		0.00	0.00
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>10,000.00</u>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	11	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>10,000.00</u>

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2016

<b>Assets:</b>	Note	2016	2015
Cash at Bank			
CAFBank Cash Account		4,812.30	6,705.27
CAFBank Gold account		27,932.15	40,719.05
HSBC			
Community Account		5,335.36	635.45
Investments			
London Baptist Property Board Deposit Account		32,826.85	32,682.17
Debtors	12	<u>12,033.73</u>	<u>14,001.04</u>
		<u>82,940.39</u>	<u>94,742.98</u>
REPRESENTING BALANCES ON THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS:			
Capital Accounts	13		
Mrs Silsby Memorial Fund		25.00	25.00
Mr F J Dupée Memorial Fund		25.00	25.00
War Memorial Bibles		80.00	80.00
General Fund		67,436.30	64,151.34
Youth Fund		1,015.58	1,558.52
Fellowship Fund		1,736.81	1,455.56
Denning Trust		468.37	468.37
Building Fund		1,779.74	16,435.66
Repairs Fund		0.00	0.00
Legacies		10,000.00	10,000.00
Special Collections		<u>373.59</u>	<u>543.53</u>
		<u>82,940.39</u>	<u>94,742.98</u>
Non-monetary assets held for the Church's own use	14	3,097,453	2,928,291

## Liabilities:

There are no current liabilities.

## Notes to the Accounts

### 1. Basis of accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 Charities Act 2011.

### 2. 2015 details:

Details for 2015 have been included for comparison and do not form part of the accounts.

### 3. Interest/Investment income:

	2016	2015
Interest received:		
Bank	64.08	67.30
LBPB Deposit Account	144.68	162.73
HMRC	0.00	0.08
3½% War Stock	0.00	0.75
	<u>208.76</u>	<u>230.86</u>

### 4. Miscellaneous income:

	2016	2015
Bank error	0.28	0.00
War stock redemption	0.00	80.00
	<u>0.28</u>	<u>80.00</u>

### 5. Ministry:

	2016	2015
<b>Pastor</b>		
Stipend ex General Income	25,058.25	25,432.00
Stipend ex Capt Pierce	1,803.75	825.00
Johns Trust		
Pension	7,226.88	6,774.00
Employer's NI	258.56	42.60
Allowances	107.53	211.34
Training & Conferences	173.00	187.15
Travel	307.04	381.83
	<u>34,935.01</u>	<u>33,853.92</u>
Miscellaneous	142.55	20.00
Pulpit Supplies	240.00	275.00
Sunday Club	0.00	46.62
	<u>35,317.56</u>	<u>34,195.54</u>

### 6. Mission:

	2016	2015
<b>World Mission</b>		
BMS World Mission	2,499.96	3,112.20
Home Mission	2,000.04	2,500.20
OMF International (UK)	13,784.00	13,464.00
	<u>18,284.00</u>	<u>19,076.40</u>
Pathway	900.00	900.00
Donations & Subscriptions	1,629.00	1,956.36
	<u>20,813.00</u>	<u>21,932.76</u>

### 7. Upkeep of Premises:

	2016	2015
Furniture & Equipment	128.96	238.14
Church Gas, Electricity, Water & Cleaning	3,670.06	4,022.25
Insurances, Council Tax & Manse Water	6,389.69	5,471.49
	<u>10,188.71</u>	<u>9,731.88</u>

### 8. Organisation:

	2016	2015
Administration	908.38	962.36
Catering	111.90	241.87
Music	126.00	126.00
Magazine	852.70	810.05
Publicity	154.36	192.04
	<u>2,153.34</u>	<u>2,332.32</u>

### 9. Miscellaneous Payments

	2016	2015
Burglary	150.00	7,615.21
War Stock redemption	0.00	80.00
Day Out	50.00	50.00
Holiday Club	32.97	0.00
Sundries	56.39	0.00
	<u>289.36</u>	<u>7,745.21</u>

### 10. Youth Projects (Grants):

	2016	2015
Equipment (J Petchey)	37.94	0.00
	<u>37.94</u>	<u>0.00</u>

### 11. Legacies:

There are no restrictions and the funds remain available for the Church to use at its discretion.

### 12. Debtors

	2016	2015
Gift Aid	11,055.50	11,758.26
GASDS	978.23	1,142.78
Capt Pierce Johns Trust	0.00	1,100.00
	<u>12,033.73</u>	<u>14,001.04</u>

### 13. Capital Accounts

The funds are maintained to commemorate some significant generosity in the Church's history.

Mrs Silsby was a generous benefactor and left a legacy for the benefit of the Church and its wider ministry.

Mr F J Dupée and his wife were very active in the Church in the 1940s and occupied several leadership roles. He left a legacy to benefit the Fellowship Fund and also an annual presentation to Senior Sunday School members.

The War Memorial Bibles Fund was established shortly after the First World War and for many years funded the presentation of bibles to deserving members of the Sunday School.

Any income from these accounts is allocated to the General Fund.

**14. Non-Monetary Assets held for the Church's own use:**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
The Church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the Church's custodian trustee the London Baptist Property Board Ltd:		
Church Premises at an insured value of:	2,740,000	2,652,110
Church Manse at an insured value of:	282,453	270,553
The Church also owns fixtures, furniture and equipment with an insured value of:	75,000	70,503
	<u>3,097,453</u>	<u>2,993,166</u>

Note: The insured values of both premises are likely to be significantly less than the current market values.

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out on pages 1 to 4 relating to the year ending 31st December 2016 are as approved by the deacons.

Signed:

**I Blunn**

Treasurer

Date: 19th February 2017