

ANNUAL REPORT

**ST MARY'S CHURCH, TOWYN, ABERGELE IN THE COUNTY
BOROUGH OF CONWY**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE CHURCH
COUNCIL**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2017

**PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 9th APRIL 2018**

INCUMBENT

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Christopher M. Feak

BANKERS

**National Westminster Bank Plc
5 Queen Street
Rhyl
Denbighshire
LL18 1RS**

**Father, we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.**

MEMBERSHIP

During the year the following served as members of the Church Committee:-

Incumbent: Revd. Christopher Martin Feak

Church Wardens: Mr M Petersen
Mr G Beard

Lay Minister: Miss J Wilson

O.L.M.: Revd. Janet Crane

(Jan is currently seeking permission to officiate in the St Asaph Diocese)

Trainee Youth and children's Worker: Esther Andrews

Elected Members: Mr G Beard, Mrs M Brown (Secretary), Mrs A Carthy, Mrs J Carthy, Mrs A Cullup, Mrs G Davies Mrs M Donohue, (Treasurer), Mrs L Griffiths (Gift Aid Secretary), Mrs Mary Gyves, Mrs J Mason, Mr M Mason (Lay Chair), Mrs J Tod, Mrs J Ward

CHURCH ATTENDANCE:

The Electoral Roll is currently being updated, but there were 51 people on the roll in 2017

OCCASIONAL SERVICES:

The following services took place in 2017:-

Baptisms	10
Confirmations	-
Weddings	1
Communicants	
Easter	58
Pentecost	48
Christmas	80

It is the responsibility of both the Church Committee and the Incumbent to work together and co-operate in all matters of concern and the importance of the parish for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The St Mary's Church in Towyn is part of the Aber Morfa Mission Area in the Diocese of ST ASAPH within THE CHURCH IN WALES. THE CHURCH IN WALES is a province within the Anglican Communion and, as such, exists to advance the Christian religion through worldwide mission. The object of the Church Committee is to ensure that the Life and Work of the Church within the mission area helps to fulfil that mission both locally and more widely.

What a Church Committee is responsible for is defined by the Mission Area and its composition, procedure and powers are regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales, as amended from time to time by its Governing Body, set up under Section 13/1 of the Welsh Church Acts 1914. Elections are held at an Annual Meeting which must take place on or before 30th April. All persons whose names are entered on the Electoral Roll are entitled to vote and stand for election. Before assuming office, every member of the council must sign a declaration that he or she will be bound by the Constitution. The Representative Body is an Exempt Charity and was set up under Section 13/2 of the Welsh Church Acts 1914. It acts on behalf of the province in paying the stipends of full time clergy, administers the Church in Wales' scheme of covenanted giving and recovers tax on behalf of the parishes.

The committee is responsible inter-alia for promoting the mission of the Church, the church budget and all expenditure thereunder, the care and maintenance of the church fabric and of the churchyard, and for action on any other matter referred to in accordance with the Constitution. The Committee is also the normal channel of communication between the parishioners, the Aber Morfa Mission Area and the Bishop of the Diocese.

Secretary's Report

Introduction

The Parochial Church Council met on a regular basis during 2017.

The main topics discussed were the growth of the church in Towyn and Kinmel Bay and work in the Aber Morfa Mission Area and how this might apply locally and particularly in terms of our own mission and growth. Other issues were our services, finance, social activities and church maintenance.

Report on Church Fabric

Following the quinquennial inspection in 2013, the church fabric in generally sound, the necessary issues having been dealt with during the year.

The Church insurance is up to date.

The Mission Area Conference

The Mission Area Conferences were attended by church representatives Lynda Griffiths and Jean Carthy..

The Diocesan Conference

The Diocesan Conference was held in October and attended by Jean Wilson.

Services

During the year our services have offered Eucharist on every Sunday at 11a.m. On the 2nd Sunday of each month the service took the form of a Family focused brunch service when our Youth participated in the worship. Our Worship Team, supported by Jean Wilson our Lay minister, led a service on those months having 5 Sundays. A period of

fellowship, with refreshment, followed each Sunday Service. A said Eucharist was held weekly at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Prayers for the sick are said at every service. We would like to thank all those people who read the lessons, prepared and led Intercessions or acted as side-persons along with those involved in the preparation and serving refreshments after Services. We appreciate the regular involvement of Emily, Luke and Izzy during our services. Of particular note is the support given by Michael Petersen and helpers in enabling the conversion of the church from a variety of informal configurations into a setting suitable for church services. This requires considerable effort and we very much appreciate the assistance that has been given.

We welcomed the change in policy of the Church in Wales that anyone who has been baptised can now take communion and we note that several people including visitors have taken advantage of this.

The Lyn Singers

During the year several of our worshippers came together and, under the leadership of Shirley and Barry, formed a singing group in memory of Lyn Edwardson. It is to be noted that the singing in our services has improved greatly and many thanks go to Shirley and Barry for their work in this area.

Social Activity

A number of social gatherings have taken place this year, when a mix of invited and “home grown” entertainment has been enjoyed. These events have made an important contribution to fellowship within the church. Thanks are due particularly to Michael Petersen for his excellent catering and hosting skills that were so welcome and appreciated on many occasions during the year.

St. Mary's Year

The Annual Vestry meeting was held on Monday 27th March 2017, and was chaired by the Vicar Revd. Chris Feak. The reports were read and approved and various points arising from the report were discussed.

Mission

We continued to offer a range of activities both within and external to the church. Our facilities provide for a weekly Parent and Toddler Group, 948 Youth group, a Craft Group and for a Bereavement group to be held in the church.

During the year Jean Wilson has led services of Communion at Alistair House, the dementia home, and coffee mornings in church for those able to attend.

For the fifth year running the East Parade Bowls Club held matches in the large Nave area during their winter period. 'Slimming World' utilises the large meeting area that we have for their weekly sessions.

A summer youth drama activity, coordinated by Lynda Griffiths, and directed by Bryn Heywood, was held for a week in July, culminating in a production of "Joseph" that was enjoyed by all who attended.

The Aber Morfa Mission Area comprising St Mary's, Towyn, St Thomas', St Ann's and Holy Trinity, Rhyl, St Mary's Rhuddlan and St Margaret's, Bodelwyddan was instituted on 15th January 2017 and the churches started to work together as witnessed by members of our congregation preparing sandwiches in Rhyl for distribution to children attending Adventure Play activities during school holiday periods.

Our thanks are extended to all involved for their efforts on behalf of St. Mary's.

Our congregation continues to provide generous support to those in need of food items via Conwy Foodbank.

During March a Murder Mystery Evening was held, hosted by Michael and Julie Petersen to raise money for Macmillan Nurses. This was part of a nationwide event.

Easter Experience

Up to 400 local children were able to come to St. Mary's to experience Holy Week and Easter in an innovative way where they could witness tableaux representing scenes from the parables and miracles of Jesus' life including turning the water into wine, the well at Samaria and the man who was let down through the roof..

Cherishing Churchyard Week

We were able to value our external space by holding a Cherishing Churchyard Week in June. This was much appreciated by the children attending local schools who spent a day with us. The week led to an appreciation of the nature around us and all that we value within our building. Many thanks to Lynda Griffiths for her coordination of the event and for Barry Griffiths for his bee keeping demonstrations. We concluded the week with a "Village Bake Off" competition and social evening that was well supported.

Summer Fayre

This was held on 24th August and we thank all who contributed to this very successful event.

Songs of Praise

In September an evening of our favourite hymns was held and this was enjoyed by all who attended. More are planned.

Harvest Celebration

This year we held our Harvest Festival Service on 2nd October 2016 and this was well attended. Our Harvest Supper was held on 4th October 2016 when we were appropriately entertained by our own, excellent “home grown” talent displayed by church members.

Remembrance Sunday

As on previous years a service of Remembrance was held on Sunday 11th November. We were joined by members of the council and the British Legion to remember those soldiers who gave their lives for our freedom and safety

Home Groups

During the year Revd Chris introduced three home groups, one each in Kinmel Bay, Towyn and Belgrano. These have been well attended and much appreciated.

Christmas Fayre

This year a Christmas Fayre, including “Breakfast with Santa” was held on Saturday 25th November. The event was successful and highly enjoyable. All those who took part in any way are to be thanked and congratulated for their efforts.

Fashion Show

We joined with ASDA Supermarket to present a Fashion Show on 2nd December. This was a great success with the models showing great enthusiasm, (particularly Lisa from ASDA) and was a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Christmas Services –

Advent

This year, on 10th December we held a “Blue Christmas” Service realising that, for some, the joy of Christmas may be difficult to experience. We gathered to hear the Christmas story and gently remind ourselves of God's love revealed through the gift of the Christ Child.

Christmas Experience

Once more, children from local schools came to church for their Christmas Services when they were witness to the Christmas Experience. This year they were greeted by ”Jesus and the Giant Orange” and each child was able to make their own Christingle.

This year the Carol Service was held on Sunday 17th December

A crib service was held on Christmas Eve..

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services

Both Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Services were well attended.

Church Yard and Building Maintenance

The Churchyard has been kept in good order due to efforts of Terry Burke. We are indebted to both Michael Petersen and Harry Edwardson for the care and attention they demonstrate in attending to the very many aspects of church life where maintenance or repair is required.

Conclusion

As a Church Council we have made steady progress in continuing to utilise the gifts that we have in those who attend the church, be it spiritual, practical or social, and in their commitment to stewardship. As

we continue to discern what God intends for us, not only in this place but further field too, and mindful of the challenges before us, we urge members of the congregation, whether members of the PCC or not, to come forward and volunteer for any of the ministries and tasks, small or large, that people feel drawn to.

This Report is the first to be produced on behalf of the Church Committee of St. Mary's Towyn after the Commissioning of the Aber Morfa Mission Area. The Church Committee is now responsible for the day to day operation and maintenance of the church, generating income and for its mission both within Kinmel Bay and Towyn and as part of the new Mission Area.

We continue to be appreciative of the support we have received from the Mayor and members of Towyn and Kinmel Bay Town Council.

Financial Report

In 2017 we were able to pay our Parish Share by the end of the year and so were able to receive the 4% rebate again. This has only been possible by the outstanding efforts of everyone who has contributed and worked hard to raise the money to keep our church and the work we do in our parish going.

However, the quota for 2018 has, of course, increased by 3% to £24,268 and we must find enough each week to cover our expenses; this means we must bank a minimum of £3,500 per month just to cover the standing orders and direct debits for the parish share, lighting and heating, insurance and our everyday costs of running the church in Towyn.

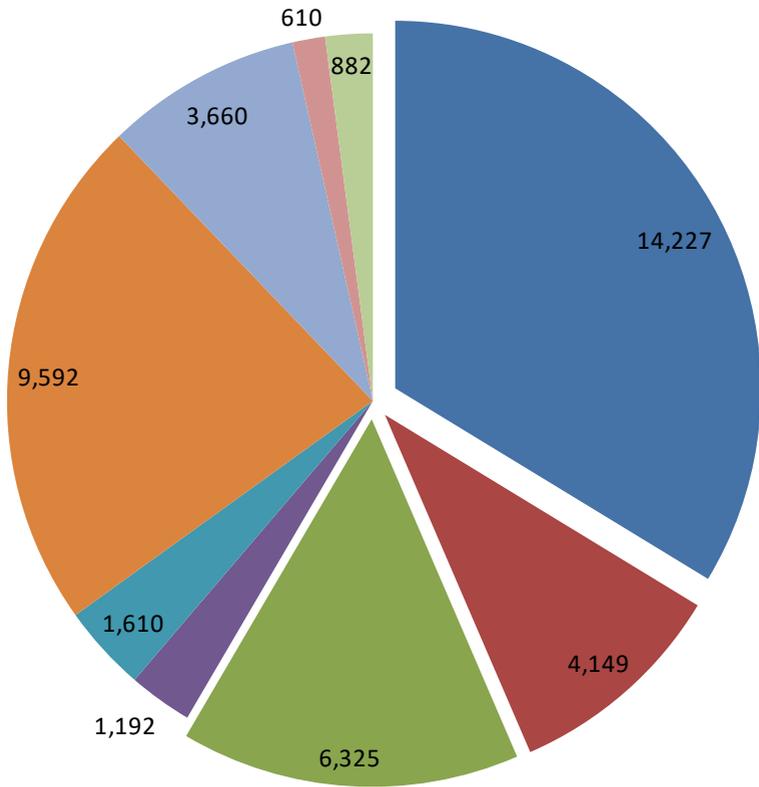
I would like to say thank you to all those people who, during the year, have increased their giving to bring it in line with inflation by using the envelope system. I wish to thank all the people who have given their details to Lynda Griffiths our Gift Aid secretary. It is through the gift aid scheme that we have, this year, managed to end the year with a surplus. This should enable us to do more work in the Aber Morfa Mission area together with the other churches of our group.

Everyone worked very hard this year at fund-raising and we managed to raise a lot of money which went a long way to paying bills. Thank you to everyone involved.

There are a lot of very generous people in this church who give, not just their money, but their time, labour, skills and knowledge, and everyone is thanked most sincerely. The people on the Flower rota, the rota for the kitchen, the cleaning of the church, etc., these are all items that do not put a financial burden on the church as they are all donated by individuals wanting to keep our church looking as good as it can possibly be.

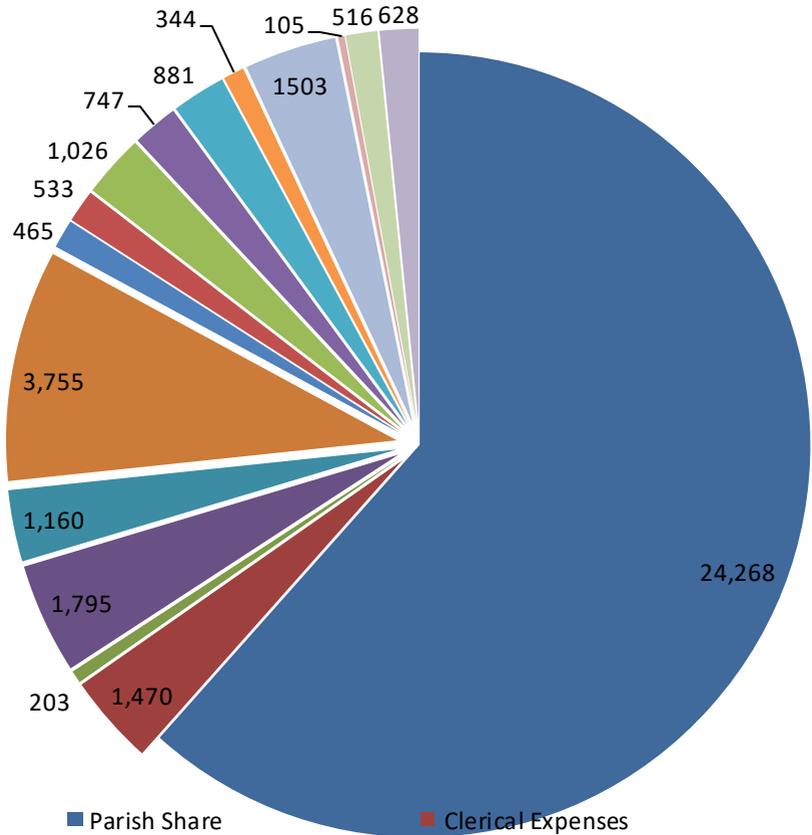
Finally, may I give my personal thanks to all who have supported and helped me in the last twelve months
Margaret Donohue Treasurer, April 2018

Income 2017



- Planned Giving
- Loose Collections
- Tax Refunds
- Donations
- Donations for mission
- Money Raising
- Fees
- Dividends
- Parish Share refund

Expenditure 2017



- Parish Share
- Clerical Expenses
- Other support
- Maintenance of Services
- Insurance
- Light & Heat
- Printing, Postage & Stationery
- Telephone
- Repairs & renewals
- Cleaning & General Expenses
- Maintenance of Churchyard
- Cost of MoneyRaising
- Donations & Gifts
- 948 Club
- Christmas & Easter Experience
- Outdoor Floodlights

ST MARY'S CHURCH – PARISH OF TOWYN
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

	2017	2016
INCOME	£	£
Planned Giving	14,227	13,859
Loose collections	4,149	3,948
Donations	1,192	3,062
For Mission	1,610	276
Tax Refunds	6,325	4,629
Grants	-	470
Money raising	9,592	11,363
Fees	3,660	2,279
Investment Income	610	505
Other resources		
Insurance re gutter repair	-	1,230
Parish Share Refund	<u>882</u>	<u>630</u>
Total Income	<u>42,247</u>	<u>42,251</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Parish share	24,268	22,056
Clerical expenses	1,570	1,460
Other Support	203	160
Maintenance of Services	1,795	2,069
General Parish Expenses		
Insurance	1,160	1,153
Water & Sewage Rates	-	576
Lighting & Heating	3,755	4,639
Printing, Postage & Stationery	465	416
Telephone	533	700
Licences and Professional Fees	-	627
Repairs & Renewals	1,026	962
Cleaning & general Expenses	747	692
Maintenance of Churchyard	881	801
Cost of Money raising	344	810
Grants, Donations & Gifts		
Home/World	1,503	262
Payments for 948 Children's club	105	473
Christmas & Easter Experience	516	520
Exceptional Expenditure		
Repair of Church Guttering		1,730
Purchase of Marquee		902
Outdoor Floodlights	628	-
	<u>39,499</u>	<u>41,636</u>
Surplus of Income over Expenditure	<u>£2,748</u>	<u>£ 615</u>

RESERVED FUNDS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2017

Grants received for Pop-up-Gospel Project	7,400
Less payments made	<u>500</u>
	6,900
Grant from ASDA re pensioners' luncheon	<u>350</u>
Balance in hand at 31 st December 2017	<u>£7,250</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2017

CURRENT ASSETS

Bank Balances as at 31st December 2017

Current account	8,182.98
Graveyard account	2,319.80
Building Fund Account	<u>9,209.46</u>

£19,712.24

CURRENT LIABILITES

Bank Balances as at 1st January 2017

Current account	4,178.93
Graveyard account	2,076.50
Building Fund Account	<u>3,458.53</u>

9,713.96

Add Surplus for year General Account

2,478.28

Reserved fund balance

7,250.00

£19,712.24

FIXED ASSETS

Rathbones Portfolio

Valuation at 31st December 2017 £37,518

Prepared by Margaret V Donohue

Treasurer to St Mary's Church, Towyn

March 2018