

Holy Trinity Church Southwell



PAGM Reports 2022/23

Vicar's Report

Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labour in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

*² In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat –
for while they sleep he provides for those he loves. Ps 127*

Dear friends, firstly I'd like to thank all those who minister as part of all our Every Member Ministry teams, whether that's Youth and Children's ministry, Worship, Toddlers, Leaders and Preachers, Connections/Moments, Older Peoples Ministry, Hospitality around services, Welcome, washing up, Prayer Ministry, Small Groups and Home Groups, PCC, Mens breakfast, Ladies group, arranging flowers, cleaning the brass, mowing the churchyard. It's only as you begin to write a list you realise how much happens in our Church and how many are involved in these Ministries. Thank you for all that you give to God in this way. I'd also like to thank those who worked hard during my sabbatical to fill the gaps, especially the Leadership Team.

As I'm sure you've picked up my Sabbatical was dominated by the theme of "On earth as in Heaven", it wasn't planned that way, it just kept leaping out at me as I read, prayed and spent quality time with Jesus. What I felt the Lord putting on my heart was that we (not just HT but perhaps western Christians as a whole) have forgotten, or perhaps we've never truly known, what it is to live our lives "On earth as in Heaven" even though it is something we pray continually in the Lord's prayer.

"your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10

If you'd like to think deeper into this then please do listen to the "On Earth as in Heaven" sermon series from October last year on the website.

The major thrust of all this is that our vision for 2023 and beyond is focusing on Spiritual Formation and Discipleship. I've been asked if the Vision is about Church growth, but that is not the primary focus. The Primary focus is on the transformation of our own individual lives with God, the point of "On Earth as in Heaven" is that we are transformed more and more to be like Jesus, and of course as we shine Jesus more and more from the core of our lives it is almost certain that the Church will grow, after all that is what happened in the early church and continues to happen today.

The Vision is about building because it is an action, and it's too easy for us to think that this whole process is passive (i.e we don't have to do anything), but this is not the same thing as trying to earn our way to God or to do any of this "building" without him. The Psalmist says:

Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labour in vain.

Jesus is the master builder and it is He who directs us as we seek to build and grow, after all the builders still need to build, but they need to do it within the Lord's strength and guidance. Paul the apostle tells us in his second letter to the Philippians:

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfil his good purpose. Philippians 2:12-13

Paul isn't saying that we need to work "for" our Salvation, but we need to "live" a life of someone who has been saved, with the Holy Spirit working through us.

So how do we live lives in God's will and in his kingdom ***On Earth as in Heaven?***

We can do this by ***Building the Kingdom of God*** through our witness in our lives, by sharing our story of faith with those we know:

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

By ***Building Relationship with God*** through reading his word, prayer and learning about Practicing the Way. Practicing the way is reconnecting with ancient Church practices often referred to as Spiritual Disciplines such as Sabbath, Prayer, Hospitality, Fasting, Silence and Solitude.

¹My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,
²turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding—
³indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,
⁴and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,
⁵then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.
⁶For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:1-5

By **Building Community as a witness to God** through joining a small group and gathering for worship as often as we can, so we can meet with other Christians and together grow in the likeness of Jesus.

... since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, ²⁵not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:21-25

So does this vision mean doing more things? Not necessarily but it might mean that we need to rethink our priorities – this is definitely something that I have had to do to fit in quality Sabbath time with God.

These are our aspirations and whilst I would love everyone to be in, for example, a Small group I completely understand that this might not be possible for everyone at the moment.

When I presented the vision in January I gave people the opportunity to take away a Commitment card as a symbol of being committed to this vision of growing personally with God. This is a symbol to the individual rather than the church as a whole, showing the desire to grow in our own faith in Jesus. These commitment cards are still available at the back of church and online.

Many blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrew", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Churchwardens Report

Looking back over 2022 two things come to mind, the Vicar's Sabbatical and toilets!

We want to say a big "thank you" to our Preachers and Leaders for taking on extra services while Andrew was away. We are grateful too for the many different clergy who stepped in to help us celebrate Holy Communion and brought us insights into differing ways of being and doing. Bishop Andy joined us for Trinity Sunday and later, along with 3 photos, tweeted "Two services and cake!" Thank you, Liz, for the cake.

It was good to welcome back, Andrew, refreshed and renewed at the end of August.

The Quinquennial Report (5 yearly architect's report on the state of the building) was received at the end of 2021. Fortunately there were no unexpected surprises. In 2022 we began to work through the list of jobs that need doing. The wall and gate to the cellar steps are finished and the spire has been professionally cleaned, disinfected and loose plaster removed. The tower has been cleaned and tidied. We have a new Terrier (basically an inventory of everything!) and Log Book. The challenge of 2022 has been the necessary minor modifications to the toilets, especially the accessible toilet, to bring them in line with current legislation. Many plumbers have been to look but only one has submitted a quote. Work on the other tasks will continue in 2023.

Plans to improve disabled access and parking are ongoing but complex.

We need a new Health and Safety Officer. This is not an onerous task, probably no more than 30 minutes a week. If you feel that this essential role is something you could help with please speak with one of us.

Chris Stead & Helen Geeson

Churches Together in Southwell

The **CTS Forum** takes place at Our Lady of Victories parish hall on a Saturday morning from 8.30-10.00am every 3 months, and begins with breakfast.

The group **Supporting Refugees in Southwell**, instigated by CTS, comprises people of all faiths and none, actively supports refugees who have come to live in the area. Help and support is given in many ways, including teaching English, organizing trips, and friendship.

On 24 September, an ecumenical service '**Season of Creation**' took place to celebrate the Season of Creation, encouraging sound stewardship of the earth that has been entrusted to us. This was organized by a small group comprising members of three of the churches.

As a response to the government's **Warm Space** initiative, information was circulated within churches and the town of the many venues and times offered by the churches throughout the week for people of varying ages.

A **Christmas card**, giving details of all the churches' Christmas services, was printed and delivered (with The Bramley newspaper) to every house in Southwell.

During the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, five of the churches took turns in holding lunchtime sessions - a time of prayer followed by soup and roll. These were well attended.

The **Lent Lunch**, which was held in the State Chamber (Great Hall) on Sunday, 26 March, was well attended and raised funds for Christian Aid.

*Marian Welham
Lay Representative for Holy Trinity
Churches Together in Southwell
southwellchurchestogether.org.uk*

Connections (formerly Signpost)

Connections is a time of warm friendship and welcome, open to anyone of any age. Open from 10am for coffee and cake, followed by an optional light lunch at 12pm.



As well as a good natter and a friendly atmosphere, there are various activities that take place - Bible study, games, crafts and the occasional special event etc.

Once again, a huge thanks to our wonderful team for all your hard work, you've been amazing!

We have been encouraged this year by an increase in new folk who have started to come along, and the welcome addition of Richard & Sally to the team. We have had Claire, a Social Care support worker with Notts County Council, coming along and providing some very helpful advice to our guests. We also registered as a recognised 'Warm Welcome Space'.

One of the most important things we do at Connections is listen & talk to our guests, in the hope that they will feel valued and experience God's love through us. *"By this will all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another"* (John 13:35)

Another change this year is that, after much prayer, I feel it is the right time for me to step away from Connections this summer. I will, however, be continuing with Moments (see over). We are looking into setting up a small team to run things from this September. Please could I ask you to join with us and pray that the right people come forward ... it could even be you!

*Liz Peacock
Co-ordinator*

Moments

Moments is a Memory Café or a time of warm friendship for those seeking companionship and is open to anyone of any age.



We meet on the last Wednesday of the month, starting from 10am for coffee and cake, followed by an optional light lunch at 12pm.

Once again, a huge thanks to our wonderful team for all your hard work, you do a fabulous job!

Apart from a good natter, a friendly atmosphere, and a lot of laughter, we have quizzes, word games, and take nostalgic trips down 'memory lane'.

One of the most important things we do at Moments is listen & talk to our guests, in the hope that they will feel valued and experience God's love through us. "By this will all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another" (John 13:35)

We have been encouraged this year by an increase in new folk who have started to come along, so please feel free to come and join us - we'd love to see you.

Liz Peacock, Co-ordinator

Deanery Synod

Synod met three times in 2022, each time via Zoom.

Monday 21st February

Nigel Frith, Diocesan Director of Education, shared his thoughts and 20 practical ways the churches can support the local rural schools. The 20 Practical Ways have been made into a leaflet and can be shared with PCCs.

Parish share was also discussed. A huge 'well done' to everyone for the contributions made to the Parish Share during 2021. The final total was 96.1% of allocation.

A discussion was held around changing from the bidding process to the calculation and request of Parish Share contributions for 2022.

Tuesday 3rd May

Most of this meeting was a discussion about the setting and paying of Parish Share, and the need to encourage everyone to give generously.

Some time was spent on a paper from Lincoln Diocese, but members felt the situation was not the same here. Bishop Paul has made it clear he does not wish churches to close.

Good news stories from parishes were shared.

Tuesday 11th October

Robert Cleave, The Diocesan Environment Officer, shared his presentation:

How to help our churches become Carbon Neutral by 2030

Every church who is not yet registered is encouraged to start by registering and following the simple steps to The Energy Footprint Tool, which 78% of Newark and Southwell Deanery churches completed. There is a lot of helpful information on the Church of England website, as well as the A Rocha Eco-church scheme.

Allocation of Parish Share was again discussed.

The need for every PCC member to engage in Safeguarding training was emphasised.

The motion put forward by Holy Trinity to enable the use of small cups for wine at Holy Communion was debated and voted on as follows:

Holy Trinity PCC therefore request this issue of using small cups and/or the Chalice at Communion be debated at Diocesan Synod with a view to it being taken to General Synod for further debate.

Yes: 30 No: 3 Absension: 1 Two not eligible to vote.

Shelagh Baird-Smith

Diocesan Synod

Peter Harris sits on the Diocesan Synod from the Deanery Synod. As a member he also sits on the Bishop's Council and was re-elected earlier this year to the Diocesan Board of Education. Last year a number of meetings of the Synod and Boards were conducted virtually, but now we are meeting in person, but with investment in the technology, it is possible for hybrid meetings to be held which is successful. It reduces the travel - but with a consequential reduction in the inter-personal elements

Parish share update and Deanery Allocation for 2023 takes up our time and I would like to add my huge 'well done' for the contributions made with 96.1% from the Newark and Southwell Deanery for the Share HTS gave 100% of the requested contribution Please see 'How the Deanery spend the Parish Share' https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HDXm1nOricsKCBTNBG1ymaOzGAA1F_xP/view

The Parish Refresh data is being analysed and further information will be sent out soon. However, one of the main issues that I will be pursuing is the relationship between our schools and churches. I regard school as church -especially in Church Schools of which we have four in our town. We are looking to support much more integration between the churches and schools and their families so that we are encouraging the journey to faith in all our people. At a meeting of the Synod last year the Director of Diocesan Education, Nigel Frith, proposed '20 Things That We Could Do To Help Our Schools.' I suggest that we consider how many of these we could do.

The King's Coronation will be celebrated in many parishes and Southwell events are being organised and supported by the Town Council with the main celebration being at the Minster.

Information on the Synod is available at southwell.anglican.org/mission-ministry/mission-ministrysynod/ I am happy to be contacted for any further information or to lobby me at Church or at home!

Peter Harris

Every Member Ministry

The role of 'Every Member Ministry Co-ordinator' was created by PCC in an effort to encourage more members of the church to get involved in the different and various areas of Ministry

During this last year, following a difficult period during Covid, we can celebrate volunteers forming the Youth Café server teams - thanks to the hard work of Sue McCarthy - and new people joining the Toddler Team on Tuesday mornings. There have also been new faces in the Worship Group and a wider range of helpers with food and refreshments including the coffee rota.



The Notice Boards, showing the full range of ministry areas have been updated, and near the entrance to church, flashpoints have been used to advertise specific and urgent needs. A date for the next celebration service for volunteers has still to be set.

Recruiting more helpers with children and youth work remains a challenge particularly on Sunday mornings. This may well be more serious from September onwards as we say goodbye to Tim who will be moving on to pastures new.

I would like to state again how much the work of all the volunteers at Holy Trinity Church is valued and appreciated.

I now feel the time has come for me to stand down from this role after the PAGM. PCC will need to decide whether this role continues.

*Graham Cross,
Every Member Ministry Co-ordinator*

Holy Trinity Infants School



The school is, as ever, a joy to visit; the children are enthusiastic to learn, always friendly and so well looked after by the talented staff. The school has a great reputation within Mitre (the multi academy trust). Both the school and Connections enjoy the time when the children join in usually around once a month and they mix together and do activities. Various members of the church take Collective Worship on Wednesdays and that helps to cement the link with the school.

The school governing body has had a vacancy for a co-opted member for some time and it would be good if anyone knows of someone who might be keen to join this. One of the challenges for the governing body, due to the nature of the area, is that there is little diversity – we have a good gender balance – but not any other, within the governors.

*Ian Baird-Smith
Chair of Governors*



Existing groups have continued with their ongoing encouragement for members and a new small group has started which is going well. Do continue to pray for Andrew's vision for small groups that they will continue to grow.

Holly Halstead,

Home Group Co-ordinator

Ladies Group

Over the past year Ladies Group has enjoyed informative and varied talks, creative craft and social activities, whilst developing friendships together. We encourage and support each other, relax together, befriending and encouraging new members in an easy-going atmosphere.



We acknowledge with thanks the tremendous support we enjoy from members of our wider church community as we continue as a fellowship to learn more of the plan God has for us and for our place in his world.

Rosemary Gatie

Men's Breakfast

Meets every 2 months on the first Saturday for food, fellowship and an inspiring talk

Around 35 men each time with great chats and chance to meet more people

John and Jo Green moved away during this year which created a big gap in the leadership and in the kitchen.

The cooking team have settled in well.

We need another one or two men to join the organisers to plan future events.



We are indebted to the people who do the preparation and cooking, without them we would go hungry! Thank you to them and to all who come.

Ian Baird-Smith & Chris Stead

Mission

We have supported the same mission organisations for some years – Church Pastoral Aid Society, Church Mission Society and Lira Projects, Tearfund at Harvest. The HT Mission Fund is used to donate to a variety of mission bodies such as Wycliffe Bible Translators, Essential Christian Lebedyn (relief work in Ukraine related to a local church), Christian Aid for the Turkey/Syria earthquake and Open Doors for their work supporting persecuted Christians around the world. We are delighted to have been able to help these mission groups. Lira Projects, especially Uganda Christian Institute, are progressing well and show what can happen when someone with vision steps out in faith.



We have found it difficult to arrange meetings and it would also be good to have others involved who might bring new life and inspiration to Mission Group.

Ian Baird-Smith

Older Person's Ministry

We are a small team which enjoys working with the older people in our church and wider community by:

- Being aware of our older people's concerns and problems;
- Visiting and supporting as appropriate;
- Sending birthday and get well cards;
- Making contact with bereaved families, sending condolence cards;
- Keeping in touch with people who have had to move away from home.



Outreach: here we feel very blessed by:

The 4 'Getaway' days we have every year which bring together about 50 people for a fun day, also, the 6 week 'Start' course that has been run at Moorfield Ct.

Future Aims:

- Include starting a 'House group' at Moorfield;
- Sending all Moorfield residents Easter and Christmas Cards;
- Increasing numbers in all our outreach ventures, and making all older people feel loved, cared for and of value;
- We liaise with the wider Pastoral Care Team and are grateful for their support.

Jo Macdonald & Ann Stafford

Pastoral Care

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. [Galatians 6:9-10]



As you know, our primary role is to be a central point of contact and facilitate pastoral care within the church family. We therefore want to say a huge “*thank you*” to all those who have looked after their group members’ pastoral needs. It really is a great example of “*every member ministry*”. We will also try to pick up on other pastoral issues that we become aware of that do not fall within a particular group.

Last summer we said a sad “*goodbye*” to John Green, who moved with Jo up to Bishop Auckland (though we’re glad to report that they’re settling in well). He was a very valued member of our team and will be greatly missed. However, we’re delighted to welcome Phil Dent to the team, who has already proven to be a real asset.

*Liz Peacock, Julie Payne, Phil Dent
Pastoral Care co-ordinators*

PCC Sub Groups

Additional Teaching ministries.

Over the last year we have planned and organised our Staycation Weekend which will take place in October with Esther Prior as our speaker. The new Website is up and running and the information from the discipleship course is now available from the front page allowing people to look at different ways of growing in their discipleship.

Andrew Porter

Environment Group

The group has found it difficult to do a lot in the past year, but here are some highlights.

We had a successful ‘Bring and Take’ event.;
There is increasing engagement of the congregation with environmental issues and contact has been made with Green Southwell;



The gap to gold ECO church has narrowed only very slightly.
A renewed enthusiasm for the issues involved will make more progress during the next year.

Ian Baird-Smith

Welcome & Integration Group

Holy Trinity is a welcoming place on a Sunday. We have the welcome team outside in all weathers, Sue Massey who sets up the coffee at 8.30, all those who take a turn on the coffee rota, the sandwich makers and cake bakers for kids and families, and all of you who just chat to our visitors. THANK YOU.

In 2022 we've enjoyed some wonderful walks, thanks to Graham Cross, (Rufford Park and Sherwood Pines to name two) and fellowship over bring and share Sunday lunches. We celebrated Harvest in style thanks to Ian Bunting's Home Group providing us with excellent food and some thought provoking activities..

Ideas for other social, fellowship events are always welcome.

Helen Geeson

Prayer

As Prayer Co-ordinator I celebrate the increased focus on the importance of prayer across all aspects of the different functions of church life and especially the development of the Prayer Champion network, with all our small groups now linked. This will support the quick dissemination of information, encouragement and support to groups and individuals.



Our aspiration to actively seek words from The Lord both before and during the services now has a mechanism for doing so and I'm very excited to see how God will respond as we seek and listen.

I aspire to facilitate regular training on different aspects of prayer ministry and thank Helen Geeson for her well received session on intercessory prayer.

Challenge: I would like to see increasing numbers of the church members openly sharing answers to prayer and stories of what God is doing in their lives and those of others; this becoming the norm rather than the exception. Can we have a time in each of the services where this is encouraged, ideally while the children are still present as they may wish to share too?

Ephesians 17 - *And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 Pray in the Spirit at all times, with every kind of prayer and petition. To this end, stay alert with all perseverance in your prayers for all the saints.*

Don't forget to check out the Portal on the Website with Bible reading notes and resources. <https://www.holytrinitysouthwell.co.uk/discipleship-portal/>

*Julie Barker
Prayer Co-ordinator*

Safeguarding

During the last year many of our fellowship have engaged with relevant training to ensure that our church is a safe place for all who attend, whether on a Sunday or in the many groups that happen throughout the week. It was good to have face to face training at Trinity in November where it was possible to discuss with others and have questions answered by the providers.

A new initiative being introduced in the diocese is to have a electronic database similar to the dashboard where everyone's DBS and training needs can be stored and monitored in a central system . It has been rolled out and some churches are trialling it.

A challenge for the year ahead will be to ensure that everyone has the correct level of training for their roles within the church and to introduce any new requirements eg all of PCC to complete the domestic abuse training.

Ann Clark Parish Safeguarding Officer

Toddlers

What can we celebrate and say thank you for ?

Firstly we should celebrate our fantastic Toddler team who come week by week to support Toddler families. They work really hard and we receive many lovely verbal and written messages about our service. We continue to feel privileged to do what we do.

We now average about 40 plus families each week and can sometimes have over 50. Lots of families still come from the outlying villages which is very good.

Our prayer time at the end of Toddlers is very important to us and we pray for Toddler families when they ask us to.

New initiatives :-

We enjoyed a great Parenting event in November with wine and pizza using a 'Care for the Family' presentation. We plan to do that again in the Summer. We have also reintroduced a table with relevant information for parenting, family and Christian matters eg:- 'Why Jesus' and Care for the Family leaflets.



What are the challenges ?

We would like to continue to encourage parents/grandparents/carers to come to church social events, quiz nights and Kids and Family services. We are always looking for ways to engage in conversations and deepen our relationships with our families.

It is necessary to be thinking of new and exciting things to do although we are restricted by lack of accessible storage space.

Toddlers is always at its best when we have enough helpers to chat with people and clear up at the end. Please continue to pray for us, for safety each week, for health and for sharing God's love and care with those we meet and talk to. Please come and chat to one of us if you think God is calling you to join our happy team.

Christine Cross and the team.

Worship Group

Worship group meet to practise on a Thursday evening. We are responsible for leading the sung worship at the weekly 10.30am Sunday service and the monthly Kids and Families service.



1. We would like to give thanks to the worship team who have supported us as we have stepped into the role of worship leaders. It has been great to introduce new songs and see people connect with God through sung worship.
2. We aim to include contemporary live worship in the kids and families Services so that young people can enjoy worship and grow closer to God.
3. The main challenge is having enough musicians and singers to ensure we can provide high quality live worship in all services.

In the Autumn we saw Jo and John Green leaving the area for pastures new. They had both been integral members of the Worship Group team for over 25 years. We would like to thank them for all the time and effort helping with our sung worship over the years. We will miss them.

Thank you again to all members of the worship group for the great work you do, it is greatly appreciated.

Andy and Kelly Wall

Youth & Children's Ministry

I have always considered my role as a Youth and Children's Worker to be that of a steward. I have been handed the responsibility of overseeing the work for a time, and that time is sadly coming to an end. Over the three and a half years I have been here to date it has been a privilege to work with all the volunteers and leaders and I can honestly say that they have pushed me to be a better youth and children's worker.

As always with the APCM reports we only have a short space to cover quite a lot that has happened. Over past years we have talked about transforming the youth

and children's work. We are a good distance down that path but there is still more to do. Over the pandemic we lost the vast majority of our "Fringe" families and young people for various reasons. Looking at the "fringe" groups at the end of 2022, we are in a more solid place than we were when I joined, let alone after the pandemic. Youth Café regularly has 40 young people attend across the two groups. The Collaborate Holiday Club had 60 young people – the maximum the space allowed. The most encouraging thing for me though is that I can see God moving in the young people in Southwell, not least in the confirmation of one of our young people but across the board in too many ways to list. Most notably though is the opt-in student services at the Minster School where attendance has gone from around 25 to 50 across 2022.

So where do we as a church go from here? The next phase of our transformation is to work on the transitions from Fringe groups into discipleship. In early 2023 our Kids and Families service will be having a reset as part of this process, and we will be starting a new year 7+ home group. There is also a hope to start a year 3-6 home group during 2023 so that all our fringe work has a place where young people can explore faith more deeply should they wish. These groups will need not only volunteers to run them but also the prayer and support of the whole church for them to be successful.

The biggest challenge facing the youth and children's work moving forward is the fact that my time of stewardship is coming to an end, and for the first time in several years will be without an appointed steward. I will be doing my utmost over the next few months to prepare the work for this but once my watch ends at the end of August it will be the responsibility of every single member of the church to ensure that the work continues, grows, and thrives.

Finally, let me leave you with a word of encouragement. On the day of my interview, Tim from CMS (Church Mission Society) was preaching on "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few" and I got a real sense of God calling me to be one of the workers. However, recently, at a Diocesan learning community we were discussing the same verse and one of the people shared that they are getting a real sense of the fact that while we as churches, are focusing on "the workers are few", God is saying, "yes, but the harvest is plentiful", so my encouragement to Holy Trinity as I prepare to pass the baton back is for you to follow God and get harvesting.

Timothy Ball, Youth And Children's Worker

