



**KINGSWAY
CHURCH**

High Street, Wombourne, South Staffs, WV5 9DN

2020 Kingsway AGM Report

*For AGM held on:
Sunday 1st March 2020 at 18:00*

Living for Jesus,

Transforming Lives,

Building Community

AGENDA

1. Welcome – Paul F
2. Worship time – Paul T
3. People – Paul F
4. Pastoral – Linda
5. Worship – Mark
6. Community – Stewart
7. Missions – Ken
8. Children & Youth work– Gerry – Liz – Helen – Claire
9. New Horizons – Janice
10. Finance – Stewart
11. Closing Address – Pastor John
12. Closing worship – Paul T
13. Q&A over refreshments

KINGSWAY CHURCH - Ministry Report for 2019/20

Kingsway Church People & Small Groups:

- Our mission statement is “***Living for Jesus, Transforming Lives, Building Community***”. This is a great statement of who we serve; Jesus, why we do what we do; to transform lives and what the consequences of the mission here are; we are building a community.
- Great news is that that we have had many show new or re-commitment to Jesus throughout the year plus our church membership rose through 2019 from 98 up to 108
- This does not however reflect the church’s impact on the community as we touch many hundreds (even thousands now?) of people through our activities and events.
- Many ask and more wonder though, what is the need for a formal membership? Well the answer is two-fold: Firstly it demonstrates commitment to the Kingsway Church and secondly, it ensures proper governance of our church family. It also enables us to be properly constituted as far as the Assemblies of God and the Charity Commission are concerned. We as leaders and trustees are accountable for what we do and we want to encourage as many regular attenders as possible to be members.
- Now for our Small groups, of which we currently have 13, with 23 leaders and 134 people connected through them. They meet either at church or in homes throughout the week on a weekly or twice monthly basis.
- As we are reminded about in Hebrews 5v25 it is essential that we continue to meet together – and that’s what our church small groups are all about.
- This year I have been joined by Jon Tiley and Mal and Ann Morgan to seek God and develop our group system to improve it and make it fit for the future.
- We have many other responsibilities to everyone who comes here and one of those is to keep you all safe. We do keep a record of accidents that happen here and endeavour to do everything possible to prevent them from happening in the first place.
- This year we re-trained up 8 new first aiders bringing our team up to 9
- We also have a responsibility as an employer and this year we have outsourced the church cleaning to a company called Goldcrest Cleaning. Julie and Di have both been transferred to them to continue their work. This means that they now get all the proper support they need in terms of supervision, safety, training and cover.

God is doing great things here and we need to continue to seek His guidance and keep watch for the new things He is going to do amongst us.

Paul Freeman

Pastoral Care:

- What is Pastoral Care?... to love one another and prefer each other's needs to our own, following Jesus' example of serving. Pastoral care is a shared responsibility for us as brothers and sisters in God's family.
- Who facilitates and oversees Pastoral Care in Kingsway?
Under the leadership of Pastor John and Judith, the Pastoral team meets every six to eight weeks. We begin with praise and thanks to God for answers to prayer and other good news; discussions on wider aspects of care; sharing of news and concerns and concluding with prayer for those needs.
- When and how is Pastoral care carried out?
It is carried out in all ministry areas of the church, beginning at the door when visitors are welcomed. It operates most effectively within our small groups where friendships begin and care is ensured. Care is shown too through the sending out of floral arrangements, gifts and pastoral cards.
- How can we all play our part in this care?
 - Be faithful in prayer for others. On Sundays be a "watcher" looking out for visitors, people on their own etc.
 - Be bold and talk to someone you've not spoken to before.
 - Develop an awareness of people around you!!

- During the week make contact with people and maybe invite them for a coffee or lunch.
- Offer to visit a person in need.

Key factor is to decide what is the most appropriate way to show care to the person in mind.

➤ Challenges:-

- Avoid being burdened by the many needs and challenges within the church family.
- Don't try to meet everyone's needs and expectations.
- Dealing with people's disappointment when they feel the church has failed to care.

- Finally.....thanks to all those who quietly and faithfully care for others in many ways.
God sees every act of kindness and is very pleased with you!!

Linda Revitt

Kingsway Worship:

Our aim (as stated in last year's AGM) is to lead the congregation into thanksgiving praise and worship.

Everything must glorify God.

The different aspects are thanksgiving, praise and worship

1. By thanksgiving we acknowledge God's goodness
2. By praise we acknowledge God's greatness
3. By worship we acknowledge God's holiness

Although it is only 6 months or so since the last AGM, we feel as though our times of thanksgiving, praise and worship at Kingsway have reached new levels in line with a churchwide raising of expectancy for a move of God. Worship builds a platform for the word, and the word has gone out to expect miracles, signs and wonders. We as a worship team (by which I mean musicians, singers, leaders and tech people) are seeking to be ready to follow the Holy Spirit in whichever way he leads.

We have seen a new worship leader this last month with James stepping up and we hope that this will continue. We need to have as wide range of music styles as possible and people like James and hopefully others like him will bring a new approach and keep us old ones on our toes.

Finally, thanks to all in team - everyone who makes it possible, musicians, singers, PA, computer people.

Mark Price

Community:

The Kingsway Foodbank Team consists of Stewart Revitt, Barry and Di Rackstraw who make the deliveries and Pete and Chris Williams who maintain the stock.

Kingsway Foodbank began making deliveries in 2016. There has been a steady increase in the number of parcels delivered each year with 208 made in 2019.

Several local churches and organisations collect produce for the Foodbank in addition to Kingsway members, these are the Methodist and URC churches, Sainsburys and the Co-operative stores. One off donations were received in 2019 from St Benedicts and Wombourne High School. Financial support was received from local charities and church members.

IT is very encouraging when a recipient contacts the Foodbank to say how much it has helped them.

Kingsway organises events across the year, these are Easter Bunny Hunt, Scarecrow Festival and The Winter Wonderland when over 1,000 people attended. In addition to the team that organises the events they are well supported by Kingsway members

All of the events are very well received by the community and in particular The Winter Wonderland is an annual favourite. Parents who cannot afford to take their children to a commercial event say that this is the start of their Christmas.

Stewart Revitt & Emma Hyde

Mission Support

Jesus said in the great commission to “go into all the world” He also said” you will be persecuted”

This year hardship has increased for many missionaries serving the Lord in countries where there are extreme religious groups. In 2019 it has been reported that in Nigeria 1,350 Christians have been killed, in India 1,445 physical attacks, 5,500 Churches closed. In China, 60 percent of Christians have left for Syria plus many other incidents of persecution in North Korea and around the world. Amazingly in many countries where there is the greatest persecution the Lord has blessed and churches are growing and many are coming to faith in Christ and being baptised.

Here are the missionaries and organisations that we supported:

- **Corradini mission in Spain** – Gabriel, Daniela & two sons Stefan and Jonathan visited us in July and told us of their ministry in five towns in Asturias, North Spain. They have been blessed by the Lord and have had baptisms and some Christians have joined them. We support with monthly gifts plus helping them with new church buildings this year.
- **Thompson and Glender** from Nigeria visited us in June and shared how God had blessed their teaching ministry with the “Dream Project” We gave them a gift of £200.
- **Daniel & Anna Cherian** in their work in school and church. They jointly lead a small church in India and about 120 children in the village school in an area where it is very difficult to witness as a Christian because of religious opposition. Daniel is now also a part time leader of the church in Gads Lane, West Bromwich.
- **Jonathan & Raynalyne Winters** in the ministry in Ireland LMI, Logos Ministries International
- We also supported the **Barnabus Trust** disaster fund, **Open Doors, Rainbow House in Thailand, Operation Mobilisation, Doyle & Davidson in the Far East, Sat7 – Radio, Assemblies of God Missionaries** - Rachel Wilson in Albania, Ben Owusu in North Ghana and Joseph Barkat in Pakistan. These missionaries have all experienced difficult situations this year.

Each first Monday of the month there is the Open Doors prayer meeting @7-30 in the “Study” where we pray for those who are persecuted for their faith. All are invited to join.

There is an Open-Air Christian witness and preaching each Tuesday @ 12 noon (weather permitting) in Dudley Street, Wolverhampton. All are welcome to join this opportunity of sharing the gospel and tract distribution on the street with other Christians. If people do not come to church, we should take the good news to them!

We should be actively praying for and supporting believers who have been arrested or discriminated against because of their Christian beliefs. This year there has been an increase of teachers, health workers, street evangelists and other workers in the UK who have been charged and taken to court because of the witnessing for Christ. Thank the Lord in most cases the charges have been dropped and some have even been compensated for their wrongful arrest!

On the back page of each monthly news sheet “Mission Prayer” there are suggestions of mission concerns and prayer points to encourage us to take home and be prayerfully be evolved with mission in the UK and worldwide. If anyone has a mission prayer request to share with the church, please let me know if possible before the 14th of the month before publication.

Finally, if anyone would like to share or be more involved in the missionary work of the church, please see me.

Ken Penberthy

Finance:

Please see finance statements at the end of this report

Stewart Revitt

Children & Youth Ministries:

Toddler Praise

Positives

- Toddler Praise is well attended and at present has 36 on the register, with a weekly attendance of between 20 – 27 families. A waiting list is in operation to keep numbers at a safe level.
- We often have positive feedback from the adults attending with their children.
- We have a weekly short Bible story/message and song slot with a related craft activity where possible.
- We had good attendance at Messy Church, the Elf night and the 'Journey to the Manger' Service from this group.
- An increasing number of children are progressing onto the Friday night groups after leaving Toddler Praise. (When they start reception.)
- Helping to build good relationships between Kingsway and the community.
- To be a listening ear and show God's love in a practical way to those who need it.

Challenges

- 'Pitching' the Bible story at the right length, format and length for the age group is an ongoing challenge.
- To build better links between Toddler Praise and the rest of Church life.
- To support and encourage families in faith - to ensure that the seeds of faith are sown.
- Ideally more leaders within Toddler Praise would be good for the smooth running of the group and to allow more time to build relationships with families, rather than just coping with practicalities.

Action taken/Needed

- To trial and research different resources for story time. During 2019 we used 'The play-along Bible' by Bob Hartman and 'Go teach' resources for under 3's. We are now looking at Life Church resources.
- To invite 'special visitors' to vary the way the Bible message is put across. We had Paul Willmott visit us twice last term and are planning for Shelley Owens to visit us in the summer linking baby massage and the Bible.
- To ensure that all we do is covered in prayer – please can Kingsway support us in that.
- To ensure that families are made aware of all special Church events.

Fizz

Positives

- Children appear to enjoy the group and we often have good feedback from parents – we have a waiting list of those wanting to join us. (We try and accommodate them as quickly as we can.)
- Weekly Bible message, prayer, worship and related craft/game where possible to reinforce the message.
- We have more follow on now from the toddler groups than in previous years.
- We have recently had one of the Fizz Mum's come to help us in Fizz on a weekly basis.

- A good number of Fizz children attended messy church, the holiday club and the Elf night with their families.

Challenges

- Ensuring the smooth running of the group whilst having several children who require extra attention – anxious, easily distractible and some behavioural issues.
- Maintaining safety and smooth running, especially on arrival and departure of adults and children on busy Friday evenings. There is an overlap when the two younger groups are leaving and the Blaze group are arriving.
- Adapting to a younger age group with the complexity and level of teaching.
- To build better links between Friday groups and the rest of Church life.

Action taken/needed

- Fizz split into two age groups for the games and teaching,
- Using resources from Life Church. They are appealing to young children and good for a short attention span.
- Need more leaders to assist in Fizz, especially to help with those children requiring extra attention.
- Training of leaders to help us with children who need extra support.
- To find new ways of encouraging families to connect with Church life and faith.
- To ensure that all we do is covered in prayer. Please can Kingsway pray for the above areas, that we seek God's will for Fizz and that the seeds of faith are sown.

Blaze

I begin this report the same as I did two years ago as Blaze continues to grow and develop into a ministry quite different from what we have encountered pre 2017.

The last twelve months have in many ways been both the most challenging and yet rewarding since Blaze began to evolve from a church youth group into a church youth club. None of what happened was scripted but through each phase we have sensed that God was doing something new and at the same time challenging those in leadership and support to new levels of commitment, patience, courage and creativity. And of course, prayer.

We still recognise that God is doing something new but with one additional and very welcome development. Blaze youth have started attending our Sunday evening service of their own accord. A group gather on the car park every week and come in for the evening service, staying for the drinks and refreshments afterwards. This is a breakthrough and we pray that the number will grow. The reception from the Sunday evening regulars has generally been warm and welcoming, fitting precisely the old adage; when dealing with unchurched youth they need to know that they **BELONG**, hope and pray that they come to **BELIEVE** and then watch as God changes them from the inside out so that they learn how to **BEHAVE**.

I have used the analogy this year of Ruth Clay's observation when working with youth in Walsall: she envisioned a new facility for youth and wanted to call it the Goldmine Centre. She understood that one had to dig through tons of rubbish to get to the precious gold that lay buried. It's hard and demanding work requiring patience and determination but by the grace of God, the rewards are out of this world. Kingsway is becoming our own "goldmine centre."

I started and want to finish with the same words I did two years ago: So where do we go from here? **1 Cor. 14:8** says; **Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?** This is a clear call, a clear statement, to win the youth of Wombourne to Christ and to help them grow into disciples. There is without doubt a battle to enjoin with the principalities and powers. Please join us on the front line. We need a minimum of 8 adults every Friday. If you can't do that please intercede for us and fight the spiritual battle with the most potent weapon God has provided, prayer.

Chaplains

Every week 5 chaplains spend 40 minutes onsite at Wombourne HS, three on Tuesday and two on Thursday. The last 12 months has been particularly sad. A year ago, an 11-year-old lost his mom suddenly to an aggressive form of cancer and just ten days before Christmas a boy of a similar age passed away after a long battle with an incurable brain tumour. Our sympathy and prayers went out to the two families. Chaplains attended both funerals and 6 chaplains made themselves available the day after the second boy died to offer comfort and consolation to staff and students.

The focus for the Invictus MAT 6th. form conference this year was on Mental Health. It began with an opening address from a mom whose son committed suicide because of incessant bullying and continued with seven different workshops that covered every aspect of mental health including addictions. Two of these workshops were repeated a few weeks later for year 11 students.

That we can do what we do in such challenging circumstances encourages us to believe that God's love reaches out to all that labour and are heavy laden. What a privilege we have that He should call and equip us for such a time as this.

Thrive

Thrive continues on Monday evenings. Although some of the faces have changed the group still numbers around 8 on average. 3 teams take turns to provide food, engage in discussion with whatever is topical and of concern to the group, enjoy fun and games, and have a time of worship and Bible teaching. Please pray that those transitioning from Infusion that already have some faith in Jesus will join the group and continue their journey of discipleship.

Gerry Denston, Helen Trask, Liz Traynor & Claire Green

New Horizons:

- Format remains the same- Our team work very hard to provide lunch - fattening pudding - prayers+ hymns- talk.
- Unable to do some of the things we used to for various reasons - so we have found other things to focus on friendship and caring within the group.
- Each person remembered on their birthdays with card + flowers or plant or chocolate or voucher. Last year we celebrated Edie's 90th birthday and we have another one in September - Betty Hathaway.
- Gave a Christmas cake and a box of chocs to all foodbank parcel recipients at Christmas. Last Christmas collection for Charity in lieu of Christmas cards meant that we could give money to the following: Midlands Air Ambulance, Cancer Research - specifically for Breast Cancer (as 2 of our number have been affected by it) and Pancreatic Cancer.
- We gave £25 to Taylors fruit and veg to buy a sleeping pod for a homeless person - not sure if you saw the appeal on Facebook.
- We gave money to a couple to help them with the crippling cost of travel and parking at B'ham Children's Hospital. we also gave their daughter who is facing 18 months of treatment a teddy bear dressed as a doctor. Mavis and Rob bought her brother some Maltesers which I hear went down very well - and very quickly.
- Last week they sent a cake - beautifully iced and decorated- for New Horizons to thank us for everything and a card.
- We will be having our Easter Bonnet Parade again this Easter - prizes for the best Bonnet - looking forward to that.
- Easter eggs to all foodbank parcels in Easter week.
- This year New Horizons will be celebrating 25 years of being here - we hope to do something to mark the occasion in the Summer.

- I wouldn't go so far as to say New Horizons changes lives - although it has definitely changed mine - but it does make lives a bit better, it gives people something to look forward to, friendship, fellowship - so to mark our anniversary we thought we would like to do something to help improve other people's lives, to give them something to look forward to, some hope.....SO.....this year we started to sponsor 3 Guide Dog Puppies: Meet Finn - Rosie and Ruby - we will be sponsoring them for the 2 years it takes to train them and then they will go to blind people to enable them to go out, to socialise, to work.....and then we will do it again.
- So - if you would like to join us for lunch on Wednesdays at 12.30, or if you have a testimony to give, or if God has put something on your heart to share, let me know - you will be very welcome.

Thank you

Janice Eagleton

Pastors Report

As you come into the old entrance, on the wall is a large **Notice Board**.

It has some wonderful displays on there, done by Betty – as are our weekly Notice Sheets.

Betty! Thank you!

Betty does the weekly notice sheet and Tony + Jayne produce our Monthly Notice Leaflet.

Thank you, Tony + Jayne!

Before you reached the church entrance, you passed our garden, which always looks beautiful!

Many thanks to Ken for doing that, in all seasons!

So much behind the scenes stuff goes on at Kingsway.

Thank you to ALL our 'behind-the-scenes' workers ...

But I digress ... back to the **Notice Board**.

For the last few weeks, on it has been Isaiah's wonderful prophecy from Isa 43:18-19.

In The New Living Translation, it goes like this - *"But forget all that - it is nothing compared to what I am going to do. For I am about to do a brand-new thing. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?"*

It may seem strange to end an AGM, after such wonderful reports, by saying, **"Forget all that!"**

BUT GOD SAYS THAT!

The Israelites were proud of their history and rightly so!

And Isaiah re-iterate some of the most astounding history in the previous verses -

'The LORD ... opened a way through the waters, making a dry path through the sea. He called forth the mighty army of Egypt with all its chariots and horses. Then drew them beneath the waves and they drowned '

And Israel escaped 400 years of captivity in Egypt !

"But forget all that ... " God told them.

WHY?

"It is nothing compared to what I am going to do. For I am about to do a brand-new thing. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?"

All of us have 'history' with God

History in different fellowships

History here

And we've listened to some **wonderful recent history** this evening !!

"But forget all that ... " says the Lord. 'Make way in your memory banks, your thinking, your planning – for God to do a brand-new thing.....'

In fact, He says that He's already begun it - so we'd better get on board ...
Better hoist our sails to catch the fresh wind of His Spirit ... the ruach ...
Better open our eyes because He asks us whether we can see it

If you only ever look back, you'll never see the future!
Never see what the Lord has in store!
Brand new things!

So, THANK YOU EVERYONE for the wonderful things you've told us about tonight!

Fabulous!

Glorious!

Exciting!

We most certainly appreciate the ministries and the work that you all do!

"But NOW - forget all that – because the Lord is going to blow our minds with the incredible new stuff that He's already begun to do ... brand new stuff ... not re-cycled old stuff ... but it will need fresh eyes and a new mindset to see it "

JHP 2020

Financial Statements for 2019 & 2020

Income & Expenditure Summary Budget & Actual 2019

2018		Budget		Actual	Inc/(Dec)
£		£		£	£
122,105	TOTAL INCOME	127,800		136,330	8,530
126,394	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	144,916		136,792	(8,124)
(4,289)	GAIN/(LOSS)	(17,116)		(462)	16,654

Cash and Reserves Movement

	2018	2019	Movement
	£	£	£
CURRENT ACCOUNT	21,073	10,581	(10,492)
RESERVES		2,500	2,500
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	8,186	18,217	10,031
TOTAL BANK BALANCE/RESERVES	29,259	31,298	2,039

Income Movements Budget & Actual 2019

	Budget	Actual	Inc/(Dec)
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Offerings	97,400	99,515	2,115
Gifts	-	3,900	3,900
Tax Refunds	20,000	17,390	(2,610)
Ministry Teams	4,400	5,235	835
B Fund	-	4,990	4,990
Room Hire	1,500	1,677	177
Foodbank/Restricted	4,500	3,623	(877)
TOTAL INCOME	127,800	136,330	8,530

Expenditure Movements Budget & Actual 2019

EXPENDITURE	Budget	Actual	Inc/(Dec)
	£	£	£
Utilities	9,400	9,428	28
Health & Safety	4,350	2,649	(1,701)
Mortgage	21,157	21,156	(1)
Insurance	2,900	2,414	(486)
Building Fund/Maintenance	6,500	7,203	703
Training	2,000	222	(1,778)
Missions	9,740	9,459	(281)
Ministry Teams	14,360	15,480	1,120
Worship	1,855	952	(903)
Salaries	56,204	55,405	(799)
Cleaning/Catering	3,300	2,257	(1,043)
Loan	2,500	2,500	-
Fixed Running Costs	4,530	1,240	(3,290)
Church Expenses	1,920	3,000	1,080
Office Exp.	2,100	1,597	(503)
Food Bank/Restricted	2,100	1,830	(270)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	144,916	136,792	(8,124)