

Churchwarden report to APCM 21.4.16

The highlight of our year was the licensing of Phil Daniels as our priest-in-charge (now rector) in July 2015. Since then, we have thoroughly enjoyed his ministry and getting to know him and his wife, Rhoda, who is a regular member of our congregation. As defined in his job description, Phil has been doing a wonderful job of giving us new ways of worshipping, whilst still respecting our traditions, and we look forward to 'Discovering the Future' with him, through his new initiative that seeks to build on the best of what the church and village have to offer.

Phil's arrival followed hard on the heels of another wonderful event, which was our best-ever Strawberry Fayre, combined with a Flower Festival. We are indebted to the North Wiltshire Flower Club for providing a spectacular display in the church, which helped us to raise 20% more than usual from the event, plus an extra donation from the flower club.

The PCC is delighted to continue strong links with Crudwell School, and we work closely with the head teacher, Kath Hume. On alternate Mondays the children are entertained by the Open the Book group and, as usual, we went to the school to make Mothering Sunday gifts. The school choir sang at our Carol Service, and have promised to perform at the Strawberry Fayre too.

+ 1 like
answers -
the other
times

We have been working towards a permanent repair to the porch roof, which was successfully patched during the winter of 2014-15. We have received a small grant towards this and are awaiting the outcome of another grant application. With the extra funds raised from the Strawberry Fayre, we hope to be able to carry out the work soon.

Morning Worship and Holy Communion services are attended by a faithful congregation, though we would welcome new members. There are new families attending the All Age Worship service on the fourth Sunday of the month, and we hope that the introduction of the Little Saints Toddler Group and baptism preparation policy will encourage the interest of more families.

Special services very well supported in school services, festivals + Christmas + Easter
40 + church for good Friday

Traditionally we have held many weddings at All Saints, but this year we have had very few, and this seems to be mainly because the Rectory Hotel no longer takes bookings for weddings. This is regrettable, as we have very much enjoyed meeting the young couples who have prepared for the marriage with us, and some of them are still coming back to see us. It also means that we have lost some valuable fee income.

Unfortunately the church continues to struggle for funds, and relies heavily on fund raising activities both to maintain the building and keep it open. We are indebted to the many villagers who give their time and talents to support us in raising and donating money and caring for the church in practical ways.

(DTF) at end.

Cathy Butcher

Signature