

EASTWOOD Baptist Church AGM 2025

Eastwood Baptist Church

2024 Reports

For AGM 2025

Also available on our website:-

https://www.eastwoodbaptist.org.uk



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1.Ministers Report - Rev. Martin Wright

As we stepped into 2024, Isaiah 61 has become a guiding passage for our church and leadership. It shaped our Deacons' Away Day, giving us clarity and purpose, and has been a foundation for our reflections as a whole church family. One verse, in particular, stands out:

"They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor." (Isaiah 61:3)

What a powerful image. Though written nearly 3,000 years ago, 700 years before Jesus' ministry, these words still resonate today. They remind us that being a follower of Christ is both a privilege and a calling. We are planted in God's righteousness, and through our lives, we have the opportunity to display His splendor to the world.

Even our church logo, a Tree (though some local school children affectionately call it "the broccoli") serves as a fitting reminder of our calling. We are called to stand strong in God's righteousness and to be a visible reflection of His love to all.

This report is more than just stories, numbers, and the occasional joke. It's a testament to how we are growing deeper in our faith, standing firm in God's truth, and sharing His love in real, tangible ways. Whether through acts of service, words of encouragement, or the way we steward our resources, we see glimpses of God's Kingdom at work.

As you read this report, I pray you see this truth come to life in the stories shared. May they inspire you, encourage you, and remind you of the beauty of being deeply rooted in God.

Let's keep growing together!





2.Secretary's Report - Val Statt

In 2024, our church continued to be an amazingly welcome place for everyone, from the toddlers through to our nonagenarian members who are all amazing. My report is just going to quickly go over some highlights of the year with more in depth stories following.

Firstly, though I thank our Minister Martin who has led us so well with his teaching throughout the year, looking at preparing us to be sent out to share our faith; touching on Isaiah 61, Parables, children in the bible and our Advent theme of "When more, becomes Less". His creativity is also visible in our services and all he undertakes for our church including leading our Diaconate. Our team; Andrew, Rosie, Jan, Christina, Sharon, Graham and Val have also worked hard throughout the year to help with activities and outreach in our local schools. Thank you. As well, I continue to thank Kim, who along with her support for Martin, also manages our Sound and Media team which has had its challenges. Plus our website which you can view on: www.eastwoodbaptist.org.uk. I do recommend you take a look and give your feedback. There are others as well to thank, David who looks after the fabric of our church and all those who lead groups. Thank you. As.

Within this report you will find out about all the different and varied clubs and activities that we have run throughout the year. All doing so very well and thanks go to all those who organise and volunteer to help. We do need more volunteers and I would encourage you to see where your gifts and talents lie to come forward to assist. Being part of a team is such a blessing to everyone including yourself.

Highlights of the year: Activate your Life a Christian Women's event which a few of us went to and followed this up with a taster session in April and hosted a Ladies event in October.

Our Easter programme; our Tenebrae Service on Maundy Thursday, something different for us but so engaging; our walk of Witness with our friends from Leighfields and St Lawrence Church BBQ at the Manse hosted by Martin and Kim; Book club during August and Harvest meal together in October. Being led in worship by Worship Unlimited in November. Then our wonderful Advent Season leading up to Christmas and being able to sing carols and have a quiz at The Oakwood pub.

We also along with our own speakers; Jonathan, Simon, Neil, Steve and Claire invited Tony Simmonds, Malcolm, Michelle Dorrington, Danny from International needs, Open Doors, BMS, Mike Collins and Jo Hellenbrand. All of them are such a blessing to us.

EBC welcomed back Simon and Linda Werrett and Samuel Marienga joined our membership.

We think of those within our church family who passed away; Glen Piearcey; husband of Brenda; Trevor Lewis; Thelma Wright and Mavis Land. We remember these dear friends who ran their race and continue to pray for those who are grieving their loss.

To end it has been a privilege and honour to have the role of church secretary, to help with administration, to give support to a wonderful team and fellowship.



3.Treasurer's Report - Andrew Edwards

In the last year we received donations of £8000.00 towards vestibule roof replacement and £1500.00 from the estate of a late member of the church.

- We received a donation of £599.99 (being a new floor cleaner).
- We received various other donations towards decoration of the lower hall and outside lights.
- We received £510.00 from our gift days which was donated to 4 external charities.
- We received the usual donation from Val of the Church Christmas tree.

Many thanks to all who made donations.

We spent £249.31 on pat testing, £351.53 on servicing and replacement of fire extinguishers, £248.00 on cleaning ovens,£426.00 on outside lights, £432.00 to RCH heating and plumbing for servicing heating boilers and £480 for hedge cutting.

We also paid a deposit of £1834 in November for replacement of manse windows and doors. Work is being done in the week commencing 27 th January 2025. Once completed we will need to pay the balance of £7336.00 (this will come in 2025 Expenditure).

In December we withdrew £10000.00 from Baptist Union 7 day deposit account to cover the cost of manse windows and doors.

4.Website - Kim W.

Our website offers a wealth of possibilities that we are not fully utilizing yet. All events are regularly added to the site and updated on the calendar, providing a central hub for

everything happening. We also have access to a member-only area, as well as a church directory for easy reference.

One of the useful features we use is the rota function, which sends automated email reminders 2-3 days before someone is scheduled to volunteer, ensuring everyone stays on top of their commitments. Additionally, our newsletters and photos from events are uploaded to the site, offering an easy way to stay informed and connected.

We're excited about the potential of our website and encourage you to explore it more!

www.eastwoodbaptist.org.uk



5.Newsletter - Kim W.

In 2024, we continued producing our monthly newsletter via Mailchimp, which was emailed to over 90 contacts. We are currently seeing an average of 70% of people who get the email, actually open them.

Additionally, we used Canva, a design tool, to create a larger print version for those who prefer a physical copy. Each month, we print 15 copies—2 of which are delivered to the housebound, thanks to Rosie and Graham for their dedication to this effort. The remaining copies are available at church for anyone who wishes to take one. Please note that the print version includes less content, such as youth and children's work, to better suit this format. We've also introduced a printed monthly calendar, offering a helpful way to stay up to date on upcoming events and activities.

If you would like to receive a copy of our emailed newsletter, please reach out to Kim.

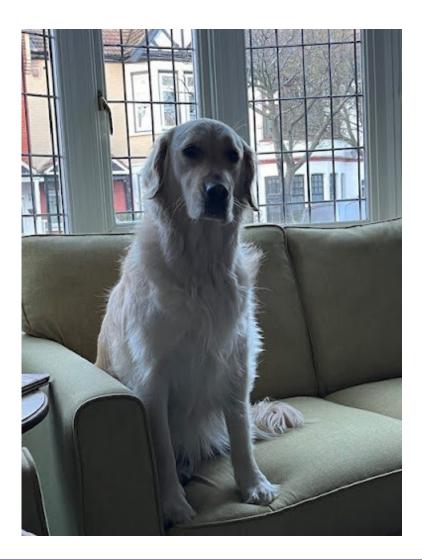
6.Homegroups

Monday Evening - Neil & Jo K.

Our small, but perfectly formed housegroup, continued to meet on Mondays, 8pm, in Westcliff. We always enjoy our time together and are grateful for Martin's thoughtprovoking questions which we always endeavour to answer!

Xana(the dog) is the most regular attendee.

Our time together at the start of the week provides an opportunity to share what's happening in our lives and to commit to praying for our brothers and sisters, during the week.



Tuesday Morning - Rosie M.

Meeting in the vestry at the rear of the church and have continued to develop relationships amongst the group as we read and talk and pray together. Refreshments at the end enable further chat.

It has been good to follow the Sunday preaching with further thoughts and teaching and we really value having Martin's weekly sheet to guide this. Our numbers vary from 5 to11 [and a dog] but we are consistent in meeting almost every week throughout the year

During the summer we amalgamate with those from the other groups and hold a book club .This year we looked at Nick Tucker's "12 Things God Can't Do" with interest . Copies are available on the bookshelf in the lower hall if you haven't read it.

Anyone who is looking to join a daytime group is very welcome; we start at 10.00 and finish by 11.15



Tuesday Evening - Val S.

Our Home group meets each week during term time and we use our Minister Martin's bible study notes which have helped us dig deeper into the Sunday sermons. We start our time with refreshments and catch up on how everyone is doing. We celebrate birthdays and other events within our group with 'cake'. We often listen to a chorus/song and join in singing together. We have a time of prayer and our group is now able to pray more openly than before. It is great to encourage one another and then feed back with the answers to our prayers. At Christmas we all brought food to sit at the table and reflected on the year that had passed.

Our host Margaret was treated on her birthday during May.



7.Fabric - David F.

After several years of repairs to the vestibule roof we had the complete roof waterproofing replaced during the summer break. Plus:-

- Front fence between church and house was renewed.
 - Repairs to church blind.
 - Shelving repositioned in office
- Decoration and shelving fitted in Lower Hall
 - Repairs to church barrier rails

Several lighting tubes and bulbs have been replaced as necessary. The normal yearly procedures for fire alarm testing and emergency lighting, fire equipment and gas safety checks were carried out. One replacement fire extinguisher was acquired and fitted.

Fire, Health & amp; Safety 2024

I am pleased to report we strive to keep the church premises and facilities in good condition. We keep our regular statutory safety requirements (fire, gas and electric) up to date.

Note:- This year 2025 we are due the 5 yearly Electrical Installation Inspection



8.Friday Club - Rev Martin Wright.

The group is for children in school years 1 to 6. We have welcomed a few new faces and have around 15 attending each week. The group have been using The Jesus storybook videos looking at various narratives from both the old and new testament.

We also play games, activities and of course a drink and biscuit.

As part of this group we also invite young leaders to take part. Below is a picture of one of the leaders' last days. Chloe is in there somewhere.



9.Energize - Rev. Martin Wright

This group meets every Friday and is for school years 7 to 13.we have welcomed a lot of new people to this group with the majority not identifying as a Christian. We have looked though the different meanings of Love through the bible and created a piece of art. We have also had sleepover overs with a mini camp in the church plus a couple of trips to different places.



10.External Tenants - Jo K.

The bookings remained consistent during 2024.

- Tuesday mornings- Mandy, Pilates.
- Tuesday afternoon (once a month)- New U3A.
- Wednesday evening- Michelle, Pilates. (from June)
 - Thursday afternoon- Mum's Night Out.
- Thursday evening- Pholk cookery club.

SEND Coffee mornings were meeting on Tuesday mornings, they have now transferred to another venue.

Polling Day (May)

Two children's' parties were held(June/September) Foodbank Trustees meeting (July)

11.Pastoral Care - Graham & Val B.

A pastoral carer is someone who either formally, as part of a pastoral team, or network, or informally, as part of their fellowship group or everyday relationships in the community, offers care and support to another. So we think that, to one degree or another, we are all pastoral carers.

The pastoral needs of our church are supported by the prayers of the members and others in our fellowship, and friends of our church. We send prayer requests via email so that as many people as possible can be involved in the prayer life of the church, including support of the members, their families and friends.

The home groups provide an extra layer of pastoral care for those involved in those groups. The diaconate make regular contact with people in our fellowship, especially those not in home groups. At each deacon's monthly business and prayer meetings there is a time of prayer for those for whom a special need has been identified. The problems with people's health (both physical and mental) has meant that during the year the need for contact by phone, email or in person continues to be very important.

We saw this sculpture of God's large loving hands in a church garden when we were away on holiday. It spoke to us about how His hands can comfort us, hold us, heal us, and lead us through all our troubles.



12.Safeguarding - Rosie M.

The important matter of safeguarding vulnerable adults and children is on every deacons meeting agenda. Fortunately we mostly have only a few concerns, all of which are appropriately dealt with amongst ourselves and also with the advice of our Eastern Baptist Association Safeguarding Lead

As always we review the policy statement at our AGM and remind the membership of our responsibilities to all as a church family.

Disclosure and Barring [DBS] checks are undertaken for anyone working alone or responsible for children's activities or vulnerable adults. Regular training is also given.

Anyone who has concerns may approach me in confidence for guidance and advice. Rosie Midson Designated Person for Safeguarding



13.Women's Fellowship - Brenda P.

We meet every Monday afternoon from 2.30 until 4 pm, with a regular attendance of approximately 12 to 15.

We try to have a speaker every week booked for us by Kim. A mixed bunch of men, women, Ministers, lay people, some from local churches or charities.

We love to sing and Cecilia plays the piano for us and chooses the hymns and choruses.

Two of our ladies keep in touch with those who can't attend regularly or have health or other issues and these are prayed for.

We have an annual project which we fund-raise for. Our 2 main fundraising events are a cream tea and a strawberries and cream afternoon. A big thank you to Rosie for being our treasurer. In 2024 we supported International Needs.

After we've sung our final hymn we have a cup of tea or coffee and gather informally for a chat before going home.



Our Christmas Meal together at The Oakwood

14.Pinocchio's - Jan N.

We feel that God has again blessed us this year, two new babies have been born. Numbers are continuing to grow, especially on Fridays which last year was a real struggle when some weeks there were more helpers than children but after much prayer we now have a really lovely group of families that come on a regular basis. Each week we have a different craft and this year we have made animal masks, fish, trees, sunflowers and bees, and of course we've made lots of cards for Mothers' day, Christmas etc and done lots of sticking. We ended the summer term with a bouncy castle party which was enjoyed by all. The year ended with a Christmas party and a visit from Santa.

Please continue to support us in prayer as we get to know and interact with the children and their families and continue to invite them to other activities and services in the church.



15.Men's Breakfast - Graham B.

After the change in 2023 in which we decided to have all our men's breakfasts at the Oakwood, we continued to do that this year, with between 20 and 30 men coming together each time to enjoy the food and conversation in the 7 sessions we had there.

Although many of those attending were from EBC, we also had men from six other churches coming (from as far away as Benfleet), as well as encouraging non Christians to come to a safe environment. It has enabled conversations and discussions between men from different church backgrounds.



16.Ladies Breakfast - Val S.

We met five times during 2024 at The Oakwood Pub on a Saturday morning, towards the end of the year for our November breakfast we changed the time from 9.30am to 10am as a few ladies requested a later time. This is now our new time. We continue to welcome other ladies and friends from other local churches which is lovely.

It is always a relaxed atmosphere and Sally and her staff do not hurry us and in fact enjoy our visits. Our numbers can fluctuate but average around eighteen. As always we welcome our young ladies who come along with their mums.



17.Foodbank - Sharon W.

There have been a lot of changes through the foodbank this year. With the stepping down of Sharon from leading the group and now Martin being responsible for the admin and Wendy leading the sessions.

There has also been a change in the format and feel of how we run the sessions. The aim of the group seems to become more strongly focused on creating a safe and welcoming space for our guests and now includes us offering a hot drink, biscuits and somewhere comfortable to sit.

The measure we now use as success is not how many people we give the food parcel to but rather how long they stay with us in the session. We have also seen a growth in our volunteer base which means the work is more broadly shared.



18.Shoeboxes - Sharon W.

We launched our Shoebox appeal on Sunday 13th October this year. This is a project that has been running for many years and is much loved by our fellowship. It was interesting to observe that the Thanksgiving service for the life of Mavis Land was around this time and everyone who attended would have seen that a project that she initiated was still continuing healthily.

Sunday 17th November was our collection date. We are always pleased to accept shoeboxes from our congregation and groups that are local to the area or known to us. I am happy to report that Kingsway Preschool supported us again, as they have done for many years, and donated 22 boxes. Added to the 51 brought to church Rosie was able to take 78 physical boxes to the collection warehouse in Rayleigh Cricket ground. We know that there were several more constructed online.

In our celebration service we had fun learning which countries were part of the project donating the boxes and locating them on a world map. The children helped bring the boxes to the front of the church acting out the different means of transporting them. We had aeroplanes, motorcycles and camels as well as the more usual methods relying on cars, boats and walking.

THANK YOU for your kind gifts and donations that bring a smile and God's love to children who really don't have very much.



19.Social Events - Graham B.

The trend of 2023 continued this year with several of our church-led activities spreading out into regular social events, such as the men's and ladies' breakfasts and mid week evening events, Safe Haven (Community Cafe), and Knit and Natter sessions. We also had a couple of other social events- a picnic in Eastwood Park which was very well attended and enjoyed, and a quiz from which £180 was raised to support our youth club activities.

We continue to look for opportunities for further social activities, both for our church fellowship, and for others in our local community."



20.Flower Ministry - Rosie M.

For 11 months of the year we enjoy the flowers that brighten the sanctuary. This is thanks to the people who have chosen a special anniversary or memorable date to give flowers and also to those who donate to the flower fund. There is a list in the vestibule to which you can add your name. Your flowers can be arranged for you, thanks to the small team who help with this, or you might like to arrange them yourself. should you wish. After the service on Sunday the flowers are given out to be shared and enjoyed. Money from the flower fund is also used to purchase small tokens which might be given on pastoral care visits.

The 12th month is, of course, Advent, when we have a beautiful Christmas tree, given in memory of dear Andrew Statt, and other decorations instead of flowers.



21.Safe Haven Comminity Cafe - Graham B.

At the end of 2023 we sought God's guidance, as continued support of our sessions with regular attendance by one of Southend Council's dementia navigators was in doubt. We are very pleased to say at the end of 2024 that God has answered our prayers, and also given us much, much more.

Despite the proposed council cuts being implemented, we still had a dementia navigator present at all our sessions. Indeed, the council has brought in a system under which the four navigators who remain after the cuts take it in turn to come to our sessions, each now inviting people with dementia and their carers. The council has also recognised our sessions as being one of four hubs in Southend they are supporting.

This year we also reviewed and reissued our leaflets, which highlight the wide variety of what is available at the monthly sessions, not just for dementia sufferers and their carers, but recognising that we can provide a safe place for anyone, including those who feel isolated or lonely. Wide circulation of the leaflets, "word of mouth" and referrals from Southend Council has resulted in more people coming to the sessions. Our efforts to widen the appeal of what is available means that, as well as the refreshments, craft activities, games and quizzes always available, we have this year provided other things, like occasional nail care and song requests, the latter of which promotes singing and linked memories to the songs selected."



22.Sound & Media - Kim W.

In 2024, we continued to live stream our services, thanks to the dedication of our wonderful team of volunteers. We took a brief pause from live streaming in August and late December, not only due to a shortage of volunteers but also to give our team a well-deserved break.

We are actively seeking more volunteers to learn the computer and sound desk operations, and to provide support to those already volunteering in the team. Your help would be greatly appreciated in ensuring the continued success of our live streaming and sound efforts.

We continue to begin our services with a short video on navigating our website, followed by our weekly notice reel and final countdown. We've made a concerted effort to align our song backgrounds and slides with our church logo, ensuring visual consistency. To assist those with sight loss, Bible readings are displayed in yellow text on a black background, which is widely considered the most readable combination.

In response to feedback, we have discontinued the large print words, as they were no longer being accessed and proved to be time-consuming to produce. However, should the need arise again, we are open to exploring the best way to reintroduce this option.

23.Sunflowers - Nicky H.

Sunflowers this year has been a real pleasure. The children are always willing to join in with activities, including prayer, bible stories, craft, games, discussions and the odd balloon.

It can be a bit tricky to plan for the Sunflowers sessions as there is a big range of ages so I usually plan a range of activities around a central theme that they can have a go at. Also, sometimes there are only three children and sometimes there are ten so I have to be prepared for many.

We have a number of quite young children joining us regularly and it is lovely to see the older ones helping the youngsters but extra adult help is always welcome. This year we first looked at people from the old Testament. This gave us the opportunity to revisit some old favourites like Ruth but also to look again at some stories that we were less familiar with such as Caleb.

We also looked at some of the people Jesus met such as the Samaritan woman at the well. This gave us the opportunity to consider what we would want to ask/tell Jesus. The children are always very honest about their thoughts and feelings and will humbly tell me about poor choices they have made in the past. I am constantly reminded of Mathew 18 vs1-5

"I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven"



24.Sunday Youth - Susan B.

Sunday Youth was held every 2 weeks during term time in the upstairs room of the church building. Susan led the group each week along with a volunteer (DBS checked) from the church family as there was no regular helper.

The attendees were aged 11-16 and numbers had reduced since the previous year so there would be 2 or 3 young people.

Activities planned included games, Bible study, crafts and prayers. Due to small group numbers there were, on occasions, opportunities for deeper conversations with the young people.

The last session was held on 7th July 2024.

25.Craft Events - Nicky H.

This year we have held an Easter Craft Event and a Christmas Craft Event. There was a wide variety of crafts for all ages including paper crafts, wooly projects, sewing, biscuit decorations, beads and a treasure hunt. It was lovely seeing both Mum's and Dad's getting stuck in with their children. And there was cake!!

Word has got around and we are getting good numbers at both events. In fact Martin had to be quite firm at Christmas as families showed no inclination to leave.

This is a really good opportunity to talk to members of our community and to get to know people and I am beginning to see familiar faces return each time, some of whom have visited on Sunday. More helpers are always welcome!!!!!



26.Activate - Ladies Morning - Val S.

<u>www.activateyourlife.org.uk</u> is an organisation that has been going for nearly 60 years with their patron Fiona Castle (wife of Roy Castle). There aim is to:
"We exist to equip, resource, train and inspire Christian women to be active in sharing God's love in natural, meaningful ways" Four of us, Nicky, Sami, Christina and myself went to their Weekend Away in February 2024 and came back fully inspired to share what we had experienced and the depth it had created in our spiritual lives.

Firstly we held a taster session for our ladies in May 2024 where each of us shared more personally. Activate also provides a team to come to churches and hold an Activate day, which we arranged for October 2024. The four of us worked together throughout the year to plan and make this time a wonderful experience for other women. The team at Activate helped us with advertising which we sent to other churches inviting women to come along. It however did not reap the interest we hoped for, but Activate still came and changed the 'day' to a morning. This was a wonderful morning with 20 of us hearing from Jazz and Hayley, both amazing women of God.

For 2025 - We have already booked to go to the Activate weekend at the end of February so again we hope to share our experiences.



27.Women's Social Group - Kim W.

Since its start in early 2023, our ladies' social group has truly blossomed into a vibrant and welcoming community. With regular updates and event planning shared on our WhatsApp group, members have been enjoying a wide variety of activities and building wonderful connections.

A Look Back at 2024

This past year was filled with memorable moments:

- Hosting social gatherings at members' homes for games evenings and afternoons.
- Enjoying theatre trips, meals out, and even a delightful jazz evening.
- Unleashing our creativity with pottery painting and jewelry-making sessions.
 - Relaxing and connecting during visits to the beach hut.
 - Our monthly Knit & Natter

Exciting Plans for 2025

The new year is already shaping up to be full of opportunities for more fun, friendship, and shared experiences. If you'd like to join us, we'd love to have you! Please reach out to Kim for more details.

Here's to another year of wonderful memories and connections!



28.BMS Birthday Scheme - Rosie M.

Everyone has a birthday whether we choose to celebrate it or not. By becoming a member of this scheme you will receive a card on your birthday which contains updates about the work of the Baptist Worldwide Mission and an envelope in which you can give a donation. This can also be done on-line of course.

This is a simple way of giving something back on a day when we hope you receive a great blessing by thanking God for another year of life.

It would be wonderful if everyone who has their birthday read out in the weekly notices chose to join this simple scheme. Please see Rosie for more details.

Many thanks to Pam Freeman for the service she has given over the last decade to administering this scheme, she has now handed this on.



29.Care Homes - Rev. Martin Wright.

At the start of the year we were asked to come and lead a service at Brooklands care home.

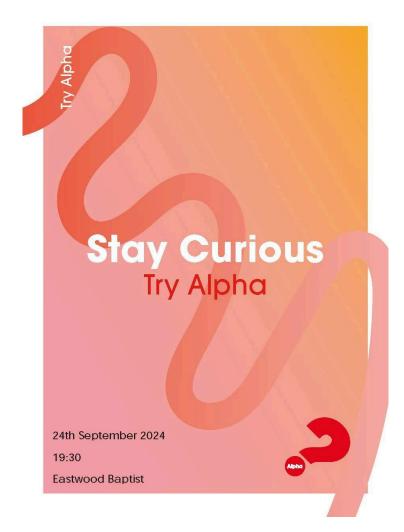
This was something done the year before but was very sporadic. However this year we have created a more formal pattern by visiting once a month. This has also included a partnership with Leighfields Evangelical Church which is wonderful to work alongside them.

The time together tends to be a simple 20 minute service with another 20 minutes of conversation. The time together looks to be valuable to both the residence and the team leading this important work.



30.Alpha - Rev. Martin Wright.

A small group of us journeyed together through the Alpha resource. This was a great time of conversation and better understanding of faith. The group finished with a Christmas meal together and will be developing into a seekers group through 2025.



31.Summer Book Club - Rev. Martin Wright.

Each summer our normal house groups take a break and they are replaced with a summer book club. This is the second year of meeting and has been encouraging to those who attend and read the book.

This year 22 books were brought by people from within our church and around 10 people attended the group's weekly meeting. '12 Things God Can't Do' written by Nick Tucker challenged us to rethink the nature of God aimed to develop a better understanding of how Big and different God is to what we normally believe.



32.Schools Work - Rev. Martin Wright.

School work continues to be an area which the church is developing. This last year we have led assemblies in all three primary schools, taught lessons in two and all three schools have visited our church.

We are slowly becoming the go to community for all things Christian. We have looked together at subjects including Easter, Christmas, Charity, who is Jesus? Why did Jesus die? Nativity drama and explaining the elements of the Christingle. Eastwood primary school students love our team leading their assemblies and often ask when we will be there again. However, do they ask because of the great and engaging teaching? The wonderful people leading them? The way we bring stories to life? or is it Vals jokes? We will let you know in next year's report.



33.Youth House Group - Rev. Martin Wright.

The youth house group developed from a youth alpha course we ran. It has become a safe place for the young people to talk over faith and life. The year was also a time when all of them were taking exams and during this period we created a place to escape the pressure and pray into what the weeks ahead hold.

There was a regular group of 6 who would have a meal together, study the bible and take part in prayer activities.

At the end of the year we finished with a Christmas meal and because of many leaving for University, becoming 18 and having other commitments we decided to stop this group.



34.Satellite Youth Camp - Rev. Martin Wright

This was the first time in many years that we have organised a youth summer camp. The four leaders Kim, Martin, Susan and Rae were prepared for 5 days of uncomfortable sleep, poor quality toilets and lots of noise but we were also excited to see if the Satellite Youth Christian Festival would engage the young people

We took 6 young people aged from 12 to 17 and they really did have a wonderful time, engaging with the activities and community spaces. There was also some engaging and relatable teaching plus a lot of great worship.

The event encouraged a lot of growth within our young people and was successful in many ways.



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