

# Parish profile

**ST PAUL'S**  
REACH TEACH MEND SEND



# About us

St Paul's is a large church within the Bath and Wells Diocese in South West England, situated in the seaside town of Weston-super-Mare (commonly referred to as 'Weston.')

The community has been worshipping and serving here for over 100 years and we have experienced particular growth and dynamic change following the introduction and pioneering of the Alpha Course for the first time outside of London, around 25-30 years ago.

We are committed to building the Kingdom of God in our town, through the power of the Holy Spirit. This aim is informed by our longstanding mission statement, which is to 'Reach, Teach, Mend and Send.' We place a strong emphasis on personal encounter with the Lord and spiritual growth and transformation; we are devoted to the practice of prayer and worship and encourage discipleship amongst our congregation.

St. Paul's has previously taken a curate for 3 or 4 years of their training and this is a tradition that we would hope to continue. Additionally, as part of staff and leadership development, in recent times, we have attended The Leadership Conference, in the South West, hosted by Holy Trinity Brompton.

We seek to be welcoming and inclusive to visitors and new faces and enjoy connecting with the community and serving those outside of our church in a number of ways through the week. We also host large-scale community celebrations or festivals each year which attract sizeable numbers of people from our local area.

St Paul's has a multi-ethnic, socially diverse church body encompassing a range of worshipping styles. Whilst we acknowledge that we are far from perfect, the church has a beautiful sense of community and a grace-filled spirit towards each other; regardless of age, race, tradition, sexuality, or gender.

We recognise the role God has for us to serve our town and transform our local community and we thank Him for all we have seen Him do in us and through us under the leadership of the previous incumbent, both within the church and the wider town. We are looking for a new vicar to lead us into the next steps of God's plan for this community. We anticipate the new incumbent will help us grow in our vision and understanding of what the Kingdom of God might look like in our town and help us to make that vision a reality, while investing in and growing the thriving community, active ministries and lively services that are already established.

[Click here to see the amazing location of St. Paul's.](#)





# Who We Are

## Vision

At St Paul's our vision is to see the City of God established in the town of Weston. The strategy we follow is to balance work and prayer: to pray as if it all depends on God and to work as if it all depends on us. We faithfully believe that when a community is centred on Jesus and empowered by His Spirit it can achieve seemingly impossible things. We work:

to **reach** people with the love of Jesus

to **teach** people to walk in His ways

to **mend** people's lives, working with the Holy Spirit

to **send** people out to build the City of God in the town, country and wider world.

*"Be open to the Holy Spirit,  
follow His lead"*

## Values

At St Paul's we try to make sure that everything we do has the following three values.

**Passion for Jesus**

**Authentic Community**


**Radical Hospitality**





# Our Story

The story of St Paul's began as the town of Weston-super-Mare grew from a small fishing village into a large Victorian seaside resort. The original worshipping community started meeting in 1897 in an iron building on the present site, consecrated by the Bishop of the time to support the rapidly growing developments along the coast to the south of Weston.



The church enjoyed rapid growth in its early years with a period of further significant change and expansion in the post-war period. Though there was a decline in the latter half of the twentieth century, there has been significant renewal over the last 30 years. In this time, the church congregation has changed from a shrinking group of around 30-50 middle aged and older adults to a thriving, Biblically grounded, growing community of all ages.

The electoral role currently lists 230 members, with around 450 people actively engaged on a weekly basis across all small groups and Sunday services. The church also hosts a number of ministries that both help our congregation grow spiritually as well as engage with and serve the local community.

Throughout the history of the church, there has been a spirit of generosity and grace with a focus on the future. The congregation has a history of planting churches in the local area, giving generously to external ministries (within the Diocese, the UK and abroad) and a strong tradition of sending out bright and inspiring leaders to equip and build the Kingdom.

Historically, the church has best thrived under charismatic leaders with strong vision. Looking forward, we hope and pray for another inspired incumbent who has authority in the Spirit, bold vision and a heart for Kingdom growth. We thank God for all He has done in bringing us to this place and we are excited for the next steps in our journey as a community.



# The Future

We anticipate several opportunities for growth and development of the congregation in the future and expect our next incumbent to do the following:

*“We’re looking to help progress the work of the Kingdom of God together in WSM.”*

Firstly, the ongoing work of discipleship of existing members as we each seek to better know Jesus personally.

Secondly, we would endeavour to better engage those on the fringes of the church and those engaged with church ministries but perhaps not Sunday services or small groups, in order that they would come to know the Lord and grow in faith.

Thirdly, we desire to better connect with the broader community of the town, in a meaningful way that helps shape the culture of our area, blesses those in need and more widely offers the hope and truth of the gospel message. The church has always sought to engage the emerging generation and it is our belief that this focus should continue.

Finally, we anticipate the new incumbent will want to review and develop our site and facilities. There is currently planning permission in place for a significant rebuild of the church hall. Work has begun on this project in order to secure planning permission; however, we anticipate this project will need to be reviewed and potentially revised in line with the changing needs of our community in light of the emerging post-pandemic cultural shift.





# Who We Are Looking For

We are excited to recruit a new incumbent who will lead us forward into God's plan for us.

## Character

We anticipate this person will be a charismatic leader with a strong vision, deeply in love with Jesus, active in discipleship, devoted to Scripture, filled with the Holy Spirit and blessed with a passion for building the Kingdom of God.





## Ability

We expect that the next incumbent will be:

1. Able to understand and envision the next steps of the church's growth and spiritual development, inspiring and encouraging the congregation to a deeper disciplined relationship with Christ.
2. Prayerfully imagining the future direction and furthering our work of engaging with and serving our town, in order that God's Kingdom is built in our community.
3. Able to cast and clearly communicate vision in a way that inspires and engages the church community.
4. Strategising and directing outreach in the local community with a particular focus on the emerging generation.
5. Able to plan and develop our existing facilities and site in line with the changing needs of a post-covid church and community.
6. Able to communicate engagingly when preaching and teaching a mixed congregation of various educational levels.
7. A distinctly welcoming Pastor, such that St Paul's continues to be attractive.
8. Ready to work with and expand a wide range of existing ministries, courses and small groups, releasing those teams to serve the church and the wider community, while planning and developing new programmes as appropriate.
9. Responsible for the development and retention of the staff team with the Head of Operations where appropriate; encouraging and equipping them to enable the ongoing mission of the church.
10. Working with Church Wardens, Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and PCC to ensure the most efficient and effective structure for governance
11. Able to pastor and care for a large, diverse congregation with varying needs and differing perspectives.
12. Able to lead, facilitate and utilise our excellent internship programme.
13. Willing to continue our tradition of training and developing a curate.

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# Community

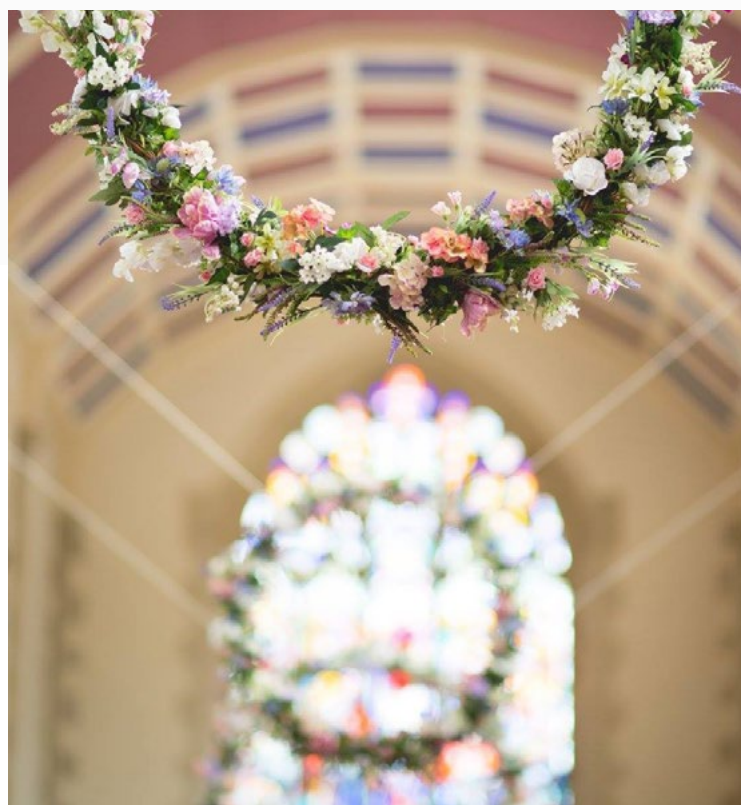
## Authentic Community

At St Paul's we talk about having an authentic community with Jesus at the centre. The congregation tends to define that in terms of openness, grace, and love.

We try to be open with one another; we trust one another enough to reveal our true selves, we are realistic about our failings and the reality of where we are without trying to dress up our reality or put masks on.

In light of this authenticity, we aim to have an attitude of grace and acceptance, working 'with you, not to you': we aim to warmly welcome the rich diversity of our human experiences, accepting people for who they are and what they have been through, while investing in one another so that we are each moving closer to Jesus.

Our community therefore strives to love one another, supporting each other in practical ways and building friendship, so that everyone is welcome and the community feels like an extended family, journeying together to build the Kingdom of God.







## Sunday Worship

Prior to the covid-19 pandemic, the church had five Sunday services, catering to a range of worshipping styles and communities. Though distinct in style, each of the services shared a common character with a warm welcome, spirit of grace and hope, and a shared desire to meet with the Risen Christ. All of the services were hosted and run by a combination of church staff and an active and enthusiastic volunteer base.

Our 9.30 am service was more traditional with liturgical worship from the Book of Common Worship, interspersed with hymns and culminating in celebration of the Eucharist. Our 11.00 am service was family focused with a contemporary style, longer periods of sung worship, space for prayer ministry and encounter with the Holy Spirit. In the afternoons, we had a 'Messy Church' service which was aimed at young families who do not have a faith background. The 7.00 pm service was the least formal of our services with longer periods of worship and more space for encounter with the Holy Spirit. Our fifth and final service, 'Elevate,' also ran in the evenings, aimed at students and young adults.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic we have been exploring new ways to worship including streaming church online and hosting community events through Zoom. Our current decision is that our church online offering should continue after the lockdown and we have recently invested in equipment and infrastructure to livestream our church services. We anticipate that the pattern and rhythm of our Sunday services may adjust and develop as we adapt to the changing needs and new reality of a post-pandemic world.

## Prayer

Prayer is the foundation of everything we do as a Church. We believe this a crucial part of your membership at St Paul's and encourage you to join us at our prayer gatherings.

As Church we regularly participate in a number of 24-7 prayer weeks throughout the year. 24-7 Prayer is an international movement of prayer, mission and justice working in more than half the nations on earth. As individuals and groups we take it in turns to pray in the church and chapel for 24 hours a day for an entire week.

We pray for the vision of St Paul's as a whole church community twice a term on our Kingdom Come evenings and these are powerful nights of prayer and worship. Branches are encouraged to make this a priority.

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# Programmes, Ministries and Events

## Internship Programme and Ministry Experience Scheme

The Ministry Experience Scheme started in September 2011 as a leadership training course for those feeling called to explore ministry training. Over the years, this developed into an internship programme and this proved so successful that in 2019-20 the Diocese started supporting it as a Ministry Experience Programme. The scheme now hosts an average of 5-6 interns per year that are based at St Paul's, as well as a number of 'externs' from across the Diocese who attend training with St Paul's but minister and gain experience within their own churches through the rest of the week. Participants are treated as a leader within the church and are expected to reflect the maturity of someone in that role. The Diocese provides funding for anyone under 25 years old who joins the scheme, whether intern or extern.





## Kids' Church

Kids' Church (age 2- 11) exists as an equal and valued part of the main church body, during the 11.00 am service every Sunday. The ministry exists as a space to offer relevant and accessible Biblical teaching, as well as coaching children in what it means to be a disciple. This includes encouraging acts of service to one another in the wider church community in all areas, from prayer to preaching, cleaning to welcome. The ministry also strives to be a community that reaches out, rather than simply serving within, so we aim to encourage children to engage with outreach opportunities.

St Paul's hosts two Holiday Clubs a year at Easter and in the summer welcoming 120-130 children from the community to play games, make crafts, sing songs and hear the Good News of Jesus. This is an incredible opportunity to engage with children from all areas of the community with children coming back year after year, often transitioning to young leaders when they reach year 7.



## Youth & Students

Previously, St Paul's youth (a group of around 15), met on Friday evenings at their weekly event called 'Wildfire.' This included small groups with Bible study as well as a social space. On Sundays, our youth group attended the 11.00 am service during the worship, before heading out for more specific and focused teaching. Throughout the past year, our Youth Pastor has held online Zoom meetings on Sundays and midweek. The intention is to meet in the church hall as soon as the next stage of restrictions are eased.

The main focus of the student work was at a specific service called Elevate, on Sunday evenings at Emmanuel Church which is a site in a neighbouring parish, chosen because of its close proximity to the town centre and the central Weston College campus. (Weston College also has a University campus University Centre Weston, with a number of degree level students.) The Elevate service is run by St Paul's staff and volunteers and is currently delivered by Zoom. This is a relatively recent partnership initiative which will offer great opportunity for further development.

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## Messy Church

Messy Church has previously acted as the main outreach opportunity for young families, reaching up to 90 people, of which the majority do not typically attend church. Prior to the pandemic, this ministry ran a traditional family service, reaching many families in need. This included games, songs and teaching. All families were served a home-cooked meal, with emphasis placed on hospitality through this. This has been greatly praised by the community, with many asking about the return of the group during lockdown.

Our team will be re-launching in September; aiming for Messy Church to grow into its own church family with community and discipleship.

## SParks

SParks has traditionally been a safe space for parents and carers to bring toddlers to a weekly morning meeting, with the expansive church space used for play and activities for around 100. The hall gets set up as a café, with highchairs available and drinks and food served from the kitchen. Currently, Sparks takes place over Zoom with stories, songs and an opportunity for adults to talk and share. Prior to the initial lockdown, SParks did not offer Christian teaching, however, on re-opening, the intention is to include a Christian theme offering teaching for both children and adults.

## Sonic

Historically, Sonic has been an after-school club primarily for children from Walliscote Primary School nearby. Children were collected from school and brought to the church hall via a 'walking bus.' The team comprised of a variety of people including residents from a local care home. The time consisted largely of free play, with a variety of games and activities including table tennis. Many of those who attended Sonic also attended Messy Church with their families.

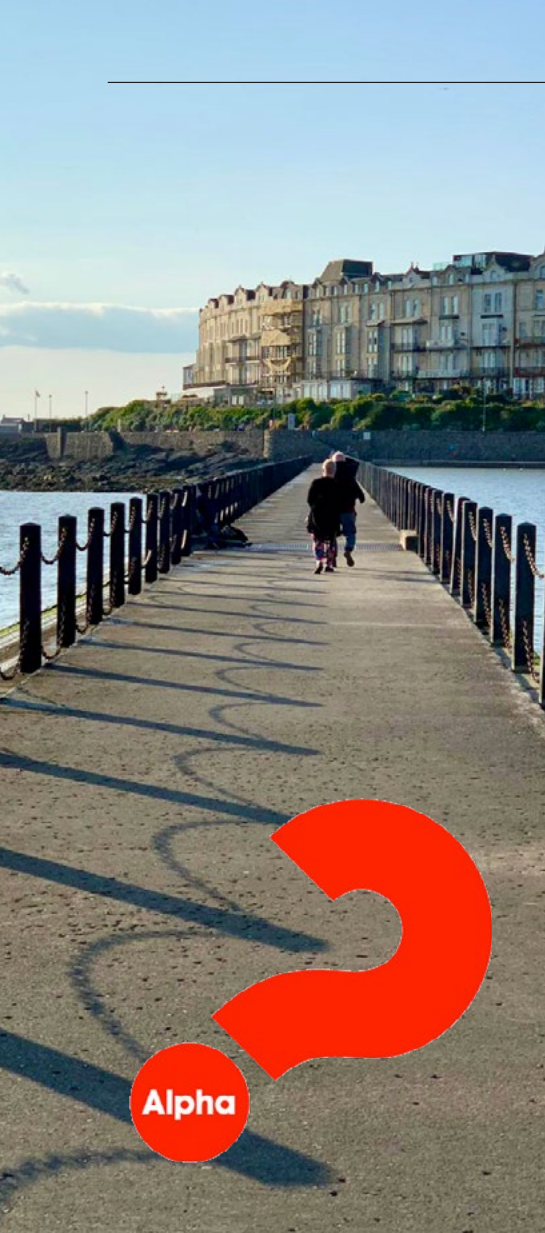
Following the lifting of lockdown restrictions, the vision of Sonic is to offer a safe space for children to learn and grow. This would mean establishing set activities, some including opportunities for personal development. The hope is that Sonic would become two groups. One group will act as a homework club, with children receiving support with completing homework as well as a place to talk. The other group will look more similar to the traditional Sonic format, including free play, a group game and an opportunity for teaching and input, both Biblically and socially, promoting reflection and discussion.

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*“Best toddler group in Weston-super-Mare!”*





## Alpha

Alpha is the foundation of outreach at St. Paul's, having run the course since the early 1990's. We have continued to offer a rolling programme since that time. In previous years, we have run Children's, Youth and Senior's Alpha.

## Believers in Recovery

Believers in Recovery supports people who have been affected directly or indirectly by any form of addiction. It started in 2015 as a branch group within St Paul's but it has grown into a well-recognised recovery ministry with groups in Bristol, London, and Devon. For the last 2 years, Believers has been a registered charity, (see appendix for web link).

Currently the ministry runs a men's and women's prayer and Bible study 3 times a week at 7.00 am (via Zoom). It also hosts 3 weekly services running at 7 pm (again via Zoom) which has between 100-200 regularly attending. Over the last 5 years the ministry has seen many hundreds of people come to Christ, most from a background of no faith, with many being baptised, some in the sea.



## Inspire

Inspire runs workshops and courses teaching skills and providing education for recovering addicts and vulnerable members of the community. The vision for this ministry has always been to help those who attend to gain self-worth and confidence in themselves, to give back to the community who helped them, to support the vulnerable and to give hope to the isolated and unemployed.

Inspire runs several courses including Photography, Cookery, IT, Sewing, Knitting & Crochet, Card Making, Jewellery Making, Art, Basic English & Maths and Guitar Lessons. There are also seasonal workshops such as wreath making.

The ministry has helped rehabilitate recovering addicts, working with them to work out finances, source safe housing and furniture and supporting them if they relapse.

*“You helped to make a man's brief life valued and peaceful.”*



## Potter's Wheel

Potter's Wheel is a mid-week community ministry for those who would like to receive healing, wholeness, and restoration through God's word. The group meet for coffee, worship, teaching, discussion, and prayer ministry on Wednesdays. The group always points those seeking restoration to Jesus.

*"Potter's has been and will remain a wonderful part of the foundation of my Christian journey."*

## Safehaven

Safehaven works to reach vulnerable women, helping restore their broken lives through their encounter with Jesus and by their interface with Christian women. The group, led by one of St Paul's interns, provided refreshments, craft activities, beauty treatments (supplied by Weston College students) as well as spiritual input via prayer and sharing a thought, based on verses from the Bible. The group has not been able to meet for approximately 1 year and, therefore, we hope to start slowly and develop what we can, as easing of the 'roadmap' allows.

## Seniors

Our Seniors ministry involved our 9.30 am congregation meeting once a month for activities, fortnightly for Communion followed by 'coffee and chat' and then monthly tea parties for community outreach. Our senior members also bless our church with wonderful flowers during the year and are happy to help out with special events such as weddings.

The Mothers Union is also well attended by our seniors. Regular letters have been delivered throughout the past year, especially to those unable to access Zoom or online church. We are so pleased to see many members of this group now returning each Sunday morning.



## Branches

There are numerous branch groups (home groups) which meet at various times and places for Bible study, interest sharing or growth development study in the form of courses. At the present time, around 160 people participate in one or more branch group. Personal development and relationships are the key element with the provision of strong pastoral support.

*“I was helped on a journey of inner understanding, healing and forgiveness. It gave me a closer walk with the Lord.”*



## Events

The church hosts a number of largescale ‘festival’ style family events for the community each year, held both in neighbouring parks and other venues. These include ‘Summer Vibe,’ and the ‘1100 Lights’ events, which welcome several thousand visitors, many of whom are local residents. Though the church does offer a Christian message at each of these events, they are largely a celebration and a chance to build relationships.

In addition, smaller annual events are held, such as Africa Sunday, to focus on need overseas and these are always vibrant affairs.

Concerts are also held, by locally renowned bands and musicians, as well as occasionally hosting national touring groups. These events do not generally feature an overtly Christian message.



# Leadership and Staff



Michèle



Sharon



Craig



Laura



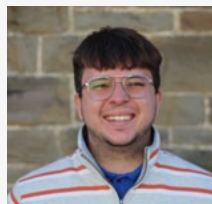
Sarah S



Sarah B



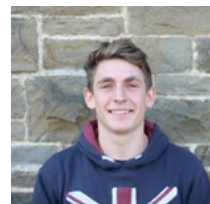
Ruth



Max



Kim



Robbie



Wendy

## Staff team

The new incumbent will undertake line management of the Head of Operations and Head of Ministries. These two key roles manage the rest of the staff team.



## Salaried Staff

### **Craig Sinclair**

**Curate** (full-time is licensed until January 2023)

### **Sarah Burnell**

**Head of Operations** (full-time)

### **Sarah Sinclair**

**Head of Ministries** (4 days)

### **Wendy Dover**

**Operations Manager, Community Groups Pastor**  
(3 days)

### **Laura Pearson**

**Worship & Creative Leader** (full-time)

### **Kim Hunt**

**Finance Manager, Potter's Pastor** (3.5 days)

### **Max Jennings**

**Youth Leader** (South West Youth Ministries, part-time)

### **Ruth Gould**

**Children & Families Leader** (full-time)

### **Robbie Evans**

**Caretaker** (2 days)

*Building the City  
in the Town*



## Volunteer Staff

### **Michèle Ball**

**Church Warden: Ministries**

### **Sharon McKechnie**

**Church Warden: Operations  
& Branch Groups Pastor**

### **Richard Salmon, Eric Delve,**

**John Simons & Keith Powell**  
**Retired Clergy**

### **Wendy Dover, Pam Burnell,**

**Richard & Helen Salmon, Terry & Sue  
Pike, Denys Rayner, Liz Blyth**  
**Pastoral Care Pastors**

**David Holtby** (Assistant Safeguarding Officer),

**Kath Todd** (Safer Recruitment)

**Sarah Sinclair** (Safeguarding Trainer)

**Safeguarding Team**

**Prayer Ministry Pastors**

Vacant and currently recruiting

**Debbie Readings**

**Catering & Hospitality Leader**





# The Area

Weston is a seaside town of around 90,000 people at the western edge of the Diocese of Bath and Wells. Situated just off the M5, around 20 miles south of Bristol, Weston is sandwiched between the attractive coast of the Bristol Channel to the west and the Mendip Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to the east. The town sits in an enviable location both in terms of surrounding natural beauty and its excellent transport links to larger population centres in the south and west of England.

The local area is known for its beautiful, long sandy beaches, picturesque countryside, and famous tourist attractions such as Cheddar Gorge, Weston Pier and Wookey Hole. The town and wider area is well established as a holiday destination and is therefore blessed with a wealth of historic leisure and outdoor activities as well as several renowned shopping destinations. Recent investment has brought exciting new attractions and a thriving calendar of year-round events.





## The Town

Weston has a vibrant and growing community and the South West attracts people to relocate from all over the country. However, like many Victorian seaside towns, Weston faces a range of challenges including areas of considerable deprivation, poor educational attainment and health outcomes, significant amounts of seasonal and low paid employment. Specific to Weston, the town hosts around 10% of the UK's rehabilitation centres and has a large population of current and recovering addicts.

While the population remains older than the national average with a largely mono-ethnic, white British population; the town is undergoing significant growth and development with the aim of attracting younger, more diverse families and is one of few towns in the UK likely to have a younger average population age moving forwards.



Parish Residents  
Age Demographic %

● 0-4	4.9%	● 30-44	18.7%
● 5-17	11.4%	● 45-64	25.2%
● 18-29	14.6%	● 60+	25.1%



## The Parish

The parish of St Paul's is located along the seafront, just south of the town centre, with a population of 5721 and an area of 1.6 square miles. The parish is largely a residential area with a pair of beautiful parks, a stretch of the beach lawns and a number of shops, cafes and restaurants scattered within its boundaries.

The parish falls within the town's 'South Ward' which is an area blessed with great opportunity. There are areas of significant deprivation with large numbers of nursing homes, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres. The adjoining parishes face similar or worse levels of deprivation; several are designated as Magnificat parishes. That said, the church congregation is drawn from across Weston and the wider Somerset area, much of which is significantly less deprived, and the church community has a positive attitude to these circumstances and sees them as a wonderful, God-given opportunity to build His Kingdom and serve those in need.





# I Buildings



## Church Buildings

The main church building is around 110 years old. It seats 400 with comfortable, modular chairs that can be easily arranged, moved or removed in order to give the nave maximum flexibility. The chancel features a newly renovated, large stage which provides a platform for services on Sundays as well as performing a dual role as a space for performing arts for local schools, colleges, and musicians. There is a Lady Chapel in the main church building, which provides a quiet and safe space for prayer ministry, as well as several offices.

The main church is equipped with a professional digital sound and lighting system and following the first lockdown there is new equipment to facilitate online streaming.

Alongside the church sits the current hall. This building is 50 years old and in need of some renovation. It houses a well-equipped large kitchen, the main toilets for the church, as well as several rooms of varying sizes which flexibly host the life, ministries and community of St Paul's through the week. It can also be hired for events and wedding receptions and other external users, such as English language lessons.

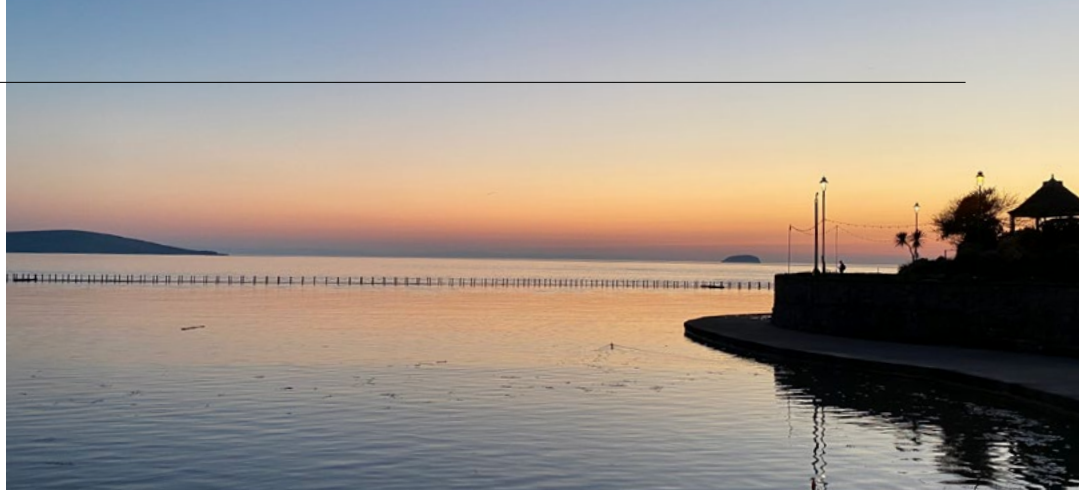
The church previously had a plan, to build a £6 million church hall and community centre linking the church, named 'The Quay.' Significant funds have been raised, planning permission has been granted and work begun (with the new car park completed). However, significant funds still needing to be raised, and the new reality of a post-covid world, the feeling within the church membership is that this presents a good opportunity to review the needs of the community.

## Accommodation

The Parish has the benefit of two houses, one of which is currently vacant. One is a 5-bedroom semi-detached property arranged over three floors, approximately 15 minutes flat walk to St Paul's.

There are two main reception rooms, and a conservatory/office to the rear. It has the added benefit of an integral garage and an electric charging point for a vehicle. The other property (detached) is 100 yards from the church is currently occupied by our curate.

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# The Finances

<b>Income</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Donations and legacies (unrestricted)	409,730.00	234,239.00	259,096.00
Charitable activities	38,811.00	33,456.00	33,389.00
Other trading activities	6,414.00	7,117.00	7,661.00
investment income	171.00	150.00	79.00
Other income	42,237.00	58,796.00	7,671.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>497,363.00</b>	<b>333,758.00</b>	<b>307,896.00</b>
Donations and legacies (restricted)	78,045.00	88,346.00	29,946.00
Cost of raising donations and legacies	41,141.00	10,143.00	223.00
<b>Expenditure</b>			
General expenditure	300,667.00	327,065.00	322,717.00
Cost of other trading activities		2,407.00	3,825.00
Other costs	509.00	244.00	126.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>301,176.00</b>	<b>329,716.00</b>	<b>326,668.00</b>
<b>Less Transfer between Restricted Funds</b>			<b>10,956.00</b>
<b>Net Expenditure/Income less transfers</b>	<b>196,187.00</b>	<b>4,042.00</b>	<b>(7,816.00)</b>

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# Ecumenical Life

St Paul's is part of the local Diocese of Bath and Wells; the Diocese leads the mission of the Anglican churches in the area. More locally, St Paul's is an active member of the Locking Deanery and has a good relationship with the churches in the town centre. This has led to a partnership with Emmanuel Church, which enabled St Paul's to host some of its Young Adults and Student ministry 'Elevate' at Emmanuel Church with funding from the Diocese. This is something that we hope to develop, with the potential to host some children and families' activities in future.

The church is also actively involved with Churches Together in Weston-super-Mare & District (CTWD). This is an ecumenical body that encourages and supports inter-church work, worship and witness among 35 member and associate churches. The aim of this partnership is to bless and resource the work of the united church in our area, doing more for the Kingdom together than we ever could apart. The outcome is that our community is being gradually transformed for the better and doors are opening for us to express in practical ways and in words, the message of hope that motivates us.

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DIOCESE OF  
**Bath & Wells**

Living the story. Telling the story.

## Our Vision

In response to God's immense love for us we seek to be God's people living and telling the story of Jesus.

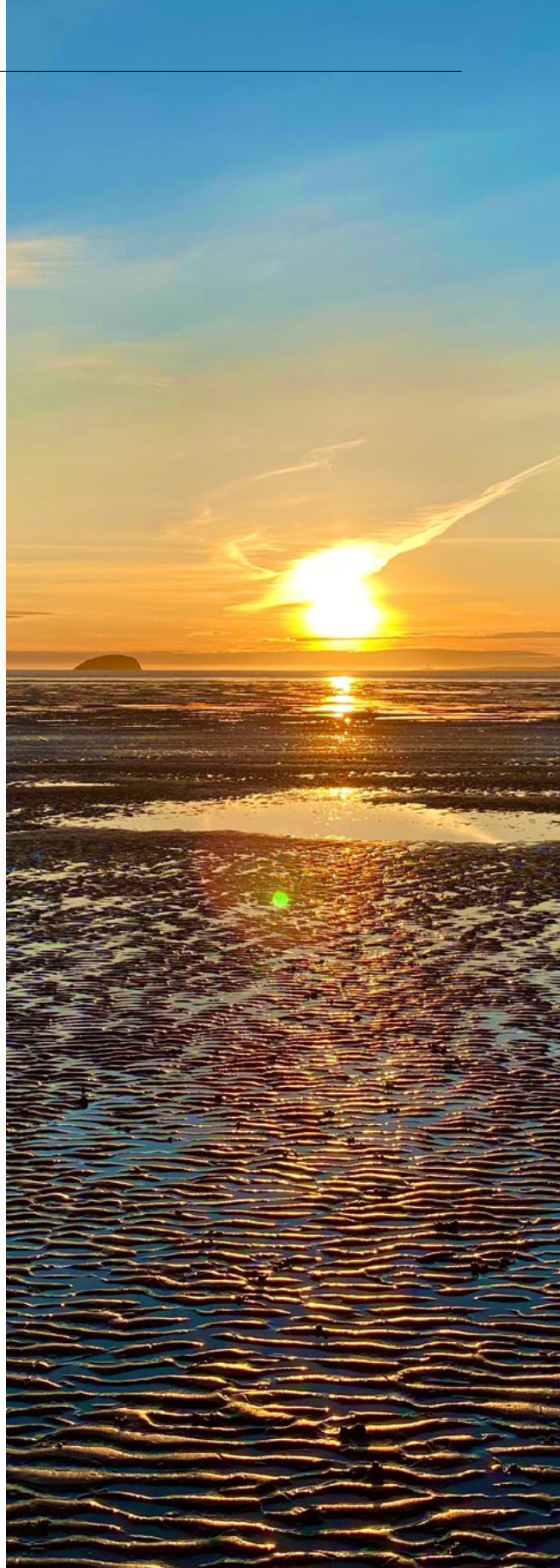
Our vision speaks of the story of Jesus; his life, teaching and work, his death and resurrection; the story which is the context of our faith and the content of our message.

We seek to live this story as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world and to tell it, both in sharing the good news and by the way in which our lives speak about Him.

- The diocesan strategy is built around three priorities:
- To place mission and evangelism at the heart of all we do.
- To re-align our resources towards mission.
- To identify, develop and release the gifts of all our people.

The priorities provide a framework for decision-making and planning at parish, benefice, deanery, archdeaconry and diocesan levels.

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Thank you for taking the time to read this profile and praying about whether to apply to come to work with us in the Locking Deanery. This is an exciting time for both the Deanery and the Diocese of Bath and Wells. Although the pandemic has brought many challenges, the Deanery is looking forward to growth and change, with investment in Pioneer ministry, new housing, church revitalisation and placing mission and evangelism at the heart of everything we do.

The Locking Deanery is made up of 28 churches in North Somerset – ‘a diverse family of churches sharing the love of God and embracing His Kingdom together’. We have an active Synod and DMPG leadership team, with a supportive Clergy chapter, and our mission action plan prioritises Youth and Children, Students and Young Adults, Seniors and the Ageing population and the Disadvantaged and Socially isolated under the banner of sharing life and inspiring mission. We have good Ecumenical links and value partnership working as we discern together what the Holy Spirit is calling us to do. For more information and to get a feel for the Deanery, please do visit <https://lockingdeanery.org>.

We are praying that these next few years will be a really fruitful and rewarding time to minister in the Locking Deanery and if you would like to find out more or would value an informal chat about applying please do call me on 07786 806640.

With prayerful best wishes in Christ,

**Tom**

*Revd Tom Yacomeni – Area Dean of Locking*

*February 2021*







# Local, National & International Partnerships

## Local Partners

### **WESTON FOODBANK**

The Foodbank is funded by local churches and community groups, working together towards stopping hunger in our local area.

<https://westonsupermare.foodbank.org.uk>

### **CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY**

CAP is passionate about releasing people from a life sentence of poverty, debt, unemployment and addiction.

[www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org)

### **LOVE WESTON**

Mobilising Prayer on every street in Weston and the surrounding areas as part of the National Day of Prayer. This will change the spiritual temperature of our town.

[www.loveston.org.uk](http://www.loveston.org.uk)

### **SWYM - SOUTH WEST YOUTH MINISTRIES**

Our main strategy is to place trainee children and youth workers with churches, local ministries and school's work projects throughout the region.

[www.swym.org.uk](http://www.swym.org.uk)

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# National and International

## ALPHA UK

Alpha is the culture driver of St Paul's. Alpha is friends bringing friends.

[www.alpha.org](http://www.alpha.org)

## FUSION

Fusion connects students to the church and encourages churches to be involved in student mission.

[www.fusion.uk.com](http://www.fusion.uk.com)

## COMPASSION

Child-advocacy ministry pairing compassionate people with children living in extreme poverty to release the children from spiritual, economic, social, and physical poverty. St Paul's holds a 'Compassion Sunday,' annually.

[www.compassion.com](http://www.compassion.com)

## BELIEVERS IN RECOVERY

A church-wide Christian recovery community of men and women based in the west country and led by a St Paul's member.

[www.believersinrecovery.co.uk](http://www.believersinrecovery.co.uk)

## EDITH'S DREAM

Edith's Dream is a Christian charity set up by a member of St Paul's to establish a health centre in Mbwengi, Cameroon.

[www.edithsdream.org](http://www.edithsdream.org)

## ETHEMBENI

A ministry supporting those affected by HIV and TB in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, overseen by our members John and Sofë Flanagan.

[www.ethembeni.co.za](http://www.ethembeni.co.za)

## NABIL & SARAH SHEHADI

The Shehadis are friends of St Paul's who are supported on a quarterly basis. They are CMS workers living in Lebanon, developing Alpha in the Middle East.

[www.churchmissionsociety.org/people-in-mission/nabil-and-sarah-shehadi](http://www.churchmissionsociety.org/people-in-mission/nabil-and-sarah-shehadi)

## SERVEDIRECT

A UK Christian charity and Ugandan NGO established by St Paul's members, that partners with existing projects, supporting a 600 member secondary school, and serving community primary needs, as well as a rural health centre, offering safe maternity care. In future, it is hoped St Paul's may be able to send a team to Uganda.

[www.servedirect.org](http://www.servedirect.org)



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## Safeguarding

St Paul's Church takes its responsibilities for safeguarding seriously. It is our collective responsibility and duty to provide a safe environment for everyone to worship and experience the love of God within our church.

Our Safeguarding Policy is found here:

[www.stpauls-weston.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.stpauls-weston.org.uk/safeguarding)

## Local Area Information

[www.n-somerset.gov.uk](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk)

[www.wsm-tc.gov.uk](http://www.wsm-tc.gov.uk)

[www.walliscote.n-somerset.sch.uk](http://www.walliscote.n-somerset.sch.uk)

[www.broadoakacademy.clf.uk](http://www.broadoakacademy.clf.uk)

## St. Paul's Church Links

[www.stpauls-weston.org.uk](http://www.stpauls-weston.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/stpaulsweston](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsweston)

[www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCbDWfgIUotG9NuEebRQ6adA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbDWfgIUotG9NuEebRQ6adA)

[www.youtu.be/Ry8GDEkhNs](https://www.youtu.be/Ry8GDEkhNs) Trish's Testimonial

St. Paul's Church is a registered charity no. 1132828

## Acknowledgements

We acknowledge with grateful thanks to:

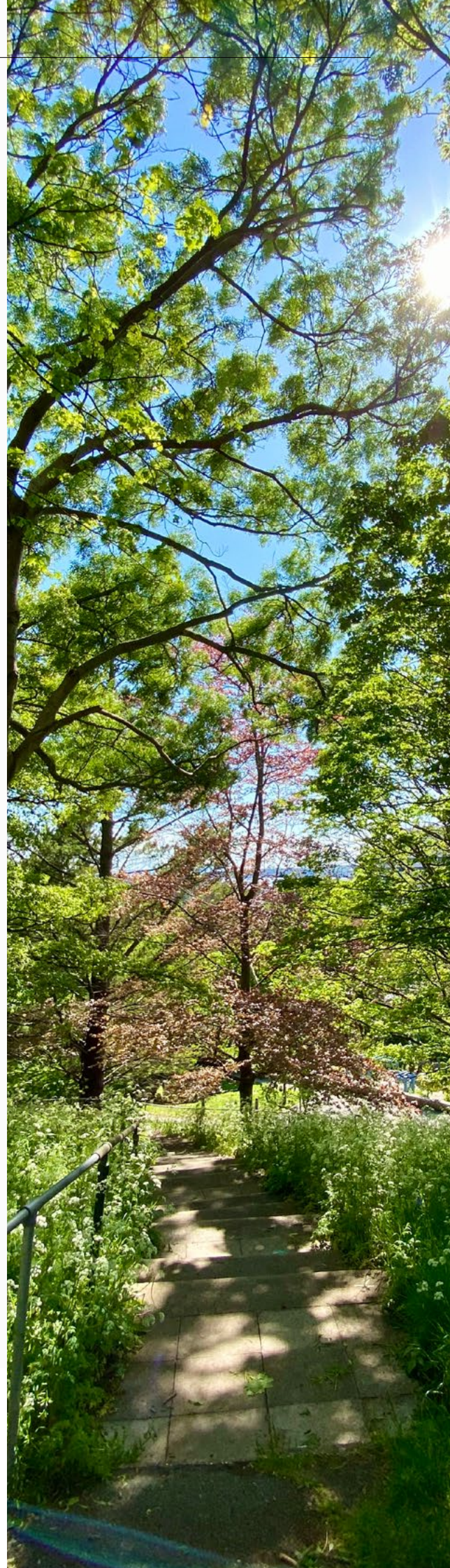
All those at St Paul's who have contributed to this profile.

Say When Design [www.saywhen.design](http://www.saywhen.design)

Kirk Purnell for drone footage and images.

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**ST PAUL'S**  
REACH TEACH MEND SEND