Christ Church: Highlights of 2007

Evangelism

Christianity Explored Course held 3 times
10 Baptisms by full immersion
Carnival Capers: Opportunity to witness during provision of refreshments
Men's Breakfast at Café Blu
Al Gore's film, The Inconvenient Truth shown on Good Friday
Increasing attendance at monthly Sunrise Communion services
Rousing Carol Service at Merlewood
Harvest produce to Yeldall Centre, Reading
Murder Mystery Play
Barry Martin Jazz Concert

Discipleship

Monthly First Wednesdays for prayer and teaching commence
Began monthly training for Preaching Team
Music evening and picnic

Mission

Mission visit by Tom Hewitt of Umthombo, Durban, South Africa
Vehicle purchased for Umthombo
Tim Martin visit to Korea
Paul Simpson visit to China with OMF
Stephen Sizer visits USA, Iran and Turkey
Nick & Sue Evans and family visit the Nazio Trust Orphanage, Kenya
Maurice & Laura Connor return to Pakistan
Increased number of children supported through Compassion
Addressed Climate Change with Tearfund resources
Hannah Whitehead accepted for Tear Fund GAP Year placement in Cambodia for 2008
10 Minute Mission Information Slot at each First Wednesday
Hosted DAI UK Briefing in March
Church Mission giving rises above £43,000
21 organisations supported directly by the Church

Services

Music team continues to grow and mature
More youth & international students taking part in the singing and music team
Revised Sunday morning service times. Now 8:00am, 9:30am and 11:00am
Morning services – best ever weekly average (299)
Communicants – best ever morning service average (200)
Evening services – best ever weekly average (82)
Youth-led services – best ever average (84)
Communicants – best ever evening service average (65)

Mothering Sunday - best attended ever (371)
Good Friday - best attended ever (133)
Harvest Festival - best attended ever (386)
Church Anniversary – best attended (318)
Average weekly attendance (399)

Children's Ministry

Discovery Clubs at Christ Church Infants and Coworth Flexlands
Old Testament Bible Explorer well received by Year 5 at St. Ann's Heath
Cherubs - good conversations - mums showing an interest in the gospel
Champions Holiday Club
Increased link with Christ Church school
Beginning of school year welcome service
End of school year goodbye service
Annual Christ Church School service best ever attended
Puppet ministry inaugurated
First ever St Ann's Heath school carol service
Dougie Dug Dug afternoon

Youth Ministry

Strong gospel content in all our teaching
Number of young people profess faith in Christ
Number attending all youth groups steadily increased – 140 registered.
Spiritual growth and the hunger for God's Word amongst our Christian Youth
Addition of 2 new leaders committed to ministry amongst the 14-18s.
Halloween "Alternative" party
Outdoor Movie night
Going to "Sorted", a youth event in Westminster

Student Ministry

Two successful evangelistic weekends away
Emergence of student-led music team
Growth of UCCF Christian Union on campus
Development of Student Leadership Team

Small Groups

Began regular monthly training for Small Group Leaders
Hosted Greg Bowman WCA training day on small groups

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Policy established
Welcome tea for new members
Pam Humphries joins the Pastoral Care Team
Weekly meetings of the Pastoral Care Team

Strategy & Operations

New 2020 Vision
New Five Year Plan
Staff Team completed
2 PCC Away Days for strategic planning
Electoral Roll of Members now 290
New Church website launched
Excellence in publicity and promotional material
£20,000+ raised for new youth room – the Chalet
new A/V kit installed - camera, lighting, CD and DVD recording facilities
Voluntary Giving in excess of £350,000 – highest ever
Challenged by a Half-Million Budget for the Church in 2008
Forward forecast for stable budgets through to 2010

Leadership

Colin Rye appointed Executive Pastor
Andy Bruins appointed as Youth Pastor
Tim Martin starts as Student Pastor
Paul Simpson appointed Training and Communications Pastor
Bruce Keen elected as Church Warden
Diocese approved appointment of Ro Mody as Associate Pastor in 2008
Diocese approved appointment of Francis Blight as Curate in 2008
James Hughes appointed Associate Vicar of Hartford, Cheshire
Mark & Megan Teeter return to the USA