

Annual Report
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Parish Mission Enabler

Wellington Orbit

Our engagement with Wellington Orbit continues to develop. In January we started a toddler playgroup called Toddler Tuesdays which brought in several different parents and carers who were not connected to any church. Just before the lock-down, we were awarded an £800 grant from Veolia to purchase more equipment and further grow the playgroup. Caroline Gwilliam has been working with some of the directors and staff to help create a more welcoming and comfortable atmosphere in the cafe. And I have recently been asked to help the duty manager carry out an initiative that will allow vulnerable and disadvantaged groups to be able to watch uplifting and encouraging films for free. They have recently signed a long term lease and are moving closer towards developing the upstairs which will give us even more opportunities to engage with the wider community. *(Please continue to pray for the Orbit. There has been a recent change in management and like most other businesses covid-19 has introduced a lot of unforeseen obstacles, but they continue to seek to be a blessing to the wider community.)*

Wrekin View

At the beginning of the year, I was elected to chair Churches Together In North West Telford. Shortly after taking the post, we were approached by Wrekin View Primary School to see if we could help them set up a food share project called The Community Fridge. We have been able to generate donations of food and a few of us were delivering food parcels to families during lock-down. The Community Fridge was awarded the Good Neighbour and overall Champion of Champions award by the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce. We will continue to support Wrekin View as they look to expand on this work by opening a community cafe that will operate out of the school during school breaks and holidays to ensure that vulnerable families in the area will have access to cooked meals. *(Please thank God for the compassionate hearts he has placed in this school and for allowing the church to serve alongside them.)*

Lock-Down

During lock-down, a volunteer group was formed in the Shawbirch, Admaston, Bratton area to help support vulnerable and at-risk people by delivering food and prescriptions, and by giving social support. We supported this group by helping them organize three food-drives which helped feed hundreds of families in the Telford area. *(Again, please thank God for raising up people in communities like this that will go the extra mile to love and care for their neighbours. And let's pray that this is the new normal.)*

Alpha

Early this year Sarah Parsons and I were approached by the chaplains of Wolverhampton prison to see if we could help them run an Alpha Course. That was planned to start in June but had to be postponed due to covid-19. However one of the chaplains, who also leads a church in the Wolverhampton area, decided to run an online course through his church. I was able to train him and the leadership team on how to run an online Alpha. There is still no date when we will run the course in the prison, but we are hoping it will be sometime in 2021. *(Please pray for God's protection over those inmates and staff living and working in such close confinement. Also, please pray that the Holy Spirit will already be preparing hearts that will hear, receive, and live out the gospel.)*