

St Ursula's Church Berne



Annual Reports for 2018

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Each report has an author who can be contacted for further information.

Up-to-date contact information is available on our website and in our magazine.

St Ursula's Church

Chaplain:

Rev. Helen Marshall



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CHURCH WARDENS

Life sometimes is emotional. But if you're a churchwarden at St Ursula's, it feels like it's even a little more emotional. That's true even if you think of yourself as more rational than emotional.

In these many, many years as Churchwarden I realised that I had better figure out how to navigate my emotions or I wouldn't make it for long.

In 2018 we saw another chaplain leaving and as always I had to turn to the Lord and say 'Well Lord, I do hope that you have a plan for us?'

Stephen's stay in Berne was short but meaningful as we all know.

In May Henry Hope was selected for ministry training and there again we had to prepare ourselves for another goodbye. Lynn Morgan was selected as our Pastoral Care co-ordinator during our interregnum and we thank her for her work with the various locums.

Our first locum, John Clasper, arrived in July and I take this occasion to thank all our wonderful locums for their work and flexibility during this period of uncertainty.



Many Council meetings were dedicated to our chaplaincy profile and we had wonderful team work. A special thank you goes to Hector our vice-chair for keeping up with us all and structuring our various and sometimes wild ideas.

In September we had the honour to have our Archdeacon Adèle as our locum and again during the Christmas period. Thank you Adèle for your help and for your brilliant insight on many occasions.

Sue Higson and John Hutchison were elected by the Council to be the Representatives for the interviews for our new chaplain which took place here in Berne in December.

In August we had our Open Forum and with the different ideas collected from the various members of our congregation we were able to finalize the vacancy pack.

Tricia and Hector and other members of the congregation have been running our Church Breakfast every first Sunday of each month. What a blessing to arrive to church on a Sunday morning and find a whole breakfast ready for you.

It's been another year of landmark occasions to celebrate: all our Food and Book sales organised by Jana, the lovely church picnic in June at the Gugelmanns, Stephen's farewell Bring and Share on 8 July, the Nacht der Religionen where Rev. Michael Tristram, our locum, found himself both leading the service and singing in the choir. Thank you Michael and Pat and Millie for your help here in Berne.

On Friday 18 January, the congregations of St Ursula's and of the Swedish Lutheran Church enjoyed a raclette evening with our Old Catholic friends. As always there was a great atmosphere and fellowship

Not to forget our Archdeaconry Choir Festival in April and many, many more happenings.

We redesigned our website and a big thank you goes to Hector, our webmaster. Now it is even easier to navigate.

The Technical Committee led by Hans Goepfert, takes care of our infrastructure and assists with the audiovisual system and gives advice on technical matters. Thank you to the whole team for being available seven days a week.

We want to make sure that St Ursula's Church is hospitable, family friendly and that we are active in our efforts to welcome a diverse congregation.

My thanks go to the teachers in Junior Church and helpers in Crèche for their constant work with the children and for keeping our young people busy and enthusiastic in learning God's word.

Our Advent course was led by our reader Archana Jacob. The topic was "Caring like God" and there was a very good attendance.

Our Christmas Bazaar as every year was a great success and took a lot of time and effort. We are very thankful to all the people who helped in organising this event and for the good fellowship everybody had. A very special thank you goes to Jana for organising the British Food stall every year and much, much more.

Christmas has been very busy with our different Services, not forgetting our Christmas Party with a delicious buffet and how we all enjoyed this precious time spent together.

The Nativity Play, directed by Tricia Carrick with the help of all the teachers had a more traditional format with small children acting out parts and, as every year, it was a big success.

I'd also like to thank our Treasurer, Sue Higson, for making ends meet every month, Ruth Freiburghaus for planning many rotas and for being



so patient when we forget to reply to her mails. Thanks too to Kathy Hoag for keeping the vestry in perfect order in every occasion.

Another thank you goes to our organist, Hans-Karl Pfyffer and to the choir director, Elisabeth, his wife, for their faithfulness year after year. Thank you also to the music group led by Tony Read who play regularly twice a month.

This past year, safeguarding has become a focus of the diocese and there have been many new requirements for checks and paperwork to be fulfilled. Cecily Klingler, our Safeguarding Officer, has done an outstanding job of keeping up with these changes and helping everyone get cleared and registered. Thank you, Cecily, for all the unseen hours you have devoted to this task. Thank you also to all the helpers who have participated in the training and help in making our Church a welcome and safe place for everyone.

We continue to be grateful to the many people who give so generously of their time to serve on Sundays and throughout the week. Much of what is done is unseen. Without your commitment St Ursula's services each Sunday would not run as smoothly.

The apostle Paul taught in 1 Corinthians 12 that real ministry effectiveness involves the whole body of Christ working together: *"As it is, there are many parts, yet one body."*

We continue to encourage more people to become involved in one of the many areas of ministry, both as a way to serve but also as a way of become more integrated into our church family.

Our last locum was Ian Eglin and his wife Caroline. Thank you Ian and Caroline for your invaluable work in the Church and for preparing us for this new chapter at St Ursula's

In the role of Church Warden, I am privileged to be part of the Council and the Standing Committee. I would like to thank all Council members for their commitment throughout the year and for their contribution that each individual makes to discussion and decision making.

And so, now we approach this new chapter in St Ursula's Church, Yes, the Lord had a plan for us. Her name is Rev. Helen Marshall, a blessing to us all. Helen will be here with us already at the beginning of March and we look forward to welcome her and her husband David and celebrate the richness of our church life together.

AMEN

Maxine Wildhaber & John Hutchison, Church Wardens

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council was faced with many challenges in keeping the church running during an unanticipated interregnum period starting after the 2018 AGM. Thankfully we had wonderful and supportive locums to encourage us and guide us and lead worship and Archdeacon Adèle tirelessly walked us through the application process.

Sometimes there were two council meetings per month for a total of 13 in the council year of 2018-2019. Council discusses subjects which are vital to the life and running of the church although some issues had to be tabled until our new chaplain arrived such as moving forward with the Pastoral Care Team, becoming an Eco-Church or children taking communion.

The agenda has certain items which appear every month. Sue Higson, treasurer, leads us ably to an understanding of the finances. Cecily Klingler as Safeguarding Officer reminds us to keep working for clearances for those people who need them. Ruby Wildhaber and John Hutchison report on the state of Junior Church and the various teaching segments and activities. A member of the Technical Committee gives a review of what has been done and what needs doing on the various buildings/infrastructure.

Council supports the Charity and Missions team when they organise Mission Sunday or Nacht der Religion. There are Lent or Advent Appeals, the Nativity Play, various Christmas and Easter services, book sales and quizzes and the Christmas Bazaar. All these activities require prayer, discussion, planning and decision making. So do worship and music.



It is with thankful hearts that we look forward to the coming of our new chaplain, Helen Marshall and her husband David. Hector Davie capably chaired the meetings as vice-chair during the interregnum but the correct order of things is to have a chaplain leading us and this will be the case starting in March 2019.

This report covers only a small portion of the Council's work. If you have questions or suggestions of things Council could consider, please speak to a council member, their names are listed in the back of the church magazine. Importantly, please pray for Helen and continue to pray for the work of the Council and its members as they strive to facilitate worship, fellowship and outreach at St Ursula's.

Donna Goepfert, Council Secretary

PRAYER, WORSHIP AND STUDY

The year 2018 was truly a season of change for us. Rev. Stephen Stuckes who was with us for just over a year decided to go back to the UK, which was especially unfortunate, as God's blessing in his ministry and the effects on St Ursula's were evident. Saying good-bye to Stephen and Jane was not easy as they had made very deep friendships with all of us very quickly.

Another interregnum period was therefore not what we had been looking forward to. I would like to underline though that the Lord has proven himself once again. We could rely on Jesus, our good shepherd who lovingly led us to green pastures.

First of all, he made sure that we do not lack anything and provided cover for each and every week by sending us a series of locum chaplains. We are deeply grateful to Rev. John Clasper & Dorothy, to our archdeacon Rev. Adèle Kelham, to Rev. Michael Tristram & Pat as well as Rev. Ian & Rev. Caroline Eglin who so admirably served. Their support and guidance have been a great blessing for all of us.

John Clasper and Michael Tristram took the initiative to sit down with the Pastoral Care Team. Their guidance and inputs came at a crucial point in time. The team only had the chance to meet on an informal basis during the interregnum as they had not been officially admitted to this area of ministry before Stephen's departure. Hence, it was important to encourage the team. At the same time it was also helpful that the waiting period was used as an extended season of preparation for this particular area of ministry. As part of this preparation, I offered a basic course to the team to explore what pastoral care entails. Cecily Klingler, our Safeguarding Officer faithfully offered important insights on the safeguarding aspects of the ministry and I thank her for her support.

The advent course focused on the theme "Caring like God". The study was not based on a book this time. We studied different bible portions and explored how God works through his people and cares for them (ultimately amounting to Jesus' birth). The sessions were very enriching and brought the group to some very interesting discussions & insights.

During the interregnum Brian Morgan organised the opportunity to pray together after the main service for this time of change, for the Council and for the new chaplain. God heard our prayers and we are glad that Rev. Helen Marshall joined us in March 2019.

Helen started her ministry with us during Lent which traditionally is a time of self-examination and renewing ones commitment to God. She is offering a Lent course on the spiritual disciplines which are mentioned in the Eucharistic prayer for Lent: repentance, meditating on scripture, prayer, and fasting. The sessions will be a mix of input, personal reflection and prayer, sharing and discussion. We thank Helen for taking up her ministry here at St Ursula's, for her encouragement and

passion. It's wonderful to see how fast she has connected to people's heart. We welcome her and her husband Rev. David Marshall into our church family and look forward to supporting them.

Archana Jacob, Lay Reader

THUN GROUP

We meet regularly on the first and third Thursday evenings in each month at 18.30. The Communion Services are held in the Chapelle Romande in Frutigen Strasse 22, Thun.

The Chapelle is only a three minute walk from the Station so very convenient for those travelling by public transport.

We have always been a small group in Thun, everyone is welcome to join us. We normally follow the service by having a drink together and sharing in fellowship.

Over the past 32 years our Thun group has seen many changes of congregation, chaplains and format of service and bible study.

At Christmas there is a service of lessons and carols attended, last year, by about 50 people. We enjoyed refreshments following the service in the small hall next to the Chapelle.

We warmly encourage and welcome new members to the Thun Church. The fellowship and care for one another goes far beyond Thursday evenings.

We are looking forward to a new chapter beginning in March when we will welcome our new chaplain with open arms!

Sharon Bachmann

CRÈCHE

St Ursula's crèche looks after the youngest members of the congregation during the 10.00 Sunday service allowing parents to focus on their worship. Parents can either drop their children off before the start of the service or at the same time as Junior Church starts.

Dominic Roser took over as crèche coordinator at the beginning of 2019 - a big thank you to his predecessor Sara Hutchison for her commitment over the past 2 years.

The crèche is generally open all year round and we hope to continue doing this in 2019. We couldn't do this without the help of a committed group of crèche helpers. An enormous thank you to all of them!

Jana Kutesko, Church Office

JUNIOR CHURCH

Teachers

A big thank you to all the teachers without them we would not be able to maintain such a lively and welcoming Junior Church.

We are always looking for new teachers. If you are interested to help and get to know what we are doing, please contact any Junior Church teacher.

Classes

In 2018 St Ursula's offered two Junior Church classes: Sparklers/Trailblazers for those aged 3 to 9, Trailblazers/Pilots for those aged 9 to 14+. During 2018, the older children (11 and upwards) remained in church on the 2nd Sunday of each month for an Informal Eucharist and on these Sundays just one Junior Church Class was offered. We also have a few "All-Age" services during the year where everybody stays in Church

Junior Church begins during the 10.00 service with the children leaving for their after the children's song.

During 2018 we decided to organise teaching sessions around learning more about St Paul and his journeys. This project lasted for 3 months. The younger children did lots of crafts and activities about St Paul, whereas, the older children each had an aspect of St Paul's ministries that they were responsible to research and learn more about. At the end of the



project the older children presented what they had learned to the congregation. By doing this the youth was highly motivated, they learned together God's words and at the same time enjoyed their time and the sharing of ideas together. A booklet was also produced about the project and this was available in printed form and on our website: <https://www.stursula.ch/Junior/PaulProject2018.pdf>. Towards the end of 2018 we started a new project about characters from the Old Testament and this project will be presented to the congregation in April 2019.

Junior Church Resources

"ROOTS" is our basic teaching material; these ecumenical and lectionary-based resources are produced by a Christian charitable company - ROOTS for Churches Ltd - which is based in the UK. This year we have tried to include a few more

varied resources, since we realised that our Youth enjoy working on different projects.

Charity

The weekly collection raised by the Junior Church goes to Tear Fund. Also, different events collections, such as the Christmas Bake and Craft Sale are donated to this charity. The youth sees year after year what Tear Fund can achieve with their donations and learn, when still very young, the power of helping and sharing and the countless way to bring the good news.

Youth Events

In 2018 we had several fun events for our families and youth. Most of them we organised in the summer time.



A family event at the Gugelmanns (thank you very much). It was amazing to see so many young people together with their parents, playing all together and enjoying the sun.

We also had a sleepover in Church with a small group of children. In the evening we had a BBQ and ended up with eating smores before playing games and watching a video. Not everybody saw the the video till the end - the church chairs are very comfortable, and children were too tired after the games. In the morning we had our traditional pancake

breakfast. Thank you to all the helpers.

In November we had our last family event. Families came together at the Christmas Bake and Craft Event. Adults and children baked together, some of the cookies were 'tested' by us helpers - yummy!! The rest was sold for our Junior Church Charity - Tear Fund.



Nativity Play

As always, this year's Nativity play on Sunday 16 December was special.

The story was told by four "big" angels, with bible readings read by young people and adults, action performed by the smaller children and carols sung by all.

The carols were accompanied by the music group and, this year, we had the special treat of trombones playing Christmas music before and after the service.

More Information

The Junior Church teachers aim to include a short item in each church magazine giving up-to-date information about the Junior Church.

Ruby Wildhaber & Tricia Carrick

SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

We at St Ursula's are committed to:

- The care and nurture of a respectful pastoral ministry with all children and adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable;
- The establishing of safe, caring communities that provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse;

Our Council has to certify each year to the Diocese of Europe that we are following the Diocesan safeguarding policy.

Full safeguarding checks are required for those working with children and young people or vulnerable adults at our church and need to be reviewed every 5 years.

A wider group of people in our church i.e. those who are in a visible position in their role during the Sunday worship e.g. sidespersons, readers, intercessors, servers etc. now also need to undergo a more basic form of a safeguarding check, completing the online safeguarding trainings as well as attending a safeguarding training day.

Diocesan training sessions on safeguarding issues for children and for adults are available online. These are mandatory for all who work with our children and most of our helpers have already successfully completed these. Our St Ursula's Pastoral Care Team should hopefully soon be officially set up under our new chaplain. The team members have either already completed or are in the process of completing their safeguarding clearances and have done the online training and attended the safeguarding training day.

We have just had another safeguarding training day at St Ursula's on 16 February 2019 led by archdeaconry safeguarding trainers. 20 members of our church attended. Now some 40 members at St Ursula's have completed both online trainings and attended a safeguarding training day with the result that there is a raised awareness about the issues of safeguarding at St Ursula's.

Risk Assessments and Activity Plans should be completed for all church meetings and events at St Ursula's. This is part of ensuring that our church is a safe place for all at all times. We have started getting this underway, although progress is maybe slower than would be desired. A team is still working on helping to make this procedure clear and simple for everyone and that it may also be available online.

All our relevant safeguarding documents can be found on the Diocese of Europe website: <https://www.europe.anglican.org> under the heading of Diocesan Guidelines and Policies/Safeguarding. You can find our St Ursula's Safeguarding Policy on the noticeboard in the church hall.

I would encourage everyone to read these documents, as safeguarding is a matter for the whole congregation. Should you ever feel there is a concern in our church about a safeguarding issue, then it is essential to report this to the Chaplain or the Safeguarding Officer. Such matters are always kept strictly confidential.

I am pleased to report that in the past year there have been no serious incidents requiring action. Our present situation with more limited numbers of Junior Church teachers or crèche helpers does sometimes provide a challenge for our safeguarding procedures to be followed but this does not mean that we can compromise here.

Finally, a reminder to all parents that they are responsible for supervising their children once the Junior Church and Crèche sessions have ended.

Cecily Klingler, Safeguarding Officer

Tel: 031 302 4859 or 076 425 4859, E-mail: cecily@klinglerfamily.ch

MUSIC

Music in our Services

Worship and Music Planning

In 2018 the hymn and music planning for many services was done by the organist in consultation with the clergy.

The music for informal services has usually been planned by those leading these services together with members of the music group.

Organists

Organ music continues being an important, but not exclusive, part in the services and worship at St Ursula's church. The contribution for assistance in substituting for the organ playing (on a few occasions, either at the organ or at the piano) is gratefully acknowledged.

Choral Music in Services and at Events

The choir of St Ursula's has about 10 - 12 singers of all voices. Sadly several singers have left the choir for reasons such as health or professional unavailability. Saturday choir practices are a regular activity for our enthusiastic singers.

Choral contributions to our services have included items such as:

- Psalms sung in Anglican Chant: Psalms 51, 25, 116; the Easter Anthem.
- Anthems or motets: Father forgive (Coventry Litany, Paul Leddington Wright); God so loved the world (Stainer); If ye love me (Purcell) ; Thou knowest Lord (Purcell); Now the green blade riseth (Linley); Song of the creator (Weaver); Irish Blessing (Chilcott).
- Liturgical pieces: Agnus Dei (Wood); Christmas Gloria (Ledger).
- Psalms: e.g. 51, 97 (Anglican Chant, usually as a post communion anthem);
- Christmas Carols both in Berne and in Thun: Angel's voices (Rutter); O Holy Night (Adam).

Three choir members from St Ursula's Church have attended the traditional RSCM Singing Days in Dunblane (Scotland) widening their musical skills and repertoire for the benefit of our church and choir.

Many thanks are extended to all who have contributed in many ways to enriching our services with music, be it by using their vocal, instrumental or organisational skills, and who devote a lot of their time and effort for this important element in our worship.

Hans-Karl Pfyffer

Music Group

The Music Group is now in its 13th year and continues to provide a regular accompaniment for the mostly contemporary songs, chants and hymns at our services.

Our main contribution is to the informal Eucharist services, usually on the 2nd Sunday in the month. The music is mostly chosen from the "Worship Today" or "Junior Praise" song books but other sources are also often used (e.g. Common Ground, Taizé, Iona and Hymns Old & New).

A number of the music group members also support the worship



at the Thun Church services on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month.

We are delighted to have been joined during this last year by Amy (trumpet).

We said goodbye to Henry (alto and tenor sax) last summer as he started his theological training in UK. Peter (oboe) has also left the group for the moment. Many thanks to both for all their contributions.

We have recently moved back to our original position at the front of the church near the organ so we are more connected with the congregation. It was interesting to play at the back for a while after the completion of renovations but there were some disadvantages.

At the services, our numbers have reached a maximum of 11 on at least one occasion, with a solid core of about 5-6 regular contributors.



Our active members during the last year:

Adoree - piano, Agatha - flute, Amy - trumpet, Belle - 6string guitar, Eva - voice, Hans-Martin - flute, Paul - Ukelele, Philip - 6string guitar, Rafael - alto sax, Rebecca - alto sax, Tawna - bass guitar, Tricia - piano, Tony - 12string guitar.

Many thanks to all music group members for your talents, flexibility and support.

Tony continues to organise the group but is still often away on business - many thanks to Tricia who has taken over the lead several times.

All music group members practice the planned music individually and we have group practices in the church hall, starting well before the Sunday services.

It is most encouraging when we receive feedback from the congregation, including any new suggestions. Please don't hesitate to give your inputs.

If anyone is interested in joining the Music Group, either with instrument or voice, please contact Tony. You will be most welcome.

Tony Read

ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll is the list of the full voting members of St Ursula's. These are the people who can vote at the AGM and stand for election.

In 2019, as every six years, the Electoral Roll had to be completely revised. This meant that everyone had to (re-)apply. The revision was completed on 10 March and the number of members in 2019 is 73

Since the revision the Electoral Roll has been displayed next to the principal door of the church and on the notice board in the church hall.

If you would like more information about the Electoral Roll please contact me

Tricia Carrick, Electoral Roll Officer

MASTER ROTA FOR SERVICES

The master rota combines all eight rotas directly connected with services: duty council, sidespersons, readers, intercessions, beamer/audio, servers at the altar, chalice assistants and flowers. It is compiled six times a year and based on a list of 40 volunteers as of December 2018. These loyal helpers supported a total of 60 services in the past year and deserve a big THANK YOU.

Our readers' coordinator, Allison Masciadri, stepped down at the end of 2018. She had been looking after our readers for many years, finding new volunteers and informing them about their task, as well as helping me fill rota slots when I had difficulties. Thank you for your support all these years, Allison! And welcome to our new coordinator, Adorée Weibel.

Since we no longer have a sacristan, the servers had to take on the additional responsibility, in cooperation with church office, of making sure supplies of wafers and wine are always sufficient. I will also take care of candles and organise for the silver to be polished when necessary.

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS, as people leave or go abroad for several months. There is a coordinator for each individual rota who provides information as well as training and who will be happy to answer any questions. Names and phone numbers can be found on the last page of the magazine.

Ruth Freiburghaus, Rota Coordinator

ECO CHURCH

Last year the Diocese in Europe applied to be recognized as an Eco-Diocese (see <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/eco-diocese/>). To meet the criteria, a proportion of its chaplaincies need to be accepted as Eco-Churches under the same scheme. At the end of 2018, after an effective presentation by Revd Elizabeth Bussmann, who lives in Aeschi bei Spiez and is the Diocesan Environmental Officer, Council agreed to take up this challenge.



In many ways we are green already. We try to promote environmental issues in our magazine, we have held Lent studies on environmental matters, we have established bee hotels in our grounds, and our energy project has shown our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint, while at the same time making our church a warmer place to be and a cheaper place to warm. But there is a lot more we can do, and will be doing in 2019.

Each chaplaincy has a local environmental officer, and we were sad to say goodbye to Walter Bisig in this role, who resigned his task for personal reasons. For the time being, Hector Davie has taken on the work of LEO, and is identifying a team of interested people - for building an eco-church is a joint effort that we can all take part in - informing ourselves of steps we can take, helping to carry them out and telling others of the need to live sustainably, to combat climate change and to share the world's resources justly. We hope that with Helen's arrival, we can set up an eco-team on a more formal basis and build up an award-winning church - not just for the bronze, silver or gold awards, but for the good of God's creation.

Hector Davie

TREASURER'S REPORT



not only in the world at large, but also for our Church, starting with Stephen feeling called to return to the UK in the middle of the year. This was a big blow for us all, but we got through it, and now when I look back, I see a lot of positive signs. God was with us through all

of it, and he provided all we needed in 2018. He provided funds to cover our expenditure, he provided fellowship and joy at our events, he sent new people to our congregation as well as some of the best locums around, and he sent us a new chaplain for 2019.

I was humbled and privileged to be chosen as one of the representatives to help choose our new chaplain. Stephen showed us the way, and Helen is a worthy person to pick up the mantle. At the AGM I will demonstrate how we were blessed with our locums over the period and how we managed to make a small excess at the end of the year. This was despite some surprises along the way, not least with regards to energy costs.

Looking forward, our budget for the year 2019, which I will present for your consideration is targeting an income similar to 2018. We will not make any excess with that income, but I see it as prudent. My budget income for 2018 did not materialise, which means that not all the pledge promises did come through. I know some of the reasons why this is; some people left our church, and others had their own events in the year which meant they had to cut back on what they could give. That is all okay, as in the end, we had enough, and I have faith that we will also see our needs met in 2019. 70% of our income comes from our regular pledgers, donors and the collection. So it comes from you, and we thank you very much for all you give. Pledge leaflets are in the hall if you want to join the scheme. Let me have your email address and I will add you to my mailing list of updates on our finances etc.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that our church is able to accept your collection or donations, or payments for food and books by Twint. Just download the app suitable for your bank onto your smart phone, set it up, and you are ready to give. I am happy to give a small training if needed.

Being your Treasurer is a privilege for me, although I will not pretend that it is not a lot of work. I am open to enquiries from people who might feel called to assist in this role, as well as to assist in our fundraising generally. We have established a new small fundraising team, but there is room for more to join.

The accounts are published on the next two pages of these reports. I would like to add a big thank you to Beat and Diane for being auditors this year, and to Hector for jumping in to count the collection on the Sundays when I could not be there.

Sue Higson, Treasurer



FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME	note	current	Prior year	Budget 18
Income from Community	1	151,261	163,585	167,000
<i>Pledged giving</i>		112,165	125,780	135,000
<i>Donations</i>		22,400	12,585	10,000
<i>Collections</i>		16,697	25,220	22,000
Income from events	2	32,378	30,904	33,000
Income from other sources	3	25,433	24,876	25,000
<i>Contribution to costs: hall</i>		23,265	24,026	24,000
<i>Other</i>		2,168	850	1,000
Income from Thun	4	1,274	1,412	1,540
Permanent activities income	5	8,752	8,854	8,350
<i>Magazine</i>		5,689	6,441	6,200
<i>Books and Cards</i>		546	255	150
<i>Coffee</i>		2,506	2,159	2,000
<i>Other</i>		12	-	-
Financial income		233	227	200
Forex			59	-
TOTAL		219,332	229,917	235,090
DEFICIT		-	-	0
EXTRAORDINARY Income		23,775	66,418	25,000
Building Appeal receipts	E1	23,775	64,160	25,000
Prior year income			2,258	

The notes to the accounts are available from the treasurer upon request.

AT 31.12.2018

EXPENDITURE	note	current	Prior year	Budget 18
Personnel-related costs	6	100,039	108,808	127,890
Stipends and remunerations		65,508	76,317	88,725
Travelling expenses		2,302	5,447	4,000
Other personnel costs		32,229	27,043	35,165
Running costs		50,184	43,001	41,150
<i>Premises</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>40,578</i>	<i>32,002</i>	<i>31,540</i>
<i>Office</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>1,869</i>	<i>978</i>	<i>800</i>
<i>Telephone and Internet</i>		<i>668</i>	<i>960</i>	<i>700</i>
<i>Insurance</i>		<i>2,968</i>	<i>3,790</i>	<i>3,080</i>
<i>Property tax</i>		<i>1,607</i>	<i>1,607</i>	<i>1,700</i>
<i>Vestry</i>		<i>1,861</i>	<i>2,047</i>	<i>1,830</i>
<i>Ministry and Hospitality</i>		<i>169</i>	<i>1,061</i>	<i>1,000</i>
<i>Subscriptions and advertising</i>		<i>464</i>	<i>557</i>	<i>500</i>
Youth and Junior Church		543	507	4,000
Library		12	-	-
Permanent activities expense	5	4,745	3,472	3,600
<i>Magazine</i>		<i>3,097</i>	<i>3,021</i>	<i>3,000</i>
<i>Books and cards</i>		<i>868</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Coffee</i>		<i>435</i>	<i>327</i>	<i>350</i>
<i>Other</i>		<i>345</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>200</i>
Diocese/Deanery		14,915	11,900	15,210
Charity		22,441	22,998	23,000
Financial Expense		435	334	240
allocation to building fund		20,000		20,000
TOTAL		213,313	191,019	235,090
excess		6,020	38,898	-
 Extraordinary Expense		121,702	314,809	88,000
Building Fund Expenditure		116,886	310,806	88,000
investment in furniture		4,817	798	-
removal costs			3,205	

FUNDRAISING

Our fundraising events are an important part of our overall income generation. 15% of our income comes from the food and book sales, the bazaar, fête and the pub quizzes etc. that we put on in the year. Last year we raised over CHF 32,000 this way. None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteers who put in so many hours to help us put on events that bring in so many people as well. A huge thank you to all of you.

Many people who attend events come year after year, and are able to experience our Church in an open and welcoming way. I know that we are always open and welcoming, but those who do not come on a Sunday and have perhaps preconceptions about Christians do not know that. Therefore the events are not only important for the money they raise, but also for outreach into the community. We have just relaunched the Fundraising/Outreach team to plan events in the future. We need to have some new ideas and keep our events attractive to achieve their purpose.

Book sale revenues are decreasing as more and more people use electronic devices (me included). Our food stall brings in the crowds, but 2019 will be the last year that Jana will be doing it, and that will impact our funds a lot. I wish to give a huge vote of thanks to Jana for all she has done over the many years of running that stall; it is truly formidable, including lots of driving to and from the UK and a vehicle breakdown in the middle of France. Over a third of our events income comes from the food stall alone. Plus Jana has organised the fête and bazaar behind the scenes year on year. This is why a team is so important, particularly now.

Would you like to be part of it? Do you have ideas of new innovative ways we can raise funds, without needing too many volunteers to achieve it?

In 2019 we will be having our book and food sales, our summer fête, plus we are introducing an afternoon tea and quiz twice a year, an evening quiz twice a year, and our friend Diccon Bewes is hosting a treasure hunt in the summer for all the family. In addition, we are starting a church family walking group, once a month, open to all who love to walk outdoors. This will not be a fundraiser, but it is an outreach event, so tell your friends. All are welcome. Our first walk should launch at the end of April and will be based on or near the Jacobsweg trail in Switzerland.

Just ask me for more information, or tell me if you have any ideas.

Sue Higson



PASTORAL CARE

The Pastoral Care Team have, on an informal basis, been visiting people in their homes and also in care facilities. Some of this has come through the team member's own personal ministries and they continue to visit the same people. Others have picked up people who previously were not visited.

We have been fortunate to have locums who were happy to accompany us and give communion to those unable to come to church any longer.

The Pastoral Care Team has now completed the Safeguarding training. However, some police checks are still outstanding. This has been a protracted process for some. Cecily has been very supportive for which we are very grateful.

We look forward to the next phase once the new chaplain has settled in.

Lynn Morgan

MAGAZINE

Editing



The St Ursula's Church magazine is published six times a year. Currently, 371 people subscribe to the magazine, with 273 receiving a hard copy and 98 receiving it electronically.

The purpose of the church magazine is to inform readers of the services and events at St Ursula's, to teach about Christianity and to reach out to the English-speaking community of Berne.

Tricia Carrick, Hector Davie, Jana Kutesko and the Chaplain made up the core team of content providers and proofreaders.

Articles and other content are also submitted by groups within St Ursula's, individual church members as well as people who are not members of the church. Hector Davie handles the electronic distribution and advertising, Querida Long is the magazine editor and Annemarie Walthert is in charge of collating the magazine.

Contributions to the magazine can be sent to magazine@stursula.ch

Collating

About 275 magazines are sent out every 2nd month. Although they are already folded and stapled we still need volunteers to help insert the flyers and put the magazines into the envelopes. Usually there are two to four volunteers doing the job.

Many thanks to the helpers!

Jana Kutesko & Annemarie Walthert

WEBMASTER

A church's web presence has become part of its identity. It may be used for evangelism, to convey information, for teaching, for communication or just for fun; it can store data that we need to keep the church running smoothly. We use the internet for all these things and more.

We were one of the first churches in Switzerland to be on the web, and over the years we have found what works and what does not work, what attracts and what is less useful. Back in the 1990s the web was far simpler - pictures and interactive activities took ages to download over whistling modems. Today, with fibre to the home and 5G mobile just around the corner, we have greater options for telling people who we are and what we do - but it takes time to modernise our site, and over the year, we have concentrated on the most relevant pages - the home page (our "visiting card") and pages where graphics tell the story better than words.

There is a lot on our website, if you know where to look and click on the links. Part of the webmaster's challenge is to make this material more easily accessible. All suggestions are welcome. We want to make people aware that we exist, that we provide a welcome to all, and especially to people with an interest in worship and Christian fellowship in English, to people who like what we do. We want to tell them where we are, when they can worship with us, how and when they can share in our events, what is going on at and around St Ursula's.

For our members, we want to provide up-to-date information about what is on, as well as a library of photos of what we have been doing. Many of our sermons are recorded and made available for the housebound or for those who missed them (or even want to listen to them again!). Present and past issues of the magazine are on line, as well as the sheets with the current week's notices and readings.

And there are data needed to keep the church running - the service rotas, the calendar for booking the halls, information used by Council, by our musicians, by committees, some of which is available only to the people concerned.

All of this needs keeping up to date - an unending task. You can help us by reporting anything that is out of date, anything that is wrong (even *spelling mistakes!*), anything that is missing, to webmaster@stursula.ch.

The average number of people who visit our website has risen by over 50% over the last year to 85 a day. This is partly due to the increased use of mobile devices for accessing data - in itself another problem for the webmaster, for a page that looks good on a PC can sometimes look awful on a smartphone. (There are off-the-peg solutions for this, but they don't always work!). Most people want practical information - service times, contact people, event dates - or want to access the magazine or past sermons.

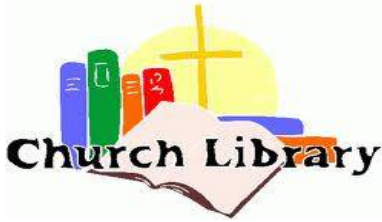
Another reason for the increase in visitors is our active presence on Facebook, Pinterest and Twitter, which has widened our audience. Sue Higson and Pieter

Perrett have been very active in keeping our Facebook information fresh and interesting, and it is well worth befriending us on Facebook and Twitter just to keep abreast of the latest news as it happens.

The internet is no substitute for human contact, but we use it more and more to stay in touch with our contacts and our interests. This is still a growing field, and one that we can all take part in.

Hector Davie, Webmaster

LIBRARY



St Ursula's church library, located in the Upper Hall, offers a wide variety of books. There are reference aids, books on spirituality, family and Christian living, children's books, youth fiction, bible study and reference aids, adult Christian fiction as well as historical, biographical and

autobiographical books.

Although not all the library books reflect the theological views held by all members of the congregation, each book is included on its own merit to challenge thinking and enlarge understanding of the world and the church. It is hoped that the books and other materials will encourage a deeper understanding and love of God and the bible

Only a limited number of people take advantage of the library so Council must decide whether it is meeting the needs of the congregation. However, we will continue to provide the service for a few more months, attempting to aid people in finding and borrowing books and also providing a corner for welcoming church members and visitors for conversation.

The library is open most Sundays after the service until about 12 noon. Materials may be borrowed for one month although the library coordinator is very lenient with those who don't return material on time.

Any questions or requests can be directed to library coordinator Donna Goepfert. (dgo@secunet.ch).

Donna Goepfert

BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

In April 2018 the energy project, which had kept us busy for over two years, came to an end. At the Church Council meeting on 1 May 2018, the Church Council thanked the building commission for leading the project, discharged it from its task and dissolved the commission.

In the meantime we have experienced the new infrastructure, mainly the heating and the sound and beamer system for the second winter. We are very pleased that the feed-back from the congregation is positive. The heating is working well, the comfort regarding temperature and audio/beamer performance has improved and the operation is less error prone.

With the successful closure of the energy project, we have been left with greatly improved premises and with some sophisticated equipment. To operate it in a way that the many new features work to the full benefit of the congregation, the people in charge of running it were faced with new challenges. This was the starting point of the idea to establish a technical committee in charge of running the technical infrastructure. This group was also to supervise the condition of the entire building complex, maintaining the infrastructure and be available to Church Council and congregation to deal with technical questions. In June 2018 the Council decided to approve a proposal to establish a technical committee and in September its five proposed members were approved. The intention is that they will provide the resources to look after the church's equipment and our building infrastructure.

After a set-up period the Technical Committee, TCom in short, became operational in December. At the same time a technical support service was set up. It offers support between 8.00 - 20.00, seven days a week and technical assistance during Sunday services. So far, the Technical Committee has been involved in activities such as the establishment of operational standards for running the infrastructure and the working on mandates from Church Council, i. e. a storage concept and a list of proposals for structural improvements.

The new door from the lower hall to the basement of the Chaplain's house proved to be very beneficial for running the many church activities. It provides a considerable amount of new easily accessible space to store equipment that previously crowded the lower hall. And it also provides space for a working area to carry out maintenance work by our own people.

In terms of maintenance and repair no major issues came up during the past year; minor issues were blinds, doors, book-cases, radiator valves and toilets. The relatively low maintenance effort is accounted for partially by the new infrastructures installed during the Energy Project.

Edi Wildhaber organised many working parties to work on the garden. It is always a big challenge to try giving our big garden a decent look. The effort to achieve this would not be possible without the many volunteers that are prepared to spend a lot of time on this task. Many thanks to all of them.

Hans Goepfert

CHURCH BREAKFASTS



Church breakfasts continued in 2018. They are held on the first Sunday of each month (except during holiday time). These are normally attended by around 10 - 12 people. It is an informal time for people to meet each other. Everyone is welcome, with no need to sign up beforehand.

Tricia Carrick

BOOK AND FOOD SALES

Second Hand English Books

We had another very busy year with our secondhand books sales, taking around CHF 5,250 from all four sales. Although this is lower than in the last few years, we are confident that we can maintain this level in future. My thanks go to our regular and long-standing team - Judy Chisholm, Katrina Fenner, Donna Goepfert, Jenny Haller, Diane Lohri, Mary Mead, Patricia Schwager, Rachel Huguenin and Alison Beindorf - for their tireless support.



As I mentioned in my last report, I was looking for outlets for our surplus books after the charity in Ethiopia was no longer able to take them. In the spring Michelle Jaiteh, a Swiss lady from Berne, contacted the Church asking if we could donate any English books to a project she is involved in in Gambia: the Brusubi Community Library. For further information on the library project see <https://www.freedomnewspaper.com/2018/09/24/gambia-brusubi-community-library-in-the-gambia/> or <https://de-de.facebook.com/pages/category/Library/Brusubi-Community-Library-268265114012897/>. We have sent several consignments with her since spring 2018 and hope this collaboration will continue in future. The project especially needs English teaching books, so if anyone has any at home they no longer need please let me know. And if anyone knows of other organisations or institutions that might welcome donations of English books please get in touch with me.

The problem of the rickety shelves, which I mentioned in my last year's report, has been resolved thanks to the hard work and carpentry skills of Hans Goepfert and Edi Wildhaber. During several book-repairing sessions, Hans and Edi reinforced the bottom of all six bookcases, which were splintered and had become a safety concern. We now have six nearly-new book cases that will hopefully serve us for many years to come. A huge thank you therefore to Hans and Edi, and also to all the book helpers who came in on additional days to remove hundreds of books, clean the shelves and replace the books - in the correct alphabetical order, of course. This has saved us huge expenses, which we would have incurred had we been forced to have them repaired externally or replace them with new ones.

To everyone who supports our book sales I would like to express a big THANK YOU. They are extremely popular and continue to be an important source of outreach and income for our Church. And a gentle reminder to all book donors that we can only accept English paperback novels in good condition. If anyone would like to join our team of helpers, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Allison Masciadri, Tel: 079 343 21 65

British Food Stall

For the past 15 years, we have had a stall selling British food at the Book and Food Sales in the spring and late summer, at the Summer Fête and at the Christmas Bazaar. We also usually sell food after the 10.00 church service on the 2 Sundays following each sale.

In 2018 we raised over CHF 13,000 after costs.

The Christmas Bazaar always has the biggest sales and we're very, very lucky to have such willing and enthusiastic helpers who faithfully turn up year in, year out. A special thank-you must also go to Caroline Trippas and my daughters, Georgina and Eleanor, who help at almost every sale.

Running the food stall is a year round activity and we currently rely on just a couple of shoppers to buy the tremendous amount of stock we need for all the sales. We now, more than ever, need people to think about buying supplies for the Food Stall when travelling to the UK, Australia or USA etc or asking visitors to bring food stuffs over with them - just contact me and I can give you a list of items needed - every little bit helps!

After 16 years of running the British Food Stall, 2019 will, sadly, be my last year as the organiser of the stall. During the last 15 years we have raised well over CHF 160'000 for St Ursula's Church. I hope that a new organiser will step forward in 2019 and that the British Food Stall will continue into the 2020s - it would be a real shame to lose this financially important and friendly outreach to the wider community.

Jana Kutesko, Tel: 031 352 8567 or E-mail: berne@anglican.ch

Catering

2018 saw a huge increase in Catering events which saw us working to capacity in the kitchen, in terms of equipment and people to help run events. Added to this is the number of people/groups who use the kitchen.

Frequently items go missing leading us to keep certain items in two locked cupboards. Saucepans are often found burnt.

We have continually put energy into finding people to join the catering team, without great success. We especially need people who could run the kitchen, organise the team, shop for the event and prepare for it.



It has become clear that a concept for the Catering Team needs to be developed, including a well thought through job description for the Catering Manager. A budget would be useful to replace broken or damaged items.

We are low on various kitchen items, e.g. crockery. An inventory is in the process of being carried out which will give us a clearer picture of what is required. Various items have been replaced at our/my own cost.

We have successfully catered for events with a core team of faithful helpers. They are troopers and have been a delight to work with. For that I am very thankful. It would not be possible to do this without them.

Lynn Morgan

ST URSULA'S SUMMER FÊTE 2018



We had perfect Summer Fête weather and fun was had by all plus we raised over CHF 6,000 for church funds.

Our Summer Fête in 2019 is on Saturday, 15 June - we hope to see you there!

Jana Kutesko



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2018

The Christmas Bazaar in 2018 once again proved to be a very popular event with many visitors on both days.

A HUGE thanks to all the numerous people who dedicated hours of their time and skills both behind the scenes and on stalls - before, during and after the bazaar.

The bazaar requires an immense amount of organisation starting months in advance of the actual bazaar: Flyers have to be

designed, Stall Holders and other volunteers have to be recruited, stalls have to be stocked, cakes have to be baked and iced - the list is seemingly endless.

The “action” starts to intensify from the beginning of “set-up” on Thursday night when a set-up team clears the church and halls and makes sure that all the tables and stands etc are moved to their correct positions ready for the arrival of the stall holders on Friday morning.



We always aim to be fully set up by 16.00 on Friday ready for the 17.00 opening.

The 2018 Christmas Bazaar was once again a fun and joyous event and a truly wonderful start to the Advent season.

I would like to thank immensely all those dozens of helpers who tackled - with good humour, tolerance and patience - the many jobs needed to stage the Christmas bazaar from the initial “volunteering to help” right through to the clear up and cleaning at the end - all of you played a vital rôle in the success of the bazaar. The final Christmas bazaar tally was CHF 20,000.

This year's bazaar will be held on Friday 29 and Saturday 30 November 2019.

Jana Kutesko

MIKADO REUNION

Back last March or so, I met Tony Read at the Mulhouse airport and we rode into Basel together. I told him that it had occurred to me that it had been exactly 30 years since St Ursula's Church had put on a production of Gilbert and Sullivan's Mikado operetta (4 sold out performances 13 - 16 April 1988 at the Wittigkofen community centre) and I thought it would be a great idea to have a reunion while many who participated were still around (including Tony who had starred as Nanki Poo!).

Tony agreed and it turned out that he still had pictures, video tapes of the rehearsals, the libretto and his old costume. An organising committee came into being under Sue Higson's able leadership and Sheila Berger's welcome contributions. A poster was created and word was sent out, including to those

now living abroad (mostly in the UK). On Saturday, 26 May 2018 it all came together

and a fantastic reunion took place with 50 or so in attendance, including Brian Morgan, Mary Wittwer, the Herefords, Barbara Bream, and especially Mike Smith with his partner (it was Mike who inspired, directed and musically accompanied the 1988 shows).



The evening also included great snacks - thanks to the hard work of Lynn Morgan - and a viewing of the whole play (soon available on DVD). It was wonderful to see everyone again looking so good and it made me think that maybe the church could begin thinking of doing something like that again.



Art Funkhouser

PATCHWORK



For over 30 years the Patchwork Ladies meet every Friday morning to help each other realising new projects. It is a good hobby working with materials, colours, different patterns, and in the end you have a pleasing new object.

Having lost a few members over the years for various reasons, we are now a small group, and we would welcome newcomers. But we are not only stitching, but can also help

each other in various ways.

At the annual Christmas Bazaar the results of our endeavours are on display and for sale. The financial results are always a very welcome and important contribution to the Church's finances.

We would welcome ladies talented and interested in patchwork and working with all sorts of fabrics. We hope this may encourage some hidden talents to come and join us in the group. Just drop in on a Friday Morning.

A big THANK YOU goes to all ladies who are working so hard throughout the year.

If you wish to find out more please get in touch with one of the patchwork ladies. Do join us on a Friday morning in the church hall, or make a phone call to Elisabeth Pfyffer on 026 4920 326

Elisabeth Pfyffer

ARCHDEACONRY

Archdeaconry Synod

The Diocese in Europe is currently organised into seven archdeaconries - of widely differing sizes. Switzerland is the smallest of these, and brings together the nine permanent chaplaincies in Switzerland and their daughter congregations. Each chaplaincy sends lay and clerical representatives to meet twice a year in a Synod. Synod members also send representatives to the Diocesan Synod, and vote on the diocese's representatives on General Synod. Our meetings are a valuable chance to meet members of other chaplaincies and discuss topics of common interest.



St Ursula's sends three lay members to the Swiss Archdeaconry Synod, chosen for a term of three years. In 2017, we elected Hector Davie, Donna Goepfert and Richard King. The next election is in 2020. Our clergy are also ex officio members. Adèle Kelham is the current Archdeacon.

Synod is for discussing Swiss-wide issues, reporting onwards to the diocese and liaising with church councils and the AGM. In addition, our Christian education programme, SACEP, offers regular training sessions and seminars. We sponsor an annual choir festival and an annual retreat. And we support the work of Partner Sein, and of the chaplaincy in Athens in its work among the poor and the refugees there.

We meet twice a year - in the period under review on 16 June 2018 in Vevey, and on 26 January 2019 in Berne.

Much of our June meeting was taken up by a talk by Professor Grace Davie (no relation!) on the state of the churches in Europe. Professor Davie is famed for her work on the sociology of religion in Britain, subtitled "believing without belonging", but in the last decade she has focussed far more on mainland Europe, where the libertarian ideas of the Enlightenment have been much more influential.

Mainland Europe and Britain have shared a trend towards "vicarious" religion, where people expect big public issues to have a religious component but don't themselves subscribe to a particular creed. And they share a trend towards consumerism, where churches with "desirable" characteristics thrive. In modern Europe, an increasing number of people identify themselves as "religious", and more and more people are prepared to travel long distances to find a church they can identify with. There were lively question-and-answer sessions about whether this tallied with our experiences, and how we could learn from this.

We also heard a report of changes at diocesan level, and especially of their need to finance a much greater emphasis on safeguarding. This discussion continued at our January meeting, where we spent time considering how the individual chaplaincies' contributions to diocesan funding should be calculated - should Berne pay more than Berlin, Copenhagen more than Casablanca? Should a church pay more because it has a large congregation, or a generous one, or relatively few expenses, or valuable buildings?

A highlight of our January meeting was a report from Dr Clare Amos, responsible for co-ordinating lay discipleship in the diocese, on a diocesan Rule of Life, based on the story of the disciples on the Emmaus road, travelling with our Lord, knowing him, growing in him, sharing in community and going out to share the gospel with the world. There are resources on the diocesan website, as well as a blog linking our weekly readings to practical living.

A further highlight in January was a presentation by Ian and Caroline Eglin on being a welcoming church. Are we as welcoming as we think we are? How much do

we reach out to people unfamiliar with our services, or for example to people who have poor vision or poor hearing? There are many more things we can do to make people feel welcome - we should do them.

These were several other reports - the diocese is seeking to become an Eco-Diocese, and we can all play a part. Safeguarding courses have been re-planned, and there will be more opportunities for people to be trained in the basic and very useful skills needed. Webinars and meetings were being planned in the field of youth work. Planning has also started for the “Decade of Resurrection 2023-2033”. For more details of these, ask any of our synod members, or search the archdeaconry website, <https://www.anglican.ch>.

Hector Davie

Swiss Archdeaconry Choir Festival 2018 at St Nicholas' Church in Basel

The traditional annual Swiss Archdeaconry Choir Festival was hosted by the Anglican Chaplaincy St Nicholas in Basel, and held in the Old Catholic Church (Prediger Kirche). It was attended by about 50 singers from the chaplaincies in Basel, Berne, Geneva, Lausanne and Zürich, with 11 singers from St Ursula's Church. The merged choirs had their first practice on Friday evening, to be continued on Saturday morning and afternoon. The music was led by Paul Spicer, English composer, organist and conductor, and with David Blunden (Basel) at the organs. The Evensong on Saturday, and the choral Communion Service on Sunday morning, were the highlights of the occasion.



On Saturday the choral music included works by Henry Purcell (Magnificat und Nunc Dimittis),

Psalm 108 (sung in chant style), the Preces and Responses set by Paul Spicer, and the Anthem ‘O radiant Dawn’ composed by James MacMillan.

On Sunday the choir sung the Missa Brevis by G.P. Palestrina for the Communion Service. The Communion Motet sung by the choir was ‘Ubi Caritas II’ by Ola Gjeilo; Psalm 23 sung in chant style further enriched the liturgy of the Communion Service.

The choral music included works of very different styles and eras, extending from the 16th century to the present.

The Community of the Chaplaincy of St Nicolas in Basel made all singers and non-singing partners very welcome with a friendly reception and excellent support in every way, all contributing to a lively fellowship. A great vote of thanks is due to

all who have helped in many ways making this festival a memorable event once again.

These festivals are one of the few regular annual occasions where members from the different chaplaincies meet together and join forces in a common cause: enriching worship with great and meaningful music.

Hans-Karl Pfyffer

CHARITY AND MISSIONS

The task of the Charity and Mission Team is fourfold:

- *To draw up a proposal towards the end of the year for Council on how to allocate these funds;*
- *To keep in contact with the organisations we are supporting;*
- *To pass on news about the organisations to the congregation through articles in the magazine, displays in the church hall and by direct contact;*
- *To help our church family pray faithfully for the people we support with our gifts;*

For many years St Ursula's Church has set aside 10% of the pledged giving for charitable and missionary work. After prayerfully reviewing the list of organisations supported in previous years the funds were distributed in 2018 as follows:

List of Payments to our Charities and Missions in 2018

	CHF
Discretionary (to be used locally by the Chaplain)	1,000.00
Partner Sein (Old Catholic Relief Organisation)	4,400.00
AkiB Zentrum 5	1,400.00
AKiB Passantenhilfe	1,400.00
Bishop's Lent Appeal	1,000.00
Bishop's Advent Appeal	1,400.00
Refuge Egypt, All Saints Cathedral Cairo, Egypt	2,750.00
Children's Convalescent Home, Talagolla, Sri Lanka	2,000.00

Holy Land Institute for the Deaf, Jordan (Allah Kariem)	2,750.00
Cecily's Fund, Zambia	2,200.00
Scripture Union South Africa, Life Skills Project	2'200.00
Total	22,500.00

Dedicated collections for charity amounted to:

	CHF
Mission Sunday (Bishop's Lent Appeal)	797.00
Dedicated collections Tear Fund	2,617.00
Tear Fund Junior Church collections	195.00
Christmas collections Tear Fund	1,040.00
Thun Carol Service Cecily's Fund	550.00
Remembrance Day - British Legion	861.00
Bishop's Appeals from congregation	780.00
Bishop's Ordination Fund	360.00
Heiliggeist Carol Service (net)	2,376.00
Total	9,576.00

The Swiss Friends of Cecily's Fund is faithfully supported by Yvonne Bomonti with her team of helpers who have organised various fundraising events at St Ursula's such as the traditional November Pumpkin Soup lunch and the Lent Soup Lunch and concerts/events throughout the past year.

The Junior Church continues to support the Tear Fund Schweiz Water and Sanitation Project run by the Diocese of Kigezi in Kabale, Uganda. Proceeds from our, as ever lively, Harvest Festival auction, the Christmas service collections and the Junior Church collections go to this project.

The Sediqi family from Afghanistan have now been living for over a year in Bremgarten and the 4 older children are settling into the local school. Beat and Chloé Hodler continue to stand by and help the family in integrating to life in Switzerland. Rolf and Cecily Klingler, as next door neighbours, also help the Sediqi family in their day by day needs. Prayer is still needed for the Sediqi family that

they might be granted the necessary permits to stay in Switzerland.

Our Mission Sunday for 2019 will be on 3 March. The Mission focus will be for the work of the Passantenhilfe in Berne with Mrs Ursula Käufeler as guest speaker.

We do thank our church family for its continuing support in the past year. We encourage all of you to keep the institutions we support in your prayers. Please check the board in the church hall for our charity focus displays and information about other charities and missions. As well we have our regular charity and missions focus article in the magazine.

The Charity and Mission Team:

Chaplain, Hector Davie, Donna Goepfert, Esther Hutchison, Cecily Klingler, Pieter Perrett

Contact person: Cecily Klingler, 031 302 4859 or cecily@klinglerfamily.ch

Cecily Klingler



INFORMATION ABOUT ST URSULA'S CHURCH

St Ursula's Church is one of the nine Swiss chaplaincies that have a resident chaplain (minister) and together form the Archdeaconry of Switzerland. This is part of the Anglican Diocese of Europe which stretches from the Canary Islands to Ankara, from Moscow to Morocco.

The church was built in 1906 on a site that had been given to the community by the British-Berne Land Company. An American lady, Mrs Castleman from St Louis, provided the bulk of the money for the building as an offering of thanks for the near miraculous recovery of her adopted daughter, who was treated at the clinic of the famous Professor Kocher.

The hall and the house were added in 1959 and then extended (thanks to a windfall grant from the Canton of Berne) in 1992. An English Missionary Society, the USPG, helped to support the church from its earliest days. Since 1977, however, the chaplaincy has been fully self-supporting, relying solely on its members and well-wishers for its financial support.

St Ursula's has a long tradition of ministry to all English-speaking people in the Canton of Berne and beyond. It also provides a home for Christians from many different denominations and cultural backgrounds. Regular worshippers are encouraged to add their names to the Electoral Roll and so play a full part in the life of the church. Details of how to join the Electoral Roll can be obtained from the Church Wardens or any member of the Church Council.

Current Members of the Church Council

Churchwardens:

Maxine Wildhaber	076 349 4042
John Hutchison	032 665 0181

Lay Members:

Tricia Carrick	031 971 2771
Hector Davie	076 339 2771
Donna Goepfert	031 931 2742
Hans Goepfert	079 338 2538
Sue Higson	076 690 5088
Richard King	076 628 6003
Cecily Klingler	031 302 4859
Tony Read	033 243 3432
Edi Wildhaber	079 460 6115
Ruby Wildhaber	078 808 7515