

Please note that the following has been extracted from the Parish Profile which was created for the recruitment of the Vicar who was appointed in May 2024. Therefore some items may be slightly out of date or not completely relevant to this post.

Christ Church Bromley

Parish Profile

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① *Welcome*

Thank you for considering Christ Church Bromley as the parish God may be calling you to. Our church family is united in prayer as we seek the Lord's guidance in appointing our Associate Minister for Children and Youth.

We are excited for what God has in store for us in the next chapter of our church life and hope having read this that you will be too.

You can find out more about us at our website:

www.christchurchbromley.org



② *Who we are*

We are a thriving church of approximately 300 - 400 people (208 on electoral roll) located close to the centre of Bromley.

We have for over 130 years sought to make Jesus known through Bible-centred gospel proclamation, through equipping believers for ministry and through sending out labourers into the harvest field both at home and overseas.

Details of the parish and neighbourhood and the organisation of the church are contained in Appendices A and B.

You'll find people of all ages and a variety of ethnic backgrounds at Christ Church committed to learning from the Bible, as we seek to love and serve Jesus Christ and love one another. We enjoy meeting new people and try to make things as clear and easy as possible for everybody to follow, whether they're new or have been coming along for years.

We are very grateful for our good relationship with our Diocesan bishop, the Rt Rev Jonathan Gibbs. As a parish that has passed the resolution under the House of Bishop's declaration we also receive spiritual oversight from the Rt Rev Rob Munro, Bishop of Ebbsfleet



We believe that when the Bible is opened, God is speaking. Our meetings focus on hearing the Bible read and explained. We also encourage one another as we pray and sing a mix of modern songs and more traditional hymns.



We are a conservative evangelical church who put the gospel of Jesus Christ and Him crucified at the centre of who we are and what we do.



We are a complementarian church, believing in and preaching the equality of men and women while seeking to uphold God's distinct design for men and women in the family and the church.

③ *Beliefs and Vision*

What we believe

We are a Christian Church

We believe in one God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - who has revealed Himself supremely in His Son; born of the Virgin Mary; truly divine and truly human and yet without sin.

We believe in the atoning, substitutionary sacrifice of Christ on the cross, dying in our place, paying the price for our sin and therefore reconciling us with God.

The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ.

The work of God the Holy Spirit is to draw people to faith in Christ, give us new birth, and new spiritual life as He makes us more like Christ.

We are an Evangelical Church

We hold fast to the truth of the Bible believing that it is God's word and our final authority in all matters of faith and life. It is therefore always at the heart of all our main meetings.

We believe in the centrality of the cross, requiring a personal response from every believer, and we seek to listen to and obey God's word, applying it to every part of life.



We are an Anglican Church

We stand with the 16th century Anglican Reformers affirming the great truths, expressed in the 39 Articles and Book of Common Prayer: the sovereignty of God in salvation, justification by faith alone, salvation in Christ alone. People from any denomination and none are welcome.

Our unity is in Christ and not in any one denomination.

We are committed to making Jesus known

We want to proclaim the great news of salvation through Christ to as many people as possible, in order to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ who live in obedience to His words, and who themselves make disciples of others.



Vision

God's Growing Family

God's eternal purpose is to gather a predestined and redeemed people to live under the loving rule of His Son Jesus in a new creation. God is working out this purpose in, and through, the family here at CCB. We are caught up in something far bigger than we realise - in the eternal and universal purpose of God. Our small, short, seemingly insignificant lives redeemed by Christ, empowered by the Spirit are caught up in this purpose, as we grow amongst His family and serve with the gifts He has given us.

Worshipping

We believe that all of life is worship of God and that our Sunday gatherings for corporate worship fuel our living for him in all of life. We gather because the Lord promises His presence as His people gather around His word; He speaks to us through the preached word and we respond to Him in praise and prayer. Our praise enables us to respond in declaring truth to one another. It's also part of our evangelism; testifying to the word and work of God in Christ to unbelievers among us.



Reaching Out

God calls us to reach out to unbelievers in our parish, across Bromley and through our local networks. He has put us here to hold out the word of life and we believe that the more we are gripped by the grace of God ourselves the more we will long to share the gospel with others.

Growing Together

We long to see the gospel bear fruit amongst us as we pastor one another to grow in Christlikeness. We seek to speak the truth to one another in love across all age groups and to welcome people into a family who love one another. We believe that only God can do this by His Spirit as we are transformed by the grace of the gospel.

Sending

God calls His people to send out those He equips into ministry. It has been a long held commitment at CCB to train people for Christian service in a range of roles. Within CCB itself this has included paid roles and our unpaid ministry training scheme. Further afield, this includes living as Christians on mission where the Lord has put them, as the people they are, among the people He has placed them, with the gifts He has given.

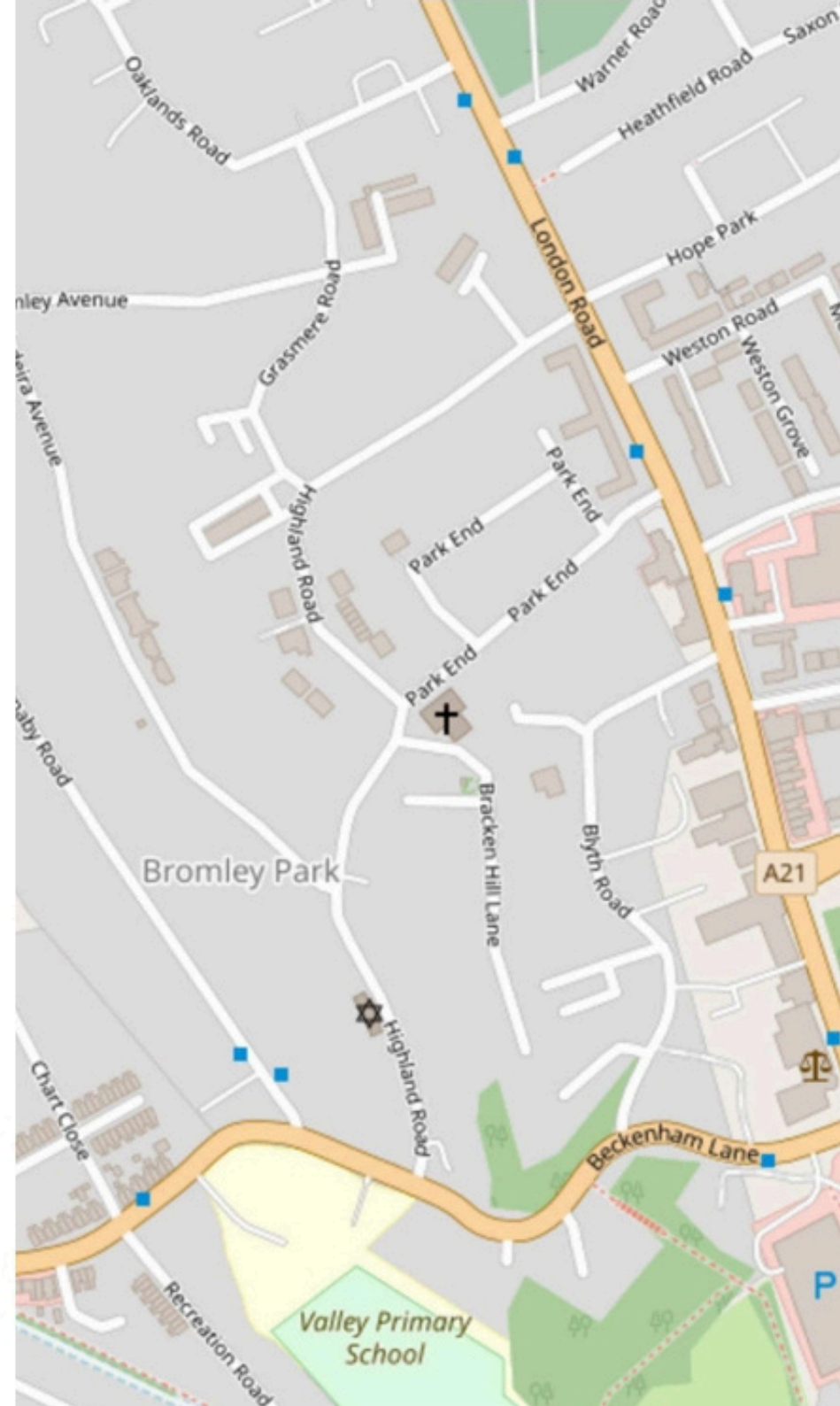


Appendix A

Bromley Borough

Bromley Borough is the southeasternmost and the largest London borough, which borders the county of Kent. A recent survey rated it the best place to live in London for green space. The town has a large shopping centre and a wide range of leisure facilities and local sports clubs. There are excellent transport links with easy access to the M25, overground train lines and an extensive bus network.

In 2017 Bromley was the London borough with the second lowest poverty rate (15%) but there are pockets of need resulting in a wide variation in levels of wealth within the borough as a whole. There are overground trains which run into the City and the West End so there are many commuters but Bromley is not simply a dormitory town. It is the headquarters for several businesses and 15% of residents are employed in the Health Industry meaning that many residents work within the borough.





The Parish of Christ Church Bromley

Our parish is situated in the north of the Borough of Bromley and just outside Bromley town centre. It's a relatively small parish, having been split from the neighbouring parish of St Mary's Bromley in 1955, and consists mainly of quiet residential streets. The population is around 5,500 in just over 2,000 households. It is a mixed neighbourhood with many families living in the parish and two highly regarded primary schools nearby. The parish also includes a residential and care home operated by a local Christian charity, Mission Care, with which the church has strong links.



The Church Family

Members of the church family live throughout the borough but most are within a 15 minute drive of the church. A reasonable number live within or very close to the parish and many are actively involved in the local community. The church reaches out to members of the local community by delivering invitations to special services at Easter and Christmas.

Appendix B

Our Ministries

Sundays

Sunday morning services are our main gathering of the week and we aim to make them as accessible as possible for anyone who attends (currently 200 to 250 people). Since the pandemic we have included our children and young people in the first part of the service but they separate into smaller groups for age appropriate Bible teaching and rejoin before the end of the service. The whole church considers the same passage of scripture. At the heart of each service is faithful and engaging preaching of the Bible and liturgy. Music is chosen to help us fix our hearts and minds on the Lord Jesus and to encourage us to follow him wholeheartedly. The music is generally modern, guitar or piano led, but catering for all ages, also with hymns played on the organ. Coffee and tea are served after the formal part of the service as we seek to get to know one another more, encourage each other and welcome those who are newer to the church family.



Our evening service is quieter (40 to 50 people) and calmer than the morning but is just as welcoming. At the moment the sermon series is the same as in the morning but songs and liturgy are usually different. Some people welcome the chance to come and gather for a second time each Sunday. Going forwards we hope to return to preaching a different series in the evening with an opportunity for deeper study.

In the wake of the COVID pandemic we are still making a livestream of our morning service available to a handful of church family members who are unable to come to church in person.

Christ Church Midweek

Our most important midweek activity is the monthly prayer meeting and we encourage the whole church family to attend; currently numbering between 50 and 100.

We meet regularly in small groups for Bible study and prayer. Most groups meet together in the church building on a Tuesday evening and spend time looking at the passage preached on Sunday morning in order to gain further insight and apply the teaching to our daily lives. As well as praying and caring for one another each group supports one of our mission partners in prayer.

Men's Ministry

Fortnightly Bible studies are held on Saturday mornings, providing an opportunity for men to study the bible and pray together.

Pastoral Support

The majority of pastoral support takes place through small groups as members care for one another and leaders facilitate regular prayer and practical support when it's needed. The church has recently set up a hardship fund to provide financial relief to members of the church family in particular need.

Women's Ministry

There are a number of groups supporting women throughout the week including Bible studies held on different days, one of which offers a creche to enable mothers with young children to attend. We also hold monthly breakfast meetings on Saturday mornings to encourage women in their walk with Christ.

Key goals of this time of fellowship are to create networks of support and discipleship amongst the women of the church family and to encourage discipling of younger women by those more mature in their faith.



Families Ministry

We are committed to the principle that parents play the most important role in children's spiritual education and development and that the groups we run at church act as supportive partners in this ministry. In order to support parents we have sought to encourage and equip them through regular events which engage with the Bible's teaching, practical advice for families and particular challenges facing young people in their schools and communities. We encourage all the church family to uphold and pray for our children and young people.



Children & Young People

As well as the regular Sunday activities, we run midweek groups which aim to support our young people as they grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord Jesus. These groups also seek to welcome children and young people from outside the church family and share the gospel with them. These run weekly during school term time for primary-aged children (BIG), 11-14s (Pathfinders) and 14-18s (Spectrum). Through the week we see over 50 children and young people.

We are actively involved in Lakeview Holidays (run through Ventures for ages 10-18), sending young people, student helpers, leaders and support team members to serve for a week every August, and praying for the holidays throughout the year.

Those involved in youth work are supported with training to be better equipped to serve the children and teenagers at CCB.



Ministry Locally

We run a number of activities seeking to reach out within our local community.

Our Lunch Club for retired people meets weekly and in addition to lunch runs a Seekers Bible Study and a variety of social activities. Run entirely by volunteers it provides support for older members of the church family and draws in newcomers from the local area.

Our mother and toddler group, Lighthouse, meets weekly during school term time with a focus on building relationships with local mums and teaching children about Jesus through Bible stories.

We run 2-3 football teams competing in a local Christian league. This draws in a large number of non-Christian players who hear a short Bible talk before each game. It is hard work but it brings many under the sound of the gospel and has great potential.



Other evangelistic & social events

In order to build and strengthen relationships and outreach within our church and parish community, we have over several years undertaken (with broadly positive community reception, response and outcomes) a range of events. The COVID pandemic, together with resource issues in the interregnum, has placed particular constraints on this. Some are already re-established, some established recently for the first time but our intention is to revisit all of them as circumstances permit:

- Team-based door-to-door parish visiting both at Christmas and Easter, and in conjunction with special gospel outreach events.
- Christianity/Life/Hope Explored
- “Life Stories” - mission evenings/weeks of events, guest speakers/ interviews
- Quiz Nights
- Men’s and women’s social evenings
- Women’s craft evenings
- Church family picnics in summer months

A faint, stylized world map in light blue and orange tones serves as the background for the entire page. The map shows the continents and major oceans, with a slightly distressed or hand-drawn aesthetic.

Appendix C

Mission beyond Bromley (MBB)

We're committed to equipping people to serve Jesus Christ in every area of their lives in Britain and beyond and the church has a long history of sending workers into the mission field. We support several Mission Partners around the globe working in various areas of gospel ministry seeking to make Jesus known. We try to support a wide range of mission activity including partners who work in churches, outreach centres, with unreached people groups, teaching English and training others for ministry. As well as specific individuals, we also support organisations such as SAT-7, France Mission and the Diocese of Kondoa in Tanzania. We seek to encourage members of the church family who are considering mission overseas and to support them both in prayer and financially. We also have church family members engaged in mission work within the UK and others providing support for Christian mission organisations.

Support for Mission Partners is overseen by a committee which runs a yearly MBB Day to help keep the church informed and engaged in the work we are supporting and to provide an opportunity to give specifically to MBB. This is generally attended by a large number of our Mission Partners. Many of our Mission Partners are also able to visit the church family from time to time and this allows us to keep up to date with their work and support and encourage them personally. These visits often provide opportunities for more informal meetings over a meal to allow those interested to hear in more depth about their ministry. Each Mission Partner is connected with a midweek group who keep in touch with them and pray for them regularly.

Appendix D

Wider Relationships

We have links with other churches, with whom we organise occasional events for teaching together on particular themes, and other organisations within the diocese and the wider Church of England.

Partner Churches



Redeemer Croydon - An evangelical church drawing from all over the greater Croydon area; a church for 'people who don't do church' - there's a coffee shop atmosphere - but operating from the conviction that when the Bible is faithfully taught and lived, God's Spirit is active in changing lives. Visit their [website](#) for more details.



Grace Church Beckenham - A new church launched in Beckenham, in partnership with the FIEC & Co-Mission, helping to bring the good news about Jesus Christ to this part of London. Visit their [website](#) for more details.

Other Organisations

Bromley Area Deanery

We are part of the Bromley Area Deanery and our senior minister attends the Deanery Chapter and seeks to meet up with other ministers within the chapter, both evangelical and otherwise.

Rochester DEF

Rochester Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship ("RDEF") - We are members of RDEF and our senior minister attends a weekly prayer meeting with the RDEF and has lately been engaging with the Diocese and the Bishop especially on matters of doctrine relating to the Living in Love and Faith ("LLF") proposals from the Church of England.



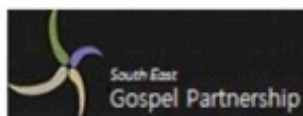
Transform Bromley Borough ("TBB")

We are members of [TBB](#), which is a wider Bromley organisation of (generally evangelical) churches seeking to reach the borough for Christ.



Church of England Evangelical Council

("CEEC") We benefit from the advice and guidance of CEEC. Currently this predominantly relates to our response to the LLF proposals.



We are members of the [South East Gospel Partnership](#), a group of Bible-believing churches working together to train leaders, strengthen and plant churches, and advance the gospel.



We are part of the [Kent Gospel Partnership](#) group. This is part of the wider South East Gospel Partnership.



ReNew (Rochester Diocese Ebbsfleet Group)

We are members of [ReNew](#), which is a movement seeking to support a nation of healthy local churches for the evangelisation of England. In God's strength and for his glory, ReNew Churches seek to pursue the ReNew Agenda locally, regionally, and nationally. ReNew Churches are served by volunteer Regional Leaders, a Planning Team, and Trustees. Our senior minister attends local meetings of this group and the annual conference.

Appendix E

Staff members



Mark Redhouse
Vicar
Finance / Safeguarding



Matt Lloyd
Associate Minister
Evangelism / Youth



Elena Cady
Assistant Administrator



Ems Greig
Associate for Women's
Ministry



Nathan Prior
Assistant Worker
(Children and Youth)



Kylie McIlhiney
Operations Coordinator



Zoë Tsim
Children's Ministry Assistant

The background image shows the interior of a church. It features a balcony with wooden pews, a raised dais at the front, and large stained glass windows. A chandelier hangs from the ceiling. The architecture is made of wood and brick.

Appendix F

Buildings

Church

Completed in 1886, the church has been reordered and extended in the last 25 years to provide additional capacity and meeting space. The reordering saw the layout of the church reorientated by 90 degrees, pews moving to a new balcony providing seating on 3 sides and being replaced downstairs by chairs. The new 'front' of the church has a raised dais with a built in baptistry. The seating capacity on a normal Sunday is about 300. The flexible seating allows a variety of events to be held in the main church building; another common setup seats up to 100 people around large circular tables such as for small groups, or 'cafe-style' services. The building is not listed and is generally in good condition such that maintenance is not overly burdensome on the church family.

The extension provided a new hall, kitchenette, creche, offices and toilets. The hall (aka the 'church centre') has become a main entrance to the church and the main gathering place after services for refreshments. It is a good venue for smaller meetings and groups throughout the week. The church benefits from a modern high quality audio visual system fitted in the last few years; it provides for a band of varying make-up and several vocalists, live streaming, and the adjoining hall and creche are wired to relay sound and pictures. There is also a versatile modern digital 3-manual organ with conventional registration.



Halls

Opposite the church and across the road are the church halls complete with 'large' and 'small' hall, a fully equipped kitchen, youth room, toilets, and office space. The Halls serve as a venue for children's groups on Sundays and throughout the week, as well as other activities. The space and equipment have long been a great blessing to the church, including providing sufficient capacity for the church family to meet on Sundays during the reordering in the late 1990s. As they are in frequent use for church activities the Halls are not made available for private hire.