

St Barnabas Church, Woodside Park

Church Profile



THE VISION

Our Mission Statement is *transforming lives : changing the world*. We believe that God has called us to be a large missional church committed to:

- **Love that is outward-focused, creating vibrant community**
- **Encountering God in intimacy and passion**
- **Discipleship that transforms and equips in community for mission**
- **Serving as a lifestyle for all our members**
- **Sending out people and resources, including planting churches**

Further details about the Vision, together with a statement of our values, are in the *Our Vision* booklet.

THE CHURCH

The church was built in 1914 with a group who had a vision for a church for people on the Woodside Park Estate. (This estate wasn't even planned then, and was only built in the 30s!) The building holds about 300 in the main nave area, with a gallery seating a further 50, and a side chapel for about 50.

There are over 1000 adults on the church's database, most of whom do not live in the parish, although many live in the general Finchley area. About 600 of these are active regular attenders of St Bs. There are about 150 children on the database, with about 100 of these regularly coming to the Sunday Kids Church, with about another 150 11-18 year-olds linked with the Church. The catchment area of the church, which would involve a driving time of approximately 20 minutes from the church building, has a population of about 250,000. In this area there are very few other churches committed to being evangelical and charismatic in theology and practice.

The church is multi-national especially in the work with families, and this is clearly seen in the morning congregation. It is also predominantly young in age, with relatively few above 60. Many in the church are under 40. Amongst the many people in their 20s and 30s there are a large number of single people.

The current St Barnabas has largely grown since John Coles became vicar in the 1980s, when he led it into renewal, influenced by David Pytches and also the Vineyard Movement. Our current vicar, Henry Kendal, arrived in 1999 and took over from John Coles gradually over a number of years.

In general, people in North London suburbia now have little sense of community, and none of an Anglican Parish. They generally travel to work, shop, be with friends, and engage in leisure pursuits. Consequently the church is eclectic rather than parochial in nature and has grown mainly through networks of friendship. In recent years we have developed more work locally in North Finchley, including ministry to the elderly, to young mothers, to children, and to homeless people. We are at the same time trying to encourage our members to be salt and light in their own locality.

The church's growth has been through many different means - transfer of local Christians, movement of Christians to London, through restoring the backslidden, and through conversion. The turnover of the congregation has been quite high, due mainly to the high proportion of young people and families who frequently change jobs and location. Periodically people also leave for theological or personal reasons.

We have engaged in various Church Planting projects. In 1995 we sent out 15 people, including a student leader, to be grafted onto a dying United Reformed church about 1½ miles away. This is now an established church. In the autumn of 2001 we planted out another church into Whetstone and this has thrived, but in order to develop it further, we decided to bring it back into the St Barnabas orbit (see Oakleigh Community Church below). In January 2006 we sent out a Network Church Plant to develop an alternative style of church not based on geographic location of building. In September 2007 we sent out one of our vicars with a team to bring fresh life into a parish church in Golders Green. In 2009 we planted a house church with the objective of outreach through hospitality under the leadership of John (our former

vicar). In 2011, John was sent out with this plant becoming fully independent from St Barnabas. In 2010 we started a new congregation on a local estate about 2 miles from St Barnabas (see church@five below).

We are part of the New Wine Network, hosting local network meetings and taking a large group to the New Wine summer conference (including many on team). Our young people also go to Soul Survivor each year.

SUNDAY SERVICES

The normal pattern is:

8am	Holy Communion	approx 8-12
9.30am <i>and</i> 11.30am	Morning Worship	approx 400 adults between the 2 services, and over 100 children/teens in age-related groups
5.00pm		<i>The Five</i> Youth Congregation for 14s-18s
7.00pm	Evening Worship	approx. 60-90 adults and teens

Most members only attend one service each Sunday - therefore the morning and evening congregations have a different clientele. We are constantly reviewing the Sunday Services to see whether they effectively enable our members to meet with God, and are accessible to those still seeking personal faith.

OTHER MINISTRIES

We have developed a number of ministries to enable us to be *Transforming lives : Changing the World* in the most effective way available to us. These are constantly under review, but currently include:

Missional Communities

We encourage all members of St Bs to be in a Missional Community – mission-orientated groups of between 15 and 40 people, based on a neighbourhood, a need or a network. We currently have 10 missional communities with others in the development stage. We also encourage everyone to belong to a 2-4 Group, for prayer and support.

Alpha

We run Alpha courses once or twice a year, for those who are seeking to investigate Christianity. In addition courses are run at other times for specific groups.

Adult Training

We are running a variety of courses including: Parenting, Marriage Preparation, Marriage Enrichment, Baptism Preparation, Mentoring and others.

Sung Worship

Sung worship is one of the hallmarks of St Bs for which we are widely known. We currently have about 40 members on the team including many excellent musicians. Our vision is for passionate and intimate worship.

Kids, Mini and Tots Church

We gather our children together in age appropriate groups each Sunday for their version of church. This includes sharing God's story, worshipping together, praying for one another and having a lot of fun. We believe that even children not yet born matter to God and that His desire for the very youngest to the very oldest child is for them to know him not just in their head but also in their hearts.

Youth

The Sunday Session (for 11s-14s) meets on Sunday mornings. *The Five* (for 14s-18s) is the youth congregation which meets at 5pm on Sundays. Many of the youth also attend the evening service.

Young Adults

Our young adults ministry facilitates opportunities for people aged 18-30 to learn and grow, socialise and have fun, and look outward and join in with what God is doing in the world. We have about 60-80 young adults who meet together regularly for Synergy Young Adult Gatherings and other social events.

Barneys

Barneys is a church toddler group. It is a major outreach to the under 3s families in the area and has a committed core of leaders which at present run 2 mornings a week. The groups are made up of mainly non-Christian families. We have had some success in seeing these families come along to our Family services and other outreach events.

Hope North London

Hope North London is our partner charity founded in 1999 out of St Barnabas and largely run from St Barnabas. The charity's main focus of activity is on the Strawberry Vale Estate where it supports interns and runs a number of groups. Hope North London is separately funded but works in partnership with St Barnabas on various other projects.

church@five

This congregation meets in a community centre on the Strawberry Vale estate on Sunday afternoons. Led by Helen Shannon, there is a regular attendance of about 30-40 people.

Oakleigh Community Church

This 10 year old church plant is a lively fellowship in the middle of a principally residential area. The original planting team has grown to around 100 adults and children. Oakleigh's growth has been primarily convert growth, with around 75 new believers, as well as returning drifters. Oakleigh has its own church building and has a main Sunday morning service, as well as small groups, prayer meeting and outreach projects

World Mission

We support 27 members either working in this country or overseas in short or long term mission - we are preparing for others to go. Our Mission budget is currently 20% of our income; other work is supported by other special collections.

Outreach to Senior Citizens

We are building friendships with senior citizens in our locality, seeking to make Jesus known to them through a weekly social club (The Wednesday Club) and regular social events.

Homeless Outreach Ministry

Every Sunday a team hosts lunch at the church for about 20-40 people in our area who are homeless. We also work with other local churches to provide a winter night shelter for homeless people.

Japanese Ministry

Finchley has a very large Japanese population. The church's outreach includes English conversation classes and bi-lingual Bible study groups. There are more plans for changing and developing this ministry.

N12 Women

This is a weekly group for women, which meets for prayer and Bible study every Thursday morning.

Healing Prayer Ministry Team

St Bs has a large prayer team that is active at every service. We run occasional Healing Prayer Ministry Training Days in conjunction with New Wine.

Oasis

Oasis is a ministry for women to bring wholeness and healing.

Healing on the Streets

The aim of this project is to take something of what we have here at St Bs out into the community. Each Saturday a team of people are on the High Road, offering to pray with anyone who would like prayer for healing. We regularly hear great stories of God at work healing people.

THE STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

The staff team is currently:

Full time:

Revd Henry Kendal	-	Vicar
Revd Colin Brookes	-	Associate Vicar
Revd Helen Shannon	-	Associate Minister & Leader, church@five
Revd Mike Pavlou	-	Associate Minister & Leader, Oakleigh Community Church
Revd Chris Alexander	-	Curate
Peter Troup	-	Operations Manager
Margaret Peach	-	Henry Kendal's Assistant
Position Vacant	-	Young Adults Pastor
Position vacant	-	Children's Pastor
Peter Landry	-	Youth Pastor
Dave Harvey	-	Facilities Coordinator
Rosalynne Hutchings	-	Office Administrator
Position Vacant	-	World Missions Pastor

Part time:

Siming Hill	-	Finance & HR Administrator
Bella Mutevelian	-	Acting Church Administrator
Rosie Hughes	-	Finance Assistant
Andy Yeates	-	Music Director
Becky Townley	-	Families Community Worker
Sarah Restall	-	Change Manager
Andy Pritchard	-	Go & Grow Fundraising Coordinator
Trevlyn Yeates	-	Church Administrator (<i>currently on maternity leave</i>)

Volunteers: a number of people volunteer significant amounts of time to work for the Church

The main ministry leaders meet once a week for business and each department has regular team meetings; the whole staff team meet every Tuesday morning for prayer and also have lunch together on Tuesdays. Staff also spend one day a term in extended discussion and prayer for each other. To encourage the team identity we provide office space in the church building for each staff member.

The church has other leadership groups, which are responsible to the Parochial Church Council, including S&FC (Standing and Finance Committee). The PCC has 12 elected members, 10 Deanery Synod representatives, as well as the churchwardens.

THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT/PARISH

The church building is in a suburban area of North London, which is almost exclusively residential. The housing is mainly privately owned, though there are some small council estates in the parish and a number of homes for the elderly. The parish has a population of about 8,000. There is a wide ethnic mix, including a large number of Jews, Japanese, Italians and Greeks, Africans, Indians and Chinese. The parish borders onto the High Road of North Finchley, which is a typical North London shopping High Road.

There is little sense of community in the parish, and the children go to a wide variety of different schools. There is one private junior school and one State JMI School in the parish. Immediately the other side of the parish boundary there are two other State JMI Schools.

The parish is generally a very pleasant place to live in, and property prices are high. In the late eighties there was considerable redevelopment of some of the larger houses into flats. The presence of Woodside Park tube station, on the Northern Line, makes access to the City easy for commuters.

THE CHURCH BUILDINGS

Our current buildings in Holden Road have served us well for nearly 100 years, but we have now largely outgrown them and rely for much of our ministry on temporary buildings on rented land. We are currently engaged in an ambitious building relocation project (Go and Grow) and have recently purchased a large building on the High Road, with the plan to relocate the entire church. More information is available at www.goandgrow.london

THE FUTURE

We believe that the mission field around us is huge. The opportunities for us to spread the good news about Jesus are almost limitless. We are working for people to come to know Jesus as their Saviour and Lord, and experience the transforming love, healing, peace and purpose that he alone can bring.

At the moment we are focused on harnessing and channelling the time, energy, and money of our church members to enable us to be more effective in *transforming lives : changing the world*. We have articulated the type of church that we believe God is calling us to be in the *Our Vision* booklet. We are trying to ensure that everything we do derives from the Mission Statement. As we assess new ideas we are asking, as Jesus did, that we will only do what we see the Father doing. We want everything we do to be for the extension of the kingdom of God, by the power of the Spirit of God, and to the glory of Jesus.

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