

St. Barnabas Church, Gillingham

Music and Ministry Report April 2015

The past year has been a good year for services at St. Barnabas, we have covered nearly all our services with the help from Clergy and Readers within the Gillingham Deanery. Their styles have been different but they have been received well. A big thank you must go to Belinda for the hard work she has done to make sure the services are covered. We must also say thank you to the Clergy and Readers who have supported us over the year.

Over the past year I have played over 100 different hymns, some well-known and some we haven't but we have still tried to sing them. The new Hymn books were introduced in September 2014, which has helped in introducing new hymns and I have also been able to use modern hymns allowing the congregation of both adults and children to use musical instruments or clap along with the music. The congregation have also had the opportunity to have some of their favourite hymns played during the services. I hope that in the future we can introduce more hymns and possibly the use of live music.

Belinda and I have been attending the Mission Shaped Ministry Course which in time will I'm sure be very useful in building a great future here at St. Barnabas, the course has allowed us to meet people from a range of different churches and opened our eyes to the different ways of ministry in their churches as well as their style of music.

Looking to the future it is our hope to be able to arrange Children's Services on a regular basis incorporating stories and music. This may be a challenge to start with but I feel that in time this will attract more people to attend our services.

By Peter Walkiden