

# Commission Annual Report 2018



## Thank you from Guy...

What a year 2018 has been, where we've had more churches added than ever before! Heather and I are so grateful for every Commission family member, every prayer, every step of courageous faith, every pound given, every church or site started and every nation visited.

We're so thrilled that this past year has been another one of growth and blessing. We had an incredible time at Westpoint, an opportunity to celebrate our unity, gathering together for worship and teaching. You gave so generously to the offering, which will enable us to continue our work in seeing thousands of lives transformed, through hundreds of churches, in tens of nations.

Another key highlight for us was seeing our first church in Serbia welcomed into the Commission family. Heather and I had a precious time there with the churches' leaders Miro and Sneza and know that they will be a fantastic addition to us.

Thank you once again for the wonderful support you show us year after year. I'd love to encourage you to keep pressing ahead and to come before God in prayer and expectation of everything he is capable of.

With love,

Guy and Heather



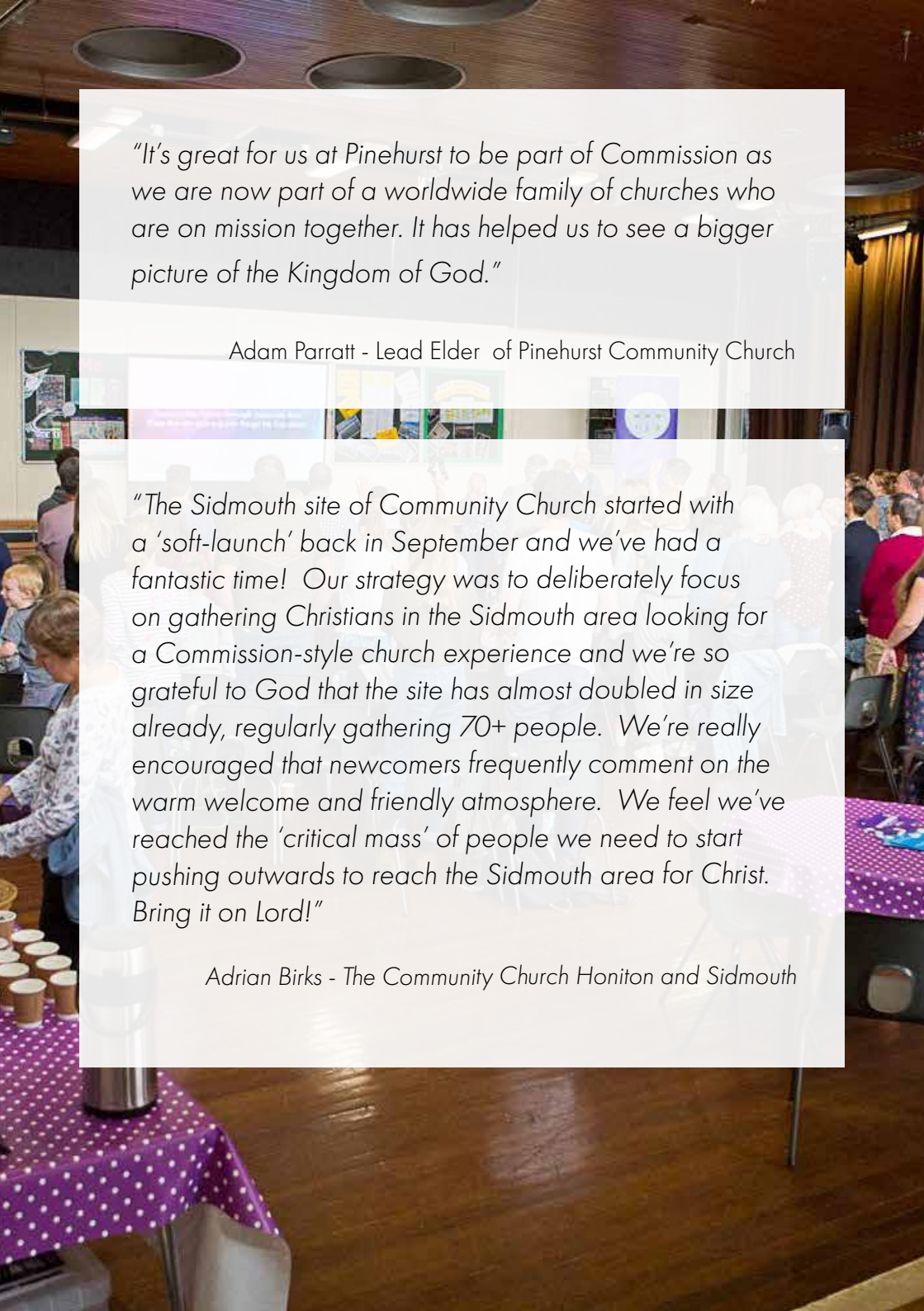
# Thousands of Lives Transformed...

In 2018 there were **153** baptisms in our UK church family. We have had over **600** baptisms in the last 3 years, and are in faith for **1000** by 2020!



# Through hundreds of churches...

**2018 was our biggest year yet for church growth, and our UK family is now **57** congregations. We are thankful to be joined by congregations in; Southampton, Andover, Havant, Fareham, Sidmouth and the West Moors.**

The background image shows a church interior. In the foreground, there are tables covered with purple polka-dot tablecloths, with several white disposable cups on one of them. In the background, people are seated at tables, and there are colorful displays or posters on the wall. The ceiling has circular recessed lighting.

*"It's great for us at Pinehurst to be part of Commission as we are now part of a worldwide family of churches who are on mission together. It has helped us to see a bigger picture of the Kingdom of God."*

Adam Parratt - Lead Elder of Pinehurst Community Church

*"The Sidmouth site of Community Church started with a 'soft-launch' back in September and we've had a fantastic time! Our strategy was to deliberately focus on gathering Christians in the Sidmouth area looking for a Commission-style church experience and we're so grateful to God that the site has almost doubled in size already, regularly gathering 70+ people. We're really encouraged that newcomers frequently comment on the warm welcome and friendly atmosphere. We feel we've reached the 'critical mass' of people we need to start pushing outwards to reach the Sidmouth area for Christ. Bring it on Lord!"*

Adrian Birks - The Community Church Honiton and Sidmouth



# In tens of nations...

**We are now in 8 nations, with the official joining of Serbia in November 2018. Currently, our family has churches in the UK, USA, Nepal, Serbia, India, Spain, Portugal and India.**

**We'd love to be in 10 nations by 2020 and we're so close!**



Serbia, 2018

*"The support we've received from Commission has been so helpful in working towards the vision of planting a grace filled church in Ghana. We are at this stage in our journey because of the generosity of so many and we want to say a huge thank you to you all.*

*With much love,*

*Eustace and Theresa"*

Ghana Church Planters, 2019



# Enabling and doing

Last year we told you that we were updating our finance model to help serve our apostolic vision. For increased clarity, we are now shaping our finances around the principles of **doing** and **enabling**.

## 1. DOING (front-line missional costs)

Examples of this include:

- Grants given to specific programmes such as church plants, multi-site launches etc.
- Front-line salaries i.e apostolic and training delivery
- The cost of having external speakers at Westpoint

## 2. ENABLING (operational support costs)

These are the operational or support costs which relate to the structure required to enable the 'doing' to take place. Examples of this include:

- Operational staff salaries
- IT
- Finance
- Insurance
- Banking charges



## Income and expenditure breakdown

INCOME	£	TOTAL
Church giving	310,784	
Westpoint offering 2017	701,925	
Total giving		1,012,709
Event	370,241	
Training	75,447	
Resources (books and publications sold)	260	
Operating income		445,948
Investments	9173	
Investment income		9173
Total income		1,467,830

EXPENDITURE	Doing	Enabling	TOTAL
Grants/SURE initiatives	578,429		578,429
Comms/Marketing	13,903	14,124	28,027
Staff Resources	119,009	232,526	351,535
IT & Office Costs	17,456	12,398	29,854
Program and Training	59,099	5,075	64,174
Contracts and Services	210,955	4,347	215,302
Travel and Hospitality	123,500	13,460	136,960
Finance, Governance and Property	67,574	36,464	104,038
Total expenditure			1,508,319

# **Expenditure explained**

## **Grants/SURE Initiatives**

This relates to investment into church plants, events underwriting, global apostolic support of Commission and other Newfrontiers projects, as well as investment into the development of our SURE programmes.

## **Comms/Marketing**

This covers expenditure attributed to the creation and maintenance of our website, social media presence, advertising and other publications as well as telephone and internet costs.

## **Staff Resources**

This is the cost of paying salaries, recruiting and training our staff team.

## **IT/office costs**

These are the costs incurred for the continued operation of our bases in Bournemouth and London. This covers basic costs such as stationery, printing and postage as well as IT equipment and support.

## **Programme and Training**

This is the cost of running events and training programs, speaker gifts, catering and other required resources.

## **Contracts and Services**

These are expenses incurred in securing professional services and equipment hire.

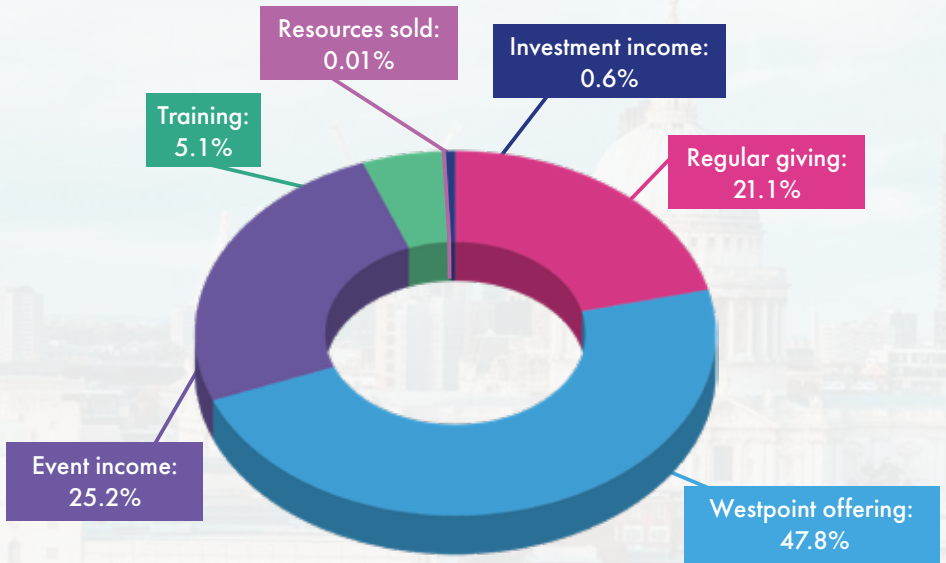
## **Travel and hospitality**

These are the costs of local and international travel and accommodation.

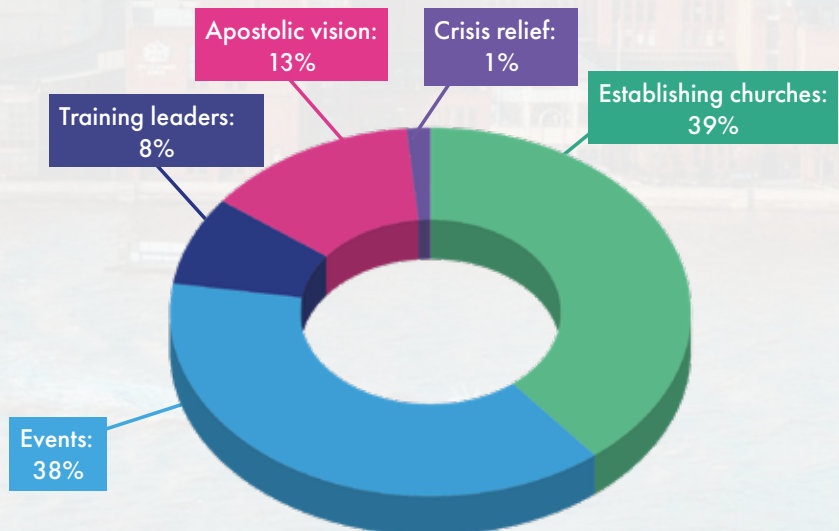
## **Finance, Governance and Property**

This relates to legal fees, banking charges, insurance costs, audit fees and property rentals.

## Income breakdown



## Expenditure against charitable objectives





## Charitable objectives explained

Commission's main areas of expenditure are allocated against our charitable objectives. Each area below includes an element of enabling cost which has been split across them all.

### Establishing and caring for churches

One of our main priorities, both in the UK and globally, is to start new churches and help them grow. We do this through financial grants to new congregations, church planting teams and apostolic bases where we have established relationships.

There are also 'doing' costs related to this area, such as travel, accommodation, communication and direct salary costs.

All areas of activity need enabling through an operational structure to be sustainable. Some of these costs include IT and software, finance and insurance, telephone etc, as well as staff salaries.

### Conferences and events

We express our shared mission and unity when we gather together. Whether it's Westpoint, CST, Lifted (social action day) Elders and Wives, Trustee Training day, Commission Prayer, Media Training Day or our Children's Worker Conference, our events aim to equip, envision and encourage us to step out in new ventures.

The main costs associated with events are what you'd expect i.e. contracts and services, building hire, communications, marketing, finance and insurance and other expenses (food, travel, accommodation etc). We do our utmost to get the best value at the lowest cost so we can keep ticket prices as low as possible. We also subsidise Westpoint specifically from the Westpoint offering as we believe this event is at the forefront of our objectives and we want to help as many people to attend as possible.

As well as an element of operation costs which are split across all areas of expenditure, our enabling costs here include the salaries of our events team who help shape and implement the vision of the UK Leadership Team for all of our events.

### **Training leaders**

Jesus said, 'The harvest is plentiful, the workers are few'. We quote this regularly because we know how vital it is in our churches to develop leaders. We run Foundations and Advanced Training courses for leaders at different points in their leadership journey.

'Doing' costs associated with training include venue hire, course material, course delivery, etc. A proportion of our Training Director's salary is also covered by our training courses.

'Enabling' costs for training include an administrative salary for course delivery, as well as an element of operation cost split across all areas of expenditure. We also grant money to training centres within Commission and Newfrontiers both globally and in the UK. This includes the Impact training and the Islamic World School of Leadership which is a joint Catalyst/Commission event.



## Developing apostolic vision

The UK and International Leadership Teams under Guy Miller's direction continue to develop, lead and shape the vision of Commission for the future. Some of the 'doing' costs related to this are for team travel and accommodation.

Guy continues to invest significantly into Commission playing a key part in establishing churches in our capital city. Our 'doing' costs therefore include salaries and other associated costs.

Our SURE programme is well underway, involving many people across our UK churches, seeking to strengthen, encourage and equip every Commission church and individual member. The breadth of the SURE programme work is very exciting, with activity ranging from defining our values, equipping every believer, raising and developing leaders, increasing our social action and social justice impact, and global mission.

## Community development and crisis relief

Thanks to your generosity we've been able to launch a community programme in Odisha, east India, which is aiming to bring sustainable development to over 500 families across 15 churches.

We also have a fund for crisis relief so that we can respond quickly when needs arise. This year we have been able to support famine relief projects in north Kenya, provide emergency assistance to churches after flooding in Laos, and develop a rehabilitation project in Kerala, India for those affected by the devastating flooding in August 2018.



# How we used the 2017 Westpoint offering

Every year we are astounded by your generosity and faith for our mission together. The offering in 2017 was no different and you gave a huge **£701,925**. The offering has increased significantly over the last three years, which has allowed us to invest more than ever before in the areas below:

## **UK: New churches and multi-sites support**

These grants are helping to support the new churches and multisites in the UK including Cardiff, Fareham, Sidmouth, Aldershot and Havant. In line with our vision, we have designated any unspent funds in this area for future church plants in the UK.

## **Global Mission**

In 2018, we continued to support our bases in India and Portugal with grants for starting new churches, training, conferences and apostolic ministry as well as supporting teams in the Middle East, and Newfrontiers spheres in Zambia, Mexico and also the UK. We also invested in the Ghana church plant plans, our USA churches, Serbia, and Latin America.

## **Social projects**

We have designated funds for future support of social action initiatives and crisis relief. We are running a multi-church community wide development programme with partners in India to which these funds will make a significant contribution.

## **Event underwriting**

An element of Westpoint requires underwriting to ensure ticket costs for delegates are kept as low as possible. The cost of underwriting this event came from the Westpoint Offering.

## SURE programme investment

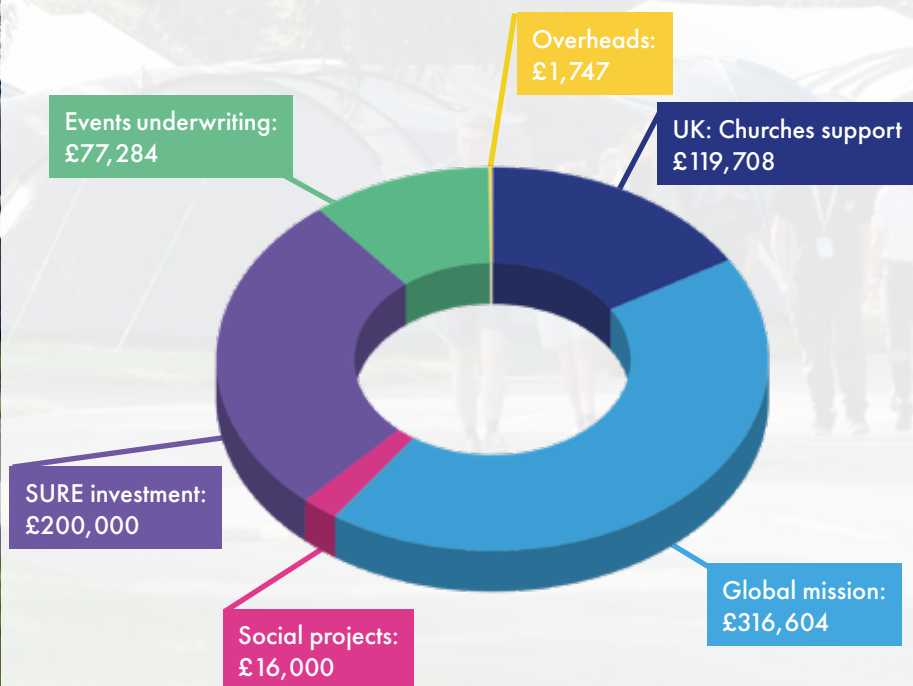
We were able to further resource our SURE programme, which includes activity such as defining our values, equipping every believer, raising and developing leaders, increasing our social action and social justice impact, and global mission.

## Overheads

These costs relate to banking charges for receiving and spending our Westpoint Offering.

## Ministry reserve

It is our policy to build up a small contingency fund in order to respond to emergency support and other unforeseen needs as they arise.



## Summary

It is an exciting time to be part of Commission. On behalf of Guy and the team, we are so thankful for your financial commitment to our church family. We would also like to thank all of our committed and dedicated volunteers who have served so faithfully at our events and training days, as well as the wider apostolic team in their role in caring for churches. We are so privileged to serve with you and ask you to keep praying with us for God to advance His kingdom through all we are and do.

We hope you've enjoyed reading this and have seen just how much impact your support has had on what we can do. It's not easy to capture all of the information, but please do contact us if you'd like anything clarifying further. Please note this is not our full charity Annual Report and Accounts. These will be available on our website after our annual audit.

