

CPAS – Church Pastoral Aid Society

CPAS is an Anglican Mission agency working in the UK and Ireland. It exists to enable churches to help every person and discover the good news of Jesus. It has been equipping leaders and churches for mission since 1836. They do this work, supporting evangelism and mission in local churches, in 3 areas: developing leaders and producing resources, running residential holidays, and appointing evangelical clergy through their patronage work.

Leadership

Good leadership is crucial for vibrant, growing churches. Each year CPAS investing in over 3000 Christian leaders. Their training events help leaders, PCCs and churches grapple with everything from discerning God's direction, to nurturing new leaders, to leading in evangelism.

We have benefitted from their training provided for Chris, through the diocese, as a new incumbent; throughout lockdown in a regular series of Zoom webinars which were a lifeline; and as a PCC through their resource PCC Tonight.

Holidays for 8-18s

Ventures are incredible holidays for 8-18s. Each year they give thousands of young people the chance to explore who Jesus is, have fun and make long-lasting, life-enhancing friendships. CPAS also run Falcon holidays specifically for young people facing challenging circumstances.

We almost got involved in School Ventures, a new initiative in this area. Emma and Chris were ready to go with 10-12 children from Whitefriars Primary school for a weekend at the Frontier Centre in March. Unfortunately, the school were unable to find a member of staff to accompany us.

Patronage

CPAS is the UK's largest evangelical patron, with nearly 700 parishes covering every English diocese. Every year, they appoint mission-minded clergy to around 100 vacant posts, and offer support and prayer to those in post. We also advertise vacancies, and offer advice to evangelical clergy looking for their next role.

We are benefitting from their experience as we begin the process of finding a new vicar. CPAS have already been in touch with the church wardens and have met with the PCC to set a framework for the recruitment process.

There is a very close match between CPAS and Whitefriars values and we have been pleased to support them with our charitable giving over recent years. Please do pray for the important work of CPAS in the UK and if you want to support them financially yourself Sara has information that will help.