

**As another year comes to an end, we are thankful for all that God has done through BSC. We are very thankful that you have been part of this journey through your prayers, encouragement and financial gifts. This year we have been able to encourage and support numerous people from churches in the Bristol area who are connecting with their local schools. It is an absolute joy and privilege to be part of this work in our city. We have included some of the highlights of the last few months in this update. Please prayerfully consider how you continue to journey with us in 2019. We pray that you will know God's presence with you and his deep joy, love, hope and peace as 2018 ends and 2019 begins. Emmanuel.**

With much love and prayers  
Jane, Liz and the Trustees

## Christmas Trails



It has been a pleasure to support two churches who ran Christmas trails for the first time this year for their local school(s) – Salem Chapel in Bedminster, and St. Francis church, Bedminster! It was wonderful to see how both these churches got on board with the vision and made it a reality. Both trails went extremely well, with really positive feedback from the children and staff from the local schools. It was fantastic to see these Trails in action and to see the incredible creativity, enthusiasm and unity of the teams running them! Both of these churches also opened their trails for the local community to go around on Saturday morning. Again, both of these events went really well.

We would love to see every school in the city being able to access a local Christmas Trail being run in a church. Please continue to pray that more churches will run these in the years to come and for good conversations with various people across the city who could help this to happen.

churches who were either looking to make a connection with their local school(s) or deepen their connections. Some of the people who came were people who work in schools and were interested in finding out more about the ways that churches could support their school. We talked about a range of ways that churches can support schools and their wider community: Prayer spaces in schools; running a community Light stop (an alternative celebration to Halloween); Assemblies; Chaplaincy; Mentoring (Samuel Williams from TLG gave a presentation); Make Lunch and Kids Matter (Hannah Widdows came to speak about these initiatives); and lastly Christmas/Easter trails. It was an encouraging evening, which has led to lots of follow up discussions with individuals. We are very thankful to the YMCA for letting us host the event at their wonderful central café venue – The Kitchen (well worth a visit if you are in Broadmead).

We have also been involved in a few bespoke training events for: specific churches; a group of people from churches in an area; or a couple of individuals who are interested in the same initiative.

## Secondary Opportunities

We have begun to support a couple of people in different parts of the city, who are starting to connect with their local Secondary School. It has been exciting to be part of this journey with these people, and we are looking forward to seeing what emerges in 2019.

## Prayer Spaces In Schools



It has been an absolute pleasure to continue to train and advise people who are setting up Prayer Spaces in various places. Our next Training event that we are running is booked for Wed 23rd January 7.30pm at The Kitchen.

## Training Events



In September we ran a training event for people across the Bristol area who were interested in making connections between schools and churches. Most of the people who came were from

## Light Stops



It was an absolute joy to offer support and advice to a couple of churches in the Bristol area who ran a Light stop event for the first time this year. These events involve the church being open or setting up a tent in a local park – with alternative fun activities and refreshments for families who are trick or treating. The events have often been advertised to the local schools and their communities. Several churches around the city are running these events now, and they are always a huge success. It would be amazing if every child in the city had access to a Light stop during the night of Halloween.