

OADBY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1030055

Details

Other names O E F C

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1993-12-14

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Oadby Evangelical Free Church
Stoughton Road
Oadby
Leicester
LE2 4FL

Phone 0116 2713805

Email info@oefc.co.uk

Website <http://www.oefc.org.uk>

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AS SET OUT IN THE STATEMENT OF BELIEF

Activities: The church is established is to promote the advancement of the Christian Faith mainly through worship services and outreach activities.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN PRACTICE OADBY LEICESTER
- Leicestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£88,320	£113,665	-	-
2024-12-31	£86,552	£99,221	-	-
2023-12-31	£102,668	£117,109	-	-
2022-12-31	£89,333	£81,216	-	-
2021-12-31	£79,603	£59,352	-	-
2020-12-31	£79,327	£69,310	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Steven John Green		2022-06-15
Stuart Jonathan Glover		

OADBY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1030055

Accounts

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2025

Name:	Oadby Evangelical Free Church (common abbreviation: OEFC)
Charity Number:	1030055
Governing Document:	Church Constitution (last revised on 21st March 1997)
Minister:	Gary Prickett
Women's worker/Administrator: Trustees/Church Officers:	Emese Carter-Whittley Lance Atter (Elder & Trustee) – until 5 th March Stuart Glover (Elder, Trustee & Interim Treasurer) Steven Green (Elder & Trustee) Luke Carter-Whittley (Deacon) Judith Chinnery (Deacon)
Charity Commission Correspondent:	Stuart Glover c/o Oadby Evangelical Free Church North Memorial Hall, Stoughton Road, Oadby Leicestershire LE2 4FL
Website :	www.oefc.org.uk
Banks:	Barclays Bank plc
Independent Examiner of Accounts:	Heather Wells MIAB

1. Purpose/Object

The church was established in the mid-1970s to promote the advancement of the Christian faith, and such other charitable purposes as are consistent with that aim, particularly but not exclusively in the Leicestershire town of Oadby.

The church's understanding of the Christian faith is set out in its Basis of Faith. This is identical to the Doctrinal Basis of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) and comprises the basic truths of historic, Biblical Christianity.

2. Organisation

The Church's Constitution describes the rules governing the leadership and membership of the church, the conduct of its formal 'business' meetings, the two ordinances it observes (believers' baptism and communion) and the basic aspects of its financing (by means of freewill offerings, which are carefully recorded and independently examined).

The work of the church is overseen by elders and supported by deacons (known collectively as Church Officers), all of whom are active in the church and are appointed by church members. One of the elders is appointed as the minister of the church and is a full-time employee of it; the other elders serve as the Trustees of the charity.

With the exception of the minister, all members of the church who serve as its elders, deacons or in other ways do so on a voluntary basis and, unless agreed otherwise by members of the church at a formal meeting, without payment.

In 2025, the church held three business meetings for church members. At the end of the year, the church had an admitted membership of 42. Morning congregations are routinely larger than this, and many other children and adults attend one or more of the church's mid-week activities.

The church is independent of any other organisation but maintains a positive interest in and links with other evangelical churches and Christian organisations. In particular, it maintains its affiliation to the nationwide Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC).

3. Public Benefit Statement and Church Activities

The Trustees of the church have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In particular, the church seeks to benefit the local community by pursuing its main purpose through a range of activities appealing to a wide cross-section of ages and interests.

Each Sunday, and normally twice on that day, the church meets for public worship; special services are also held at Christmas, Easter and at other times. The church does not generally live-stream its services, but video recordings of most of them are released promptly on its YouTube channel. Those who attend the Sunday morning service are invited to send their younger children out of the meeting to a crèche or to Sunday-School classes held in the extension to the Hall in which we worship.

Each month the church runs at least one mid-week meeting for Bible Study and prayer, sometimes with an invited missionary or other guest speaker. Smaller groups, meeting in the Hall or in private homes, meet twice a month; there are also regular

prayer meetings, including one held online early each Saturday morning. Other regular mid-week sessions include an Art group, a coffee morning with activities or presentations, a play session for pre-school children and their carers, a table-tennis session for men, and conversation clubs to help speakers of other languages improve their spoken English and monthly walking and craft groups.

One-off events were also held including various craft events e.g. Easter craft evening and a Christmas wreath making event which were open to the local community.

The church's activities are very well advertised in the church, on the web and via a weekly bulletin which is issued both electronically and on paper. All of the church's activities, save for its business meetings for members and some of its small-group sessions, are open to the public; several of them attract people who are not formal members of the church or regular members of its congregation.

Most of the church's activities and events are held at the North Memorial Hall, which is located on Stoughton Road in Oadby and forms the communal space for an estate of homes originally built in the 1920s to house disabled warriors from the Great War. The church rents this property through an exclusive lease granted to it by the Trustees of another local charity – the North Memorial Homes.

In addition to its concern for the people of Oadby, the church actively supports Christian outreach and missionary work, as well as humanitarian aid projects. Donations received for special collections taken up in 2025 were sent to local charities and foodbanks as well as to recognised churches and mission agencies working overseas. Regular donations were made to Christian organisations and churches working in Latin America, Madagascar, southern France and India; once again we contributed to the 'shoebox appeal' organised by the Blythswood Care charity, and were able to pass on shoeboxes, filled with simple Christmas gifts, for needy families in eastern Europe.

4. Financial Position

The church accounts for the year 2025 have been prepared by the Interim Treasurer and signed off by a qualified independent examiner. They show that the church reported a deficit for the year of just over £25,300. This was largely, though not only, a product of atypical expenditure in 2025, including over £10,000 towards work on the North Memorial Hall and fees paid to our solicitors. A deficit of this size was expected and due to the church having good reserves, it is of no immediate concern.

5. Outreach

The church continued to employ a part time women's worker/administrator from among the church members. In addition to taking on some administrative tasks, this post seeks to develop our ministry amongst women in the local community, including making new contacts and holding Bible studies.

6. Future Developments

The church has occupied the North Memorial Hall in Oadby under the terms of a 35-year lease granted to it by the Trustees of the North Memorial Homes. That lease expired in mid-2022, but was extended to mid-2023 to allow negotiations to take place regarding a possible new lease.

Heads of Terms for a new lease were agreed between the Trustees of OEFC and the Trustees of the North Memorial Homes in July 2023. Solicitors for both parties are

seeking to agree a new lease document, based on the agreed Heads of Terms, for twenty years. The new lease will be an Internal Repairing and Insuring (IRI) lease, rather than a Full Repairing and Insuring (FRI) lease as before. The new lease has not yet been agreed and signed.

The church is also committed to registering as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Work on this has started and it is hoped that it will conclude shortly.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'SJG', followed by a long horizontal line.

Signed by Stuart Glover on behalf of Trustees of Oadby Evangelical Free Church

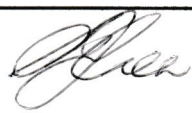
Date: 24th May 2026

Independent Examiner's Report
on the accounts of Oadby Evangelical Free Church
(charity number 1030055)
for year ending 31st December 2025

Church Officers' Report

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. In the opinion of the charity trustees the accounts are an accurate reflection of the financial position of the charity and comply with legal requirements and have our unanimous approval.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Name	Office held	Signature	Date
Stuart Glover	Elder, Trustee & Interim Treasurer		5/3/2026
Steven Green	Elder & Trustee		5 th March 26

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of Oadby Evangelical Free Church for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name	Relevant professional qualifications/body	Signature	Date
Heather Wells	Member of the Institute of Accountants and Bookkeepers (MIAB)		2/3/2026
Address:	7 Muston Gardens, Leicester, LE2 6FX		

Oadby Evangelical Free Church
Accounts & financial statement
Period covered: 1st January 2025 – 31st December 2025

**Summary of receipts and payments
(1st January – 31st December 2025)**

Receipts		
Unrestricted funds	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Donations	67,367.96	64,753.42
Bank interest (Deposit accounts)	4,823.19	2,011.35
Other income	770.85	5,135.00
Gift Aid/Gift Aid small donation scheme (GASDS)	9,840.55	7,674.80
Restricted funds		
Giving for missionary/specific causes	5,467.50	6,977.75
Other income	50.00	0.00
Total	88,320.05	86,552.32

Payments		
Unrestricted funds	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Employment	50,660.98	40,069.10
Events/activities	2,144.38	2,226.12
Equipment	0.00	712.64
Administration	8,559.64	7,051.85
Building	21,735.00	28,960.04
Utilities	6,995.94	5,828.45
Giving to missionary and other causes	7,577.00	7,545.00
Restricted funds		
Missionary giving	3,677.50	6,241.50
Gifts to other causes	1,515.00	586.25
Building Fund	10,800.00	0.00
Total	113,665.44	99,220.95

Surplus/(Deficit) of receipts over payments	(25,345.39)	(12,668.63)
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Breakdown of receipts (1st January – 31st December 2025)

Unrestricted funds

		2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Donations		67,367.96	64,753.42
	Bank transfer	47,548.00	43,659.00
	Giving via Stewardship	12,277.16	12,677.16
Note 1	Offering box	7,542.80	8,417.26
Tax reclaim		9,840.55	7,674.80
Other income		770.85	5,135.00
Note 2	Church activities	535.84	105.00
Note 3	Miscellaneous	235.01	30.00
	Legacies	0.00	5,000.00
Bank interest		4,823.19	2,011.35
TOTAL		82,802.55	79,574.57

Restricted funds

		2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Missionary causes		4,002.50	6,391.50
	2023 Christmas offering	0.00	2,234.00
	2024 Easter offering	0.00	3,457.50
Notes 4 and 10	2024 Christmas offering	560.00	700.00
Note 5	2025 Harvest offering	2,417.50	0.00
Note 6	2025 Christmas offering	975.00	0.00
	General missionary work	50.00	0.00
Other giving		1,515.00	586.25
	Christian Institute	0.00	255.00
	2024 Harvest offering	0.00	331.25
Note 7	2025 Easter offering	1,465.00	0.00
	Youthwork	50.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME TO RESTRICTED FUNDS		5,517.50	6,977.75
TOTAL RECEIPTS		88,320.05	86,552.32

Breakdown of payments (1st January – 31st December 2025)

Unrestricted funds		
	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Employment	50,660.98	40,069.10
Salaries, tax and pension contributions	50,297.32	39,925.78
Book allowance	363.66	143.32
Events/activities	2,144.38	2,226.12
Note 8 Visiting preacher expenses	337.20	388.20
Worship services	81.18	540.40
Catering	676.03	306.31
Outreach	535.88	542.06
Youthwork	196.09	260.15
Room hire	318.00	189.00
Equipment	0.00	712.64
AudioVisual	0.00	40.56
Computing	0.00	389.84
Furniture	0.00	52.25
Cleaning	0.00	229.99
Health & safety	0.00	0.00
Missionary causes & other causes	7,577.00	7,545.00
Carcassonne	1,869.25	1,560.00
Latin Link	1,869.25	1,560.00
Mandritsara	1,869.25	1,560.00
Valathi	1,869.25	2,040.00
Cavills	0.00	675.00
East Midlands Churches Day	0.00	150.00
Missions Day	100.00	0.00
Administration	8,559.64	7,051.85
Note 9 Fees	6,071.88	2,565.00
Printing and stationery	70.00	212.00
Insurance	1,002.77	1,480.38
Copyright licence	340.00	328.00
FIEC membership	0.00	1,608.00
Zoom subscription	195.48	183.48
Child protection/ safeguarding	150.00	251.99
Website	53.32	0.00
Conferences/training	676.19	423.00

Building	21,735.00	28,960.04
Rent	17,704.12	17,187.00
Building fabric	2,365.00	24.65
Cleaning	1,665.88	1,864.39
Gardening	0.00	13.98
Gas work	0.00	9,552.68
Health & safety	0.00	299.34
Keys	0.00	18.00
Utilities	6,995.94	5,828.45
Electricity	3,313.47	1,746.60
Gas	2,588.31	2,950.95
Phone/broadband	768.74	750.98
Water	325.42	379.92
Total payments from unrestricted funds	97,672.94	92,393.20
Restricted funds		
	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Missionary causes	3,677.50	6,241.50
2023 Christmas offering	0.00	2,734.00
2024 Easter offering	0.00	3,507.50
Notes 4 and 10 2024 Christmas offering	1,230.00	0.00
Note 5 2025 Harvest offering	2,417.50	0.00
Note 10 Uncleared cheque	30.00	0.00
Gifts to other causes	1,515.00	586.25
Christian Institute	0.00	255.00
2024 Harvest offering	0.00	331.25
Note 7 2025 Easter offering	1,465.00	0.00
Youthwork	50.00	0.00
Building Fund	10,800.00	0.00
Building work	10,800.00	0.00
Total payments from restricted funds	15,992.50	6,827.75
TOTAL PAYMENTS	113,665.44	99,220.95

Notes on receipts and payments

1	2025 figure does not include money collected by Shining Stars and Art@Oadby groups (see 'Church activities') but 2024 figures does include this income.
2	2025 figure includes money collected by Shining Stars and Art@Oadby groups but 2024 figures does not include this income (see 'Offering box').
3	Refund from supplier (£185.01) and payment (£50.00) from Nationwide Building Society following their acquisition of Virgin Money.
4	2024 Christmas offering was donated to work with people in Northern Israel. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
5	2025 Harvest offering was donated to the European Missionary Fellowship's 4:14 appeal for work in Ukraine. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
6	2025 Christmas offering was donated to the work of the Middle East Reformed Fellowship. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
7	2025 Easter offering was donated to Eyres Monsell Community Church in Leicester. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
8	Visiting speaker expenses total includes £100.00 which speaker asked to be sent to the Open Air Mission.
9	Fees paid to independent examiner and solicitor.
10	A donation for the 2024 Christmas offering came via cheque which was credited to the church but removed by the bank when it failed to clear. Therefore the accounts show £1,260.00 collected but only £1,230.00 paid.

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31st December

Assets	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Current account	19,174.21	10,136.99
Deposit account	73,898.81	108,286.86
Petty cash	19.97	14.53
Total	93,092.99	118,438.38
Funds		
Unrestricted (general) fund	89,248.59	104,068.98
Restricted funds:		
Building fund	2,869.40	13,669.40
2024 Christmas offering	0.00	700.00
2025 Christmas offering	975.00	0.00
Total	93,092.99	118,438.38
Liabilities		
Amount due within 1 year	3,302.08	1,403.05

Fixed assets

The Church does not own any land, buildings or vehicles. Fixed assets held by the church includes books, office equipment and other fixtures and fittings which all belong to the general fund.

OADBY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1030055

Accounts

Independent Examiner's Report
on the accounts of Oadby Evangelical Free Church
(charity number 1030055)
for year ending 31st December 2024

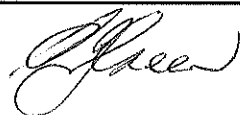
Church Officers' Report

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. In the opinion of the charity trustees the accounts are an accurate reflection of the financial position of the charity and comply with legal requirements and have our unanimous approval.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Name	Office held	Signature	Date
Stuart Glover	Elder, Trustee & Interim Treasurer		8/5/25

Steven Green	Elder & Trustee
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 8th May 2025

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of Oadby Evangelical Free Church for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name	Relevant professional qualifications/body	Signature	Date
Heather Wells	Member of the Institute of Accountants and Bookkeepers (MIAB)		7/5/25
Address:	7 Muston Gardens, Leicester, LE2 6FX		

Oadby Evangelical Free Church
Accounts & financial statement
Period covered: 1st January 2023 – 31st December 2024

Summary of receipts and payments
(1st January – 31st December 2024)

Receipts		
Unrestricted funds	2024	2023
	(£)	(£)
Donations	64,753.42	63,761.89
Bank interest (Deposit accounts)	2,011.35	605.22
Other income	5,135.00	23,720.25
Gift Aid/Gift Aid small donation scheme (GASDS)	7,674.80	8,155.73
Restricted funds		
Giving for missionary/specific causes	6,977.75	5,425.06
Other income	0.00	1,000.00
Total	86,552.32	102,668.15

Payments		
Unrestricted funds	2024	2023
	(£)	(£)
Employment	40,069.10	37,299.60
Events/activities	2,226.12	1,793.23
Equipment	712.64	313.87
Administration	7,051.85	6,371.39
Building	28,960.04	47,138.01
Utilities	5,828.45	5,316.64
Giving to missionary and other causes	7,545.00	5,975.89
Restricted funds		
Missionary giving	6,241.50	5,069.99
Gifts to other causes	586.25	0.00
Building Fund	0.00	7,830.60
Total	99,220.95	117,109.22

Surplus/(Deficit) of receipts over payments	(12,668.63)	(14,441.07)
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Breakdown of receipts
(1st January – 31st December 2024)

Unrestricted funds

		2024 (£)	2023 (£)
Donations		64,753.42	63,761.89
	Bank transfer	43,659.00	38,065.00
	Giving via Stewardship	12,677.16	14,090.73
Note 1	Offering box	8,417.26	11,606.16
Tax reclaim		7,674.80	8,155.73
Other income		5,135.00	23,720.25
	Church activities	105.00	0.00
Note 2	Miscellaneous	30.00	10.98
	Legacies	5,000.00	0.00
	Insurance claims	0.00	23,709.27
Bank interest		2,011.35	605.22
TOTAL		79,574.57	96,243.09

Restricted funds

		2024 (£)	2023 (£)
Missionary causes		6,391.50	5,425.06
	2022 Christmas offering	0.00	1,082.75
	2023 Easter offering	0.00	1,403.05
	2023 Harvest offering	0.00	2,222.50
Note 3	2023 Christmas offering	2,234.00	500.00
	TearFund	0.00	16.76
	VOCM Building Fund	0.00	200.00
Note 4	2024 Easter offering	3,457.50	0.00
Note 5	2024 Christmas offering	700.00	0.00
Other giving		586.25	1,000.00
	Contribution to travel expenses	0.00	1,000.00
Note 6	Christian Institute	255.00	0.00
Note 7	2024 Harvest offering	331.25	0.00
TOTAL INCOME TO RESTRICTED FUNDS		6,977.75	6,425.06
TOTAL RECEIPTS		86,552.32	102,668.15

Breakdown of payments (1st January – 31st December 2024)

Unrestricted funds		2024 (£)	2023 (£)
Employment		40,069.10	37,299.60
	Salaries, tax and pension contributions	39,925.78	35,171.90
	Book allowance	143.32	0.00
	Travel expenses	0.00	2,127.70
Events/activities		2,226.12	1,793.23
Note 6	Visiting preacher expenses	388.20	831.35
	Worship services	540.40	37.93
	Catering	306.31	215.21
	Outreach	542.06	365.70
	Youthwork	260.15	220.54
	Room hire	189.00	122.50
Equipment		712.64	313.87
	AudioVisual	40.56	39.98
	Computing	389.84	239.11
	Furniture	52.25	0.00
	Cleaning	229.99	0.00
	Health & safety	0.00	34.78
Missionary causes & other causes		7,545.00	5,975.89
	Carcassonne	1,560.00	1,440.00
	Latin Link	1,560.00	1,440.00
	Mandritsara	1,560.00	1,440.00
	Valathi	2,040.00	960.00
	Nelsons (via UFM)	0.00	445.89
	Cavills	675.00	0.00
	Local University CUs	0.00	100.00
	East Midlands Churches Day	150.00	0.00
	Bulkington Church renovation project	0.00	150.00
Administration		7,051.85	6,371.39
Note 8	Fees	2,565.00	2,285.66
	Printing and stationery	212.00	127.71
	Insurance	1,480.38	1,384.03
	Copyright licence	328.00	314.00
	FIEC membership	1,608.00	1,476.00
	Zoom subscription	183.48	172.68
	Child protection/safeguarding	251.99	145.00

Website	0.00	466.31
Conferences/training	423.00	0.00
Building	28,960.04	47,138.01
Rent	17,187.00	18,700.00
Building fabric	24.65	17.28
Cleaning	1,864.39	152.49
Gardening	13.98	2,916.00
Gas work	9,552.68	1,297.57
Health & safety	299.34	95.40
Keys	18.00	0.00
Drains	0.00	23,959.27
Utilities	5,828.45	5,316.64
Electricity	1,746.60	1,464.71
Gas	2,950.95	2,902.26
Phone/broadband	750.98	677.97
Water	379.92	271.70
Total payments from unrestricted funds	92,393.20	104,208.63

Restricted funds

	2024 (£)	2023 (£)
Missionary causes	6,241.50	5,069.99
2021 Christmas offering	0.00	440.00
2022 Christmas offering	0.00	767.50
2023 Easter offering	0.00	1,403.05
2023 Harvest offering	0.00	2,242.68
Note 3 2023 Christmas offering	2,734.00	0.00
Note 4 2024 Easter offering	3,507.50	0.00
TearFund	0.00	16.76
VOCM Building Fund	0.00	200.00
Gifts to other causes	586.25	0.00
Note 6 Christian Institute	255.00	0.00
Note 7 2024 Harvest offering	331.25	0.00
Building Fund		7,830.60
Building work	0.00	7,830.60
Total payments from restricted funds	6,827.75	12,900.59
TOTAL PAYMENTS	99,220.95	117,109.22

Notes on receipts and payments

- 1 Includes £215.05 collected by Art@Oadby group and £230.16 from Shining Stars group.
- 2 £29.99 refund and £0.01 test payment from PayPal.
- 3 2023 Christmas offering was split equally between the work of the International Mission to Jewish People and Reach Across. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations. Payment includes £500.00 collected in 2023 financial year.
- 4 2024 Easter offering was given to the church building project at Valathi Outreach Church Ministries. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations. £50.00 donation was double counted so more was sent than collected.
- 5 2024 Christmas offering was donated to work with people in Northern Israel. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
- 6 Visiting speaker expenses total includes £120.70 which speaker asked to be sent to the Christian Institute (CI). So total sent to CI was £375.70.
- 7 2024 Harvest offering was went towards the work of Open Hands in Leicester. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
- 8 Fees paid to independent examiner and solicitor.

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31st December

Assets	2024 (£)	2023 (£)
Current account	10,136.99	19,809.23
Deposit accounts	108,286.86	111,275.51
Petty cash	14.53	22.27
Total	118,438.38	131,107.01
Funds		
Unrestricted (general) fund	104,068.98	116,457.61
Designated funds:		
Valathi	0.00	480.00
Restricted funds:		
Building fund	13,669.40	13,669.40
2023 Christmas offering	0.00	500.00
2024 Christmas offering	700.00	0.00
Total	118,438.38	131,107.01
Liabilities		
Amount due within 1 year	1,403.05	1,472.52

Fixed assets

The Church does not own any land, buildings or vehicles. Fixed assets held by the church includes books, office equipment and other fixtures and fittings which all belong to the general fund.

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2024

Name:	Oadby Evangelical Free Church (common abbreviation: OEFC)
Charity Number:	1030055
Governing Document:	Church Constitution (last revised on 21st March 1997)
Minister:	Gary Prickett
Women's worker/Administrator:	Emese Carter-Whittlely – since 1 st November
Trustees/Church Officers:	Lance Atter (Elder & Trustee) Stuart Glover (Elder, Trustee & Interim Treasurer) Steven Green (Elder & Trustee) Luke Carter-Whittlely (Deacon) – from 6 th March Judith Chinnery (Deacon) Alejandro Joya (Deacon) – until 23 rd August
Charity Commission Correspondent:	Stuart Glover c/o Oadby Evangelical Free Church North Memorial Hall, Stoughton Road, Oadby Leicestershire LE2 4FL
Website :	www.oefc.org.uk
Banks:	Barclays Bank plc Nationwide Building Society
Independent Examiner of Accounts:	Heather Wells MIAB

1. Purpose/Object

The church was established in the mid-1970s to promote the advancement of the Christian faith, and such other charitable purposes as are consistent with that aim, particularly but not exclusively in the Leicestershire town of Oadby.

The church's understanding of the Christian faith is set out in its Basis of Faith. This is identical to the Doctrinal Basis of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) and comprises the basic truths of historic, Biblical Christianity.

2. Organisation

The Church's Constitution describes the rules governing the leadership and membership of the church, the conduct of its formal 'business' meetings, the two ordinances it observes (believers' baptism and communion) and the basic aspects of its financing (by means of freewill offerings, which are carefully recorded and independently examined).

The work of the church is overseen by elders and supported by deacons (known collectively as Church Officers), all of whom are active in the church and are appointed by church members. One of the elders is appointed as the minister of the church and is a full-time employee of it; the other elders serve as the Trustees of the charity.

With the exception of the minister, all members of the church who serve as its elders, deacons or in other ways do so on a voluntary basis and, unless agreed otherwise by members of the church at a formal meeting, without payment.

In 2024, the church held four business meetings for church members. At the end of the year, the church had an admitted membership of 49. Morning congregations are routinely larger than this, and many other children and adults attend one or more of the church's mid-week activities.

The church is independent of any other organisation but maintains a positive interest in and links with other evangelical churches and Christian organisations. In particular, it maintains its affiliation to the nationwide Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC).

3. Public Benefit Statement and Church Activities

The Trustees of the church have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In particular, the church seeks to benefit the local community by pursuing its main purpose through a range of activities appealing to a wide cross-section of ages and interests.

Each Sunday, and normally twice on that day, the church meets for public worship; special services are also held at Christmas, Easter and at other times. The church does not generally live-stream its services, but video recordings of most of them are released promptly on its YouTube channel. Those who attend the Sunday morning service are invited to send their younger children out of the meeting to a crèche or to Sunday-School classes held in the extension to the Hall in which we worship.

Each week the church runs at least one mid-week meeting for Bible Study and prayer,

sometimes with an invited missionary or other guest speaker. Smaller groups, meeting in the Hall or in private homes, meet twice a month; there are also regular prayer meetings, including one held on-line early each Saturday morning. Other regular mid-week sessions include an Art group, a coffee morning with activities or presentations, a play session for pre-school children and their carers, a table-tennis session for men, and conversation club to help speakers of other languages improve their spoken English and a monthly walking group.

One-off events were also held including various craft events e.g. Easter craft evening and a Christmas wreath making event which were open to the local community.

The church's activities are very well advertised in the church, on the web and via a weekly Bulletin which is issued both electronically and on paper. All of the church's activities, save for its business meetings for members and some of its small-group sessions, are open to the public; several of them attract people who are not formal members of the church or regular members of its congregation.

Most of the church's activities and events are held at the North Memorial Hall, which is located on Stoughton Road in Oadby and forms the communal space for an estate of homes originally built in the 1920s to house disabled warriors from the Great War. The church rents this property through an exclusive lease granted to it by the Trustees of another local charity – the North Memorial Homes.

In addition to its concern for the people of Oadby, the church actively supports Christian outreach and missionary work, as well as humanitarian aid projects. Donations received for special collections taken up in 2024 were sent to local charities and foodbanks as well as to recognised missions working overseas. Regular donations were made to Christian organisations and churches working in Latin America, Madagascar, southern France and Tamil Nadu; once again we contributed to the 'shoebox appeal' organised by the Blythswood Care charity, and in November 2024 were able to pass on 63 shoeboxes, filled with simple Christmas gifts, for needy families in eastern Europe.

4. Financial Position

The church accounts for the year 2024 have been signed off by an independent examiner. They show that the church reported a deficit for the year of just over £12,600. This was largely, though not only, a product of atypical expenditure in 2024, including over £8,800 towards a new boiler for the North Memorial Hall. Due to the church having good reserves, the deficit reported in 2024 is of no immediate concern.

5. Outreach

In the autumn, the church membership approved the elders' proposal to employ a part time women's worker/administrator. In addition to taking on some administrative tasks, this post will seek to develop our ministry amongst women in the local community, including making new contacts and holding Bible studies.

The church also purchased some copies of the evangelistic LIFE magazines for church attendees to give out to their friends and neighbours.

6. Future Developments

The church has occupied the North Memorial Hall in Oadby under the terms of a 35-year lease granted to it by the Trustees of the North Memorial Homes. That lease expired in mid-2022, but was extended to mid-2023 to allow negotiations to take place

regarding a possible new lease.

Heads of Terms for a new lease were agreed between the Trustees of OEFC and the Trustees of the North Memorial Homes in July 2023. Solicitors for the latter are drawing up a lease document, based on the agreed Heads of Terms, for twenty years running from 1 October 2023. The new lease will be an Internal Repairing and Insuring (IRI) lease, rather than a Full Repairing and Insuring (FRI) lease as before. The trustees are still waiting for a copy of the draft lease.

The church is also committed to registering as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Work on this has started and it is hoped that it will conclude with the next year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SJG', followed by a horizontal line.

Signed by Stuart Glover on behalf of Trustees of Oadby Evangelical Free Church

Date: 20/05/2025

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for 2023 **(1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023)**

Charity name	: Oadby Evangelical Free Church (common abbreviation: OEFC)
Charity registration number	: 1030055
Governing Document	: Church Constitution (original version 1974; revised version adopted 21 March 1997)
Minister	: Gary Stephen Prickett (in post from 1 October 2022)
Church leaders	: the minister, who also serves as an elder of the church : other elders, who also serve as the only trustees of the charity Lance Atter founder member of the church Stuart J. Glover acting treasurer of the church Steven J. Green : deacons, who do not act as trustees of the charity Judith Chinnery Alejandro Joya
Church property	: the church does not own any property
Charity Commission contact	: Stuart J. Glover, at the church's address
Website	: www.oefc.org.uk
Banks	: Barclays Bank plc Nationwide Building Society
Independent Examiner of Accounts	: Heather Wells MIAB

1. Purpose/Object

The church was established in the mid-1970s to promote the advancement of the Christian faith, and such other charitable purposes as are consistent with that aim, particularly but not exclusively in the Leicestershire town of Oadby.

The church's understanding of the Christian faith is set out in its Basis of Faith. This is identical to the Doctrinal Basis of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) and comprises the basic truths of historic, Biblical Christianity.

2. Organisation

The Church's Constitution describes the rules governing the leadership and membership of the church, the conduct of its formal 'business' meetings, the two ordinances it observes (believers' baptism and communion) and the basic aspects of its financing (by means of freewill offerings, which are carefully recorded and independently examined).

The work of the church is overseen by elders and supported by deacons, all of whom are active in the church and are appointed by church members. One of the elders is appointed as the minister of the church and is a full-time employee of it; the other elders serve also as the Trustees of the charity.

With the exception of the minister, all members of the church who serve as its elders, deacons or in other ways do so on a voluntary basis and, unless agreed otherwise by members of the church at a formal meeting, without payment.

In 2023, the church held six business meetings for church members. At the end of the year, the church had an admitted membership of 48. Morning congregations are routinely larger than this, and many other children and adults attend one or more of the church's mid-week activities.

The church is independent of any other organisation but maintains a positive interest in and links with other evangelical churches and Christian organisations. In particular, it maintains its affiliation to the nationwide Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC).

3. Public Benefit Statement and Church Activities

The Trustees of the church have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In particular, the church seeks to benefit the local community by pursuing its main purpose through a range of activities appealing to a wide cross-section of ages and interests.

Each Sunday, and normally twice on that day, the church meets for public worship; special services are also held at Christmas, Easter and at other times. The church does not generally live-stream its services, but video recordings of most of them are released promptly on its YouTube channel. Those who attend the Sunday morning service are invited to send their younger children out of the meeting to a crèche or to Sunday-School classes held in the extension to the Hall in which we worship.

Each week the church runs at least one mid-week meeting for Bible Study and prayer, sometimes with an invited missionary or other guest speaker. Smaller groups, meeting in the Hall or in private homes, meet twice a month; there are also regular prayer meetings, including one held on-line early each Saturday morning. Other regular mid-week sessions include an Art group, a coffee morning with activities or presentations, a play session for pre-school children and their carers, a table-tennis session for men, and a monthly walking group.

The church's activities are very well advertised in the church, on the web and via a weekly *Bulletin* which is issued both electronically and on paper. All of the church's activities, save for its business meetings for members and some of its small-group sessions, are open to the public; several of them attract people who are not formal members of the church or regular members of its congregation.

Most of the church's activities and events are held at the North Memorial Hall, which is located on Stoughton Road in Oadby and forms the communal space for an estate of homes originally built in the 1920s to house disabled warriors from the Great War. The church rents this historic property, which it has significantly improved and extended, under the terms of an exclusive lease granted to it by the Trustees of another local charity – the North Memorial Homes.

In addition to its concern for the people of Oadby, the church actively supports Christian outreach and missionary work, as well as humanitarian aid projects. Donations received for special collections taken up in 2023 were sent to local charities and foodbanks as well as to recognised missions working overseas. Regular donations were made to Christian organisations and churches working in Latin America, Madagascar, southern France and Tamil Nadu; once again we contributed to the

‘shoebox appeal’ organised by the Blythwood Care charity, and in November 2023 were able to pass on 56 shoeboxes, filled with simple Christmas gifts, for needy families in eastern Europe.

4. Ministerial Appointment

The church had been without a minister for a few years when, in February 2022, it was put in contact with a Canadian pastor who had undertaken theological training in Oxford and sensed a call to ministry in England. In due course – after a series of electronic and face-to-face meetings, interviews and the taking up of references – the church called Gary Prickett to the pastorate at Oadby; he accepted that call and assumed his work at the church, on a full-time basis, on 1 October 2022. He remains in post and has a particular role as the church’s primary teaching elder.

5. Financial Position

The church accounts for the year 2023, attached separately, have been signed off by an independent examiner. They show that, notwithstanding the monies it reclaimed under the Gift Aid scheme, the church had a deficit of receipts over payments. This is largely a product of atypical expenditure in 2023 on the building, particularly to fulfil end-of-lease conditions. Buildings-related expenditure under the terms of a new lease (see below) will be less onerous and, because the church has good reserves, the deficit reported in 2023 is of no immediate concern.

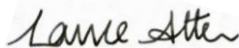
6. Future Developments

The church has occupied the North Memorial Hall in Oadby under the terms of a 35-year lease granted to it by the Trustees of the North Memorial Homes. That lease expired in mid-2022, but was extended to mid-2023 to allow negotiations to take place regarding a possible new lease.

Heads of Terms for a new lease were agreed between the Trustees of OEFC and the Trustees of the North Memorial Homes in July 2023. Solicitors for the latter are drawing up a lease document, based on the agreed Heads of Terms, for twenty years running from 1 October 2023. The new lease will be an Internal Repairing and Insuring (IRI) lease, rather than a Full Repairing and Insuring (FRI) lease as before, so the church will have fewer maintenance and repair costs in future.

The church is committed to registering as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Work on this will be done after negotiations regarding the new lease have been concluded satisfactorily.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees of Oadby Evangelical Free Church:



Lance Atter, 1 June 2024

Independent Examiner's Report
on the accounts of Oadby Evangelical Free Church
(charity number 1030055)
for year ending 31st December 2023

Church Officers' Report

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. In the opinion of the charity trustees the accounts are an accurate reflection of the financial position of the charity and comply with legal requirements and have our unanimous approval.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Name	Office held	Signature	Date
Stuart Glover	Elder & Interim Treasurer		21/5/24
STEVEN GREEN	Elder		21/5/24

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of Oadby Evangelical Free Church for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name	Relevant professional qualifications/body	Signature	Date
Heather Wells	Member of the Institute of Accountants and Bookkeepers (MIAB)		21/5/24

Address: 33 Acorn Way, Wigston, Leicestershire, LE18 3YA

Oadby Evangelical Free Church Accounts & financial statement Period covered: 1st January 2023 – 31st December 2023

**Summary of receipts and payments
(1st January – 31st December 2023)**

Receipts		
Unrestricted funds	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Donations	63,761.89	60,136.87
Bank interest (Deposit accounts)	605.22	62.54
Other income	23,720.25	1,452.12
Gift Aid/Gift Aid small donation scheme (GASDS)	8,155.73	19,395.74
Restricted funds		
Giving for missionary/specific causes	5,425.06	8,286.00
Other income	1,000.00	0.00
Total	102,668.15	89,333.27

Payments		
Unrestricted funds	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Employment	37,299.60	16,936.38
Events/activities	1,793.23	5,961.00
Equipment	313.87	2,057.67
Administration	6,371.39	7,304.65
Building	47,138.01	27,259.99
Utilities	5,316.64	5,962.12
Giving to missionary and other causes	5,975.89	6,010.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	130.00
Restricted funds		
Missionary giving	5,069.99	5,357.35
Building Fund	7,830.60	0.00
Donations for Emmanuel Christian School Leicester	0.00	4,237.50
Total	117,109.22	81,216.66

Surplus/(Deficit) of receipts over payments	(14,441.07)	8,116.61
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Breakdown of receipts
(1st January – 31st December 2023)

Unrestricted funds

		2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Donations		63,761.89	60,136.87
	Bank transfer	38,065.00	36,250.00
	Giving via CAF/Stewardship	14,090.73	14,941.21
Note 1	Offering box	11,606.16	8,945.66
Tax reclaim		8,155.73	19,395.74
Other income		23,720.25	1,452.12
	Hall use	0.00	150.00
	Refunds from suppliers	10.98	720.14
	Away day	0.00	581.98
Note 2	Insurance claims	23,709.27	0.00
Bank interest		605.22	62.54
TOTAL		96,243.09	81,047.27

Restricted funds

		2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Missionary causes		5425.06	4,486.00
Note 3	2021 Christmas offering	0.00	940.00
Note 4	2022 Harvest offering	0.00	685.00
Note 5	2022 Christmas offering	1,082.75	2,861.00
Note 6	2023 Easter offering	1,403.05	0.00
Note 7	2023 Harvest offering	2,222.50	0.00
Note 8	2023 Christmas offering	500.00	0.00
	TearFund	16.76	0.00
Note 9	VOCM Building Fund	200.00	0.00
Other giving		1,000.00	3,800.00
	Donations for Emmanuel Christian School Leicester	0.00	3,650.00
	Contribution to travel expenses	1,000.00	0.00
	Donation for Blythwood Care shoebox appeal	0.00	150.00
TOTAL INCOME TO RESTRICTED FUNDS		6,425.06	8,286.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS		102,668.15	89,333.27

Breakdown of payments
(1st January – 31st December 2023)

Unrestricted funds		2023	2022
		(£)	(£)
Employment		37,299.60	16,936.38
	Staff worker contributions	0.00	7,004.70
	Minister salary, tax and pension contributions	35,171.90	8,800.53
	Book allowance	0.00	51.00
	Travel expenses	2,127.70	1,080.15
Events/activities		1,793.23	5,961.00
	Visiting preacher expenses	831.35	1,901.23
	Away day	0.00	579.00
	Worship services	37.93	121.91
	Catering	215.21	239.94
	Christian Union church fair	0.00	13.00
	Outreach	365.70	3,045.30
	Youthwork	220.54	60.62
	Room Hire	122.50	0.00
Equipment		313.87	2,057.67
	AudioVisual	39.98	242.28
	Computing	239.11	1,781.44
	Telephony	0.00	33.95
	Health & safety	34.78	0.00
Missionary causes		5,725.89	5,760.00
	Carcassonne	1,440.00	1,440.00
	Latin Link	1,440.00	1,440.00
	Mandritsara	1,440.00	1,440.00
	Valathi	960.00	1,440.00
	Nelsons (via UFM)	445.89	0.00
Gifts to other causes		250.00	250.00
	Local University CUs	100.00	100.00
	Emmanuel Church Leftwich building project	0.00	150.00
	Bulkington Church renovation project	150.00	0.00
Administration		6,371.39	7,304.65
Note 10	Fees	2,285.66	3,987.59
	Printing and stationery	127.71	85.00
	Insurance	1,384.03	1,293.38
	Copyright licence	314.00	293.00
	FIEC membership	1,476.00	1,344.00
	Zoom subscription	172.68	172.68

	Child protection/ safeguarding	145.00	129.00
	Website	466.31	0.00
Building		47,138.01	27,259.99
	Rent	18,700.00	6,680.00
	Building fabric	17.28	1,317.25
	Cleaning	152.49	73.72
	Decorating	0.00	13,590.00
	Electrical work	0.00	1,002.08
	Fire safety	95.40	256.20
	Gardening	2,916.00	3,204.00
	Gas work	1,297.57	932.98
	Plumbing work	0.00	123.76
	Window cleaning	0.00	80.00
Note 2	Drains	23,959.27	0.00
Utilities		5,316.64	5,962.12
	Electricity	1,464.71	814.79
	Gas	2,902.26	4,505.72
	Phone/broadband	677.97	492.46
	Water	271.70	149.15
Miscellaneous		0.00	130.00
	Gifts to individuals	0.00	100.00
	Training	0.00	30.00
Total payments from unrestricted funds		104,208.63	71,621.81

Restricted funds

		2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Missionary causes		5,069.99	5,357.35
Note 3	2021 Christmas offering	440.00	1,113.75
Note 4	2022 Harvest offering	0.00	867.35
Note 5	2022 Christmas offering	767.50	3,226.25
Note 6	2023 Easter offering	1,403.05	0.00
Note 7	2023 Harvest offering	2,242.68	0.00
	TearFund	16.76	0.00
	Blythwood Care	0.00	150.00
Note 9	VOCM Building Fund	200.00	0.00
Gifts to other causes		0.00	4,237.50
	Emmanuel Christian School	0.00	4,237.50
Building Fund		7,830.60	0.00
	Building work	7,830.60	0.00
Total payments from restricted funds		12,900.59	9,594.85
TOTAL PAYMENTS		117,109.22	81,216.66

Notes on receipts and payments

1	Includes £65 collected by Art@Oadby group and £222.34 from Shining Stars group.
2	Insurance money received for work to be done on drainage system. Money paid for this work includes £250 excess.
3	2021 Christmas offering was to Barnabas Fund work for work in Afghanistan.
4	2022 Harvest offering was to SIM for the work of Matt & Lisa Wallis in Jos, Nigeria.
5	2022 Christmas offering was to European Missionary Fellowship for the Bibles and blankets for Ukraine appeal.
6	2023 Easter offering was to the Mission Aviation Fellowship. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
7	2023 Harvest offering was to the expansion of the maternity unit at the Good News Hospital in Mandritsara, Madagascar. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations. Includes £20.18 expenses from the Harvest meal which was donated to the collection.
8	2023 Christmas offering was split equally between the work of the International Mission to Jewish People and Reach Across. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
9	This gift was not for a cause being directly supported by the church and was returned to the giver.
10	Fees paid to independent examiner and solicitor.

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31st December

Assets	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Current account	19,809.23	55,877.79
Deposit accounts	111,275.51	89,670.29
Petty cash	22.27	0.00
Total	131,107.01	145,548.08
Funds		
Unrestricted (general) fund	116,457.61	123,918.08
Designated funds:		
Valathi	480.00	0.00
Restricted funds:		
Building fund	13,669.40	21,500.00
2021 Christmas offering	0.00	440.00
2022 Christmas offering	0.00	130.00
2023 Christmas offering	500.00	0.00
Total	131,107.01	145,548.08
Liabilities		
Amount due within 1 year	1,472.52	1,669.28

Fixed assets

The Church does not own any land, buildings or vehicles. Fixed assets held by the church includes books, office equipment and other fixtures and fittings which all belong to the general fund.

OADBY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1030055

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for 2022
(1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022)

Charity name	: Oadby Evangelical Free Church (common abbreviation: OEFC)
Charity registration number	: 1030055
Governing Document	: Church Constitution (original version 1974; revised version adopted 21 March 1997)
Minister	: Gary Stephen Prickett (in post from 1 October 2022)
Church leaders	: the minister, who also serves as an elder of the church : other elders, who also serve as the only trustees of the charity Lance Atter founder member of the church Stuart J. Glover acting treasurer of the church Steven J. Green from 25 May 2022 : former elders and trustees, who left office on 25 May 2022 Luke Carter-Whittlely Paul Whalley : deacons, who do not act as trustees of the charity Judith Chinnery from 25 May 2022 Alejandro Joya from 25 May 2022
Church property	: the church does not own any property
Charity Commission contact	: Stuart J. Glover, at the church's address
Website	: www.oefc.org.uk
Banks	: Barclays Bank plc 25, The Parade Oadby LE2 5BB Nationwide Building Society 92, The Parade Oadby LE2 5BF
Independent Examiner of Accounts	: Heather Wells MIAB

1. **Purpose/Object**

The church was established in the mid-1970s to promote the advancement of the Christian faith, as is defined in its Basis of Faith, particularly but not exclusively in the Leicestershire town of Oadby.

The Basis of Faith is identical to that of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC), and comprises the basic truths of historic, Biblical Christianity.

2. **Organisation**

The Church's Constitution describes the rules governing the leadership and membership of the church, the conduct of its formal 'business' meetings, the two sacraments it observes (believers' baptism and communion) and the basic aspects of its financing (by means of freewill offerings, which are carefully recorded and independently examined).

The post of minister of OEFC is full-time and remunerated; other members of the church who serve as elders, deacons or in other ways do so on a voluntary basis and, unless agreed otherwise by members of the church at a formal meeting, without payment.

In 2022, the church held four business meetings for church members. At the end of the year, the church had an admitted membership of 49, with one application for membership to be considered at the church members' meeting to be held in March 2023.

The church is independent of any other organisation but maintains a positive interest in and links with other evangelical churches and Christian organisations. In particular, it is affiliated to the nationwide Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC).

3. **Public Benefit Statement and Church Activities**

The Trustees of the church have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In particular, the church seeks to benefit the local community by pursuing its main purpose through a range of activities appealing to a wide cross-section of ages and interests.

Each Sunday, and normally twice on that day, the church meets for public worship; it also arranges special services at Christmas, Easter and on other occasions. The church no longer live-streams its services, but video recordings of most of them are released promptly on its YouTube channel.

Each week the church runs at least one mid-week meeting for Bible Study and prayer, sometimes with an invited missionary or other guest speaker. Other regular mid-week sessions include an Art group, a coffee morning with activities or presentations, a play session for pre-school children and their carers, a table-tennis session for men, an afternoon 'Knit and Knatter' session for older people and a walking group.

The church's various activities are well advertised in the church, on the web and by means of a weekly *Bulletin* which is issued both electronically and on paper. All of the church's activities, save its business meetings for members only, are open to the public, and several of them attract people who are neither formal members of the church nor regular members of its congregation.

Most of the church's activities and events are held at the North Memorial Hall, which is located on Stoughton Road in Oadby and forms the communal space for an estate of homes originally built in 1920s to house disabled warriors from the Great War. The church rents this historic property, which it has significantly improved and extended, under the terms of a 35-year exclusive lease granted to it by the Trustees of another local charity – the North Memorial Homes.

In addition to its concern for the people of Oadby, the church actively supports Christian outreach and missionary work, as well as humanitarian aid projects. Donations received for special collections taken up in 2022 were sent to local charities and foodbanks as well as to recognised Christian missions working in needy places around the world. As an example, we once again supported the 'shoebox appeal' organised by the Blythwood Care charity, and were able in November 2022 to pass on 53 shoeboxes, filled with simple Christmas gifts, for needy families in eastern Europe.

4. **Ministerial Appointment**

The church had been without a minister for a few years when, in February 2022, it was put in contact with a Canadian pastor who had undertaken theological training in Oxford and sensed a call to ministry in England. In due course – after a series of electronic and face-to-face meetings, interviews and the taking up of references – the church called Gary Prickett to the pastorate at Oadby; he accepted that call and assumed his work at the church, on a full-time basis, on 1 October 2022.

5. Financial Position

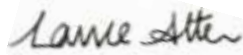
The church accounts for the year 2022 have been signed off by an independent examiner. They show that, including monies reclaimed under the Gift Aid scheme, the church has maintained a surplus of income over expenditure. This means that the church's reserves have increased modestly, but this is considered prudent given that the fellowship now has a full-time minister to support and remains without a building of its own.

6. Future Developments

The church has occupied the North Memorial Hall in Oadby under the terms of a 35-year lease granted to it by the Trustees of the North Memorial Homes. That lease expired in mid-2022 but was extended to January 2023 to allow negotiations to take place regarding a possible new lease. Those negotiations had not concluded by the end of the calendar year 2022, but are of importance for the future physical location of the fellowship.

The church is minded to register as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, but work on this project will not be resumed until negotiations regarding a new lease on the North Memorial Hall have been concluded satisfactorily or alternative accommodation located.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees of Oadby Evangelical Free Church:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Lance Atter', is written on a light-colored, slightly textured rectangular piece of paper.

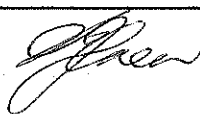
Lance Atter, 1 June 2023

Independent Examiner's Report
on the accounts of Oadby Evangelical Free Church
(charity number 1030055)
for year ending 31st December 2022

Church Officers' Report

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. In the opinion of the charity trustees the accounts are an accurate reflection of the financial position of the charity and comply with legal requirements and have our unanimous approval.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Name	Office held	Signature	Date
Stuart Glover	Elder & Interim Treasurer		9/5/23
STEVEN J. GREEN	ELDER		9/5/23

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of Oadby Evangelical Free Church for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,;

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name	Relevant professional qualifications/body	Signature	Date
Heather Wells	Member of the Institute of Accountants and Bookkeepers (MIAB)		29/4/23
Address:	33 Acorn Way, Wigston, Leicestershire, LE18 3YA		

Oadby Evangelical Free Church Accounts & financial statement Period covered: 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022

**Summary of receipts and payments
(1st January – 31st December 2022)**

Receipts		
Unrestricted funds	2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Donations	60,136.87	57,771.70
Bank interest (Deposit accounts)	62.54	124.96
Other income	1,452.12	1,488.00
Gift Aid/Gift Aid small donation scheme (GASDS)	19,395.74	1,520.81
Restricted funds		
Giving for missionary/specific causes	8,286.00	18,647.22
Other income	0.00	50.00
Total	89,333.27	79,602.69

Payments		
Unrestricted funds	2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Employment	16,936.38	2,879.74
Events/activities	5,961.00	8,712.57
Equipment	2,057.67	404.45
Administration	7,304.65	3,487.83
Building	27,259.99	12,241.56
Utilities	5,962.12	2,680.79
Giving to missionary and other causes	6,010.00	6,031.05
Miscellaneous	130.00	200.00
Restricted funds		
Missionary giving	5,357.35	5,006.22
Donations for Emmanuel Christian School Leicester	4,237.50	17,707.50
Total	81,216.66	59,351.71

Surplus/(Deficit) of receipts over payments	8,116.61	20,250.98
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Breakdown of receipts
(1st January – 31st December 2022)

Unrestricted funds		2022	2021
		(£)	(£)
Donations		60,136.87	57,771.70
	Bank transfer	36,250.00	33,290.00
	Giving via CAF/Stewardship	14,941.21	17,669.32
Note 1	Offering box	8,945.66	6,812.38
Tax reclaim		19,395.74	1,520.81
Other income		1,452.12	1,488.00
	Hall use	150.00	100.00
	Refunds from suppliers	720.14	138.00
	Away day	581.98	0.00
	Youthwork	0.00	1,250.00
Bank interest		62.54	124.96
TOTAL		81,047.27	60,905.47
Restricted funds			
		2022	2021
		(£)	(£)
Missionary causes		4,486.00	4,521.22
Note 2	2020 Christmas offering	0.00	1,745.00
Note 3	2021 Easter offering	0.00	1,470.62
Note 4	2021 Harvest offering	0.00	835.60
Note 5	2021 Christmas offering	940.00	470.00
Note 6	2022 Harvest offering	685.00	0.00
Note 7	2022 Christmas offering	2,861.00	0.00
Other giving		3,800.00	14,176.00
	Donations for Emmanuel Christian School Leicester	3,650.00	14,126.00
	Contribution to fees & expenses for visiting speakers	0.00	50.00
	Donation for Blythswood Care shoebox appeal	150.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME TO RESTRICTED FUNDS		8,286.00	18,697.22
TOTAL RECEIPTS		89,333.27	79,602.69

Breakdown of payments (1st January – 31st December 2022)

Unrestricted funds

	2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Employment	16,936.38	2,879.74
Staff worker contributions	7,004.70	2,879.74
Minister salary, tax and pension contributions	8,800.53	0.00
Book allowance	51.00	0.00
Relocation costs	1,080.15	0.00
Events/activities	5,961.00	8,712.57
Visiting preacher expenses	1,901.23	1,022.50
Away day	579.00	0.00
Worship services	121.91	50.00
Catering	239.94	19.79
Christian Union church fair	13.00	0.00
Note 8 Outreach	3,045.30	7,023.23
Youthwork	60.62	597.05
Equipment	2,057.67	404.45
AudioVisual	242.28	200.48
Computing	1,781.44	0.00
Telephony	33.95	0.00
Covid safety	0.00	203.97
Missionary causes	5,760.00	6,031.05
Carcassonne	1,440.00	1,440.00
Latin Link	1,440.00	1,440.00
Mandritsara	1,440.00	1,440.00
Valathi	1,440.00	1,711.05
Gifts to other causes	250.00	0.00
Leicester University CU	100.00	0.00
Emmanuel Church Leftwich building project	150.00	0.00
Administration	7,304.65	3,487.83
Note 9 Fees	3,987.59	150.00
Printing and stationery	85.00	40.99
Insurance	1,293.38	1,203.44
Copyright licence	293.00	259.33
FIEC membership	1,344.00	1,518.00
Zoom subscription	172.68	187.07
Child protection/safeguarding	129.00	129.00

Building		27,259.99	12,241.56
Rent		6,680.00	6,680.00
Building fabric		1,317.25	3,368.00
Cleaning		73.72	25.45
Decorating		13,590.00	0.00
Electrical work		1,002.08	0.00
Fire safety		256.20	93.42
Gardening		3,204.00	1,703.00
Gas work		932.98	371.69
Plumbing work		123.76	0.00
Window cleaning		80.00	0.00
Utilities		5,962.12	2,680.79
Electricity		814.79	0.00
Gas		4,505.72	2,088.32
Phone/broadband		492.46	446.59
Water		149.15	145.88
Miscellaneous		130.00	200.00
Note 10	Gifts to individuals	100.00	200.00
	Training	30.00	0.00
Total payments from unrestricted funds		71,621.81	36,637.99

Restricted funds

		2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Missionary causes		5,357.35	5,006.22
Note 11	2020 Christmas offering	0.00	2,428.75
Note 12	2021 Easter offering	0.00	1,643.12
Note 13	2021 Harvest offering	0.00	934.35
Note 14	2021 Christmas offering	1,113.75	0.00
Note 15	2022 Harvest offering	867.35	0.00
Note 16	2022 Christmas offering	3,226.25	0.00
	Blythwood Care shoebox appeal	150.00	0.00
Gifts to other causes		4,237.50	17,707.50
	Emmanuel Christian School Leicester	4,237.50	17,707.50
Total payments from restricted funds		9,594.85	22,713.72

TOTAL PAYMENTS	81,216.66	59,351.71
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Notes on receipts and payments

1	Includes £110 collected by Art@Oadby group and £100 from Coffee Break group.
2	2020 Christmas offering was to SIM for Lydia King's work in Jos, Nigeria. Figure does not include Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
3	2021 Easter offering was to UFM for Brandon Nelson's work in the USA. Figure does not include Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
4	2021 Harvest offering was to SIM for their work in Jos, Nigeria. Figure does not include Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
5	2021 Christmas offering was to Barnabas Fund work for work in Afghanistan. Figure does not include Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
6	2022 Harvest offering was to SIM for the work of Matt & Lisa Wallis in Jos, Nigeria. Figure does not include Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
7	2022 Christmas offering was to European Missionary Fellowship for the Bibles and blankets for Ukraine appeal. Figure does not include Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
8	Purchase and distribution of LIFE magazine.
9	Fee to independent examiner (£150), Solicitor's fees (£3,755.60) and bank fees (£81.99).
10	Staff worker leaving gift.
11	2020 Christmas offering was to SIM for Lydia King's work in Jos, Nigeria. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
12	2021 Easter offering was to UFM for Brandon Nelson's work in the USA. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
13	2021 Harvest offering was to SIM for their work in Jos, Nigeria. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
14	2021 Christmas offering was to Barnabas Fund work for work in Afghanistan. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations.
15	2022 Harvest offering was to SIM for the work of Matt & Lisa Wallis in Jos, Nigeria. Figure includes Gift Aid claimed on applicable donations. Includes £53.60 visiting preaching fee donated to this cause by the speaker.
16	2022 Christmas offering was to European Missionary Fellowship for the Bibles and blankets for Ukraine appeal. Figure includes Gift Aid which will be claimed on applicable donations in following financial year. Includes £50.00 visiting preaching fee donated to this cause by the speaker.

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31st December

Assets	2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Current account	55,877.79	47,823.72
Deposit accounts	89,670.29	89,607.75
Total	145,548.08	137,431.47
Funds		
Unrestricted (general) fund	123,918.08	115,931.47
Restricted funds:		
Building fund	21,500.00	21,500.00
2021 Christmas offering	440.00	470.00
2022 Christmas offering	130.00	0.00
Total	145,548.08	137,431.47
Liabilities		
Amount due within 1 year	1,669.28	

Fixed assets

The Church does not own any land, buildings or vehicles. Fixed assets held by the church includes books, office equipment and other fixtures and fittings which all belong to the general fund.

OADBY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1030055

Accounts

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2021

Name:	Oadby Evangelical Free Church (common abbreviation: OEFC)
Charity Number:	1030055
Governing Document:	Church Constitution (last revised on 21st March 1997)
Minister:	No minister currently employed
Trustees/Church Officers:	Lance Atter Luke W. Carter-Whittle Stuart J. Glover Julian A. R. Mercik (honorary treasurer) [retired May 2021] Paul Whalley
Charity Commission Correspondent:	Stuart J. Glover c/o Oadby Evangelical Free Church North Memorial Hall, Stoughton Road, Oadby Leicestershire LE2 4FL
Website :	<u>www.oefc.org.uk</u>
Bank:	Barclays Bank plc 25, The Parade Oadby LE2 5BB Nationwide Building Society 92, The Parade Oadby LE2 5BF
Independent Examiner of Accounts:	Heather Wells MIAB (Heather's Bookkeeping Services)

Purpose/Object

The church was established to promote the advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, primarily, but not exclusively, within Oadby (Leicestershire) and the surrounding neighbourhood.

Organisation

Oadby Evangelical Free Church was formed in 1975 and consists of members who are Christians as defined in the Constitution. All members have responsibilities which include participation in the activities and decision making of the church. Leadership of the church is committed to Elders and Deacons (known collectively as Church Officers) each of whom is elected by the membership.

The Minister is appointed by church members and operates as one of the Elders. Members serve on a voluntary basis except for the non-trustee Minister who is full-time and remunerated.

The church is independent of any other organisation but maintains a positive interest in and links with numerous individuals and bodies, including affiliation to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC).

Public Benefit Statement

OEFC seeks to benefit the local community by pursuing its main purpose as set out above, and through various activities (described below) serving a cross-section of ages and interests.

The church meets every Sunday, and on other regular occasions for Christian worship, and these events are open to the public. Several activities are also run during the week for specific groups such as children, youth and older people.

Most often these events and activities are held at the North Memorial Hall (NMH), Stoughton Road, Oadby, being on an exclusive 35-year lease, due to end in mid-2022. These events are promoted to the general public in Oadby and the surrounding area. The church actively supports Christian outreach and missionary work, as well as humanitarian aid projects.

Review of 2021

1. Coronavirus Pandemic

The changing face of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact on church life throughout 2021. The church leadership sought at all times to adhere to the government guidelines that were in place, and revise as necessary our own risk assessment and practices in relation to meetings and activities.

Copies of our risk assessment were circulated to members of the church and congregation, and regular updates about the precautions being taken were included in our weekly church bulletin sent out electronically and on paper.

Numbers of attendees were limited due to the need to 'socially distance', and a booking system was utilised early in 2021 while it was necessary to maintain accurate records of attendance for track/tracing in the event of positive tests. Signs, sanitiser, and masks were also purchased and distributed through the building, and CO2 monitors were also used to ensure that the main hall was well ventilated.

2. Membership

The number of members at the end of 2021 was 51.

The church held five business meetings during the year, including the Annual Church Meeting, some of which were conducted electronically.

3. Main services

The church has continued to hold public worship and teaching services throughout the year on Sundays and other occasions, as was possible in relation to government Covid guidelines.

In the early part of 2021, during the third national lockdown, OEFC was able to broadcast services from the NMH following successful trials in December 2020. As restrictions were relaxed, it was possible to have congregations of increasing size.

Meetings for Bible study and prayer occurred weekly, either in the church building, members' homes, or via Zoom.

All meetings, save those for church members, are open to everyone, with the details being available in the church bulletin, and on the church website.

4. Children and Youth work

A Sunday afternoon family service, held online via Zoom, continued to be a key component of the ministry to children during the first half of the year.

The meeting over Zoom has been open to all of the church, but is particularly designed for families with children; with singing, prayer, a Bible story, and a teaching slot exploring some of the questions set out in the 'New City Catechism'.

Later in the year, a creche has been able to run once again during the Sunday morning services, and the Sunday school classes were restarted in the autumn term.

5. Seniors

Meetings for older people have been restarted in the autumn term, with the main thrust being the twice a month "Coffee Break" with guest speakers. This group would normally benefit from outings arranged during the year.

Details of Coffee Break are on the church website and people from the local community are welcome to attend. Most newcomers attend because of personal invitation.

6. Missionary work

OEFC continued to support various missionary works, with interests spread across the continents and in the United Kingdom. Speakers from these groups were invited to the church from time to time in order for the church members to be better informed of the activities of the groups that are supported.

A quarterly missionary support meeting takes place and a review of missionary giving was completed during the year.

A 'Missions Policy' document was also drafted to 'ensure good stewardship in the allocation of OEFC funds to mission work.'

7. 'Bridge-building' activities

The church was involved with a number of outreach activities during 2021.

There are a number of activities organised by members of the church aimed at meeting people who would not usually have any connection with the church and building friendships with a desire for the Gospel to be shared. These activities include a morning art class, morning table tennis sessions for men, and an afternoon 'knit and knatter' session.

Following a review of 'pre-pandemic' activities, these have also been restarted in the autumn term.

The monthly walking group continues to provide contact with non-churchgoers and further opportunity for friendships to develop.

These events were advertised through a variety of methods, via the church website, the church blog, personal invitation, leaflet distribution and on poster or banner displays.

8. LIFE Magazine

Following an initial distribution of the 'Life' magazine (a magazine with wide-ranging content, but a distinctively Christian flavour) in 2020, the church repeated its partnership in the scheme organised by 10ofthose.com

The church paid for the distribution of the 'Life' magazine to around 8,500 homes in the vicinity of the church, twice during the year; around Easter, and in the lead-up to Christmas.

It was also planned to offer literature or an online 'Christianity Explored' course to any interested recipients. There have been several positive responses through email contact.

In connection with this initiative, OEFC had a stall at the Oadby 'Festive Lights Switch On' event, which is well attended by the local community.

Extra copies of the 'Life' magazine were given away, as well as other Christian literature, and invitations to the Christmas services of the church.

Craft activities were popular with children, and many free books were given away to children and families who visited the stall.

9. Contact with other churches

OEFC has maintained its contact with other churches both locally and further afield. Members of OEFC preach at other churches from time to time, and we have been greatly blessed by the ministry of visiting speakers, especially while we have no full-time pastor.

The affiliation with the FIEC continues to be a blessing to the church - especially many of the online resources that have been produced during the pandemic; which were particularly useful to the church eldership.

Since September 2021, OEFC has employed a part-time staff worker to assist with ministry, effectively 'sharing' him with another local church - Knighton Free Church.

This has further strengthened the historic links between the two churches.

10. Finances & other Giving

The finances of the church are as recorded in the statement of accounts. Income came from regular freewill giving from the members and congregation. Under the goodness of God, the church was able to fulfil all of its commitments and to give a good percentage of income to missionary work.

The church treasurer retired during this calendar year, and we are grateful for his service over a number of years. Towards the end of the year, an interim treasurer was appointed until a permanent appointment can be made.

Special collections were again taken up at Easter, Harvest, and Christmas – each time for a different organisation or cause known to the church.

In addition, at Harvest, there was a collection of foodstuffs, which were donated to one of the local food banks.

OEFC continues to support the Blythwood Care 'Shoe Box Appeal'.

The charity coordinates the collection, transport and distribution of shoe boxes filled with Christmas gifts and essential items to needy communities in Eastern Europe and around the world, amongst other ministries.

11. Future developments

The current lease held by the church for the North Memorial Hall (NMH) is due to expire in the summer of 2022.

Initial communications have been received which indicate a new long-term lease will be offered to the church by the NMH trustees under terms to be agreed.

The Elders would like to set up a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), with the intention to transfer the activities, assets and liabilities of the current unincorporated charity into the CIO.

Work on this project will not be resumed until negotiations regarding a new lease on the North Memorial Hall have been concluded satisfactorily or alternative accommodation located.



Signed by [STUART GLOVER] on behalf of Trustees of Oadby Evangelical Free Church

Date 09/08/22

Affiliated to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches
O.E.F.C is a Registered Charity: Number 1030055



ACCOUNTS & STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

for the year ended

December 31, 2021

Church Officers' Report

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. In the opinion of church officers (the trustees) the accounts comply with legal requirements and have our unanimous approval.

Signed on behalf of church officers  Date 14/1/22
(Julian Mercik, Treasurer)

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Oadby Evangelical Free Church for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 2 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

Church officers, in their capacity as trustees, are responsible for preparation of the accounts and they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

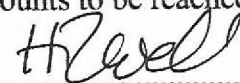
Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from church officers concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  Date 14/1/2022
Heather Wells MIAB, 33 Acorn Way, Wigston, Leics

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Liquid Assets as at 31st December 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Current Assets		
Current Account (Barclays)*	47,768.72	27,642.70
Deposit Account1 (Barclays)**	49,534.19	49,529.23
Deposit Account2 (Nationwide BS)	40,120.00	40,000.00
Sundry debtors	137,422.91	117,171.93
Current Liabilities		
Building Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sundry creditors	0.00	0.00
	-1,000.00	-1,000.00
Current Assets less Current Liabilities	136,422.91	116,171.93

* The Current Account includes £1,000 designated as "Building Fund"

** A further £20,500 is "ring-fenced", making £21,500 available for Building.

The assets above are represented by

Accumulated Funds

Balance as at 1st January	116,171.93
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure	20,250.98
Balance as at 31st December	136,422.91

Note: The Church does not possess any land or buildings. Equipment held by the Church comprises piano, computer and laptop, projector, chairs, teaching aids, sundry furnishings, office equipment and kitchen items.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Unrestricted Funds

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Receipts		
General Receipts	59,292.51	60,310.42
Interest from Deposit Account	124.96	141.90
Running Costs Receipts	1,250.00	1,250.00
Property Maintenance	138.00	0.00
Designated and Missionary Giving	18,797.22	17,625.63
	79,602.69	79,327.95
Payments		
Ministry	3,902.24	5,239.20
Running Costs	12,200.78	9,827.57
Property	14,303.92	25,444.19
Designated and Missionary Giving	28,944.77	28,799.76
	59,351.71	69,310.72
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure	<u>20,250.98</u>	<u>10,017.23</u>

RECEIPTS

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
General Fund		
Direct Giving	57,771.70	51,173.79
Income Tax Refund	1,520.81	9,136.63
	59,292.51	60,310.42
Interest from Deposit Account	124.96	141.90
Running Costs Receipts		
Young People's Activities	1,250.00	1,250.00
	1,250.00	1,250.00
Property Maintenance	138.00	0.0
Refund	138.00	0.0
Designated and Missionary Giving (see below)	18,797.22	17,625.63
Total Receipts	79,602.69	79,327.95

Notes on Designated and Missionary Giving

(please note that 'Payments' include Gift Aid where claimed)

	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Receipts</u>
<i>Valathi Outreach (VOCM)</i>	1,440.00	
<i>Latin Link (Darkes)</i>	1,440.00	
<i>Mandritsara Hospital (Ted & Rachel Watts, SIM)</i>	1,440.00	
<i>Hicham, Carcassonne</i>	1,440.00	
<i>Christmas Offering-Lydia King-Jos (SIM)</i>	2,428.75	1,745.00
<i>"Remainder" gift to VOCM (missionary)</i>	271.05	
<i>Tim Oglesby-retirement gift</i>	100.00	
<i>Easter Offering gifts for Brandon Nelson (UFM)</i>	1,643.12	1,470.62
<i>Anon Gift for visiting preacher (J Harris)</i>		50.00
<i>Private donations for Emmanuel Christian Sch</i>	17,707.50	14,126.00
<i>Gift for Jack Peet - Wedding</i>	100.00	
<i>Harvest gifts-Jos-sent to SIM</i>	934.35	835.60
<i>Gift re P Shrimpton funeral-receipt</i>		100.00
<i>Christmas Offering-Barnabas-Afghan</i>		470.00
TOTALS	28,944.77	18,797.22

P A Y M E N T S

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Ministry		
Minister's Salary etc.	0.00	0.00
Ministerial Claims	0.00	0.00
Manse	0.00	0.00
Visiting Preachers' Fees & Expenses	1,022.50	1,197.00
Staff Worker/Student Worker / Trainee	2,879.74	4,042.20
	3,902.24	5,239.20
Running Costs		
Cleaning	25.45	857.82
Gardener	1,703.00	2,666.20
Young People's Activities (Note 1)	597.05	63.70
Church Activities	0.00	223.01
Outreach and Publicity	7,064.22	4,017.07
Books	0.00	0.00
Conferences	0.00	0.00
Catering	19.79	83.97
Equipment Purchase and Repair (note 2)	734.94	88.60
Photocopying/printing	0.00	0.00
Postage and Stationery	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions (note 3)	1,906.33	1,827.20
Sundries (note 4)	150.00	0.00
	12,200.78	9,827.57
Property		
Rent	6,680.00	6,680.00
Insurance	1,203.44	1,161.82
Services : Electricity (note 5)	0.00	783.12
: Gas	2,088.32	2,489.42
: Water	145.88	284.05
: Telephone + Internet	446.59	872.52
Maintenance and Repairs (note 6)	3,739.69	13,173.26
Improvements	0.00	0.00
	14,303.92	25,444.19
Total of Ministry / Running Costs / Property	30,406.94	40,510.96
Designated and Missionary Giving (see page 4)	28,944.77	28,799.76
TOTAL PAYMENTS	59,351.71	69,310.72

NOTES ON PAYMENTS

Payments

Note 1: Young Peoples' Activities:

Children's materials (Emese CW)	100.15
Children's stationary etc (Julia N)	93.92
TV+Stand/Cable etc for Sunday School (Luke CW)	402.98
	597.05

Note 2: Equipment Purchase and Repair

Zoom (Paul W)	187.07
Piano tuning etc (Michelle Atter)	50.00
Smiths Fire-service & tests	93.42
Audio and streaming (Stuart G)	200.48
CO2 Detectors (Stuart G)	203.97
	734.94

Note 3: Subscriptions

Thirtyoneeight (formerly CCPAS)	129.00
CCLI - music licence	259.33
FIEC-Annual Fee	1,518.00
	1,906.33

Note 4: Sundries

Accounts examiner - Heathers Book Keeping	150.00
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Note 5: Electricity **0.00**

We began the year in credit as the previous bill was based on estimated usage – ie over-estimated. We also received compensation when the fitting of a new smart meter was unreasonably delayed by SSE – which also boosted the credit on our account. 2021 was a full Covid year, so our usage was down dramatically. All our electricity was paid for out of the accumulated credit. Usage durin the final months of 2021 should appear on the 2022 bill, but not the ones covered in these 2021 accounts. As no money changed hands, our electricity invoices therefore totalled zero!

Note 6: Property Maintenance amd Repairs

Roofline-building maintenance	138
Richard Currie - Repair Guttering	350
Wm Freer Ltd-gas boiler service+repair	371.69
ICS Rendering	2,880.00
	3739.69

OADBY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1030055

Accounts

Oadby Evangelical Free Church

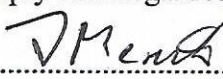
ACCOUNTS & STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

for the year ended

December 31, 2020

Church Officers' Report

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. In the opinion of church officers (the trustees) the accounts comply with legal requirements and have our unanimous approval.

Signed on behalf of church officers 
(Julian Mercik, Treasurer)

Date 23/1/21

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Oadby Evangelical Free Church for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 2 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

Church officers, in their capacity as trustees, are responsible for preparation of the accounts and they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

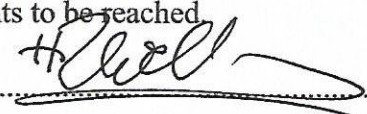
Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from church officers concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Signed 

Date 23/4/21

Heather Wells MIAB, 33 Acorn Way, Wigston, Leics

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Liquid Assets as at 31st December 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Current Assets		
Current Account (Barclays)*	27,642.70	37,767.37
Deposit Account1 (Barclays)**	49,529.23	69,387.33
Deposit Account2 (Nationwide BS)	40,000.00	0.00
Sundry debtors	117,171.93	107,154.70
Current Liabilities		
Building Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sundry creditors	0.00	0.00
	-1,000.00	-1,000.00
Current Assets less Current Liabilities	116,171.93	106,154.70

* The Current Account includes £1,000 designated as "Building Fund"

** A further £20,500 is "ring-fenced", making £21,500 available for Building.

The assets above are represented by

Accumulated Funds

Balance as at 1st January	106,154.70
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure	10,017.23
Balance as at 31st December	116,171.93

Note: The Church does not possess any land or buildings. Equipment held by the Church comprises piano, computer and laptop, projector, chairs, teaching aids, sundry furnishings, office equipment and kitchen items.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Unrestricted Funds

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Receipts		
General Receipts	60,310.42	84,847.36
Interest from Deposit Account	141.90	214.50
Running Costs Receipts	1,250.00	0.00
Designated and Missionary Giving	17,625.63	3,745.95
	79,327.95	88,807.81
Payments		
Ministry	5,239.20	14,141.75
Running Costs	9,827.57	7,877.72
Property	25,444.19	17,873.06
Designated and Missionary Giving	28,799.76	11,014.65
	69,310.72	50,907.18
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure	<u>10,017.23</u>	<u>37,900.63</u>

RECEIPTS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
General Fund		
Direct Giving	51,173.79	77,392.85
Income Tax Refund	9,136.63	7,454.51
	60,310.42	84,847.36
Interest from Deposit Account	141.90	214.50
Running Costs Receipts		
Young People's Activities	1,250.00	0.00
	1,250.00	0.00
Designated and Missionary Giving (see below)	17,625.63	3,745.95
Total Receipts	79,327.95	88,807.81

Notes on Designated and Missionary Giving

(please note that 'Payments' include Gift Aid where claimed)

	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Receipts</u>
<i>Valathi Outreach (VOCM)</i>	1,440.00	
<i>Latin Link (Darkes)</i>	1,440.00	
<i>Mandritsara Hospital (Ted & Rachel Watts, SIM)</i>	1,440.00	
<i>Hicham, Carcassonne</i>	1,440.00	
<i>Christmas Offering – Jos (SIM)</i>	979.13	
<i>Christmas Offering – Lydia King– Jos (SIM)</i>		340.00
<i>"Remainder" gift to R. Javed (missionary)</i>	710.00	
<i>Easter Offering gifts for Emmanuel Christian School</i>	642.50	524.00
<i>Private donations for Emmanuel Christian School</i>	17,050.00	13,740.00
<i>Christian Union, University of Leicester</i>	100.00	
<i>Christian Union, De Montfort University</i>	100.00	
<i>Harvest gifts – MERF Beirut</i>	3,458.13	3,021.63
TOTALS	28,799.76	17,625.63

P A Y M E N T S

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Ministry		
Minister's Salary etc.	0.00	0.00
Ministerial Claims	0.00	0.00
Manse	0.00	0.00
Visiting Preachers' Fees & Expenses	1,197.00	4,275.00
Student Worker / Trainee	4,042.20	9,866.75
	5,239.20	14,141.75
Running Costs		
Cleaning	857.82	1,267.04
Gardener	2,666.20	1,925.00
Young People's Activities	63.70	461.92
Church Activities	223.01	7.40
Outreach and Publicity	4,017.07	-27.40
Books	0.00	0.00
Conferences	0.00	200.00
Catering	83.97	61.37
Equipment Purchase and Repair (note 1)	88.60	1,903.04
Photocopying/printing	0.00	156.24
Postage and Stationery	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions (note 2)	1,827.20	1,923.11
Sundries	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges		
	9,827.57	7,877.72
Property		
Rent	6,680.00	6,680.00
Insurance	1,161.82	1,131.30
Services : Electricity	783.12	748.49
: Gas	2,489.42	2,227.68
: Water	284.05	261.99
: Telephone + Internet	872.52	835.60
Maintenance and Repairs (note 3)	13,173.26	5,988.00
Improvements	0.00	0.00
	25,444.19	17,873.06
Total of Ministry / Running Costs / Property	40,510.96	39,892.53
Designated and Missionary Giving (see page 4)	28,799.76	11,014.65
TOTAL PAYMENTS	69,310.72	50,907.18

NOTES ON PAYMENTS

Payments

Note 1: Equipment Purchase and Repair

Lapel microphone	48.60
Alex Dunn – electrical repair	40.00
	88.60

Note 2: Subscriptions

Thirtyoneeight (formerly CCPAS)	129.00
CCLI - music licence	180.20
FIEC-Annual Fee	1,518.00
	1,827.20

Note 3: Property Maintenance and Repairs

Wm Free – boiler	859.15
Wm Free – boiler	270.55
JR Allen & Sons – Roof Repairs	12,043.56
	13,173.26

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2020

Name:	Oadby Evangelical Free Church (common abbreviation: OEFC)
Charity Number:	1030055
Governing Document:	Church Constitution (last revised on 21st March 1997)
Minister:	No minister currently employed
Trustees/Church Officers:	Lance Atter Luke W. Carter-Whittley Stuart J. Glover Julian A. R. Mercik (honorary treasurer) Alejandro Joya Mora (resigned May 2020) Paul Whalley
Charity Commission Correspondent:	Stuart J. Glover c/o Oadby Evangelical Free Church North Memorial Hall, Stoughton Road, Oadby Leicestershire LE2 4FL
Website :	www.oefc.org.uk
Bank:	Barclays Bank plc 25, The Parade Oadby LE2 5BB
Independent Examiner of Accounts:	Heather Wells MIAB (Heather's Bookkeeping Services)

Purpose/Object

The church was established to promote the advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, primarily, but not exclusively, within Oadby and the surrounding neighbourhood.

Organisation

Oadby Evangelical Free Church was formed in 1975 and consists of members who are Christians as defined in the Constitution. All members have responsibilities which include participation in the activities and decision making of the church. Leadership of the church is committed to Elders and Deacons (known collectively as Church Officers) each of whom is elected by the membership.

The Minister is appointed by church members and operates as one of the Elders. Members serve on a voluntary basis except for the non-trustee Minister who is full-time and remunerated.

The church is independent of any other organisation but maintains a positive interest in and links with numerous individuals and bodies, including affiliation to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC).

Principal Activities

The church meets every Sunday, and on other regular occasions for Christian worship, and these events are open to the public. Several activities are also run during the week for specific groups such as children, youth and older people. Most often these events and activities are held at the North Memorial Hall, Stoughton Road, Oadby, the premises being on a 35-year lease for the sole use of the church, due to run out in 2022. These events are promoted to the general public in Oadby and the surrounding area. The church actively supports Christian outreach and missionary work.

Review of 2020

1. Coronavirus Pandemic

The events of the (ongoing) coronavirus pandemic curtailed many of the usual activities of the church during 2020. Normal meetings were possible until the beginning of March, and since then some meetings were possible through electronic means.

The church re-opened for a handful of public in-person services in December.

2. Membership

The number of members at the end of 2020 was 55.

The church held three church business meetings (some by electronic means) during the year including the Annual Church Meeting.

3. Main services

The church has continued to hold public worship and teaching services throughout the year on Sundays and other occasions. Meetings for Bible study and prayer occurred weekly, either in the church building or in the form of Gospel

Community Groups. Many of these have been via electronic means. All meetings are open to anyone, with the details being available on the church web site.

4. Children and Youth work

"Jellytots", a group for pre-school children and their adult carers, has continued to be well attended and usually meets on a weekly basis during the school term. It provides a safe and welcoming environment for families with young children to come together. Unfortunately, this group has not been able to meet since March.

"On Your Way Home", an after-school group for children of primary school age and their adult carers, would usually meet once a month on Fridays during the school term. The club provides tea, toast, activities and Christian teaching for children 'on their way home' from school.

Unfortunately, this group has not been able to meet since March.

Sunday School is provided during the Sunday morning worship service for children up to the age of 10 and a crèche is available for babies.

Since August, a 4pm online 'family service' has been broadcast weekly in the absence of physical gatherings for Sunday school.

"Ignite", a group for youngsters over 10 years old is held during the morning Sunday service, as a time for age-appropriate bible study. This group has also met electronically (expanding to include children aged 7 and over), with occasional in-person events during the year.

An on-going programme of Sunday lunches is provided for students.

Members of the church have helped regularly with Christian assemblies at local schools, where possible this year.

Details of the youth work are on the church website, but the most effective publicity for this work is through the personal recommendations of the young people who attend amongst their friends and peers.

5. Seniors

Meetings for older people were held during the first quarter of the year with the main thrust being the twice a month "Coffee Break" with guest speakers. This group would normally benefit from outings arranged during the year.

Unfortunately, this group has not been able to meet since March.

Again, details of Coffee Break are on the church website and people from the local community are welcome to attend. Most newcomers attend because of personal invitation.

6. Missionary work

OEFC continued to support various missionary works, with interests spread across the continents and in the United Kingdom. Speakers from these groups were invited to the church from time to time in order for the church members to be better informed of the activities of the groups that are supported.

A quarterly missionary support meeting takes place and a review of missionary giving was completed during the year.

7. Outreach work

The church was involved with a number of outreach activities during 2020.

There are a number of activities organised by members of the church aimed at meeting people who would not usually have any connection with the church and building friendships with a desire for the Gospel to be shared. These activities include a morning art class held at the hall, a craft group held in a home, morning table tennis sessions for men and for women, an afternoon 'knit and knatter' session and family fun afternoons in a nearby park.

Some of these groups have been able to continue contact throughout the year, but many have been 'on hold' whilst social distancing measures are in place.

The monthly walking group continues to provide contact with non-churchgoers and further opportunity for friendships to develop.

The church also partnered in a scheme organised by 10ofthose.com

The church paid for the distribution of the 'Life' magazine to around 8,000 homes in the vicinity of the church. It is a magazine with broad content, but with a Christian focus, and is distributed free of charge to residents in selected postal code areas.

It was also planned to offer literature or an online 'Christianity Explored' course to any interested recipients. There have been several positive responses through email contact.

These events were advertised through a variety of methods, via the church website, the church blog, personal invitation, leaflet distribution and on poster or banner displays.

8. Contact with other churches

OEFC has maintained its contact with other churches both locally and further afield. Members of OEFC frequently preach at other churches and there were several joint services with other local churches during the year. Along with other churches, OEFC also supported the Midlands Gospel Partnership meetings that were held in Leicestershire during the year.

9. Finances

The finances of the church are as recorded in the statement of accounts. Income came from regular freewill giving from the members and congregation. Under the goodness of God, the church was able to fulfil all of its commitments and to give a good percentage of income to missionary work.



Signed by [STUART GLOVER] on behalf of Trustees of Oadby Evangelical Free Church

Date 26/05/21