

**"Emmanuel" Christchurch,  
Morfa Street, Bridgend CF31 1HA**

**Charity Number: 1050546**

***Trustees Annual Report 2020***

***Period: 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020***

***Aim and Purposes:***

"Emmanuel" Christchurch is a congregation of Christian people seeking to bring the Good News concerning Jesus Christ to the community of Bridgend. The church is locally governed within the Fellowship of Assemblies of God churches in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It emphasizes the provision of activities relevant to identified needs in its social environment and the holding of regular open services for the benefit of its members and any other people interested in attending. The church seeks to cooperate with other churches in its locality and further afield in the pursuit of shared aims.

***Objectives and Activities:***

"Emmanuel" Christchurch works to encourage people in the community it serves to identify their spiritual needs and to join together in the church building for formal services and informal activities. Faith is put into practice through worship, prayer, the preaching and teaching of the Holy Scriptures, sacrament and service to groups and individuals with identified needs both in the church and the community.

The Objects of the church are for the benefit of the public and are set out in its governing document, the Model Deed for local Assemblies of God churches. These are:

- To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time may think fit.
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to preserve and promote good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind including through the provision of counseling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time think fit; and
- To advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time may think appropriate.

In practice, it seeks to ensure that it is "A church where you are a stranger only once".



## **Achievements and Performance:**

Open services are regularly held at the church premises on Morfa street, Bridgend and all are welcome to attend. The main services are held on Sunday Mornings and occasionally on Sunday Evenings, for worship and presenting the Holy Scriptures as relevant for life and practice. A Bible discussion is held on Tuesday evenings. On Wednesday morning a meeting for Prayer is held which also includes a short discourse on the Holy Scriptures. The worship of the church benefits from the ministry of able musicians. The church premises are made available, without charge, to Bridgend International Church for their use on Sunday afternoons. Church services are thus made available to people living in Bridgend from other countries and cultures.

On Tuesday mornings "Coffee and Company" is available in the church minor hall which benefits from fitted kitchen facilities and the service of volunteers from the church. This is attended by between 10 and 19 people weekly many of whom are socially deprived or disabled. The atmosphere is informal, friendly, and supportive of those attending. The church kitchen carries a certificate for health and hygiene practice as do several of the Volunteers. A monthly day for Prayer is attended by up to 11 people and a regular Men's Fellowship Breakfast is attended by an average of 10 men. Aggregated attendance at our meetings and activities averages 103 weekly.

The minor hall is used by the Bridgend Epilepsy group at no charge on a Thursday morning monthly. It is also hired monthly by the Local Authority for meetings of their foster parents.

The church maintains an up-to-date policy for the safeguarding of children and adults at risk of abuse and subscribes to Thirty-One: Eight for advisory and DBS check support.

The above pattern of services and additional use of the building was maintained **until March 17<sup>th</sup>** after which it was necessary to close all activities on account of Welsh Assembly Government decisions for the control of the Coronavirus pandemic. At the same time all use of facilities by people hiring the premises was also discontinued. This situation continued until June when it was permitted for use to be made of church buildings for personal prayer. The building was open to the community and the church congregation Monday to Friday. **This period of restricted worship lasted for 19 weeks.**

Services were reinstated early in August and these continued until a **Firebreak** was announced by the Welsh Assembly Government to start on **23<sup>rd</sup> October with churches required to close until 8<sup>th</sup> November (3 Sundays)**. Subsequently from 20<sup>th</sup> December services were again discontinued due to the local prevalence of Coronavirus infections which also affected the Pastor and his family. The post - Christmas level 4 restrictions did not require churches to close, but "Emmanuel" remained closed into 2021. **(2 Sundays in 2020). Throughout 2020 services within the church were restricted or suspended for a total of 24 weeks.**

Over the period when the church was unable to meet arrangements were made to



encourage people to maintain contact with each other by Facebook and telephone. A church directory was made available within General Data Protection Regulations. An extended Prayer Chain provided spiritual support to people in emergency situations. Contact was also maintained by volunteers who contributed "Thought for the Day" within a Private 'Facebook' Group. Over the first period of restricted services ministry was recorded and published on this platform and through 'YouTube'. 'Zoom' meetings became familiar for keeping in touch with the regional and national bodies of the church. Personal pastoral support was provided when needed, and a Community Chaplain volunteered in Healthcare settings.

The church membership was not depleted by deaths from Coronavirus. However, within the time covered by this report two members died on account of other conditions.

Work to refurbish the kitchen was completed to a high specification in October 2020. Quotations have been invited for the replacement of the central heating system, the paving of the frontage to the church building, the repainting of the Minor Hall roof and for the upgrading of the Audio/Visio equipment to further develop our internet presence and provide capacity for the live streaming of services. Applications have been made to grant-making bodies for financial support to undertake some of these works. The congregation have been honorable in their giving over this difficult year, with many having kept aside their weekly contribution until they were able to return to church.

In the absence of a Minister at the church a serving elder, Vernon King, continued with the responsibility for the interim leadership of the church. From July 2020 Vernon was given Full Ministerial Status with Assemblies of God. At the commencement of the year further meetings were held with a Senior Minister from Mid Wales to guide the development of a Leadership Team. A proposed structure was circulated within the church, but the Coronavirus disruption prevented this plan to restructure and transition our leadership arrangements being taken forward.

Although church activities have been disrupted on account of the Coronavirus Pandemic the desire to support disadvantaged groups and individuals has persisted. We again engaged with "Operation Christmas Child" and prepared 32 boxes for transit to needy children around the world. The church has also initiated support to the health, education and wellbeing of an 8-year-old boy in Tanzania through the "Compassion" organisation. Additionally, we became aware of the financial needs of an Evangelical Minister in India, who was scheduled to visit the church during the lockdown. A group was formed in the church who committed to giving support of £10 monthly for ten months from July 2020. The ten volunteers asked for became twenty but were still known as "TenofUs". We also contribute support to a street evangelist in support of his street ministry in Bridgend.

On December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019, the "Father's Arms" opened and continued to provide 'care served with soup and a roll' on Monday afternoons, for people without a home. We have generously given comforts to them and also to others materially challenged or in crisis.



The Trustees recognize the faithfulness of those attending consistently throughout the year, when they have been permitted, and the great contribution made by volunteers from the congregation in support of activities. The Trustees endorse the guidance of the Charity Commission on Public Benefit in recognizing the need for the church to bring public benefit through the practical expression of our faith within the local community and beyond. This is reflected in the activities of the church as stated above and the use made of the charity property to support our objectives.

Financial assistance was provided through the church to:

- Assemblies of God World Ministries.
- A Ministry bringing Christian teaching to the streets of Bridgend.
- An evangelical Minister in India.
- An 8-year-old boy in Tanzania.

Mitigation of identified risks are reflected in the church's buildings and public liability insurance. The Assemblies of God Property Trust continue to serve as our Custodian Trustees. The Church has a Church Copyright Licence (CCL) and Music Reproduction Licence (MRL) and is licensed for the showing of films through Church Copyright License International

#### **Financial Review:**

The total income of the church from all sources reduced in 2020 by £11,510 (from £40,924 in 2019 to £29,414 in 2020). The expenditure of the church however, also decreased by £6,374 (from £40,693 in 2019 to £34,319 in 2020). In 2019 the toilets were refurbished and in 2020 the kitchen was refurbished. The more significant factor in the reduced income was the closure of the church for 24 weeks on account of the Coronavirus pandemic. It is therefore creditable to the church congregation that the income of the church held up so well.

There was a deficit over the year of £4,904 leaving the balance of funds carried forward to 2021 as being £32,402 (£37,307 in 2019). It should be noted that this favorable financial situation reflects the vacancy for a salaried Minister

The church council has provided for the management of restricted giving and designated funds in its accounts.

#### **Structure, Governance and Management:**

The Model Deed for local Assemblies of God churches and the church constitution serve to steer the running of the charity within the context of the spiritual life of the church. The Church Council of Trustees is chaired by Mr. Geoff Gray. Its membership is made up of three other Trustees: Mr. Malcolm Stafford; Vernon King and Richard Cross who is also Vice-Chair. In December 2020, the Council of Trustees was strengthened by the addition of Mrs. Mavis Martin, Mr. Keri Say, and Mrs. Jennifer Ward.

The Church Council is responsible for the general oversight and management of the church premises and financial matters. The church Elder and interim leader is responsible promoting



the spiritual life of the church and developing its activities within the objectives of the charity. He is also responsible for the pastoral oversight of the church and the wellbeing of those attending assisted by a deaconate. The Church Council of Trustees receives financial information and coordinates any applications being made to grant-making bodies. The Church Council has been assisted by the Church Administrator, Mrs. Jayne Cross, and by the Treasurer, Mrs. Norma Gray. The Church Council has been unable to meet monthly during 2020 mainly on account of the indisposition of some members and of course on account of restrictions imposed on account of the Pandemic. The Council of Trustees met five times during the year.

**Administrative Information:**

"Emmanuel" Christchurch is situated close to the town centre of Bridgend. The correspondence address is Mrs. Jayne Cross, 5 Esgair-y-Maes, Broadlands, Bridgend CF31 5BL

The Members of the Council of Trustees who have served for the whole period covered by this report are:

Mr. Geoffrey Gray, Chair  
Mr. Vernon King,  
Mr. Richard Cross  
Mr. Malcolm Stafford

The Members of the Council of Trustees added during the year are:

Mrs. Mavis Martin, from 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
Mr. Keri Say, from 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
Mrs. Jennifer Ward, from 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Approved by the Church Council on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and signed on their behalf by Mr. Geoffrey Gray, Chair of the Church Council.

G. S. Gray  
Geoffrey S. Gray

Dated: 18/5/21



# EMMANUEL CHRISTCHURCH ACCOUNTS 2020

## End of Year Statement January 1st to December 31st 2020

### INCOME

	2020	2019
GIFT AID OFFERINGS	£6,265.00	£8,205.00
GENERAL OFFERINGS	£17,026.78	£17,554.34
DONATION	£735.00	£2,685.04
DESIGNATED MONIES: General	£470.00	£504.40
BUILDING FUND: Grants	£0.00	£0.00
BUILDING FUND: Gifts	£25.00	£1,125.00
PHOTOCOPIER INCOME	£0.00	£0.00
ROOM HIRE	£40.00	£416.96
CHILDRENS WORK	£0.00	£0.00
PARENTS&TODDLERS	£0.00	£0.00
TEA & TOAST	£0.00	£30.00
CRAFT	£0.00	£0.00
TAX RETURNS ON GIFT AID	£1,561.00	£2,857.75
FLOWER FUND	£85.00	£310.00
INTEREST	£16.79	£7.03
MISCELLANEOUS	£236.66	£156.00
MISSIONS	£1,307.91	£2,005.65
SMALL DONATIONS - GASDS	£1,645.15	£4,947.40
Churches Together (Restricted Fund)	0.00	120
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£29,414.29</b>	<b>£40,924.57</b>
INCOME	£29,414.29	£40,924.57
EXPENDITURE	£34,319.07	£40,693.35
<b>DEBIT at end of Year</b>	<b>-£4,904.78</b>	<b>£231.22</b>
CURRENT ACCOUNT	4162.56	
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	165.99	
PROPERTY TRUST	28024.31	
CASH IN HAND	50.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£32,402.86</b>	

### EXPENDITURE

	2020	2019
SALARIES	£0.00	£0.00
TAX + NI	£0.00	£0.00
MILEAGE & EXPENSES	£674.25	£1,429.00
MINISTRY	£248.52	£2,040.00
MISSIONS	£1,766.15	£2,472.46
DESIGNATED MONIES	£1,054.53	£1,071.50
PHOTOCOPIER/STATIONARY	£864.89	£1,035.21
EQUIPMENT	£6,544.27	£1,003.37
CONTRIBUTIONS A o G	£400.00	£400.00
MORTGAGE	£0.00	£0.00
FEES/AUDITOR	£2,109.87	£1,359.17
CATERING	£498.84	£951.52
FLOWERS	£26.87	£225.50
LOVE GIFTS	£796.69	£2,765.87
TELEPHONE	£637.53	£492.00
GAS,ELECTRICITY,WATER	£2,804.49	£2,009.71
MAINTAINANCE	£14,735.48	£19,671.16
BUILDING FUND	£0.00	£0.00
INSURANCE	£625.39	£699.46
CCPAS	£136.80	£128.40
MISCELLANEOUS	£71.50	£604.40
CHILDRENS WORK	£0.00	£127.70
PARENTS & TODDLERS	£0.00	£0.00
TRAINING		£300.00
TEA & TOAST	£0.00	£0.00
PETTY CASH	£0.00	£0.00
DONATION	£0.00	£1,206.25
	£323.00	£0.00
ADVERTISING	£0.00	£226.58
LICENCES	£0.00	£354.09
Churches Together (Restricted)	0.00	£120.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£34,319.07</b>	<b>£40,693.35</b>
BALANCE B/F 2019	£37,307.64	
Less DEBIT BALANCE	-£4,904.78	
<b>BALANCE C/F</b>	<b>£32,402.86</b>	



## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Emmanuel-Christchurch

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, which are set out on page 1

### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

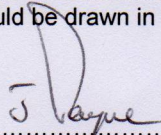
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records

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.

  
.....  
J E PAYNE ACA

GRAHAM PAUL CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
COURT HOUSE  
COURT ROAD  
BRIDGEND  
CF31 1BE

Date 8th May 2021