



# ivy Church Bristol, Assemblies of God

Ashley Hill, Bristol, BS6 5JD

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Pastor: Philip J.M. Watkins

BA (hons), ALCM, LLCM (TD), PGCE, MA

## AGM to receive reports and accounts for the year 2023

### Ivy Church Mission:

*“Passionate about Jesus Christ and making Him known; Serving our neighbours, near and far.”*



Ivy Church is a registered Charity, Number 1050613; a member of the Evangelical Alliance; Assemblies of God (GB) and Churches Together.

AGM 22.05.2024... 7.30pm

Dear Ivy Church Member,

This year's Annual Church Meeting for Church Members will be held on 22nd May at 7.30pm at Ivy Church. It's an opportunity to review the year 2023 and to present the accounts for that year. Questions to the Church Council (Ivy Church Trustees) are most welcome in advance.

Agenda

- |              |                         |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1. welcome   | 5. minutes of 2023      |
| 2. apologies | 6. trustee appointments |
| 3. prayer    | 7. reports              |
| 4. purpose   | 8. accounts             |

The objects of the Church:

- (a) To advance the Christian Faith, 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.
- (b) to relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time think fit and
- (c) 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 fit.

These 'objects,' "Advancing the faith, promoting education and good health in our locality," are about sharing the Christian message with our neighbours, and serving practically wherever possible. Further afield it's mainly about supporting and providing the means for our partners to do the same. Our report isn't intended to merely show a list of activities and events, but some of the ways in which we aim to provide opportunities to be of benefit to our community and beyond.

Ivy Church Council has sought to find ways for the church to do each of these things consistently and enthusiastically amongst our neighbours, near and far. The objects are fulfilled in various parts of the world many through our global partners, missionaries regularly supported, as shown in the Missions Support report.

The Year 2023

The year began with a launch of encouragement for every member to be "Directors of Church Growth." This has been encouraged throughout the year. and efforts have been made by individuals to contact members of the community with invitations and encouragement.

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We have worked together locally with Ashley Churches Together Serving (ACTs) at Christmas and Easter, with 'The Noise' practical projects, and with Churches Together in Greater Bristol. We have also engaged with Assemblies of God GB in our Hub, Zone, Area and National groupings.

We have benefited from 'The Bible Course' and 'Romans' obtained through Bible Society; opportunities to study and learn with great fellowship with coffee and cake! We look forward to more of these courses to come. Various options are being considered. We would also like to see wider access of our small groups ('Life-groups') for sharing and praying together.

Community events have included barbecue in the church grounds, thanksgiving meal for our departed church family members, picnics in the park, and open air carol-singing. We even supported one of our team in a sponsored Mendips walk (+ fish 'n chips) in aid of Creative Solutions (Kenya).

Ivy Church has been pleased to host an Eritrean congregation over several months, culminating in a glorious baptismal service - Africa style!

We have also been happy to accommodate weekly "Music for young Children," and two splendid Christmas concerts with Children and families of St Werburgh's Primary School.

We have endeavoured to support one another through times of bereavement, losing some valued and beloved members and friends. We have also sought to stand in prayer with a considerable number who have various physical and mental challenges.

Sundays have gradually improved in attendance and we have welcomed guests to the Christian festivals and special events. Other Sundays have included 'Compassion' speaker, Safeguarding Sunday, Bible Sunday (Bible Society), and greetings from missionary partners via video link, as well as in-person reports.

It was a joy to share in a wedding, together with our friends from Woodlands Church and an 'event' on the Downs with even a MAF plane on display.

Our IvyTots group continues to flourish, serving our community and providing a centre for building family and community in a warm and caring atmosphere. Our stalwart team of Children and young people's workers, have continued to provide excellent teaching and care for boys and girls, in-house on Sundays and via Zoom on midweek evenings.

Regular Church Council Meetings have continued to review and update our policies, eg. First Aid, Fire and Safeguarding, one of our team attending and reporting on Safeguarding training. It has been noted that there is a wealth of training available from 'Thirty-one Eight' and it is intended for members of the CC to attend. Church Council (= Trustees) have undertaken internal training in responsibilities of charity trusteeship.

The Church Council have taken careful note of our financial situation and sought to manage assets appropriately. A number of supporters have been 'promoted to Glory,' meaning less available funding for our purposes and for distribution; but we have been very appreciative of the faithful giving of church members.

On the Property front we have done:

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1. Exterior works - decorations to windows & front doors and repairs to gutters complete. Landscape: garden maintenance has been undertaken
2. Decoration to foyer, stairs, landing & upper room.
3. The Church House is expected to become available in 2024 and refurbishment will be necessary; In particular, Bathroom & Kitchen carpets and decoration. Also, garden wall repairs and possible resurfacing of driveway. Funds are reserved for this.
4. Further funds have been reserved in case of possible opportunity to purchase land      beside Ivy Church building.

We aim to give opportunity for more community events and for guests to be invited to these and to Sunday services, so that we can continue to serve our neighbours. We are more than a charity; we are an expression of the Kingdom of God and our priority is to provide opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy a relationship with God through Jesus, and to join in fellowship and worship at Ivy Church.

#### IVY CHURCH MISSIONS REPORT 2023

We are thankful that we have been able to continue to regularly support our Missionary Partners throughout the year, which we can only do with your regular giving.

Over the year we had visits from Claire Kinkhead, Geoff and Sue Smith, Sara and Sasha Vitakic and a representative from World of Worth. Excitingly, Chris went to Kenya with Peter Kay to see first hand the work of Creative Solutions and the impact of how the money given is spent. It felt like we were on a missionary journey with him as a church, as Chris was excellent in keeping in contact and sending loads of photos and videos.

Please continue to pray for our Missionary Partners as they strive to share God's love with those He has called them to, so that many more people may find Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. We are in regular contact with them and if you have a particular interest in any, or all of them, we can arrange for their newsletters to be available to you.

May the Lord continue to bless you and all our Missionary Partners!

Jeff Rawlins, Chris Ashmeade and Pam Panton.

Missions Team, March 2024.

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## **IVY Youth Report 2023-2024**

During 2023 we continued to run 2 youth groups to accommodate the age needs of children within Ivy Church. The younger group Golden Swords was for children aged 6-10 years and the older group Prism for children aged 10+. In Golden Swords we focused on getting to know our bibles and a little more about individual characters. In terms of numbers we really only had 2 regular children attending with others dipping in and out very infrequently. To encourage the opportunity for our 2 regular children to mix with other younger people we opted that once a month they would join Woodlands Fellowship for their T Club. As these 2 regular young people are now at a age where they could join the older group we decided to stop running this group just before Easter and now just have the older group Prism.

In Prism we focus on fellowship and fun alongside more in depth studies of bible characters and principles. We continue to meet mainly weekly on line as this is what our church young people have requested. We did manage to meet face to face for a social prior to Christmas where we watched The film The Jesus Revolution at Chris and Sophia's house and enjoyed pizzas together.

Our plan moving forwards are to have more face to face meeting/socials throughout the year and also meet up with Fishponds AOG youth group for a joint meeting to encourage fellowship with other christian young people.

Special thanks to Anne, Monday, Joshua and Chris for their regular support with Prism and special thanks to Philippa who regular supported Golden Swords whilst it was running.

### **IvyKidz (Sunday School)**

We continue to run Ivykidz each Sunday Morning for children aged 3-12years. We also run a bible group for those aged 10+years once a month which is led by Anne and Mary. We have been following a curriculum focusing on different themes each month such as Living in the Light , Walking with the Waymaker and are currently looking at the armour of God. We have been encouraged not only by the knowledge of the children attending; but also the number of visitors we have had over the past year which has coincided with events such as church barbeque, Baptismal Service and Christmas; thus lending opportunities to share the gospel with children who may never have been to church previously. Special thanks once again to Anne, Mary, Abby, Grace, Jane and Janet who generously give up their time monthly to ensure we can continue to provide this service.





Ivy Tots has now been running for over two years. We are grateful to the Lord for His goodnesses and faithfulness to us.

We are blessed to have Pam back with us and want to say a huge thank you to Vernon for stepping into the breach. I also want to thank Sonny, Pam and Pastor for their weekly faithfulness to Tots, without such faithfulness Ivy Tots would cease. Vernon and Mary help out when needed, thank you both for giving of your time to Tots and the Lord.

Each week we commit Tots to the Lord in prayer asking Him to bring families into the fellowship, please continue to pray to this end. We look forward to the day when families begin to join us on Sundays.

Most weeks 20/22 children attend and this is our optimum number for children. There have been times when we have needed to close our doors due to capacity. Most weeks a new family joins and we're glad that not all have attended on the same day. I have to admit, it's exciting to see the queue down the road, as everyone knows it's first come first served.

I am very grateful to Deni for the lovely posters she continues to create which are on the Church railings. Many people have joined due to seeing these.

We are now recommended by social workers and known in the area as a great place to take toddlers; all good – Praise the Lord.

I also want to give a huge thank you to Eugene who continues to do a massive amount of work to make Tots happen. As we have grown, we have needed more and more of the building, which means a lot of work for Eugene. Chairs are stacked on the platform as space is needed for Tots and all the buggies, sometimes 20. Without the effort put in by Eugene, it would be very hard going for the team; thank you Eugene.

Please continue to pray for this work as we seek to reach out into the community with God's love ~ Shirley

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## Ivy Church Accounts for 2023. AGM report

- Undesignated Giving decreased by 6.6%
- Thank you to all those who have continued to give regularly, in church, online or by standing order. This has been remarkable and has been fundamental to maintaining our financial strength.
- Ivy Church (it's people!) are very generous.
- Our total cash assets are very healthy at £128226\*. Having reserves that are higher than planned alleviates concerns with regards to reduced income and allows time to invest for the future.
- Costs for gas, electricity, water higher, as new contracts saw a sharp rise in utility tariffs.
- Building updates included: Rear building redecoration, including ceiling tiles replacement, now pending lighting update and flooring update.
- Overall spending for the year dropped by 14%
- Gift Aid income\* - Not claimed in 2023 ( 2 lots will be claimed in 2024, final HMRC activation code for Treasurer to act on behalf of Ivy Church received 11/4/24)
- There was a deficit at the end of the year of £5614
- Predicted spend for 2024 include an update to the church house, parts of which are overdue.

Vernon Holmes

Ivy Church Treasurer



## Ivy Pentecostal Church Accounts

### Year ending 31st December 2023

	Total 2023	Totals 2022	Totals 2021	Totals 2020	Totals 2019	Totals 2018	Totals 2017	Totals 2016	Totals 2015
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Opening Balances	133840	132267	124981	122724	114128	117758	131455	113786	102565
<b>Income</b>									
Undesignated Giving	51066	54726	56053	56726	59190	55009	61244	59039	58393
Designated Giving	0	50	3820	325	3053	5450	7713	1352	2754
Gift Aid Reclaim	166	11300	11654	11684	11516	11719	13364	10358	11391
Rent	10867	10180	10080	9700	9500	8960	10015	11365	9380
Interest	468	127	297	418	588	749	521	316	434
Misc	87	741		196	62	0	104	200	330
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>62654</b>	<b>77124</b>	<b>81904</b>	<b>79049</b>	<b>83909</b>	<b>81887</b>	<b>92961</b>	<b>82900</b>	<b>82682</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>									
Church Admin	38635	37540	40920	43156	44767	45742	40126	36930	36891
Church Property	14282	22827	8472	7971	8168	11953	51444	11003	11870
Church Purposes	14890	14243	24308	22808	17175	20486	14579	15106	22267
Church Mortgage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Account closed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manse Property	461	941	918	2857	5203	7336	509	2192	433
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>68268</b>	<b>75551</b>	<b>74618</b>	<b>76792</b>	<b>75313</b>	<b>85517</b>	<b>106658</b>	<b>65231</b>	<b>71461</b>
<b>From Savings</b>									
<b>To Savings</b>									
<b>Closing Balances</b>	<b>128226</b>	<b>133840</b>	<b>132267</b>	<b>124981</b>	<b>122724</b>	<b>114128</b>	<b>117758</b>	<b>131455</b>	<b>113786</b>



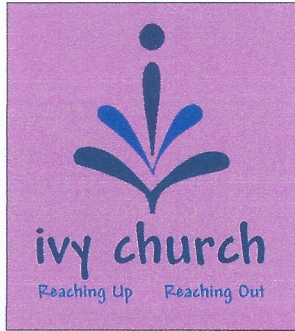
Year ending 31st December 2023						
Income			Expenditure			
	£	£		£	£	TOTAL
Undesignated		51066	Church Admin			
Designated		0	Leadership Salaries (Nett)		£27804.83	
			Pensions		£2973.06	
			NI, Tax		£6740.02	
			Pastor Phone, Internet and Sim		£704.95	
			Conference		£412.36	
			Total		£38635.22	38635
			Church Property			
Gift Aid Reclaim		166	Maintenance		£4858.28	
Rent						
Manse	9600		Insurance		£2094.35	
Church	1267		Gas & Electricity		£4535.85	
Total	10867	10867				
Interest		468	Water rates		£322.14	
Misc (Refunds)			Church Phone&Internet		£581.66	
overpayment refund	27					
Evangelical Alliance	60		Cleaning		£1890.00	
Total		87	Total		£14282.28	14282
			Church Purposes			
Total Income		62654	Ministry Fees		£517.50	
			Missionary Account		£9600.00	
			Safeguarding		£264.30	
			Evangelical Alliance		£150.00	
			Gift		£60.00	
			Resources		£1529.92	
			Fees-Audit		£300.00	
			AOG National		£1701.84	
			Web Domain		£328.80	
			Copyright/Licences		£222.30	
			Youth		£70.00	
			Bank Charges		£145.32	
			Total		£14889.98	14890
			Church Manse			
			Maintenance & Safety		371	
			Insurance		90	
			Total		461	461
Income-Expenditure	-5614		Total Expenditure			68268



IVY MISSIONS 2023

Income	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Totals	Opening Balance Jan 2023
	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 800.00	£ 9,600.00	£ 1,697.87
Extra Donation-Kirkhead		£ 250.00			£ 250.00	£ 10.00		£ 250.00			£ 250.00		£ 1,010.00	
Extra Donation-India Hope					£ -								£ -	
Total Income 2023													£ 10,610.00	
Opening Balance Plus Total Income													£ 12,307.87	
Expenditure (Regular Giving)														
Dents & Charmaine Squire	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 480.00	
Emmanuel International: Simon & Victoria Ewing	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 80.00	£ 960.00	
AOG World Missions: Geoff & Sue Smith	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 600.00	
Going Asia Mission	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Evangelical Action: John & Liz Madecraft	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 600.00	
Light of Gospel: Sara & Sarah Vyalic	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 600.00	
Central African Mission: Carol & Ginny	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 40.00	£ 480.00	
International Bible College: Johnny & Eliana Whyte	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 30.00	£ 360.00	
Creative Solutions: Peter & Jenny Key	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 600.00	
Tom & Olive Ktsaki (Japan)	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 600.00	
India Hope	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 600.00	
AOG World Missions: Claire Kirkhead	£ 50.00	£ 560.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 560.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 2,240.00	
Total Expenditure (Regular Giving)													£ 8,120.00	
Additional Support														
Dents & Charmaine Squire	£ -													
Emmanuel International: Simon & Victoria Ewing	£ -													
AOG World Missions: Geoff & Sue Smith	£ 400.00		Sep-23											
Claire Kirkhead	£ 400.00		Jun-23											
Evangelical Action: John & Liz Madecraft	£ -													
Light of Gospel: Sara & Sarah Vyalic	£ 400.00		Oct-23											
Central African Mission: Carol & Ginny	£ -													
Creative Solutions: Peter & Jenny Key	£ -													
Tom & Olive Ktsaki (Japan)	£ 400.00		Mar-23											
Laprox Mission	£ -													
World of Work	£ 200.00		Feb-23											
Bible Society	£ -													
Sub Total	£ 1,800.00												£ 1,800.00	
Opening Balance	£ 1,697.87													
Total Income	£ 10,610.00													
Total Expenditure	£ 9,920.00													
Closing Balance	£ 2,387.87													
Sub Total														
Total Additional Support													£ 1,800.00	
Total Expenditure													£ 9,920.00	
Closing Balance 31-12-23														£ 2,387.87





**iC**hurch

**(Assemblies of God) Ashley Hill, Bristol, BS6 5JD**

**Minister: Philip Watkins  
(0117) 908 3295**

- **Passionate about Jesus Christ & Making Him Known;**
- **Serving our Neighbours, near and far**

### **Ivy Pentecostal Church**

#### **Statement of Assets and Liabilities As at 31 December 2023**

1. Church Building known as 'Ivy Church' at Ashley Hill, Bristol BS6 5JD
2. Church Manse at 33 Alcove Road, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3DS
3. Bank Accounts:
  - a. Current a/c Lloyds bank, Downend branch, Bristol with a balance of £43505 on 31 Dec 2023
  - b. Gospel Savings a/c Kingdom Bank, Nottingham with a balance of £36614 on 31 Dec 2023
  - c. No Notice Savings a/c Kingdom Bank, Nottingham with a balance of £48106 on 31 Dec 2023
  - d. A trust a/c for missionaries at Lloyds Bank, Horfield branch, Bristol with balance of £2,387 on 31 Dec 23
4. Mortgages: There are no mortgages on Ivy Church Property
5. Loans: We have no loans
6. Creditors: We have no creditors

**Ivy Pentecostal Church (Registered Charity Number 1050613)**



INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF IVY PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

I report on the accounts of the Charity (number 1050613) for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 1 -

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner:

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the act), as amended by s.28 of the Charities Act 2006 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 43 of the Act, as amended);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, as amended); 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 the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement:

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 41 of the Act);

and

- accounts prepared agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.



PHIL BATER MAAT

(Association of Accounting Technicians)

13<sup>th</sup> March 2024