

Colchester City Church AOG  
27-31 Straight Road  
Colchester  
CO3 9BY

### **Trustees Annual Report for Period 2023**

#### **Aim of the Church**

Colchester City Church is a registered charity (number 120441) and a part of the AOG movement in the UK and is located at 27-31 Straight Road Colchester.

The church is managed and administered by a church council and a small leadership team. Some members of the church council are also the composition of the board of Trustees. These people were specifically chosen from the congregation as suitable for this position for their good standing and suitable abilities.

The aim of the leadership and council is to actively promote the pastoral, evangelical and social purposes of the church.

The church has a full time pastor Mr Sean McIntyre together with his wife Joyce. The Pastor is the chairman of the board of trustees.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The aim of Colchester City Church is the growth, sustenance and nurturing of a healthy and vibrant community that is both an asset to the community at large and a valuable resource to all its members.

The practice and promotion of spiritual and practical matters in regards to the welfare, leadership and general encouragement of all the members of the church comprises the primary objective and activity of the church. This is also extended to all visitors who attend.

These objectives are achieved in the main through its regular activities which are offered in the church, which encompass fellowship, corporate worship and teaching.

The church's activities are put into practice via our regular services and a variety of less formal meetings that take place during the week. It is during these regular meetings that the core values of the church are expressed and promoted wherever appropriate.

Every member of the church is encouraged and enabled to express their individual beliefs in the medium of worship, teaching, prayer and faith based activities during our meetings.

The church maintains a strong commitment to pastoral care of its members and anyone else it comes into contact with through practical support, advice and the promotion of lifestyles that reflect goodwill, care and the advancement of faith. The church has a deep commitment to cultural diversity and providing the wider community with information and education about the Christian faith.

The church continues to maintain a valuable contribution to missionary work across the world through an ongoing commitment of financial support and prayer.

### **Performance**

The church has had an increase in the visitors at the church on Sundays and this continues to grow. Although there isn't an online service option we have WhatsApp groups for various demographics such as youth, women, young adults as well as a general members group and a channel for people who are not members but want to connect with us more. We also have plans by 2025 to reintroduce live-streaming for a portion of the service.

The church had a special Pentecost gathering to celebrate our cultural diversity as a church for which the centrepiece was different cultural food. We organised coaches to take members of the congregation to an event at the O2 Arena, organised by the Billy Graham organisation.

### **Church Site**

The church is currently maintained by the Pastor as well as any volunteers from the visitors to offer a helping hand.

### **Pastoral Care**

During 2023 the church continued to provide pastoral care by visiting those members who were unable to attend in-person due to age or illness. The Pastor also began to carry out one to one meetings with individual members to help mentor them in personal growth and to hear individual concerns about the development of the church. We have improved our tracking and follow-up of visitors and those wishing to know more about Christianity with the adoption of a church management solution called ChurchSuite.

## **Missions**

The church is committed to Christian mission initiatives in Congo and Kenya. We have financially supported a missionary team in Congo through an organisation call CAM and also the work of Barnabas Outreach trust, an organisation that carries out missionary trips to Kenya and supports local churches in that region. We currently have a mission to Kenya planned for the end of 2024.

## **Administrative Information**

Colchester City Church is part of the Assemblies of God and is situated in the district of Lexden and Stanway in Colchester.

The address is 27-31 Straight Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 9BY

## **Financial Report for the Activities of Colchester City Church**

The financial period ending 31st December 2023 reported an increase in the income of the church in comparison with the last financial period.

The church was still able to make use of some credit balances held with some of its utilities companies which had been accrued in the previous financial period due to low usage of the building and the continued payments of its standing orders. This enabled the church to lower its financial payments in this period and use of these credits; however, with the increase of in-person meetings at the church, utility usage did increase but it hasn't affected the church finances.

Overall for this period, there was around a 314% increase in the amount of cash held in banks. This would be because we have made it easier for people to give to the church as we now have a card machine for people to tap to give at the church on Sundays. This has helped to improve the giving as many do not carry cash with them anymore. The church applied and received a Gift aid amount which helped with the church's finances. The church was also very honoured to receive a Legacy donation which boosted the churches finances substantially.

Use was made of the Building Fund, a restricted fund, for this period to fund the maintenance and replacement of fire extinguishers and boiler repairs.

**COLCHESTER CITY CHURCH (formerly Praiseway Assembly of God)**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**Charity Trustees**

Sean McIntyre  
Joyce McIntyre  
Martin Manning  
Jasmin Diaz

**Independent Examiner**

Mrs Carole Cowgill ACA  
4 Penny Meadow Capel St Mary  
Ipswich IP9 2UU

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**COLCHESTER CITY CHURCH (formerly Praiseway Assembly of God)**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

**DRAFT**

**AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>						
Donations	- offertory	32,114	600		32,714	22,193
	- special causes	0			0	1,224
	- gift aid	6,997	150		7,147	5,452
	- legacy received	10,123			10,123	0
	- premises hire	2,540			2,540	1,830
		51,774	750	0	52,524	30,699
Interest received		18			18	6
Amazon credits		18			18	0
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>51,810</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>52,560</b>	<b>30,705</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
Pastoral support and payroll costs	1	24,102			24,102	24,330
Activities relating to the work of the church	2	3,040			3,040	3,309
Gifts and Donations	3	100			100	0
Utility and insurance costs	4	5,187			5,187	2,386
Repairs and Maintenance	5	223			223	1,344
Equipment and accessories		1,614			1,614	1,192
Management and administration costs	6	4,824			4,824	2,692
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>39,090</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>39,090</b>	<b>35,253</b>

<b>Net of Receipts/ (Payments)</b>	12,720	750	0	13,470	(4,548)
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	(4,795)		4,795	0	0
<b>Cash Funds b/f 1st January 2023</b>	1,971	855	1,470	4,296	8,844
<b>Cash Funds c/f 31st December 2023</b>	<b>9,896</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>6,265</b>	<b>17,766</b>	<b>4,296</b>







**COLCHESTER CITY CHURCH**  
(formerly Praiseway Assembly of God)

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31ST DECEMBER 2023**

Registered Charity Number – 1054335

Address:

27 Straight Road

Colchester

CO3 9BY

**COLCHESTER CITY CHURCH (formerly Praiseway Assembly of God)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**DRAFT**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>1. Pastoral support and payroll costs</b>		
Pastor's salary + pension costs	24,102	24,180
Visiting speaker fees	0	150
	<b><u>24,102</u></b>	<b><u>24,330</u></b>
<b>2. Activities relating to the work of the church</b>		
Pulpit supplies	32	77
Mission support	1,440	1,440
Books	494	334
Catering	233	165
Travel expenses	226	0
Sundry	58	49
Advertising / Banners	0	1,224
Fundraising display expenses	179	0
Conferences	318	20
AOG Minister's fee	60	0
	<b><u>3,040</u></b>	<b><u>3,309</u></b>
<b>3. Gifts and Donations</b>		
Gifts and donations	100	0
	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>4. Utility and insurance costs</b>		
Heat and light	2,740	672
Phone and internet costs	1,142	562
Water charges	0	40
Insurance	1,305	1,112
	<b><u>5,187</u></b>	<b><u>2,386</u></b>
<b>5. Repairs and Maintenance</b>		
Flooring	0	1,069
Extinguisher maintenance	60	0

Rubbish clearance	0	210 R
Boiler repairs	150	0
Other repairs and maintenance	13	65
	<u>223</u>	<u>1,344</u>

**6. Management and administration costs**

Admin salaries	1,860	0
Payments to AOG Head Office	660	660
Payment to AOG Property Trust	100	200
Accountancy and independent exam fees	300	275
Payroll costs	219	132
Software costs	462	105
Media costs	172	201
Postage, printing, stationery	362	56
Licences	689	563
Professional / consultancy fees	0	500
	<u>4,824</u>	<u>2,692</u>

R = Restricted building fund expenses

**COLCHESTER CITY CHURCH (formerly Praiseway Assembly of God)**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**DRAFT**

	<b><u>31 December</u></b>		<b><u>31 December</u></b>	
	<b><u>2023</u></b>		<b><u>2022</u></b>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash Funds</b>				
Barclays current account		95		3,207
Metro Bank current account		16,538		0
Metro Bank expenses account		27		0
Kingdom savings account		<u>1,106</u>		<u>1,089</u>
<b>Total Monetary Assets</b>		<u><u>17,766</u></u>		<u><u>4,296</u></u>

**The Funds of the Charity:**

**Unrestricted Income Funds**

Unrestricted General Funds		9,896		1,971
Designated funds - Welfare Fund		370		470
- Administrator Fund		174		1,000
- Relocation Fund		<u>5,721</u>		<u>0</u>
		<u>6,265</u>		<u>1,470</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>		16,161		3,441

**Restricted Income Funds**

Building Fund	1,605	855
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>	<u>17,766</u>	<u>7,737</u>

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Date:.....





**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of**  
**Praiseway Assembly of God**  
**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**  
**Charity number 1054335**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act, and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 give me cause to believe that, in any material respect, accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or that the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed: CA Cowgill

Date: 22/3/2024

Mrs. Carole Cowgill ACA  
4 Penny Meadow  
Capel St. Mary  
Ipswich  
IP9 2UU

