

EMMAUS CHURCH

Gorse Cover Road, Severn Beach, Bristol

Reg. Charity No. 1059742

Trustees Report for 2021

This report provides a summary of the activities of the church during 2021, the accounts for year ending 31st December 2021 and plans for 2022

The activities of the Church were impacted by the ongoing Covid19 Pandemic Restrictions

Approved at a Trustees meeting on 5th May 2022

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by

_____ S J Miller

Summary of Emmaus Church during 2021

Emmaus Church is an independent body, registered as a charity (No 1059742) on 12th Dec. 1996. Emmaus Church Centre (ECC) is registered as a place of worship No. 79101 and for marriages No. 42123. The Western Counties & South Wales Evangelisation Trust governs the building and grounds. Emmaus CC, where most of the activities of the charity are carried out, is situated in Gorse Cover Road, Severn Beach, near Bristol BS35 4NP

The Church was overseen by nine trustees:

- Samuel Isaac Peter Marsh – Chairman
- Robert Lawrence Scott-Cook - Chairman
- Samuel John Miller – Senior Elder
- Mark William Chattaway – Elder
- Damian Paul Selby – Trustee

The following were added as Trustees at a Leaders Meeting on 10th May 2021

- Mary-Anne Willmott – Trustee
- Joy Nurcombe – Trustee
- Jacqueline Conradie-Faul – Trustee
- Luke Sammuel Addison - Trustee

The church was led by a Leadership Support Team:

- Samuel John Miller – Leader
Supported by
- Mary-Anne Willmott until the end of August 2021
- Celia Beales
- Keith Emmerson
- Abigail Selby
- Bridget Chattaway
- Anuran Wickramasinghe

The Leadership Support Team was challenged to bring younger members to the Team.

The Church regular activities designed to maintain involvement with the community were severely disrupted by the Coronavirus19 Pandemic.

The Church employed Mary-Anne Willmott as a self employed Church Development Worker (8 hours per week) until she resigned at the end of August as she was accepted in a full-time post at Castle Secondary School, Thornbury.

The Church is advertising for a Church Leader and/or Community/Family Worker

Address for correspondence:

Mr S. John Miller, Salthouse Farm, Shaft Road, Severn Beach, Bristol, BS35 4NH

The primary object (as specified in the `Deed of Trust`) is:

“the advancement of the Christian faith and the extension of the Kingdom of God and other charitable purposes”

One or more persons who are known to be part of the body of the Church led each of the separate prime activities of the charity. The majority of activities were being supported voluntarily with time and money given by church members. The church welcomed a variety of Christian speakers from other churches to preach. A treasurer administers the finances. For details of other objects and related activities, see the Appendix.

During 2021, the church continued to comply with covid19 restrictions. The church building was closed from January to March. During the rest of the year, services were conducted at the building with Zoom internet facilities for the vulnerable. All seating was arranged according to social distancing rules.

It continued to support Christian work at home and abroad. See Appendix for more details.

The pattern of services that developed after March 2021

- Weekly: January to March on Zoom
- March to December at the church building and on Zoom
- Fortnightly Praise and Prayer Group on Zoom and from March at the building
- From September, fortnightly home groups in homes and at the building
- Small support groups met at the building and on Zoom

The church was funded by voluntary gifts the amount of which varies from year to year and a small amount of rental income. Total income in 2021 was £35,988. This was slightly up on 2020

	2020	2021	Increase/Decrease
Income	£33,983	£35,988	+ £2,005

The church encouraged those who pay tax and are committed to Emmaus Church to sign a gift aid mandate as it is a valuable source of revenue and we operate the Small Gift Aid Donation. Gift Aid Donations refund received in 2021 was £4862.76 for donations made in 2020)

	2020	2021	Increase/Decrease
Gift Aid Refund	£5500	£4863	- £637

The church holds Santander current and deposit accounts and a Kingdom Bank savings bond. Kingdom Bank supports the work of churches and charities in keeping with Emmaus Church's vision.

We renewed our loan account with Green Pastures for a further 2 years, a charity that provides accommodation for the homeless. We received significant interest in 2021.

Rent Income from other groups

A local social group called 'Stitches' did not meet at ECC during 2021.

A Baby Hub run by Sirona Care and Health began to meet from June as restrictions were lifted. It was a few months before this facility became established.

The church hall and car park was hired by an ITV crew filming in Severn Beach for a rest area and by the local Committee of the Neighbourhood Plan for their meetings.

Expenditure for 2021 was £25,084, up on 2020. Even though many activities were cancelled due to the covid19 pandemic, national lockdowns and restrictions we were able to give more to Christian work, charities and mission.

Year	2020	2021	Increase/Decrease
Expenditure	£24,197	£25,084	+ £887
Gifts to other Christian work	£6,309	£9,204	+ £2,895
Gifts to lay preachers	£1,450	£2,320	+ £870

The church's gifts to other Christian work, those in need and missions increased in 2021 to £9,204 which is almost 37% of total expenditure or income.

The church continues to give gifts to lay preachers and the total amount was £2,320. This was back to pre-pandemic amount and includes a £250 gift for the use of the Alpha Course videos.

We are pleased to report that the church remains in a healthy financial situation and did not use any reserved funds.

Banks: Santander, Brindle Road, Bootle, Merseyside. L30 4GB

and Kingdom Bank Ltd, Ruddington Fields Business Park, Mere Way,
Ruddington, Nottingham. NG11 6JS

Independent Examiner: Joshua Kingston, BSc (Hons) ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton, Bristol. BS48 1UR

APPENDIX

1. ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCH IN 2021

Object 1: The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrines set out in the first schedule hereto, and the worship of God... the preaching and proclamation of the Christian Gospel and the teaching of Christian doctrines and principles and the pastoral care of Christian people and the printing and distribution of the Bible and Christian literature.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

Sunday Morning all-age worship (usually 30-40 Adults, 2-8 under 18's):

Sunday Mornings took place on Zoom only January – March, thereafter at the Church Centre and on Zoom – eventually BT installed a telephone line and internet connection to facilitate the use of online technology from the building

Worship of God, Christian teaching and preaching (no separate groups for children) using Zoom, worship song videos (purchased extra licences to use digital resources) with Holy Communion once a month. A number of lay preachers were invited to share the responsibility of teaching and preaching on Zoom along with some speakers from the congregation. The church followed the Bible Course produced by the Bible Society throughout the year with a break during the summer months when the focus was the Miracles of Jesus. The church's Worship Leader was able to lead worship when services were held outside or at the church building. The Zoom Sunday Morning Services have proved successful in the circumstances with up to 40 people joining in, including some church friends from outside the area.

We kept in touch with people who were unable to join a Zoom Service with a weekly/fortnightly news/prayer letter.

A few families join in the Sunday Morning Worship on Zoom. Activity Bags with a snack were given out once a month to families who attended Breakfast Club until July. A family and grandchildren began attending in the church building from September.

Sunday Evening Services:

- No Sunday evening services took place

Leaders' meetings

- The Leadership Support Team met regularly fortnightly on Monday evenings on Zoom

Mid-week Groups

- Prayer and Praise twice monthly on Zoom for encouragement, support and prayer, meeting at ECC from March
- The Unanswered Prayer Course (5 weeks during Lent) produced by 24/7 Prayer as a means of discipleship and development in the area of prayer on Zoom
- Special monthly Bible Studies on specific topics took place during the Spring and early summer (Open Doors UK, Climate Change & The Beatitudes)
- The Worship/Music Group were not able to meet for practices
- Alpha Course ran from April to July for six guests on Zoom
- Home groups began meeting again in September

Church socials:

- January: Bingo on Zoom
- February: Family Fortunes on Zoom
- April: Blankety Blank on Zoom
- September: Yorkie (Men's) Group began meeting again – Barbeque and games at the Farm, Walk in a Nature Reserve and a Talk concerning the Christian Police Association.
- November: Ladies Group Afternoon Tea
- December: Christmas meal for the Men's Group and for a Church Group

Publicity:

- A weekly 'Reflection with diary' was distributed to church members and friends by email or by hand until August when it was produced fortnightly
- An Easter Card with mini chocolates and church details was distributed to every house in Severn Beach
- A Christmas Card with church details was distributed to every house in Severn Beach
- The Church has a website www.emmauschurchcentre.org, an email address emmauschurch1993@gmail.com, and a Facebook page 'emmaus.church.50'.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Some of the highlights of 2021:

Prayer

- May: Leaders and Trustees met for discussion and prayer
- October: Prayer Breakfast focussing on the future of Emmaus Church

Special Services

- April: Easter Service at ECC and on Zoom
- July: Open air Service and Picnic in the church grounds
- September: 'Harvest Thanksgiving' with donations for the local Foodbank
- December: Farewell Service and Church Lunch for the Cheeseman Family

Easter

- April: Maundy Thursday Service on Zoom
- April: Easter Day Service at Emmaus Church Centre and on Zoom
- April: some members attended the on-line Spring Harvest Conference

Christmas

- Christmas Eve Service at Emmaus Church Centre and on Zoom

Other Services:

Wedding

- April – Janet Kendall and David Thorne – guests restricted in numbers

Funeral

- August: Funeral and Wake for Pam Hoare, long time member of ECC

AGM

- The Annual Church Meeting was held on Wednesday 27th May at ECC and on Zoom

Social Events/Reaching the Community

January to December

- ⊖ A Youth Dance Group for School Years 6 – 8 (Ages 10 to 13) met once week from September for up to 8 girls. A helper studying Dance and Theatre at WISE is doing her placement with leader Amy who runs her own business ConfIDANCE.
- June: Litter Pick around Severn Beach
- July: Afternoon Event and Entertainment for older people
- September: Severn Beach Festival – manning a table raising funds for the Village Hall
- September, October and November: Yorkie (Men's) Group events
- October: Ladies Group Outing
- December: Christmas Concert and Afternoon Tea for older people
- Youth Dance Group Christmas Show at Salthouse Farm Barn

Muller's Partnership

- The church kept in touch with Muller's (Bristol) but we did not attend any of the network events this year.

Celebration Partnership

- Emmaus Church supported Regional Celebration Evenings at Woodlands Church, Bristol with regular financial contributions.

Severnside Churches

- June: Emmaus Church joined in the World Day of Prayer (Severnside area) at Aust Evangelical Church.

Object 2: The relief of persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, also those who are elderly or infirm.

Foodbank collections continued based at Salthouse Farm supplemented with donations from St Peter's Church, Pilning and were delivered to the North West Bristol **Avonmouth Hub** regularly. Harvest Thanksgiving food donations were given to the Foodbank.

Relief and help have been offered to members of our own congregation who are in need, both from church funds, and also through other members' personal care, compassion and prayer.

- Relief to the Third World (to where the need is greatest) through Tearfund was £1,250.
- Sponsorship of and Christmas gifts to two orphaned children in Rwanda (through SKI, Muller's) £540
- Gift to Peter Andrews to support his work with the Orphans Project in Rwanda was £1,500
- Gift to Open Doors UK, a charity supporting persecuted Christians across the world was £1,650.
- Two Christmas Hampers were given to Severn Beach Primary School for two needy families and another delivered personally
- Gift to 'In Hope' (formerly Crisis Centre Ministries) for the homeless of £250.
- Gift to 'India Mission' of £850.
- Gift to Peter Kay for his charity 'Creative Solutions' working in Kenya of £250.
- Gift to Bristol North West Foodbank of £500

Object 3: The advancement of education on the basis of Christian principles for persons of all ages.

Regular teaching in the Emmaus Church Centre for adults and children

Adults followed teaching series entitled:

- 'The Bible Course' published by the Bible Society from January to November
- Miracles of Jesus: July and August

Children:

- Children returned to the church building in September and were given individual activities keeping the sharing of equipment to a minimum

Sponsorship/Gifts

Regular gift to Nationwide Christian Trust, publishers of Living Light daily bible reading notes

Gifts to visiting speakers and worship leaders, and speakers on Zoom

Regular gift to 'Changing Tunes', to support their work with offenders and ex-offenders to reduce re-offending through music until August

Gifts of knitted hats for Seafarers, distributed by Steve Loader, Chaplain based at the Seafarers Mission at Portbury/Avonmouth docks along with a gift of £700 to the Mission.

One off gift to Trevor Ranger for their work in taking assemblies in schools

Regular gifts to support the Celebration and the Mix (City Fellowship)

Annual subscriptions/fees to:

- Evangelical Alliance
- ThirtyOneEight, a Christian Safeguarding Charity
- Christians Copyright Licensing International.
- TV Licence
- Christian Vision for Men.
- Blueberry Twist (host of Website)
- Subscription for Zoom Meetings
- BT phone and internet

2. CHURCH BUILDINGS, GROUNDS and EQUIPMENT in 2021

The Church Centre building and grounds remain mostly in good order and were maintained by volunteers with the help of:

- A person paid to clean the facilities for one and half hours once a week, except during lockdowns
- A person paid to help cut the grass and hedges in the grounds once a fortnight continued through out the summer

Portable electrical appliances and fire extinguishers were tested in 2021

Subscription to API for servicing the audio/visual equipment

Broadband equipment from BT to facilitate the use of Zoom Meetings App
BT installed a telephone line and WiFi connection in April

3. PLANS FOR 2022 (and beyond)

A: Individuals

- We will look to **strengthen and diversify the leadership team** so that it will be less reliant on any one leader and make future succession planning easier.
- We will prayerfully discern, support and encourage the use of **individual gifting** within the membership of the church so that we are all playing to our God given strengths.
- Continue to develop Home Group and Key Ministry Team Leaders
- Establish a process for **discipleship**
- Continue with small support groups meeting at the church building or on Zoom
- Identify and appoint an **administrator** – volunteer or paid
- Appoint a Church Leader and/or Community/Family worker

B: Church

- Encourage and resource the **vision** within the church
- We will build on the already ongoing **caring and sharing work** which has been a valuable characteristic of Emmaus Church's warmth and friendliness.
- Facilitate an Alpha Course and The Prayer Course
- We will select the **teaching material** based on the needs of the church and its vision for the future. We will focus on discipleship and building faith through home groups, prayer partners, mentoring and training.
- Facilitate the showing of the film 'Chosen' at the church building
- We will appoint a **prayer ministry team**.
- Seek to re-launch the Sunday Breakfast Club for young families, the Pebbles Parent/Toddler and the Youth Group when leaders can be identified
- Develop young parent and family events when covid19 restrictions allow
- Maintain and review Emmaus' Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Recruitment with guidance from ThirtyEightOne
- Continue with the Muller's Church Partnership and Celebration Partnership.
- Continue networking with Thornbury Baptist Church.
- Comply with the General Data Protection Regulation May 2018
- Comply with Health and Safety and Covid19 Risk Assessments.
- Seek to **update our social media sites**; Facebook, the website, provide regular blogs which reach people who use these forms of communication a lot and identify a person with appropriate skills to manage these sites.
- Organise a Church Day Out or Weekend Away
- Organise a Baptismal Service

C: Community

- Develop contacts with the local community e.g. pre-school, and continue to develop the contact with the local school, residential care home and village hall and Festival committee when covid19 restrictions allow
- Develop contact with the emergency Temporary Housing at Ableton Lane.
- Consider initiatives such as "Open the Book" school assembly resources and "Prayer for Schools" when a team can be identified.
- Re-launch 'Holiday at Home' for those who do not/cannot go away on holiday when covid19 restrictions allow
- Consider running a Parenting Course and First Aid Course when covid19 restrictions allow

- Plan events to which visitors and contacts can be invited, especially using the opportunities given by Local (Severn Beach Centenary Events) National events (Platinum Jubilee Celebrations), when covid19 restrictions allow
- Continue to support missions both home and abroad.
- We will seek to improve the **engagement of church friends and partners** through prayer breakfasts, courses and online training.

D: Building

- Continue a **conversation** with church members about improving the Building facilities once the succession of the leadership has been resolved, for example – **improvements** to the entrance foyer and extension of the Church building for office/storage space for children's groups/youth group
- Update the kitchen facilities
- Minor repairs to the building
- Tests for small electrical equipment and fire extinguishers
- Rectify subsidence in the Church Car Park
- Complete the five year electrical safety test

4. PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on public benefit in preparing this report and in the various activities of the church.

All three objects as outlined in this report seek to provide activities and actions which benefit the public through the pro-active involvement of members of the church in community activities, financial support for those whose ministry is to serve others ensuring that the ultimate beneficiaries are those whom they serve rather than themselves and significant mission activities in the local community for the size of the church. The church also supports financially those in other communities and countries whose work is designed to benefit local people in their areas of operation.

The church is also keen to work not only in social mission but also in evangelistic activities because the church leaders and trustees consider that the Christian message is crucial to people knowing wholeness and healing in their lives and the church is delighted to hear stories of changed lives over the years through the church's commitment to the Christian message.

Therefore, the Trustees consider that through direct involvement of its members and indirect involvement (through funding others) both in their local area and also further afield, the church is serving people to their benefit and for their support. It is the desire of the leaders and Trustees that the church grows in order that this work might increase.

TRUSTEE POLICIES

Investment Policy

It is agreed that the Trustees hold no more than necessary to meet normal expenditure levels in the current account, and that the remainder of the reserves are held in a deposit account, the performance of which is reviewed from time to time with the Church Treasurer.

Reserve Policy

The Trustees consider it prudent to hold up to a normal year's expenditure in reserve in a deposit account. This is to ensure there is adequate provision to fund any unexpected expenditure as the Church is almost wholly reliant on freewill gifts from Church members which can vary considerably from year to year.

The Trustees also hold an additional reserve as it is their desire to appoint an employee if a suitable candidate were available to progress the work of the church. The free reserves at the year-end were £33,839

Safeguarding Policy

Safeguarding is constantly being monitored, revised and updated. Carol Miller is the co-ordinator. Emmaus Church is registered with the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS ref: 2021). A system for police-checking Children and Youth Workers (DBS Certificates) is established.

Health and Safety Policy

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities concerning risks to the Trust. The Church has a Health and Safety Policy which is applicable for Emmaus Church as a low risk, less than 5 employees Charity. The Church considers risk management important. Risks such as accidents in the car park and children leaving the grounds unaccompanied are assessed as part of the normal decision-making process to the Church.

Church Insurance

Emmaus Church is insured with the Congregational & General, using their standard 'Church Choice' Policy. Public liability has been confirmed as five million pounds.

Certificates

Portable electrical appliances are tested annually.

Fire extinguishers and fire blanket are tested annually by a specialist firm.

The Kitchen is registered with South Gloucestershire Council as Food Premises and was inspected by a Food Safety Officer in 2013.

Several Church members have Food Hygiene certificates which may need updating.

Several Church members have First Aid certificates which may need updating.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Emmaus Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Emmaus Church (the Charity) for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity 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 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 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; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Joshua Kingston, BSc (Hons) ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: 5th May 2022

EMMAUS CHURCH

Receipts & Payments Account Year Ended 31 December 2021

RECEIPTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Fund £	Totals 2021 £	Totals 2020 £
Collections and general gifts	5,469	899	6,368	7,532
Gift Aid donations	23,374	-	23,374	19,451
Rent	385	-	385	150
Event income	170	-	170	353
Deposit account interest	828	-	828	997
Gift Aid refunds	4,863	-	4,863	5,500
	35,089	899	35,988	33,983

PAYMENTS

Gifts to Christian work & missionary	8,432	772	9,204	6,309
Gifts to speakers	2,320	-	2,320	1,450
Staff costs	3,319	-	3,319	6,074
Outreach	902	-	902	1,592
Teaching and training	911	-	911	1,174
Repairs and renewals	(50)	-	(50)	937
Accountant and Independent Examiner	780	-	780	528
Utilities	1,244	-	1,244	1,287
Church cleaning & maintenance	2,455	-	2,455	1,546
Insurance	1,195	-	1,195	1,128
Membership/subs/licences	1,675	-	1,675	1,610
Stationery, publishing, printing & advertising	1,060	-	1,060	280
Miscellaneous expenses	69	-	69	-
Musical materials & equipment	-	-	-	282
	24,312	772	25,084	24,197
Surplus of payments over receipts	10,777	127	10,904	9,786
Balance as at 1 January 2021	70,261	-	70,261	60,475
Balance as at 31 December 2021	81,038	127	81,165	70,261
Represented by:				
Cash and bank balances	81,038	127	81,165	70,261

EMMAUS CHURCH

Statement of Assets and Liabilities *As at 31 December 2021*

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash Balances on Receipts and Payments		
Account Carried Forward		
Current Account	16,162	6,086
Deposit Account	17,661	16,911
12 Month Savings Bond	22,326	22,248
2 year loan account	25,000	25,000
Cash in hand	16	16
	<u>81,165</u>	<u>70,261</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>81,165</u>	<u>70,261</u>
LIABILITIES		
Independent Examiners' fee	<u>900</u>	<u>780</u>

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 5th May 2022

S J Miller