

EMMAUS CHURCH

Gorse Cover Road, Severn Beach, Bristol
BS35 4NP

Reg. Charity No. 1059742

TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Trustees Report for 2024

This report provides a summary of the activities of the church during 2024, the accounts for year ending 31st December 2024 and plans for 2025.

Approved at a Trustees meeting on 1st May 2025

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

_____ S J Miller

Summary of Emmaus Church during 2024

Emmaus Church is an independent body, registered as a charity (No 1059742) on 12th Dec. 1996. The governing document is the Trust Deed dated 21st November. 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. ECC where most of the activities of the charity are carried out, is situated in Gorse Cover Road, Severn Beach, BS35 4NP

The Church was overseen by seven trustees:

- Samuel Peter Isaac Marsh – Chair
- Joy Nurcombe – Vice Chair
- Damian Paul Selby – Secretary and Church member
- Samuel John Miller – Church Leader
- Mark William Chattaway – Church member
- Jacqueline Conradie-Faul
- Luke Samuel Addison

The church was led by a Leadership Team

- John-Mark Molyneux – employee - 2½ days a week
- John Miller
- Celia Beales
- Abigail Selby
- Paul Selby

A person may be appointed to the Trusteeship by a Resolution passed by the Leadership Team and a memorandum of such Resolution signed by the chairperson of the meeting and attested by two persons present.

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

“The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrines set out the first schedule hereto and the worship of God in the said county and elsewhere by any means whatsoever including (but not by way of limitation) the preaching and proclamation of the Christian gospel and the teaching of Christian doctrine and principles and the pastoral care of Christian people and the printing and distribution of the bible and Christian literature.”

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 (apart from JM Molyneux' involvement) with time and money given by church members and a treasurer administers the finances. For details of other objects and related activities, see the Appendix.

During 2024, the church continued to support Christian work at home and abroad. See Appendix for more details.

The pattern of services is as follows

- Weekly Sunday Morning Service at the church building and occasionally on 'Google Meet'
- Monthly Praise and Prayer Evening Meeting at the church building
- Fortnightly home groups at the church building and in homes
- Small support groups meeting at the church building and in homes

The church was funded by voluntary gifts the amount of which varies from year to year with a small amount of rental income.

| | 2023 | 2024 | Increase/Decrease |
|---------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Income | £43,639 | £41,930 | -£1,709 |

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.

| | 2023 | 2024 | Increase/Decrease |
|------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| Gift Aid Refund | £5,555 | £6,808 | +£1,253 |

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.

The church has a loan account with Green Pastures (a charity that provides accommodation for the homeless).

Rent Income from other groups using ECC 2024

- A local social group called 'Stitches' met monthly
- A Sirona Care and Health Baby Hub met monthly
- The local Steering Group of the Neighbourhood Plan met monthly and hired ECC for an open evening
- The local Parish Council met bi-monthly/monthly
- The Foodbank Hub/Listening Cafe met weekly – not charged rent
-

Expenditure for 2024 was .

| Year | 2023 | 2024 | Increase/Decrease |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|--------------------------|
| Expenditure | £49,515 | £45,173 | -£4,342 |
| Gifts to other Christian work | £8,142 | £6,161 | -£1,981 |
| Gifts to lay preachers | £2,640 | £2,200 | -£440 |

During the year there was a deficit of £3,243 which reduced reserves to £75,044 at the year end.

Address for correspondence:

S. John Miller, Churchside, Gorse Cover Road, Severn Beach, Bristol BS35 4NP

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 2024

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 under 18's):

Sunday Morning Services were the main church activity including worship, prayer, interviews, Christian teaching and preaching with a separate group for children during part of the service, with Holy Communion once a month with up to 40 people attending. A number of lay Christian preachers from other local churches and representatives from Emmaus' chosen charities were invited to share the responsibility of teaching and preaching supplemented with speakers from the congregation.

We kept in touch with people who were unable to attend a Service with a monthly news/prayer letter.

Leaders' meetings

- The Leadership Team met fortnightly on Monday evenings on 'Google Meet'

Mid-week Groups

- Praise & Prayer, meeting monthly for support and prayer, meeting at ECC and with twice Aust Evangelical Church, Aust in January and April
- Monthly screening of episodes of the film 'The Chosen'
- The Worship/Music Group met regularly for practices
- Home groups met throughout the year in homes or at ECC

Church socials:

- 'Yorkie' (Men's) Group met throughout the year (Games Evenings, Skittles, Tenpin bowling, outings to various Museums and for Barbeques)
- Church Meals together after the Sunday service
- A Ladies Coffee Morning met once a month throughout the year and for a Christmas Craft Afternoon
- November: Quiz Night raising funds for Tearfund
- December: Christmas meals for the 'Yorkie' Men's Group and a Church mixed Group

Publicity:

- A monthly 'Reflection with diary' was distributed to church members and friends by email or by hand
- A6 cards advertising Groups and Special Events
- A Christmas Card with details of the church was distributed to every house in Severn Beach
- The Church has a website www.emmauschurchcentre.org, an email address emmauschurch1993@gmail.com, a Facebook page 'emmaus.church.50' and a several WhatsApp Groups

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Some of the highlights of 2024:

Prayer

- January: Vision Breakfast and Prayer
- February: Lent – 12 hours of Prayer on Ash Wednesday

Easter

- March: Visit by one class of pupils from Severn Beach Primary School to ECC for an immersive experience of the Easter Story
- March: Easter Day Service on the Sea Wall and afterwards Breakfast and Service at ECC

Harvest

- September: 'Harvest Thanksgiving' with donations for the local Foodbank and shared lunch

Christmas

- Carol Singing at the local Tea Cottage
- Christmas Eve Service at ECC

Other Services

- Funeral: Thanksgiving service for church member Edgar Ringham at ECC

Annual General Meeting

- The Annual Church Meeting was held on Wednesday 19th June at ECC

Social Events/Reaching the Community

- January to December: ConfiDance and Chill Out Youth Groups for Yrs 6-10 and The Beach Club for children Yrs 3-6
- January to December: Pebbles Toddler Group run by volunteer parents
- March: The Youth Groups Easter Performance and Easter Event for Families of Beach Club and Youth Groups
- May: Pentecost Service followed by Shared Lunch and Barbeque with students from Bristol International Students Centre
- June: All aged Family Service and Church Picnic
- July: Summer Party & Barbecue for families of Beach Club and Youth Groups
- July: Open Mic Evening & Barbecue
- October: 'Marshmalloween' Event for young families (Alternative event for Halloween evening)
- December: Christmas Party for families of The Beach Club and Youth Groups

Muller's Partnership

- The church kept in touch with Muller's (Bristol) and John Mark Molyneux attended some of the network events at Woodlands Church

Celebration Partnership

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

Severnside Churches

- March: Emmaus Church hosted the World Day of Prayer (Severnside area) at ECC
- June: Joined with local churches at the Severnside Songs of Praise at St John's Church, Elberton
- Two Joint Praise and Prayer meetings with Aust Evangelical Church, Aust
- *Different leaders met with Rev Anjali Kanagaratnam (Anglican) and Rev Martin Slocombe (Methodist) who lead services at St Peter's Church, Pilning on two separate occasions*

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 the home of a member living in Severn Beach and were regularly delivered to the North West Bristol Avonmouth Hub. Harvest Thanksgiving food donations were also delivered to the Foodbank.

Bristol North West Foodbank Hub/Listening Cafe met once a week at ECC supported by the staff of the Avonmouth Hub.

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.

| Charity/Person | 2024 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Tearfund – sending relief to where the need is greatest in the wider world (Ukraine) | £500 |
| Rwanda Orphans Project – sponsorship of and Christmas gifts to two orphaned young people through SKI, Muller's | £480 |
| Rwanda Orphans Project – Peter Andrews to support his work in Rwanda | £1,000 |
| Open Doors UK – a charity supported persecuted Christians across the world | £580 |
| In Hope, a charity supporting homeless people in Bristol | £1,100 |
| India Mission, a charity supporting needy families | £650 |
| Bristol North West Foodbank | £500 |
| Designated Giving | £471 |

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 Bible based teaching as follows:

- Jan to Easter: John's Gospel
- Lent series on the book of Revelation
- April to May: Jonah
- May to June: Acts
- July to August: Bible Characters – Hannah, Mary Magdalene, Hagar, Timothy, Noah, Elisha, John Mark and Abigail.
- September: A series on the Holy Spirit
- October: Jeremiah
- November: Philippians
- December: Nativity Theme

Children:

- Any children under 11 were given their own session with snacks, bible story and activities in a side room for half an hour during the main service.

Local Schools:

- JM Molyneux led Christian assemblies weekly, alternating between Severn Beach and Pilning Primary Schools during term time.
- JM Molyneux visited Severn Beach Playgroup fortnightly during term time to lead singing/music time.
- In December and March, JM Molyneux visited every classroom in both Pilning and Severn Beach Schools to answer questions about the Nativity and Easter.

Sponsorship/Gifts

| | Person/Organisation | 2024 |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Regular Gift | Nationwide Christian Trust, publishers of Living Light daily bible reading notes | £800 |
| Gifts | Visiting speakers and worship leaders | £2,200 |
| Gift | Steve Loader, Chaplain to Seafarers at Port of Bristol | £300 |
| Gift | Trevor Ranger, for his work in taking assemblies at primary schools | £580 |
| Regular Gift | Celebration/The Mix (City Fellowship) | £240 |

Gifts of knitted hats and gloves were given to Steve Loader, Padre to Seafarers and given to seafarers at Port of Bristol.

Annual subscriptions/fees to:

- Evangelical Alliance
- Thirtyone:eight, an independent Christian Safeguarding Charity
- Christians Copyright Licensing International
- TV Licence
- Christian Vision for Men
- Church 123 Website
- YouTube Premier
- Google workspace
- Subscriptions for Google Meet
- BT phone and internet

2. CHURCH BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & EQUIPMENT IN 2024

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

- A self employed person paid to clean the facilities for one and half hours each week
- A self employed gardener paid to cut the grass and hedges in the grounds once a fortnight throughout the summer
- Occasionally a self employed window cleaner paid to clean the outside windows

Other expenditure:

- Portable electrical appliances were last tested in 2023
- Fire Extinguisher were tested in 2024
- Five years electrical test was completed in 2022
- New curtains in the main hall were installed by Webber & Spencer
- Patio fencing was replaced by John-Mark and helpers
- Purchase and construction of a gas barbecue and storage unit

3. PLANS FOR 2025 (and beyond)

A: Individuals

- We will look to **strengthen and diversify the leadership team** to 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.
- Appoint a **Community Outreach volunteer** to work closely with JM Molyneux in planning and delivery of community events.
- Arrange in-person meetings with Leadership and Ministry Team leaders to share and develop the vision of the church.
- Establish a process for **discipleship**.
- Continue with small **support groups** meeting in homes.
- Identify and appoint an **administrator** – volunteer or paid.

B: Church

- Encourage and resource the **vision** within the church.
- Build on the already ongoing **caring and sharing work** which has been a valuable characteristic of Emmaus Church's warmth and friendliness.
- Select the **teaching material** based on the needs of the church and its vision for the future.
- Focus on **discipleship** and building faith through home groups, prayer partners, mentoring and training.
- Develop young parent and family events.
- Maintain and review Emmaus' **Safeguarding Policy**, Procedures and Recruitment with guidance from Thirtyone:eight and take part in relevant training – all leaders took part in basic Safeguarding training in 2023.
- Continue with the Muller's Church Partnership and Celebration Partnership through Woodlands Church, Bristol.
- Network with other Severnside Churches.
- Comply with the General Data Protection Regulation May 2018 – update the Personal Data Register annually.
- Comply with Health and Safety/Fire Safety Regulations.
- Seek to update our social media sites; WhatsApp, Facebook and the website and provide regular blogs which reach people who use these forms of communication.
- Organise a Baptismal Service on 29th June 2025.

- Keep Food Safety and Hygiene Training up to date.
- Look into the possibility of sponsoring a Youth and Children's trainee with SWYM (South West Youth Ministries).

C: Community

- Develop contacts with the **local community** e.g. pre-school, and continue to develop the contact with the local schools, residential care home and village hall and festival committees.
- Develop contact with the emergency Temporary Housing at Ableton Court.
- Consider the "Prayer for Schools" initiative when a team can be identified.
- Consider running or supporting Parenting Courses.
- **Plan events** to which visitors and contacts can be invited, especially using the opportunities given by local and national events.
- Continue to **support missions** both home and abroad.
- Seek to improve the engagement of church friends and partners through prayer breakfasts, courses and online/in person training.

D: Building

- General repairs to the building.
- Tests for small electrical equipment and fire extinguishers.
- Replace the **outside Church Notice Board**.
- Pointing the patio entrance and perhaps the patio.
- Prepare plans for an extension to the building, enlarging the entrance hall and kitchen facilities.

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 free reserves at the year-end were £74,907 (2023: £78,150).

Safeguarding Policy

Safeguarding is constantly being monitored, revised and updated. Carol Miller is the co-ordinator. Emmaus Church is registered with Thirtyone:eight, an independent Safeguarding charity, ref 2021 that offers advice, support and training. 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 biannually.

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.

12 people obtained Food Hygiene and Safety Certificates, Level 1 or Level 2.

Related Party Transactions

Sam Marsh, Jacqueline Conrade-Faul, and Luke Addison were trustees of the charity during the year. It is standard practice for Emmaus Church visiting preachers to be remunerated £80 to cover expenses.

During the year:

- Luke Addison preached once (2023: 3 times),
- Sam Marsh preached once (2023: 2 times),
- Jacqueline Conrade-Faul preached twice (2023: none).

Rob Scott-Cook, who preached once in the previous year, stepped down as a trustee in May 2023.

This remuneration is allowed under the charity's constitution.

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 2024.

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: 1st May 2025

EMMAUS CHURCH

Receipts & Payments Account Year Ended 31 December 2024

RECEIPTS

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Fund £ | Totals 2024 £ | Totals 2023 £ |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Collections and general gifts | 5,167 | 471 | 5,638 | 6,795 |
| Gift Aid donations | 23,367 | - | 23,367 | 27,233 |
| Rent | 1,007 | - | 1,007 | 1,050 |
| Event income | 1,385 | - | 1,385 | 1,136 |
| Deposit account interest | 1,930 | - | 1,930 | 1,287 |
| Gift Aid refunds | 6,808 | - | 6,808 | 5,555 |
| Teaching and training | 1,795 | - | 1,795 | - |
| Miscellaneous Income | - | - | - | 583 |
| | 41,459 | 471 | 41,930 | 43,639 |

PAYMENTS

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| Gifts to Christian work & missionary | 5,690 | 471 | 6,161 | 8,142 |
| Gifts to speakers | 2,200 | - | 2,200 | 2,640 |
| Staff costs | 17,961 | - | 17,961 | 17,061 |
| Outreach | 1,182 | - | 1,182 | 1,904 |
| Teaching and training | 3,163 | - | 3,163 | 826 |
| Repairs and renewals | 1,903 | - | 1,903 | 5,570 |
| Accountant and Independent Examiner | 1,776 | - | 1,776 | 1,866 |
| Utilities | 2,799 | - | 2,799 | 2,546 |
| Church cleaning & maintenance | 2,618 | - | 2,618 | 2,671 |
| Insurance | 1,571 | - | 1,571 | 1,480 |
| Membership/subs/licences | 1,500 | - | 1,500 | 1,787 |
| Stationery, publishing, printing & advertising | 895 | - | 895 | 749 |
| Miscellaneous expenses | - | - | - | 536 |
| Musical materials & equipment | 1,444 | - | 1,444 | 1,737 |
| | 44,702 | 471 | 45,173 | 49,515 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| Surplus of payments over receipts | (3,243) | - | (3,243) | (5,876) |
| Balance as at 1 January 2023 | 78,150 | 137 | 78,287 | 84,163 |
| Balance as at 31 December 2024 | 74,907 | 137 | 75,044 | 78,287 |

Represented by:

| | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cash and bank balances | 74,907 | 137 | 75,044 | 78,287 |
|------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|

EMMAUS CHURCH

Statement of Assets and Liabilities *Year Ended 31 December 2024*

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cash Balances on Receipts and Payments | | |
| Account Carried Forward | | |
| Current Account | 4,015 | 4,187 |
| Deposit Account | 22,397 | 26,366 |
| 12 Month Savings Bond | 23,616 | 22,718 |
| 2 year loan account | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| Cash in hand | 16 | 16 |
| | <u>75,044</u> | <u>78,287</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>75,044</u> | <u>78,287</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Independent Examiners' fee | <u>1,254</u> | <u>1,170</u> |

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 1st May 2025.

S J Miller