

Registered Charity no. 1106417

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 2021
FOR THE
LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY**

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

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LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity number

1106417

Principal address

Brindley House
48-50 Hall Street
Dudley
West Midlands
DY2 7DT

Trustees

Mrs Lois Claire Parkes
Mr Daniel Parkes
Mr Jeremy Parkes
Mr David Cookson
Mr Christopher Vincent Welch

Lead Pastor

Mrs Lisa Parkes

Independent examiner

Sally-Ann Reeves FCCA
Shire Barn
Hewell Lane
Tardebigge
B97 6QH

**LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
TRUSTEES REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2021

Organisational structure

Living Hope International Charity is constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 3rd October 2004 and is a registered charity, No. 1106417.

Governance and Management

Appointment of trustees

Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the annual general meeting held in October.

Risk policy and review

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks that the charity faces and consider that they are adequately mitigated through insurance, strategic planning, policies, systems and procedures.

During this period the most significant risks have been those associated with the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Inability to meet together regularly in person (and inside an appropriate building) for congregational worship.
- Excessive workload for the Lead Pastor and small team of volunteers leading and managing 'online church' and associated ministries alongside increased community mission (COVID-response)

Safeguarding

Trustees are assured of the ongoing implementation (and appropriate adaptation) of our safeguarding processes and procedures during this period. Our Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Policy is reviewed and updated as required. Despite the operational challenges of COVID-19 we continued to engage with our independent safeguarding advisors Thirtyone:eight (formerly CCPAS) in the effective management of safeguarding risk and response to any concerns identified or disclosed.

Networks and Membership Groups

Volunteers from partner churches and organisations were secured for our work in this period (particularly with our REVIVE Project). We are grateful to our partners from local churches including through the DUDLEY CHURCHES TOGETHER and the LOVE DUDLEY network (THE NET). For some years our church leaders have considered, reviewed and evaluated potential membership networks and church denominations. During this period the church leaders took the decision to join the ELIM NETWORK. Elim is a growing movement of Christian congregations in the UK and Ireland committed to making disciples, developing leaders, growing churches and reaching nations. It is envisaged that formally joining the Elim Network will further enable us to benefit from being part of a bigger family of churches while continuing to hold our own church vision and identity. Becoming a member of the Elim Network does not change the legal status of our charity and we retain our own local church leadership team as well as charity trustees.

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity are:

- To advance the Christian faith
- To advance education, in particular but not exclusively by providing training to leaders of activities
- To relieve poverty, sickness and distress in any part of the world

Achievements and Performance

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted many aspects of how Living Hope Church operated and how activities were undertaken in relation to its charitable objects during this period. Church members were required to demonstrate flexibility and agility in meeting together online through large parts of the period as government restrictions prevented church gatherings from taking place in person as they would typically happen. A number of our mid-week community activities including our coffee afternoon and our stay and play group were paused or 're-imagined' online. Working with Dudley CVS (council voluntary services) we supported vulnerable people in our community (who were no longer able to access our mid-week activities). They received phone calls, visits and grocery deliveries throughout this period.

'LHC Online Church' (broadcasted via 'YouTube' and hosted virtually via 'Zoom') became the most prominent expression of collective worship during this period. Church members connected together more readily using social media platforms and we were encouraged by new people engaging with the church through our online content (and despite having no prior association with the church).

Church members also embraced new, creative opportunities to reach the local communities we serve – often outside – and often in connection with the wider community engagement and support work being undertaken to alleviate potential poverty and isolation arising as a result of the pandemic.

Through our online presence we have reached more people than ever before and new people (who have never been to church) have accessed church online. Feedback from new people watching LHC online include:

"I've been watching online, when you next open, let me know, I would like to start coming."

"I don't know how I came across Living Hope Church, it just appeared in my newsfeed. The GPS series really spoke to me because I feel a little lost at the moment and trying to find my way."

The appreciation of our in-person work that continued in the community was also summarised with this feedback from a mother from our LITTLE STARS, stay and play group:

"It was lovely to see everyone tonight. It's nice to see there are people out there who genuinely care for our lonely and vulnerable community members. I am thinking of starting to come to church once we are back to normal."

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

During this period our work in relation to our charitable objectives changed significantly and included:

- 45 online services, planned, filmed, edited, watched and discussed online afterwards
- 24 advent devotionals delivered for each day in the run up to Christmas 2020
- 700+ crafts, and activities gift bags delivered to families on our estates (our Little Stars group)
- 25 people in a hybrid meeting (in person and online) studying the Bible Society's 'The Bible Course' together midweek each week.
- Our new website, designed and launched (livinghopechurch.org.uk)
- And a new, even bigger REVIVE PROJECT

During this period our REVIVE Project became a critical programme delivering online holiday clubs and food parcel deliveries for families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Local schools identified families who would benefit the most and Dudley Local Authority part-funded food and resources via additional grants. Church leaders, members and volunteers from within our congregation and from a wide range of our partner local churches enabled the project to grow from a small holiday club for children from one school in 2019-2020 to a much bigger operation.

Our REVIVE PROJECT work in this period has grown beyond our initial expectation and planning including:

- Online Holiday Club Content broadcast LIVE via YouTube (games, puppets, dances etc.)
- 100+ volunteers from 15 different churches
- 700+ packs of food and arts and crafts activities delivered to homes
- 2 distribution centres enabling the sorting, packing and delivery of food to children from 21 different schools

The growth and impact of our work with this project is illustrated clearly with the numbers of disadvantaged and vulnerable children supported:

- 110 children in the summer 2020
- 271 children in the Autumn 2020
- 521 children in February half term 2021

During this period our community youth engagement work (undertaken in partnership with PHASE TRUST) moved initially to online and social media platforms. As government advice was updated we undertook 'detached youth work' meeting weekly with teenagers outdoors at local parks.

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic is a global pandemic and as such impacted the work of our mission partners in Albania and Lebanon during this period. Planned pastoral and ministry visits overseas were postponed during this period and meetings with our mission partners overseas were conducted via online video calls.

We continued to support the Albanian mission throughout this period and we increased our support to our missionary in Lebanon and her work 'on the ground' in response to the Beirut Port Explosion (August 2020) as well as COVID-19.

Future Developments

In 2021/22 we plan to build our in-person congregational gatherings (as COVID-19 restrictions allow). Since 2002 our church has met in various locations but most regularly and consistently at Milking Bank Primary School in Dudley. While we intend to continue to serve our local neighbourhoods of Milking Bank and Russells Hall, at this time we acknowledge COVID-secure measures in place do not enable a return to weekly congregational gatherings in the school building. Furthermore, we plan to develop our engagement with, and support for, additional neighbourhoods in our local community.

We plan to further develop our working relationships and partnership with other local churches including for the use of community church buildings in Dudley for our congregational gatherings. We also plan to engage further in explorative conversations regarding permanent building(s) for the activities of Living Hope Church in the coming period.

Financial review

The net incoming unrestricted resources before transfers for the year amounted to £4,223 and net incoming restricted resources amounted to £24,022. Transfers between funds are shown in note 3.

At 31st March 2021 the unrestricted cash funds after transfers total £19,227, designated cash funds after transfers total £7,205 and restricted funds after transfers total £52,296.

Reserves and reserves policy

Our reserves policy is to maintain a minimum of two months minimum operating costs as a contingency fund.

The amount of 'free' reserves, not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets at 31st March 2021 amounts to £26,432 (2020 £24,316), and equates to approximately 7 months (2020: 4 months) of expenditure.

Approved by the trustees on

and signed on their behalf by

Mrs Lois Parkes - Trustee

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report.

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust'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:

Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or

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 proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

S A Reeves FCCA
Shire Barn
Hewell Lane
Tardebigge
Worcs

9th November 2021

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
RECEIPTS						
Tithes and offerings	5a	35,753	-	-	35,753	49,071
Donations	5b	-	460	2,640	3,100	10,359
Gift Aid tax recovered	5c	9,672	-	-	9,672	10,573
Grants	5d	600	-	56,804	57,404	-
Receipts from charitable activities	5e	770	-	-	770	-
Interest and dividends	5f	10	-	-	10	38
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL RECEIPTS		<hr/> 46,805 <hr/>	<hr/> 460 <hr/>	<hr/> 59,444 <hr/>	<hr/> 106,709 <hr/>	<hr/> 70,041 <hr/>
PAYMENTS						
Direct charitable activity	6a	42,258	784	35,422	78,464	73,018
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL PAYMENTS		<hr/> 42,258 <hr/>	<hr/> 784 <hr/>	<hr/> 35,422 <hr/>	<hr/> 78,464 <hr/>	<hr/> 73,018 <hr/>
NET OF RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS		<hr/> 4,547 <hr/>	<hr/> (324) <hr/>	<hr/> 24,022 <hr/>	<hr/> 28,245 <hr/>	<hr/> (2,977) <hr/>
Transfers between funds		1,815	(460)	(1,355)	-	-
CASH FUNDS AS AT 31/03/20		12,865	7,989	29,629	50,483	53,460
CASH FUNDS AS AT 31/03/21	4	<hr/> 19,227 <hr/>	<hr/> 7,205 <hr/>	<hr/> 52,296 <hr/>	<hr/> 78,728 <hr/>	<hr/> 50,483 <hr/>

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Cash funds						
Current account		19,227	7,205	34,584	61,016	32,771
Deposit accounts		-	-	17,712	17,712	17,712
	4	<u>19,227</u>	<u>7,205</u>	<u>52,296</u>	<u>78,728</u>	<u>50,483</u>
Other monetary assets						
Gift aid recoverable		<u>664</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>664</u>	<u>3,228</u>
Assets for charitable use						
Fixtures & Fittings		<u>-</u>	<u>248</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>248</u>	<u>330</u>
Equipment		<u>-</u>	<u>1,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,085</u>	<u>1,619</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on
were signed on its behalf by:

and

Mrs Lois Parkes
Trustee

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

1 Trustees' Remuneration and benefits

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any benefits from employment during the year (2020: J Parkes trustee remuneration £13,000 and expenses £528)

2 Staff Costs

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 2 (2020: 3)
No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000

3 Related party transactions

During the year Lisa Parkes, daughter in law of trustee Jeremy Parkes, received remuneration of £14,631 and pension contributions of £515.

4 Movement in funds

The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance b/fwd 01/04/2020	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance c/fwd 31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General (unrestricted)	12,865	46,805	42,258	1,815	19,227
Designated					
Evangelical & Discipleship	4,500	-	294	-	4,206
Lebonon Fund	-	460	-	(460)	-
Vision Fund	3,489	-	490	-	2,999
	7,989	460	784	(460)	7,205
Restricted					
Albania General	(260)	1,920	1,215	(270)	175
Albanian Bequest Fund	17,712	-	-	-	17,712
Allchurches	-	5,150	665	-	4,485
Elona School	442	720	1,336	6	(168)
Holiday Activity	-	21,600	13,233	-	8,367
Heart of England Baptist	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Innovation Fund - Little stars	4,903	5,097	2,830	(328)	6,842
Innovation Fund - Revive	6,832	8,657	15,262	(227)	-
Lottery - Revive	-	10,000	117	-	9,883
Winter Food Fund	-	1,300	764	(536)	-
	29,629	59,444	35,422	(1,355)	52,296
Total funds	50,483	106,709	78,464	-	78,728

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

5 Further analysis of Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Receipts					
a) Tithes and offerings					
Tithes & gifts	35,052	-	-	35,052	49,071
Church offering	701	-	-	701	0
	<u>35,753</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,753</u>	<u>49,071</u>
b) Donations					
Specific donation - Albania	-	-	1,920	1,920	0
Specific donation - Elona	-	-	720	720	0
Specific donation - Lebanon	-	460	-	460	0
	<u>-</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>2,640</u>	<u>3,100</u>	<u>0</u>
c) Gift Aid					
Gift Aid tax recovered	9,672	-	-	9,672	10,573
	<u>9,672</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,672</u>	<u>10,573</u>
d) Grants					
Grants from institutions	600	-	56,804	57,404	10,359
	<u>600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,804</u>	<u>57,404</u>	<u>10,359</u>
e) Receipts from charitable activities					
Holiday hunger/Revive Income	770	-	-	770	0
	<u>770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>770</u>	<u>0</u>
f) Interest and dividends					
Bank interest	10	-	-	10	38
	<u>10</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>38</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>46,805</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>59,444</u>	<u>106,709</u>	<u>70,041</u>

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

6 Further analysis of Payments

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Payments					
a) Direct charitable activity					
Ministry salaries	15,230	-	6,951	22,181	39,049
Ministry pension costs	698	-	11	709	-
Training & CPDL	150	-	-	150	597
Benevolence Gifts - church family	2,030	-	-	2,030	1,811
Visiting speakers	120	-	-	120	715
Travelling & motor expenses	-	-	-	-	639
Mission - outgoing support	10,040	-	-	10,040	13,065
Mission - direct gifts	270	-	2,551	2,821	-
Evangelism	-	11	-	11	879
Hospitality	227	-	-	227	2,685
Children & Youth	309	-	-	309	642
Revive Holiday Club	-	-	9,308	9,308	-
Revive craft & activities	-	-	6,180	6,180	-
Revive professional fees	-	-	6,098	6,098	-
Revive consumables & packaging	-	-	2,421	2,421	-
Revive food & refreshments	-	-	79	79	-
Revive communications	-	-	124	124	-
Revive - licenses & subscriptions	-	-	33	33	-
Little Stars	-	-	1,001	1,001	-
Little Stars craft	-	-	665	665	-
Rent - Sunday & Lock up	936	-	-	936	-
Rent - office	5,007	-	-	5,007	8,950
Rent - other	53	-	-	53	-
Insurance	454	-	-	454	-
Equipment	-	490	-	490	-
Repairs & renewals	135	-	-	135	858
Books, publications & media	115	163	-	278	-
Licenses & subscriptions	1,013	-	-	1,013	1,795
Professional fees	4,269	120	-	4,389	-
Office sundries	516	-	-	516	889
Telephone, broadband & mobiles	534	-	-	534	349
Bank charges	152	-	-	152	95
TOTAL PAYMENTS	42,258	784	35,422	78,464	73,018