

Registered Charity no. 1106417

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 2022
FOR THE
LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY**

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

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**LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
TRUSTEES REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Our work during this period has been undertaken within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

Mr Jeremy Parkes (retired October 2021)
Mrs Lois Claire Parkes*
Mr Christopher Vincent Welch (retired October 2021)
Mr Daniel Parkes*
Mr David Cookson

**Mrs Lois Claire Parkes and Mr Daniel Parkes are unrelated – not connected by birth or family.*

Charity Name and Registration Number

Living Hope International 1106417

Operating Name and Registered Office Address

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

Lead Pastor

Mrs Lisa Parkes

Organisational structure

The charity was created by Trust Deed on 3rd October 2004.

**LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
TRUSTEES REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

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 and the management of operations coming out of national restrictions to re-establish weekly gatherings and in-person activities.

- Inability to meet together regularly in person (inside an appropriate building) for congregational worship (during the first half of this period).
- Excessive workload associated with leading and managing 'online church' and associated ministries alongside increased community mission (COVID-response) in the first half of this period.
- Multiple challenges associated with re-establishing and re-starting regular in-person gatherings each week following relaxation of government restrictions (in the second half of this period).

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

Living Hope Church is a member of 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.

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 BLACK COUNTRY NET).

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

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 and associated government restrictions continued to impact aspects of how Living Hope Church operated and how activities were undertaken in relation to its charitable objects during the first half of this period.

The 'new ways of working' established during 'national lockdowns' provided a platform to build on for church congregation and volunteers.

'LHC Online Church' (broadcasted via 'YouTube' and hosted virtually via 'Zoom') continued to be the most prominent expression of collective worship during the first half of 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).

Our first full in-person gathering for collective worship was Easter Sunday 2021; we met in-person for a 'drive in' Easter service on the car park of our church offices at Brindley House, Dudley. Online broadcasts for Sunday services continued until the Autumn when we re-started our in-person collective worship. We are grateful for the support and generosity of other local churches who made their buildings available to us for our Sunday services. We met at Grace Community Church (Pensnett) in September before moving to Park Congregational Church (Dudley) in October, where we gathered each week for the remainder of this period.

During this period our work in relation to our charitable objectives transitioned from activities significantly influenced by COVID restrictions to the re-start of more traditional / typical in-person activities. Building on the innovations established as a result of the pandemic, while returning to more typical activities in the second half of this period, we delivered:

- 20 online services, planned, filmed, edited, watched and discussed online afterwards
- 4 advent (Christmas 2021) online devotionals and accompanying social media activities
- A successful Christmas Campaign with our partners CHADD; donating gifts (including pyjamas) to women and children in safe refuge for protection from domestic abuse.
- 5 Car Park / Drive-In church services including Easter Sunday 2021
- 27 weekly in-person Sunday gatherings, hosted at 2 different local churches (as schools and community buildings continued to be unavailable to us)
- Further growth and development of our REVIVE PROJECT (working with a wide range of church volunteers throughout Dudley).

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During this period our REVIVE Project continued to be a critical programme delivering online holiday clubs and food parcels for families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Having established a model for growth last year, we further developed the programme particularly for the Easter and Whitsun school holidays, 2021. Local schools identified families who would benefit the most and Dudley Council part-funded food and resources via additional grants. Growing beyond our previous operations, and in partnership with Black Country Food Bank, Church leaders, members and volunteers from local churches worked together to meet unprecedented need with an unprecedented response.

Our REVIVE PROJECT work in this period included:

- Online Holiday Club Content (games, puppets, dances etc.) broadcasted LIVE via YouTube to families throughout Dudley
- 120+ volunteers from 20+ different churches
- 1000+ packs of food and arts and crafts activities delivered to homes
- 2 distribution centres enabling the sorting, packing and efficient & effective delivery of food to children from 25+ 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 school Summer holidays 2020
- 271 children in the October half term holidays 2020
- 521 children in February half term 2021
- 1000 children in Easter and Whitsun holidays 2021

Feedback from families who benefitted from our REVIVE project in this period included:

“Thank you for being so kind to us in our time of need”

During this period our community youth engagement work (undertaken in partnership with PHASE TRUST) continued in the form of ‘detached youth work’ meeting outside with local teenagers each week. These activities were re-established in Grange Park, Dudley, adjacent to the Park Congregational Church building that we were using for Sunday gatherings for the second half of this period. As COVID guidance and appropriate risk assessments were updated, we were able to provide a safe, warm environment (in the church building) as well as food and refreshments for young people during the winter months.

The global pandemic continued to impact the work of our mission partners in Albania and Lebanon during this period. Planned pastoral and ministry visits overseas continued to be postponed, however, the confidence to innovate with our mission partners overseas (including online video calls and meetings) meant we were able to host ‘LIVE video conversations’ and interviews during our Sunday church services in the second half of this period.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

This ensured many more people were updated, engaged, re-introduced, or introduced to the work of our overseas partners for the first time.

Future Developments

2022/23 will be an exciting and significant year for us. We plan for 2022/23 to be a year of building and re-building. We plan to re-build our weekly in-person congregational gatherings each Sunday.

We have plans for our first baptism service (post-pandemic) and we look forward to prominent in-person celebrations at Christmas and Easter as well as to acknowledge the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Building on our Elim Network membership, we plan, subject to COVID guidance, to take a group of young people to attend the Limitless Festival in August 2022.

September 2022 marks our 20-year anniversary as Living Hope Church. We plan to host a community weekend that combines anniversary celebrations and the official opening of a new 'home' for our church.

We plan to establish our 'home' on the Russells Hall estate – a community we have served for many years. Through agreement with the Church of England Diocese of Worcester, we plan to move into the former Church of St Barnabas building, providing a permanent home for congregational worship and a community hub centre to better meet the needs of the local communities we serve in Dudley.

We look forward to re-building many of the mid-week activities and programmes that were postponed or 'moved online' during the pandemic. We look forward to building new activities and programmes (including those made possible by a new permanent 'home') that meet the needs of people and enable us to demonstrate the hope of God's love more effectively.

Financial Review

The net outgoing unrestricted resources including designated funds before transfers for the year amounted to (£3,473) (2021 incoming unrestricted and designated resources £4,223). The net outgoing restricted resources before transfers for the year amounted to (£15,880) (2021 incoming restricted resources totalled £24,022). Transfers between funds are detailed in note 4 of the accounts. At 31st March 2022 unrestricted funds amounted to £16,110 (2021 £19,227) designated funds amounted to £6,849 (2021 £7,205) and restricted funds amounted to £36,416 (2021 £52,296)

Reserves and reserves policy

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

Approved by the trustees on 20th January 2023 and signed on their behalf by Mrs Lois Parkes.

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022.

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

S A Reeves FCCA
S A R Accountants
Redditch

20th January 2023

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Designated funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
RECEIPTS						
Tithes and offerings	5a	37,713	100	-	37,813	35,753
Donations	5b	-	-	2,930	2,930	3,100
Gift Aid tax recovered	5c	8,234	-	-	8,234	9,672
Grants	5d	-	-	2,097	2,097	57,404
Receipts from charitable activities	5e	-	-	-	-	770
Interest and dividends	5f	-	-	35	35	10
TOTAL RECEIPTS		45,947	100	5,062	51,109	106,709
PAYMENTS						
Direct charitable activity	6a	49,064	456	20,942	70,462	78,464
TOTAL PAYMENTS		49,064	456	20,942	70,462	78,464
NET OF RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS		(3,117)	(356)	(15,880)	(19,353)	28,245
Transfers between funds						
		-	-	-	-	-
CASH FUNDS AS AT 31/03/21		19,227	7,205	52,296	78,728	50,483
CASH FUNDS AS AT 31/03/22	4	16,110	6,849	36,416	59,375	78,728

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Designated funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Cash funds						
Current account		16,110	6,849	18,669	41,628	61,016
Deposit accounts		-	-	17,747	17,747	17,712
	4	<u>16,110</u>	<u>6,849</u>	<u>36,416</u>	<u>59,375</u>	<u>78,728</u>
Other monetary assets						
Gift aid recoverable		<u>773</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>773</u>	<u>664</u>
Assets for charitable use						
Fixtures & Fittings		<u>-</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>248</u>
Equipment		<u>-</u>	<u>727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>727</u>	<u>1,085</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 20th January 2023
were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs Lois Parkes
Trustee

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1 Trustees' Remuneration and benefits

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any benefits from employment during the year.

2 Staff Costs

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2021: 2)
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 £17,508 (2021 £14,631) and pension contributions of £525 (2021 £515).

4 Movement in funds

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

	Balance b/fwd 01/04/2021	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance c/fwd 31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General (unrestricted)	19,227	45,947	49,064	-	16,110
Designated					
Evangelical & Discipleship	4,206	-	456	-	3,750
Vision Fund	2,999	-	-	-	2,999
Little Stars	-	100	-	-	100
	7,205	100	456	-	6,849
Restricted					
Albania General	175	2,220	1,990	-	405
Albanian Bequest Fund	17,712	35	-	-	17,747
Allchurches	4,485	-	4,488	49	46
Elona School	(168)	710	-	-	542
Holiday Activity	8,367	(3,000)	4,821	(117)	429
Heart of England Baptist	5,000	-	3,397	(1,603)	-
Innovation Fund - Little stars	6,842	5,097	1,210	-	10,729
Innovation Fund - Revive	-	-	289	2,806	2,517
Lottery - Revive	9,883	-	4,747	(1,135)	4,001
	52,296	5,062	20,942	-	36,416
Total funds	78,728	51,109	70,462	-	59,375

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

5 Further analysis of Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Designated funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Receipts					
a) Tithes and offerings					
Tithes & gifts	31,575	100	-	31,675	35,052
Church offering	6,138	-	-	6,138	701
	<u>37,713</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,813</u>	<u>35,753</u>
b) Donations					
Specific donation - Albania	-	-	2,220	2,220	1,920
Specific donation - Elona	-	-	710	710	720
Specific donation - Lebanon	-	-	-	-	460
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,930</u>	<u>2,930</u>	<u>3,100</u>
c) Gift Aid					
Gift Aid tax recovered	8,234	-	-	8,234	9,672
	<u>8,234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,234</u>	<u>9,672</u>
d) Grants					
Grants from institutions	-	-	2,097	2,097	57,404
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,097</u>	<u>2,097</u>	<u>57,404</u>
e) Receipts from charitable activities					
Holiday hunger/Revive Income	-	-	-	-	770
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>770</u>
f) Interest and dividends					
Bank interest	-	-	35	35	10
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>10</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>45,947</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>5,062</u>	<u>51,109</u>	<u>106,709</u>

LIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

6 Further analysis of Payments

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Designated funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Payments					
a) Direct charitable activity					
Ministry salaries	15,717	-	1,791	17,508	22,181
Ministry pension costs	525	-	-	525	709
Training & CPDL	246	60	-	306	150
Benevolence Gifts	2,561	-	-	2,561	2,030
Visiting speakers	220	-	-	220	120
Travelling & motor expenses	25	-	-	25	-
Mission - outgoing support	9,540	-	-	9,540	10,040
Mission - direct gifts	850	-	1,990	2,840	2,821
Evangelism and Alpha	166	60	-	226	11
Hospitality	1,346	-	-	1,346	227
Children & Youth	437	30	-	467	309
Revive Holiday Club	-	-	722	722	9,308
Revive craft & activities	6	-	4,902	4,908	6,180
Revive professional fees	-	-	5,614	5,614	6,098
Revive consumables & packaging	-	-	142	142	2,421
Revive food & refreshments	213	-	225	438	79
Revive communications	57	-	395	452	124
Revive - licenses & subscriptions	-	-	120	120	33
Little Stars	-	-	1,240	1,240	1,001
Little Stars craft	-	-	802	802	665
Rent - Sunday & Lock up	1,108	-	-	1,108	936
Rent - office	6,254	-	-	6,254	5,007
Rent - other	-	-	-	-	53
Insurance	686	-	-	686	454
Equipment	1,737	-	2,999	4,736	490
Repairs & renewals	8	-	-	8	135
Books, publications & media	111	6	-	117	278
Licenses & subscriptions	1,704	-	-	1,704	1,013
Professional fees	4,397	300	-	4,697	4,389
Office sundries	630	-	-	630	516
Telephone, broadband & mobiles	421	-	-	421	534
Bank charges	99	-	-	99	152
TOTAL PAYMENTS	49,064	456	20,942	70,462	78,464