

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05270456 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1106918

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023
FOR
LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH TAUNTON

Peace Accountancy Ltd
4 The Crescent
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 4EA

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH TAUNTON

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH TAUNTON

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The trustees provide each year a comprehensive report of the activities of the church during the year under review. This report is presented as a supplementary document and is attached to the financial statements at the end of the formal accounts.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05270456 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1106918

Registered office

Gipsy Lane
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 5LQ

Trustees

Mr Benedict Rupert E Thome Spiritual Leader
Mr John Christopher Lalgee Senior Spiritual Leader
Mr Richard Karl Appleby Leader - resigned 1/01/24
Mr Trefor Jones Leader
Mr Kevin Parker Leader
Mr Bruce Izzett Leader
Mr Christopher Izzett
Mr Martin Ledger

Company Secretary

Mr Benedict Rupert E Thome

Independent Examiner

Helen Hubbard FCA BFP
Peace Accountancy Ltd
4 The Crescent
Taunton
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TA1 4EA

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH TAUNTON

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

COMPREHENSIVE TRUSTEES REPORT

For the year under review, the trustees have produced an in-depth report in relation to the activities of the trust. This includes notes on charitable activities, financial overview, administration report, and aims and objects for the future.

This report is attached at the end of the formal accounts.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28th October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the letters 'Ben' followed by a stylized 'T' and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr Benedict Rupert E Thome - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Living Light Christian Church, Taunton ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Helen Hubbard FCA BFP

Peace Accountancy Ltd
4 The Crescent
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 4EA

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

BALANCE SHEET 31ST DECEMBER 2023

				31/12/2023	31/12/2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Notes	fund	fund	funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	793,162	0	793,162	551,449
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	64,753	0	64,753	67,234
Cash at bank		181,937		181,937	174,170
		<u>246,690</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>246,690</u>	<u>241,404</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(3,791)	0	(3,791)	(2,942)
		<u>242,899</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>242,899</u>	<u>238,462</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>242,899</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>242,899</u>	<u>238,462</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>1,036,061</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,036,061</u>	<u>789,111</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	10	(265,000)	0	(265,000)	0
		<u>771,061</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>771,061</u>	<u>789,111</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>771,061</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>771,061</u>	<u>789,111</u>
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				771,061	789,911
				<u>771,061</u>	<u>789,911</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>771,061</u>	<u>789,911</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

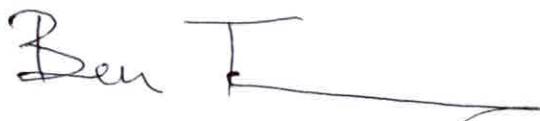
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28th October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr Benedict Rupert E Thorne - Trustee



LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31/12/2023 Total funds £	31/12/2022 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		381,366	20,995	402,361	420,208
Investment income	2	4,338	0	4,338	19,133
Total		<u>385,704</u>	<u>20,995</u>	<u>406,699</u>	<u>439,341</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		81,755	20,995	102,750	97,465
Charitable activities					
Overheads		209,262	0	209,262	177,671
Other		113,537	0	113,537	79,199
Total		<u>404,554</u>	<u>20,995</u>	<u>425,549</u>	<u>354,335</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(18,850)	0	(18,850)	85,006
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		789,911	0	789,911	704,905
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>771,061</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>771,061</u>	<u>789,911</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

INCOME

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	- 1% straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance

TAXATION

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
	£	£
Rents received	4,338	19,133
Deposit account interest	0	0
	<u>4,338</u>	<u>19,133</u>

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS-continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

3. Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>6,744</u>	<u>6,892</u>

4. **TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
	£	£
Trustees' salaries	<u>113,537</u>	<u>79,199</u>

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2023 nor for the year ended 31st December 2022.

5. **STAFF COSTS**

	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>169,710</u>	<u>118,897</u>
	<u>169,710</u>	<u>118,897</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
Trustees	4	4
Leadership/Administration	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

6. **COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	388,511	31,697	420,208
Investment income	<u>19,133</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,133</u>
Total	<u>407,644</u>	<u>31,697</u>	<u>439,341</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	65,768	31,697	97,465
Charitable activities			
Overheads	177,671	0	177,671
Other	<u>79,199</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>79,199</u>

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Total	322,638	31,697	354,335
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	85,006	0	85,006
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	704,905	0	704,905
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	789,911	0	789,911

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st January 2023	630,042	32,291	662,333
Additions	248,456	0	248,456
At 31st December 2023	878,498	32,291	910,789
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2023	80,367	30,517	110,884
Charge for year	6,300	444	6,744
At 31st December 2023	86,667	30,961	117,628
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2023	791,831	1,331	793,162
At 31st December 2022	549,675	1,774	551,449

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/2023 £	31/12/2022 £
Prepayments and accrued income	64,753	67,234

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/2023 £	31/12/2022 £
Accrued expenses	3,791	2,942
	<u>3,791</u>	<u>2,942</u>

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	31/12/2023 £	31/12/2022 £
Other loans	265,000	0
	<u>265,000</u>	<u>0</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/2023 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	789,911	(18,850)	789,911
	<u>789,911</u>	<u>(18,850)</u>	<u>789,911</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>789,911</u>	<u>(18,850)</u>	<u>789,911</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	385,704	(404,554)	(18,850)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	20,995	(20,995)	0
	<u>406,699</u>	<u>(425,549)</u>	<u>(18,850)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>406,699</u>	<u>(425,549)</u>	<u>(18,850)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/2022 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	704,905	85,006	789,911
	<u>704,905</u>	<u>85,006</u>	<u>789,911</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>704,905</u>	<u>85,006</u>	<u>789,911</u>

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	407,644	(322,638)	85,006
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	31,697	(31,697)	0
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>439,341</u>	<u>(354,335)</u>	<u>85,006</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/2022 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	789,911	(18,850)	771,061
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>789,911</u>	<u>(18,850)</u>	<u>771,061</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	793,348	(727,192)	66,156
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	52,692	(52,692)	0
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>846,040</u>	<u>(779,884)</u>	<u>66,156</u>

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2023.

LIVING LIGHT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, TAUNTON

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Gifts tithes & offerings	337,608	305,929
Gift aid	64,753	114,279
	<u>402,361</u>	<u>420,208</u>
Investment income		
Rents received	4,338	19,133
Deposit account interest	0	0
	<u>4,338</u>	<u>19,133</u>
Total incoming resources	406,699	439,341
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Gifts tithes & offerings	102,750	97,465
Charitable activities		
Honorarium & salaries	56,173	39,698
Office administration costs	6,013	7,135
Books, CDs & publications	2,410	447
Children's work	9,186	7,465
Church events	29,213	20,574
Evangelistic & outreach	4,925	2,061
Repairs renewals & cleaning	34,086	41,950
Rent of premises	18,969	19,245
Licences & subscriptions	1,520	1,475
Utilities & waste disposal	15,900	11,788
Travel & hospitality	16,248	12,703
Independent examiner's fees	1,830	1,774
Insurance	5,055	4,465
Bank charges	992	0
Freehold property	6,300	6,301
Fixtures and fittings	444	591
	<u>209,262</u>	<u>177,671</u>
Other		
Trustees' salaries	113,537	79,199
Total resources expended	<u>425,549</u>	<u>354,335</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>(18,850)</u>	<u>85,006</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements



LIVING LIGHT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Worshipping God - Nurturing Believers – Evangelising the World

Trustees' Report

January – December 2023

Trustees

John Lalgee
Richard Appleby
Ben Thorne
Trefor Jones
Bruce Izzett
Kevin Parker
Chris Izzett
Martin Ledger

Charity Registration No. 1106918
Company Registration No. 05270456

Postal address
The Old School Building
Gipsy Lane
Taunton TA1 5LQ

Introduction

December 2023 marked the end of Living Light Christian Church Taunton (and Wellington's) (LLCC) 20th year of ministry. The church has continued to grow and develop in its objectives, which are to worship God, nurture believers and evangelize the world. The church now has 3 congregations comprising of all age groups, with many families and young people and 2023 saw the increase of prayer, outreach. The church plant in Bridgwater continued to develop during the year after the Sunday morning meeting was established in September 2022, with commitment from people from the Taunton & Wellington congregations to support a local people from Bridgwater. Plans were well under way to purchase a church house in the area where the church was meeting (Hamp Academy) and Ben & Angela Thorne prepared to move home to help further establish the church. All three congregations continued to see significant growth during this year, which has required changes in oversight and administration to provide all relevant support. John and Kim Lalgee, who have oversight for the Taunton and Wellington visited the churches and kept in close contact with the leaders. These were exciting times, as more and more individuals and families from ethnic minority communities, continued to join the churches, adding great richness to the already diverse congregations.

Trustees

The current trustees are John Lalgee (Apostle/Chairman), Richard Appleby (soon to 'retire'), Trefor Jones (elder), Bruce Izzett (elder), Kevin Parker, Ben Thorne (elder/Secretary), Chris Izzett and Martin Ledger. During this year, Ben was recognised as an 'Ephesians 4 Pastor'.

Apostolic oversight

John Lalgee (of One Church Ministries) now cares for a number of churches in the USA, 3 in the UK & 1 in Germany and has numerous connections with other church ministries and initiatives around the world (e.g. Liberia and India) and ensures that a good working connection is maintained through the building of strong relationships between the congregations and the sharing of the gifting of God as outlined in Eph 4.

Elders & Deacons

Bruce Izzett, Ben Thorne and Martin Ledger are the elders/leaders in Taunton and Trefor Jones, Kevin Parker and Chris Izzett in Wellington (Ben and Chris were more and more supporting the work in Bridgwater during this year). The leadership brought sound support and clear direction to the body in line with the Word of God and continued to receive input and support from John Lalgee in taking forward the vision God has given for church and in the context of the wider church in Taunton, Wellington & Bridgwater. Ben, Bruce, Trefor and Kevin and Chris were paid by the church on a fulltime/parttime basis alongside their regular jobs. The elders worked together to provide pastoral care to church members, bringing teaching from the Word of God and overseeing programmes, such as church administration, outreach, care for the needy, relations with other church leaders in each of the towns. Taunton continued to work on plans to have deacons, but, as the year ended, this still hadn't been sorted out.

Administration Staff

Glyn Hammond continued in his role doing the accounts for LLCC churches (UK) and OCM (UK), with an increasing workload in response to more church activities. In the New Year Katie Whittle took over from Sheila Ledger to do the general admin for Taunton, Wellington and Bridgwater. Aaron Dunne, (paid to work one day each week) supervised the management of the church building and helped with the interns on the internship programme. David Ledger continued to develop audio visual and media (assisted by the interns), and the church maintained its excellent ministry, streaming meetings live on YouTube, along with PA in Taunton & Wellington (including meeting our data protection requirements). Significantly, David worked hard on the ongoing Music & Media Internship programme, with Sujith Sunil and the 6 interns were named 'The Catalyst Team' (see below).

Financial Overview of 2023

The church's income is primarily received from the majority members giving 10% (a tithe) of their income and offerings. This biblical principle is taught in the church and works in practice as a voluntary contribution from those people with enough faith in these principles to put them into practice. In addition to this, from time to time, special voluntary offerings are made by members. Ideally the tithe is used to provide for people and offerings for projects – this is reflected in the accounts.

Significantly, 2023 saw the continued use of the church site, with sufficient finance to help the ongoing maintenance and internship programme to support a church congregation growing in numbers.

At the end of the 20th financial year, the church's finances remained in a strong position and the Trustees are confident in being able to meet the financial commitments and to be able to continue to be generous in giving to the needs of others inside and outside the church and across the church in Taunton and to pay the salaries of the staff. At the beginning of this year, the salary structure for paid employees changed and there were increases to the rates paid to elders and admin staff brought uniformity and the hours of some staff increased in line with need and church growth.

Church Office

The church office continued to provide support on all levels to the various ministries in the church and provided a place for people to meet to talk over issues, etc. Office systems were maintained, the church website, Facebook and Elvanto were used throughout the year as part of developing communications (and continued some alignment with admin processes based in the Kenosha church). It was decided that the systems for managing the church accounts would be completely overhauled in 2023, with the focus being to store all data electronically and preparing for continued church growth. Therefore, professional advice was sought to help maintain and improve financial efficiency, transparency and compliance. This happened with the invaluable help of Beth Meekma from the Kenosha church working alongside Glyn Hammond and Helen Hubbard (who replaced Tony Doyle, as the church accountant).

Vision & Commitment Course

The Vision and Commitment Course (V&C) is the 'way in' to church membership and consists of a 20-session series and ran during 2023 in the three churches, along with Alpha courses

and good contacts were made with people during these courses. The V&C course covers the basic foundations of church life and practice. Everyone who wants to become a committed member of the church goes through this course to ensure that we all understand the principles upon which the life of the church is founded.

Children

The church is blessed with many children of a variety of age groups, who are a credit to their families and who are learning about Jesus and endeavouring to live out their faith. There are varied activities such as:

- Teaching during the Sunday meeting
- Involvement in many areas of church life

The children's work continued to use the outside classrooms at the church building and classrooms at Court Fields School and Hamp Academy.

Youth

Throughout 2023 the work with the Youth (teenagers) continued to develop, with activities and meetings arranged throughout the year (including for the 'Young Adults') – the youth is worked jointly across the 3 congregations. A major highlight of the year was the youth going away together to a youth camp 'Limitless' with the youth leaders and helpers – this had a significant impact of the young people and they had a great time together. The youth group was named 'Fires Youth', during this year.

Preaching and Teaching program

Preaching and teaching continued on Sunday mornings, led by Ben and supported by various speakers including Ben, Bruce, Trefor, Kevin & Chris (in their role as Elders), Matthew Wright, Paul Mew, Peter Fox, Pete Gibson, Alex Akhigbemen, Kevin Parker, etc. Good preaching and teaching is foundational to the growth of the church and has proved provoking and challenging. The teaching that is brought each week continues to be discussed regularly through the home groups, with the emphasis being on practical implementation of what is shared. YouTube videos of all Sunday teaching in all the related churches are available to be listened to on the church app along with 'special' directional teachings from John Lalgee and Scott Goodwill.

Prayer

Monthly prayer meetings have taken place since the church started in each congregation and these have been very powerful and proved to be significant times where God has moved among us and spoken to us of his intentions.

Music & Media Internship Programme

The music & media internship programme continued in September 2023 and involved the interns receiving teaching and training in a number of areas to support their activities such as school outreaches (assemblies); making testimony videos; live streaming meetings; worship; helping the needy inside and outside the church; street outreach to share their faith; attending home groups and helping with worship across the 3 congregations. The

interns stayed with host families and were provided with a car for their travel. They continued to be an integral part of the church family and Sujith Sunil once again remained in the UK to help with the 2023/24 Internship Programme.

Worship Teams

A foundational element of the church continues to be a firm focus on the importance of worshipping God. The worship teams continued to develop under with a considerable number of musicians working on a rotation basis in all 3 congregations and 2022 saw the continuation of the Worship Academy to select and train more musicians and to work with musicians from the B1 churches.

Pre-Marriage Training/wedding

This continues as and when needed.

Town Wide Events

The emphasis on town wide events and developing the church's relationship with other churches in the area, mainly through the B1 connections, where church leaders meet weekly for breakfast – this continued to be helpful as new local church leaders came to Taunton. There were joint meetings and the debut of 'A Gospel Christmas' in December at the Wellsprings leisure centre, which was enormously successful, was sold out and was a great statement of church unity in Taunton

Evangelism

The church continued to look for ways to fulfil the call of God to 'Evangelise the World' through various activities and outreach, including sharing faith on the streets and working into local school assemblies.

Hospitality

The church continues to demonstrate hospitality, with many in the church gifted in this area. A 'family' environment is established for visitors to be welcomed and cared for and when someone is in need (e.g. at the birth of a baby, or if there is sickness), then meals are provided and organised by the leaders and home groups.

Prophetic Words

We have continued to receive a regular flow of prophetic words in the church, which express God's intention to increase our effectiveness and fruitfulness in reaching the community with the gospel. The churches continued to pray and work through prophetic words to determine how the two congregations should move forward in the will of God.

Church weekend away – OCM Conference 2023

Last year, the OCM conference moved from Torquay to Cefn Lea in mid-Wales and took place on 20-23 April 2023 and was hugely successful with around 300 attending. There was teaching from the apostolic team and plenty of leisure time together, with particular focus on the children and youth.

Other ministries in Taunton, Wellington & Bridgwater

Members of the church have been involved in the following ministries in the respective towns:

- B1 and town-wide activities
- Bridgwater Convention at Canalside in Bridgwater for all the Bridgwater churches, with Andrew Ollerton as one of the speakers.
- Christians Against Poverty (led by Richard Appleby)
- The Besom Trust (furniture delivery to needy families; food for the food bank; monthly contribution to the storage warehouse; projects to help people in their homes)
- Monthly contribution to the Taunton Food Bank
- ROC (churches and local community group and authorities working together to affect the local area)
- Street Pastors
- Best Before Food Store in Wellington run by the LLCC Wellington congregation.
- Connections with the churches in Wellington and Bridgwater.

Conclusion

The church has been built on clear biblical principles. The growth of the church will continue as strong foundations are constantly built into the lives of those God adds to the church. We will continue to respond actively to all that God says to us through prophecy, teaching of the Word and the structure of Godly leadership that operates in the church. Through faith and patience, we will see His promises to us fulfilled and God's name glorified in the earth.