

THE LIFE CHURCH – MAIDSTONE

Charity Number 1123130

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year to 31 March 2023

Objects of the Charity

The Trust seeks to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by advancing the Christian faith, relieving sickness and financial hardship and promoting and preserving good health, and advancing education, in all such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the trustees may from time to time think fit.

Government

The policy and operating decision of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Charity.

Objectives and activities

The Life Church is a gathering of people who are committed to love and care for each other and the community they live in, as was taught by Jesus Christ, believing that lives can be changed and bettered by Godly and Biblical principles.

The church employs Mr. Christopher Eke as full-time minister and he serves the church together with Mr. David Thompson (accredited Assemblies of God minister). As the church is growing, it was felt necessary to employ someone to minister to the needs of young people and Mr. Charlie Olliver was employed as from 2nd October 2022. The church is supporting Mr. Olliver in a 2 year theological and leadership training course. The Trustees remain as Mr. C Eke, Mr. David Thompson, Mr. Alan Pitt and Mrs. Jennifer Rhodes.

The Sunday morning services are very well attended and the congregation has grown to almost 200 adults and young adults. As a result of families attending, the number of children has increased and the children are ministered to at Children's Church each Sunday from 11.15am-12.15pm. The teenagers attend their own meeting between these times too. The Sunday morning service is available live on YouTube and all the Sunday services are available to view on the church website. There are about 500 hits each week.

All the workers in the church, including the Trustees and ministers are DBS checked through ThirtyOne:Eight.

Midweek services include times for prayer and Bible study. The Little Sparkles Club for babies and toddlers and their parents/carers meet each Thursday morning during term times and the teenagers attend an after school club each Wednesday between 3pm and 6pm. An Alpha Course is in progress. The building is used twice each week by Alcoholics Anonymous.

The church is affiliated to Assemblies of God and Evangelical Alliance organisations and we regularly support other charities: Starfish Malawi, the Salvation Army food bank, and Emmanuel Press. It has been decided to support more local charities in the next financial year including The Family Trust and Crossline Counselling.

The building is generally kept in good order. As a result of storm damage, the roof over the main church hall was replaced at a cost of £73371: this included replacing a window and decorating. An insurance claim provided £5602 and there were personal gifts of £3686. The fund kept from the sale of the Manna Christian Fellowship manse in 2018 was used to cover the remainder of the costs. It has been necessary to soundproof a wall of the room used by the young people on Sundays and this has been completed at a cost of £2940. We are grateful that we have a building that can be adapted and realise that the costs of change are great but we need to accommodate our growing church.

The shop area used by the church to sell handmade crafts has continued to provide support for Starfish Malawi and over £2000 was transferred to the charity. The monthly Saturday morning 'Sat Chat' has proved beneficial in procuring funds and providing friendship and fun for church members and the public.

Approved by the Trustees of The Life Church :



Independent Examiner's report

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and they consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matter has come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date: 12th June 2023

Signed:



Stephen Hendy

Statement of Financial Activities

| | Unrestricted funds | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds | Total funds | Prior year total funds |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Incoming resources | | | | | | |
| Incoming resources from generated funds | | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 88,545 | 5,387 | 10 | — | 93,942 | 57,048 |
| Activities for generating funds | — | 1,652 | 2,446 | — | 4,098 | 2,521 |
| Incoming resources from charitable activities | 175 | — | — | — | 175 | 69 |
| Other incoming resources | 13,020 | 5,702 | — | — | 18,722 | 8,134 |
| Total income | 101,740 | 12,741 | 2,456 | — | 116,938 | 67,774 |
| Resources used | | | | | | |
| Cost of generating funds | 6,354 | — | — | — | 6,354 | 4,161 |
| Cost of generating voluntary income | 4,782 | 120 | 237 | — | 5,139 | 7,287 |
| Fundraising trading cost of goods sold and other costs | — | 85 | 2,695 | — | 2,781 | 1,182 |
| Charitable activities | 6,681 | 489 | — | — | 7,171 | 4,630 |
| Governance costs | 63,962 | 82,423 | — | — | 146,385 | 52,603 |
| Other resources used | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total expenditure | 81,781 | 83,117 | 2,932 | — | 167,831 | 69,864 |
| Gains / losses on investment assets | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer | 19,959 | (70,376) | (476) | — | (50,893) | (2,090) |
| Transfers | | | | | | |
| Gross transfers between funds - in | — | — | 295 | — | 295 | — |
| Gross transfers between funds - out | (227) | (68) | — | — | (295) | — |
| Other recognised gains / losses | | | | | | |
| Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Net movement in funds | 19,732 | (70,444) | (181) | — | (50,893) | (2,090) |
| Total funds brought forward | 66,674 | 81,201 | 399 | — | 148,276 | 150,366 |
| Total funds carried forward | 86,407 | 10,757 | 218 | — | 97,382 | 148,276 |
| Represented by | | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | | | | | | |
| General fund | 86,407 | — | — | — | 86,407 | 66,674 |
| Pastor | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Designated | | | | | | |
| Charity Cards | — | — | — | — | — | 153 |
| Little Sparkles Mother/Toddler group | — | 188 | — | — | 188 | 276 |
| Starfish Malawi Ministry | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TLC Building fund | — | 8,959 | — | — | 8,959 | 79,042 |
| Visiting Ministry | — | 1,609 | — | — | 1,609 | 1,729 |
| YOUTH | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Restricted | | | | | | |
| Cafe Refurb | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Gifts for persons, etc. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| King's Storehouse | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lifelines Contact | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Options Pregnancy/PostAbortion Support | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Philippines | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Shop deposit | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tender Loving Craft | — | — | 218 | — | 218 | 399 |
| Weekend Away | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Women's Refuge | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| YOUTH | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Balance sheet

| | Total funds | Prior year funds |
|--|---------------|------------------|
| Current assets | | |
| Investments | 15,058 | 5,000 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 82,323 | 143,276 |
| | 97,382 | 148,276 |
| Net current assets less current liabilities | 97,382 | 148,276 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | 97,382 | 148,276 |
| Total net assets less liabilities | 97,382 | 148,276 |
| Represented by | | |
| Unrestricted | | |
| General fund | 86,407 | 66,674 |
| Pastor | — | — |
| Designated | | |
| Charity Cards | — | 153 |
| Little Sparkles Mother/Toddler group | 188 | 276 |
| Visiting Ministry | 1,609 | 1,729 |
| Starfish Malawi Ministry | — | — |
| YOUTH | — | — |
| TLC Building fund | 8,959 | 79,042 |
| Restricted | | |
| King's Storehouse | — | — |
| Cafe Refurb | — | — |
| Weekend Away | — | — |
| Lifelines Contact | — | — |
| Shop deposit | — | — |
| Tender Loving Craft | 218 | 399 |
| Women's Refuge | — | — |
| YOUTH | — | — |
| Options Pregnancy/PostAbortion Support | — | — |
| Gifts for persons, etc. | — | — |
| Philippines | — | — |
| Funds of the church | 97,382 | 148,276 |

Statement of assets and liabilities

| | General | Designated | Restricted | Endowment | This year | Last year |
|--|---------------|---------------|------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand | | | | | | |
| Current account - | 69,743 | (68,261) | 1,723 | — | 3,205 | 58,175 |
| Petty Cash - | 2,017 | (428) | (1,505) | — | 83 | 174 |
| Business Select Account - | 79,034 | — | — | — | 79,034 | 84,926 |
| Shawbrook Bank 12 month fixed rate Saver - | (79,446) | 79,446 | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 71,348 | 10,757 | 218 | — | 82,323 | 143,276 |
| Current assets - Investments | | | | | | |
| Hampshire Trust Bank - | 15,058 | — | — | — | 15,058 | 5,000 |
| Totals | 15,058 | — | — | — | 15,058 | 5,000 |
| Grand total | 86,407 | 10,757 | 218 | — | 97,382 | 148,276 |

Fund movement by type

| | | Opening | Incoming | Outgoing | Transfers | Gains/losses | Closing |
|--|--|---------|----------|----------|-----------|--------------|---------|
| Cards - Charity Cards | | | | | | | |
| Designated | | 153 | — | 85 | (68) | — | — |
| Sub-total for Cards | | 153 | — | 85 | (68) | — | — |
| KingStore - King's Storehouse | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for KingStore | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| LifeCont - Lifelines Contact | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for LifeCont | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| LitSpark - Little Sparkles Moth | | | | | | | |
| Designated | | 276 | 401 | 489 | — | — | 188 |
| Sub-total for LitSpark | | 276 | 401 | 489 | — | — | 188 |
| Ministry - Visiting Ministry | | | | | | | |
| Designated | | 1,729 | — | 120 | — | — | 1,609 |
| Sub-total for Ministry | | 1,729 | — | 120 | — | — | 1,609 |
| Shop - Shop deposit | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for Shop | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Starfish - Starfish Malawi Mini | | | | | | | |
| Designated | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for Starfish | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TLCraft - Tender Loving Craft | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | 399 | 2,446 | 2,695 | 68 | — | 218 |
| Sub-total for TLCraft | | 399 | 2,446 | 2,695 | 68 | — | 218 |
| WRefuge - Women's Refuge | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for WRefuge | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Youth - YOUTH | | | | | | | |
| Designated | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Restricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for Youth | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| General - General fund | | | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | | 66,674 | 101,740 | 81,781 | (227) | — | 86,407 |
| Sub-total for General | | 66,674 | 101,740 | 81,781 | (227) | — | 86,407 |
| Build - TLC Building fund | | | | | | | |
| Designated | | 79,042 | 12,340 | 82,423 | — | — | 8,959 |
| Sub-total for Build | | 79,042 | 12,340 | 82,423 | — | — | 8,959 |
| Pastor - Pastor | | | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for Pastor | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Options - Options Pregnancy/Po | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for Options | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Gifts - Gifts for persons, e | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | — | 10 | 237 | 227 | — | — |
| Sub-total for Gifts | | — | 10 | 237 | 227 | — | — |
| Philipps - Philipppines | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for Philipps | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Cafe - Cafe Refurb | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for Cafe | | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Wkend - Weekend Away | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|----------|---------------|
| Restricted | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sub-total for Wkend | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Grand total | 148,276 | 116,938 | 167,831 | — | — | 97,382 |

Analysis of income and expenditure

| | | | | | Total | |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Unrestricted | Designated | Restricted | Endowment | This year | Last year |

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

Incoming resources from generated funds - Voluntary income

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|----------|---------------|---------------|
| Offerings | 55,790 | — | — | — | 55,790 | 27,075 |
| Gift aids | 23,081 | 1,400 | — | — | 24,481 | 22,550 |
| Gifts | — | — | 10 | — | 10 | 480 |
| Little Sparkles | — | 401 | — | — | 401 | 659 |
| Youth Ministry | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Small Donations | 9,673 | — | — | — | 9,673 | 6,283 |
| Church renovation | — | 3,586 | — | — | 3,586 | — |
| Starfish Malawi ministry | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Gifts - bequeathed | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 88,545 | 5,387 | 10 | — | 93,942 | 57,048 |

Incoming resources from generated funds - Activities for generating funds

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------|--------------|--------------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Venue receipts | — | 1,652 | — | — | 1,652 | 940 |
| Cards sold for charity | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tender Loving Craft | — | — | 2,446 | — | 2,446 | 1,581 |
| Total | — | 1,652 | 2,446 | — | 4,098 | 2,521 |

Incoming resources from charitable activities

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|-----------|
| Event receipts | 175 | — | — | — | 175 | 69 |
| Total | 175 | — | — | — | 175 | 69 |

Other incoming resources

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| Sundry receipts | 13,020 | 5,702 | — | — | 18,722 | 8,134 |
| Loan | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 13,020 | 5,702 | — | — | 18,722 | 8,134 |
| INCOME TOTAL | 101,740 | 12,741 | 2,456 | — | 116,938 | 67,774 |

EXPENDITURE

Cost of generating funds

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|---|---|---|-------|-------|
| General Expenses | 3,190 | — | — | — | 3,190 | 1,256 |
| Stationery & printing | 1,812 | — | — | — | 1,812 | 1,692 |
| Pastor expenses | 1,239 | — | — | — | 1,239 | 1,212 |
| SumUp | 111 | — | — | — | 111 | — |
| Total | 6,354 | — | — | — | 6,354 | 4,161 |

Cost of generating funds - Cost of generating voluntary income

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|-----|-----|---|-------|-------|
| Ministry and Gifts | 4,782 | 120 | 237 | — | 5,139 | 7,287 |
| Total | 4,782 | 120 | 237 | — | 5,139 | 7,287 |

Cost of generating funds - Fundraising trading cost of goods sold and other costs

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|----|-------|---|-------|-------|
| Tender Loving Craft | — | 85 | 2,695 | — | 2,781 | 1,182 |
| Total | — | 85 | 2,695 | — | 2,781 | 1,182 |

Charitable activities

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-----|---|---|-------|-------|
| Youth expenses | 445 | — | — | — | 445 | — |
| Church events | 1,134 | — | — | — | 1,134 | 840 |
| Sundry expense | 4,162 | — | — | — | 4,162 | 2,784 |
| Sparkles baby group | — | 489 | — | — | 489 | 534 |
| Childrens ministry | 611 | — | — | — | 611 | 380 |
| Hospitality | 129 | — | — | — | 129 | 28 |
| Alpha | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Youth Ministry | 198 | — | — | — | 198 | — |
| Starfish Malawi expenses | — | — | — | — | — | 61 |
| Total | 6,681 | 489 | — | — | 7,171 | 4,630 |

Governance costs

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|---|---|---------|--------|
| Salaries Church | 29,743 | — | — | — | 29,743 | 20,445 |
| Electricity Gas | 3,891 | — | — | — | 3,891 | 2,374 |
| Water Waste | 4,588 | — | — | — | 4,588 | 989 |
| Insurances Licences | 5,912 | — | — | — | 5,912 | 6,957 |
| Telephones Internet | 1,712 | — | — | — | 1,712 | 2,684 |
| Building expenses | 114 | 82,423 | — | — | 82,537 | 2,651 |
| Accommodation for Pastor | 18,000 | — | — | — | 18,000 | 16,500 |
| Bank charges | 0 | — | — | — | 0 | — |
| Total | 63,962 | 82,423 | — | — | 146,385 | 52,603 |

Other resources used

| | | | | | | |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Loan | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | — | — | — | — | — | — |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| EXPENDITURE TOTAL | 81,781 | 83,117 | 2,932 | — | 167,831 | 69,864 |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------|----------------|---------------|

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|-----------------|----------------|
| GRAND TOTAL | 19,959 | (70,376) | (476) | — | (50,893) | (2,090) |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|-----------------|----------------|