

**UNION BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**ANNUAL REPORT, UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	A Wingfield A D Croft R E Weston R W Mundy Y H Tchoudi S E Weston K Bates R N Pantridge I D Manktelow Rev M K Hazell T M Birmingham C E Croft J A Hamilton	(Appointed 19 May 2020)        (Appointed 19 May 2020)
<b>Property Holding Trustees:</b>		
<b>Church:</b>	Baptist Union Corporation Ltd with Union Baptist Property Trustees	
<b>Manse:</b>	Baptist Union Corporation Ltd	
<b>Charity number</b>	1130582	
<b>Principal address</b>	Easton Street, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 1NJ	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Christopher Nisbet (BA Hons) FCA Azets Audit Services 7/8 Eghams Court Boston Drive Bourne End Buckinghamshire SL8 5YS	
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank PLC PO Box 41, High Wycombe, HP11 2BG	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Maling, Kent ME19 4JQ

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# **UNION BAPTIST CHURCH**

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# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Church's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)".

#### **Reflections from the Church Leadership on 2020** **2020 motto text: "We love because he first loved us" 1 John 4:19**

##### **Church Secretary's Report 2020**

When this motto text was chosen we had no idea of the changes and challenges that would be faced in 2020. It is so important to have had this theme of love to others as lockdown and isolation has been the norm for most of the year. We know that the love that we have shown to each other, to others in our local community and to the wider world is as a result of how God has loved us and at the centre of that love is the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus on the cross and his resurrection. This remains the underpinning principle of our church life and the impetus of all our activities. Despite all the restrictions that we have faced we have sought to support and care for each other and for our neighbours.

At the start of the year, before lockdown began we had a very encouraging 24/7 Prayer Week, which deepened our prayer life as individuals and our ongoing dependence on God in all things. Our AwayDay@Home fellowship time at the culmination of the week brought us together to enjoy each other's company and to share in fellowship. These proved to be really important for us as we moved into the prolonged period of separation and isolation that was to follow. We also give praise to God that at the start of the year Amos Omounabidji was able to complete an extended visit to his home area in Chad, leading a series of workshops with leaders of the Gabri churches, encouraging them in their commitment to the various programmes initiated on previous visits.

Then we had the start of the national lockdown because of the coronavirus pandemic with all normal church meetings stopped and the Hub closed. Technology has really helped us to maintain so many of our activities throughout this prolonged lockdown and all its restrictions. The Lord has blessed us with those able to produce recorded services and so we went online for services on YouTube, held prayer and homegroup meetings on Zoom and Pastoral Friends kept in touch with everyone across the fellowship. Our Senior Pastor, Malcolm Hazell, sent out a series of encouraging pastoral letters throughout the year.

As was said at the time: "What do we do when we cannot DO church in the ways we're used to?" and the simple answer is "We will BE the church." The way we connect with one another will look different but who we are does not change. We were never dependent on a building, and we showed we can BE church scattered in our homes. We are the body of Jesus. This time of being isolated highlighted that we are made for relationship – with God, with one another and with our environment.

A network of support was set up to provide help and assistance for those who needed it – many thanks to the Hub Team for their work in this. Our weekly services involved a wide range of people and types of presentation and when socially-distanced in-person services were possible we were able to use our large sanctuary space to accommodate up to 80 people in attendance, with booking online. In the autumn we started livestreaming using new livestreaming equipment and a new large TV screen (purchased from Living Stones finances). Our thanks go to all those who have enabled this to happen and who operate the systems each week, producing very high quality services online which have been viewed and enjoyed via our website and YouTube. Restrictions varied and changed from March to December and we were agile in adapting our services and activities accordingly. So we have much to thank God for.

A number of people found the experience of lockdown and isolation very hard to bear and we have tried to support them through our small group network, our Pastoral Friends scheme, and natural friendship groups. These links were so important over the year. For some, a deeper consideration of the impact of the pandemic and the loss of so many things proved helpful through the Faith, Grief and Covid-19 – conversation. Two of our members with professional expertise facilitated four one-hour sessions in September, which were repeated in October to satisfy demand.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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In November the second lockdown started and in December, with another significant rise in Covid-19 cases, most of our plans for Advent and Christmas had to be amended. As Andrew said: "I pray that we will listen and learn what God wants to teach us from enforced silence, frustration and isolation and that our silence will be interrupted by a true pouring out of our hearts in worship to God and of sharing the light of his Son to those living in darkness."

It was great that we could run two Discipleship Explored courses and two Bible Courses during the year. These took place on Zoom and were facilitated by Mike Birmingham. Both courses proved very successful and new regular small groups were established, deepening the faith of many.

In June our minds and hearts were moved and challenged by the No to Racism events in the US and UK and we had a powerful time of lament and repentance. The annual Love Wycombe service took place with churches across High Wycombe contributing to a wonderful service of prayer for our town, especially in this current crisis.

On Oct 11th we celebrated the 175th anniversary of the church. We are so grateful to Mik Horswell for bringing us a Church History Update which helped to put our current situation into context: "We are encouraged by those who founded the church in 1845 – their sacrifices and generosity have enabled us to do what we are doing today. The message is the same – the methods used to declare it have changed. We thank God for His church as we commit ourselves to the work ahead and build on the foundation that has already been laid by Jesus Christ for His glory."

We were so pleased that Andrew and Miriam and the family were able to make their trip to Tanzania over the Christmas period despite all the obstacles that might have stopped this. God was clearly hedging them around with His love and protection. They were blessed and encouraged by the visits they could make to their friends and former co-workers with EI and to a number of the projects that they had initiated. God is good!

We have known sadness this year as a number of our church family have left or died. Through 2020 we welcomed new people to our congregation and quite a few to membership. On the other hand, some moved away. There was also sadness as loved ones have died. We think especially of June and Jean and their families as they have mourned the deaths of Ken and Jack respectively. We thank God for their faithfulness and continue to pray for their families, trusting God to surround them with His grace and peace.

We are appreciative of all the service and volunteering that goes on throughout the year. The whole Body of Christ works together. We show our love to one another and give God our praise and worship. We stand secure in the love that He first showed us!

I would particularly like to give our thanks to the Hub Team who continued to work so effectively throughout the year in such changeable and uncertain circumstances, supporting and enabling so many aspects of our church life and activity.

It would perhaps be easy to think that with lockdown and the pandemic we have not been able to achieve our Plans and Aspirations which were set out last year but the assessment of these, outlined above, shows how much was achieved. The normal range of Ministry and Team activities has been curtailed but much has happened online and in new creative ways. We look forward to new challenges and opportunities in 2021, seeking God's wisdom and guidance in all we do.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The principle purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. It is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain and is also a member of the Evangelical Alliance. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom or other parts of the world.

To see High Wycombe transformed by God through His loving, serving and worshipping church.

The church have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Church should undertake.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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### **Achievements and performance**

In fulfilling its purpose, the Church engages in a range of activities either, on its own, or with others, that will vary from time to time with Activities being initiated/expanded or closed as appropriate.

The activities may include, but are not restricted to:

Regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching

Baptism by immersion

Communion of the Lord's Supper

Evangelism and mission

Children and young people's work

Christian discipleship

Education and training for Christian and community service

Pastoral care

Supporting and encouraging charitable social action in the United Kingdom and abroad

Working with other Baptists and Christians

### **Public Benefit:**

In planning the activities of the charity, the Managing Trustees have considered the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

### **Public Benefit activities**

- We promote the central truths of the Christian faith through our many Ministries and Teams as well as through our regular Sunday worship services and activities.
- We serve our local community in High Wycombe through our many community links and activities. Our buildings are very well used by the community to whom the love of God is shown and demonstrated.
- We seek to make our premises and activities as accessible as possible so that all can benefit.
- Many of our members are involved in local community based activities e.g. Child Contact Centre and Chaplaincies.
- We run church-based activities for the lonely and vulnerable.
- We support Wycombe Homeless Connection and are part of the Winter Night Shelter, providing facilities and volunteers to support homeless people and rough-sleepers, as well as being the venue for Plug-in@The Hub (an evening drop-in centre).
- We fund and support Christian mission in other countries, providing help and support to those in need.

Our church motto text for 2020:

"We love because he first loved us" 1 John 4:19

We sought to follow this theme during the year, especially in our focus on showing love to each other, our town and to the world around us.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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At the start of the year, we agreed a set of practical plans and aspirations for 2020, shown below in italics. The comments beneath each show how well we met these objectives.

#### **Plans and Aspirations for 2020 linked to our vision and values as a church**

*In 2020 we will take the next steps in redeveloping our building to enable us to be more effective as God's transforming presence in High Wycombe. This will involve improving and giving disabled access to our rear entrance in readiness for building work and obtaining firm quotes against detailed specifications for the Living Stones Project.*

The Living Stones Project was further refined and two building contractors made presentations to undertake the work. Building work on the kitchen, storage and laundry room at ground floor level has been put in hand and livestreaming equipment was installed in the church sanctuary as part of the project.

*In addition we want to explore prayerfully appointing a Children and Families worker to develop links with families within our community.*

We have not moved forward in this area during 2020.

#### **We plan to embed our values more firmly in the life of the church so we plan to do the following:**

***Worshipful*** – We will further enhance the prayerful unity of the whole worship team (service leaders, musicians, projectionists and sound) in services in order to offer God-centred, joyful, grateful worship.

Lockdown required us to transform how we join in communal worship. Pre-recorded YouTube services, livestreaming with pre-booked congregation, various online gatherings via Zoom and audio CD's of services each have offered ways to worship together. These technical solutions have required pastors, musicians and the sound, camera, projection and livestreaming teams to work very closely together. Technology has also enabled us to connect more actively with missionaries, students at university and connect in new ways with some who are shut in.

***Biblical*** – We will partner with Gold Hill Baptist Church and the South Central Gospel Partnership in training up youth and adults in gospel preaching and teaching.

Four members of the church have been trained through the South Central Gospel Partnership Ministry Training Course in Oxford and three are on the course into 2021. Five young people from Goldhill and Union joined in a preacher development course. Two of them from Union subsequently preached in our services.

***Prayerful*** – We will hold a week of 24/7 prayer and encourage a culture of dependence upon God through devotions and prayer in all ministries and teams.

The Covid-19 pandemic has made us all acutely aware of our dependence upon God. A week of 24/7 prayer engaged many people. In early lockdown, Thursday evening times of prayer for the NHS were a powerful response to the pandemic and it has been wonderful to see the growth of prayer through WhatsApp groups and Zoom prayer gatherings.

***Relational*** – We will hold an AwayDay at home and other opportunities for hospitality in order to help the congregation to develop friendship and fellowship across generations and cultures.

Over 90 from the fellowship grew in friendship and fellowship across the generations as they spent a Saturday together in February. Following the death of George Floyd in the US, it was significant and important to listen to the experience of black members of the congregation, to lament together and repent personally and on behalf of our nation and wider world. Our Senior Pastor continues to meet for conversation and friendship with pastors from black majority churches in High Wycombe.

***Missional*** – We will offer encouragement to be witnesses for Christ in our whole lives and opportunities to intentionally share our faith locally e.g. Give Away on the Rye, Alpha, Get in the Picture at Christmas, Easter Holiday Club. We will host the BMS Action Team from Mozambique and enhance information sharing about our overseas mission partners.

Most of our joint missional outreach was not possible this year. Facebook posts and online services opened up new ways of gospel ministry which we pray will prove fruitful. Carol-singing outside members' homes proved a great encouragement to those locked in and resulted in many neighbours joining in song and prayer together – an unexpected blessing. The visit of the BMS Action Team was cancelled but our awareness of and support for overseas mission has grown greatly during the year with increased participation in the monthly Missions Prayer Meeting enabled by Zoom technology. Regular updates about our linked missionaries in Broadcast and live links on Zoom with them have been very successful.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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**Compassionate** – We will develop several leaflets to be made available at the Hub to help people understand and work through key issues like depression, anxiety etc from a Biblical and informed perspective with signposts to ministries of the church and beyond.

The pandemic and its impacts have triggered significant mental health needs within and beyond the fellowship. Six mental health leaflets have been written and made available on our website and pastoral guidance has been shared in written and video form in how to deal with lockdown. The *Faith, Grief & Covid-19 Conversation* was run twice with many finding this helpful.

**Sacrificial** – We will seek to encourage people to give sacrificially of their time in various areas of service within the fellowship. We wish to identify people's giftings and release them to serve across many of our ministries and teams, particularly in our Community Ministry within or associated with the church.

Entirely new areas of Christian service have opened up in pre-recording worship songs, children and youth ministry. The church has generously increased offerings by nearly 7% as well as meeting pledges for the Living Stones Project. Community ministry has been held back due to lockdown but testimonies shared in *Face to Faith* sessions have spoken into the lives of those from Open Door.

The Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown has had a huge impact on our church life and ministries. Since March 2020 we have had to restrict the use of our buildings and develop new ways of worshipping and supporting our congregation, in line with government restrictions. At all times we have prioritised the safety of our church family following clear and approved risk assessments.

Despite these unprecedented times we have sought to maintain and develop our ministries to God's glory and the following report of our church life during 2020 is a most encouraging testimony to how God has provided for us and how new and innovative ways of meeting and serving have been developed.

#### Financial review

In what has been an unprecedented year, the Lord has been gracious to us in many ways, not least in relation to the church's finance. One of the values for the church is being sacrificial and we have seen during this year of enormous uncertainty consistent and sacrificial giving both to the general finances of the church and to the Living Stones sanctuary project. We are truly blessed and give thanks to our Lord for his provision for us and the generous and consistent giving of the fellowship during this most difficult of years.

In the Spring of 2020 as we went into lockdown for the first time, we were very uncertain as to what this might mean for the church finances, particularly as, almost overnight, a major income stream (ie rental income from the Hub) was reduced to nothing. Early forecasts of a large deficit by the end of the year proved unfounded and, as set out in the summary below, we ended up with a surplus position on our general finances. This is due to the generous giving of the fellowship, good stewardship of our resources, and some lower running costs due to the premises being closed or used only 'lightly' for much of the year. Although it has been a difficult year to forecast and plan ahead, in terms of our finances as in many other aspects of life, the Lord has guided our path.

As a new treasurer I have come to appreciate the number of people that come together to ensure the smooth running of the church's finances. I would like to thank Lynn, Sue, Jane and all the paid staff for the way that they have carefully managed our expenditure, diligently kept the books, and also worked so flexibly over the last 12 months. I would also like to thank the Finance Team for their support, advice and wisdom over the year, and to Jackie in particular for her diligence both as our gift aid secretary but also in so carefully coordinating and monitoring the Living Stones donations.



# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### Summary of 2020

- **Total offertory** with gift aid (excluding Living Stones) amounted to £263,914 ahead of budget by over 4%
- **Rental and related income** totalled £63,096 – not surprisingly, given long periods of lockdown, this was nearly half the budgeted level
- **Expenditure** this year has been below budget, but some key areas of expenditure have been on:
  - Provision of the new kitchen next to the lower lounge
  - Live streaming equipment and a new large screen in the sanctuary
  - Missions giving and support for our ministries and teams (£49,517 = 19% of total income, excluding Living Stones)
- **Living Stones** – total funds at the end of the year stood at £680,560, an increase of £200,649 on 2019, and takes account of £19,074 expenditure in the year. We look forward to moving on to the design stage that will give us a firm price for the project.
- **General Fund** – overall this has increased from £95,820 to £122,458.
- **Property Fund** – has reduced from £28,380 to £19,603.
- **Overall balance** – excluding Living Stones and adjustments to the value of property assets, there was a total surplus for the year of £20,324 compared with a budgeted £20,050 deficit

#### Reserves

The church has a reserves policy approved in 2016 and holds reserves in a designated contingency fund. At 31/12/20 there was £41,772 in the contingency fund. This is above the specific amount indicated in the reserves policy of just under £36,000 but below the amount that would be required if the principles and approach set out in that policy are applied (estimated at around £48,000). However, the balance of unrestricted and undesignated funds (ie the general fund) of £122,458 means that there are more than sufficient funds to satisfy the policy. The church therefore has sufficient reserves. It will be prudent to review the reserves policy during 2021 due to changing circumstances since the policy was agreed.

#### Risks

In 2020 the coronavirus pandemic highlighted particular risks, notably to the church's income. The most significant of these was the reduction in rental income caused by lockdown and associated restrictions on the use of the church premises. Other risks included the potential for reduced offertory if there is a significant economic downturn affecting people's ability to give. These risks remain in 2021. However, the reduced level of "on site" activity in 2020 meant that expenditure was also reduced and there was generally careful management of the church's expenditure. Offertory in 2020 was above budget despite economic uncertainties. Whilst we cannot be sure that the same would happen in 2021, the lessons learnt from 2020 will assist in managing these risks in 2021. In addition, new monthly budget monitoring reports to the trustees have been put in place for 2021 to ensure trustees have up to date financial information to enable timely action to be taken if necessary.

The other main financial risk in 2021 is the progress on the Living Stones sanctuary refurbishment project. Although a significant amount has already been donated to the project, and more is pledged, this is still a significant financial commitment for the church. This risk is being mitigated by development of a detailed design leading to a firm cost of the works, overview of the project by a steering group and its associated finance team, and undertaking due diligence of potential contractors.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### Plans and Aspirations for 2021

We seek to continue to embed our values in the life and ministry of the church as we emerge from lockdown:

**Biblical** – We will appoint a Ministry Trainee 2021/22, who will receive ministerial training as she/he serves amongst us as well as attending Biblical Ministry training in Oxford. We will encourage group and individual bible study through house groups, Bible courses, the use of Bible apps and by producing sermon home group notes.

**Compassionate** – We will undertake a strategic review process of the Community Ministry. We will seek to support and care for those suffering from anxiety and loss coming out of lockdown and will hold a bereavement service.

**Prayerful** – We will continue to seek to be dependent on God for everything and will hold a Week of Prayer (virtually) and construct engaging prayer rooms on our web site.

**Sacrificial** – We will appoint a contractor to fully specify the Living Stones Project with a view to moving ahead with building work once full costings are known. We will also implement new, accessible means of financial giving.

**Relational** – When able to do so we seek to celebrate the end of lockdown both with our community and as a fellowship.

**Mission** – We seek to continue to bridge the distance between our fellowship and mission partners using technology. We seek to strengthen our outreach to children and families by exploring the appointment of a children's and families worker.

**Worshipful** – We will continue to maintain the open door to Christian worship by promoting online services and other virtual means of engagement and plan to renew our website.

#### Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed by its Foundation Trust Deed (28 March 1845) and its Constitution (19 May 2009)

The Charity is an unincorporated association affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

The Managing Trustees are appointed by a Church Members' Meeting. Church Ministers, as Managing Trustees, are appointed by resolution of the Church Members at a Special Church Members Meeting.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

A Wingfield

A D Croft

R E Weston

R W Mundy

(Appointed 19 May 2020)

Y H Tchoudi

S E Weston

K Bates

R N Pantridge

I D Manktelow

(Appointed 19 May 2020)

Rev M K Hazell

T M Birmingham

C E Croft

J A Hamilton

# **UNION BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020***

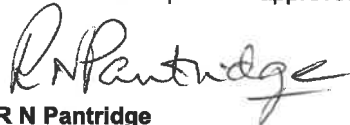
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Together the Minister(s)\* if any and the elders and deacons are the Charity Trustees of the Church. A Pastor is appointed or removed by a resolution of the Church members at a Special Church Members' Meeting. Voting is by secret ballot and they must receive a vote of at least 80% of those voting. Elders are appointed by a resolution of the Church members at a Church Members' Meeting. Voting is by secret ballot and they must receive a vote of at least 80% of those voting. Deacons are appointed by election at a Church Members' Meeting. Voting is by secret ballot and they must receive a vote of at least 50% of those voting.

Charity Trustees (except for those in ministerial office) are appointed for one term of three years with the opportunity to be nominated for one further three year term only that must be followed by a vacant year when they shall not be eligible for reappointment. A Special Church Members' Meeting may rescind the appointment of any Charity Trustee (except for those in ministerial office) at any time.

\* usually given the title 'pastor'

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



**R N Pantridge**

Trustee

Dated: 6 May 2021

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Union Baptist Church (the Church) for the year ended 31 December 2020.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the Church you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Church's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ACA, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Church as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

*Christopher Nisbet*

Christopher Nisbet (BA Hons) FCA  
Azets Audit Services  
7/8 Eghams Court  
Boston Drive  
Bourne End  
Buckinghamshire  
SL8 5YS

Dated: 08/09/2021 .....

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds		Endowment funds designated		Restricted funds		Endowment funds general		Total	
		2020	£	2020	£	2020	£	2020	£	2020	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>											
Donations and legacies	3	262,414	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	-	263,914	-
Charitable Activity	4	57,482	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57,482	-
Non-charitable income	5	5,614	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,614	-
Investments	6	-	1,350	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,350	-
Other income	7	11,705	16,010	205,686	-	-	-	-	-	233,401	-
<b>Total income</b>		<b>337,215</b>	<b>17,360</b>	<b>207,186</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>561,761</b>	<b>685,423</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>											
Charitable activities	8	278,083	38,777	23,928	-	-	-	-	-	340,788	-
<b>Net incoming resources before transfers</b>		<b>59,132</b>	<b>(21,417)</b>	<b>183,258</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>220,973</b>	<b>299,080</b>

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds		Endowment funds designated		Restricted funds		Endowment funds general		Restricted funds		Endowment funds general		Total	
		2020	£	2020	£	2020	£	2020	£	2019	£	2019	£	2020	2019
<b>Net incoming resources before transfers</b>		59,132		(21,417)		183,258		-		42,852		(18,820)		220,973	299,080
Gross transfers between funds		(32,494)		30,000		2,494		-		(71,047)		70,000		-	-
<b>Net incoming resources</b>		26,638		8,583		185,752		-		(28,195)		51,180		220,973	299,080
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>															
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets		-		-		-		33,600		-		-		33,600	(850,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		26,638		8,583		185,752		33,600		(28,195)		51,180		254,573	(550,920)
Fund balances at 1 January 2020		95,820		279,969		290,818		1,750,000		124,015		228,790		2,416,607	2,967,527
<b>Fund balances at 31 December 2020</b>		122,458		288,552		476,570		1,783,600		95,820		279,970		2,671,180	2,416,607

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

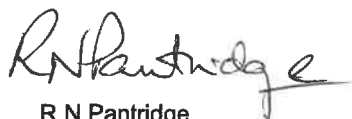
# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## BALANCE SHEET

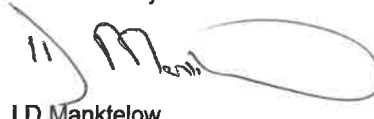
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		1,783,600		1,750,000
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	21,061		62,809	
Cash at bank and in hand		911,841		627,957	
		<u>932,902</u>		<u>690,766</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	(45,322)		(24,159)	
Net current assets			887,580		666,607
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>2,671,180</u>		<u>2,416,607</u>
<b>Charity funds</b>					
Property endowment funds		<u>1,783,600</u>		<u>1,750,000</u>	
			1,783,600		1,750,000
Restricted funds	16		476,570		290,817
Unrestricted funds			122,458		95,820
Designated funds	17		288,552		279,970
			<u>2,671,180</u>		<u>2,416,607</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 6 May 2021



R N Pantridge  
Trustee



I D Manktelow  
Trustee

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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	Notes	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from operations	20		282,534		258,552
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Investment income received		1,350		1,878	
<b>Net cash generated from investing activities</b>			1,350		1,878
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			283,884		260,430
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			627,957		367,527
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			911,841		627,957

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# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

The Union Baptist Church is an unincorporated association affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)". The Church is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Church. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Church has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

The Covid 19 outbreak has resulted in a significant drop in income, particularly in relation to room hire at "the Hub". We have been carefully managing our costs and forecasting the potential end of year financial outcome. As a result, and due to the good balances at the end of 2020, we believe we will still have sustainable unrestricted and designated funds at the end of 2021, and we will not be close to having to access the contingency fund. As such, we consider Union Baptist Church and the Hub to be a going concern financially beyond 2021. Whilst the church has had to carry out a number of its activities differently during the pandemic, and may have to do some things differently in the future, it is still able to fulfil its charitable objectives and associated activities, and take forward its plans for the year.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Church.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Church is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Church has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Church has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Grants are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Church has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected.

#### 1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is recognized where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Restricted giving amounts are dealt with as restricted funds (although they are only registered on the Balance Sheet when not fully spent during the year in which they are given) and the liability for payment is recognised when the amounts are received.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and/or invoiced.

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are initially recognised at cost, or for donated assets, at a reasonable estimate of their value on receipt.

A formal valuation of the main Church site (comprising of the Church, HUB and cottage) was performed by Duncan Bailey Kennedy LLP, a local firm of Chartered Building Surveyors in April 2020. The valuation was reflected in the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019.

During the year ended 31 December 2020 the trustees updated a previous valuation of the Manse with reference to the Nationwide House Price Index. The resulting increase in property value has been reflected in the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.

#### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Church reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 1.9 Financial instruments

The Church has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Church's balance sheet when the Church becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

##### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

##### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

##### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Church's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

### 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £	2019 £
Donations and gifts	220,670	1,500	222,170	211,495	1,200	212,695
Tax receivable	41,444	300	41,744	38,655	368	39,023
	<u>262,114</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>263,914</u>	<u>250,150</u>	<u>1,568</u>	<u>251,718</u>

### 4 Charitable Activity

	2020 £	2019 £
Charitable income	<u>57,482</u>	<u>113,592</u>

### 5 Non-charitable income

	2020 £	2019 £
Non-charitable income trading activities including rental related income	<u>5,614</u>	<u>26,489</u>

### 6 Investments

	Endowment funds designated 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Endowment funds designated 2019 £	Total 2019 £
Interest receivable	<u>1,350</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>1,702</u>	<u>1,878</u>

# **UNION BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

### **7 Other income**

	Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds designated	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Other income	11,705	16,010	205,686	233,401	5,831	285,915	291,746

Other income includes relating to the Living Stones project, grant received under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and other miscellaneous income such as wedding and funerals, bookstalls etc.

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

### 8 Charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure 2020 £	Charitable Expenditure 2019 £
Ministry	102,469	97,365
Mission	49,157	66,978
Establishment	186,072	220,200
Governance costs	3,090	1,800
	<u>340,788</u>	<u>386,343</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	278,083	353,386
Designated funds	38,777	20,522
Restricted funds	23,928	12,435
	<u>340,788</u>	<u>386,343</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the independent examiner of £3,090 (2019- £1,800) for examination fees.

### 9 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2020 £	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2019 £
Bank charges	420	-	420	420	-	420
IT	1,477	-	1,477	861	-	861
Office costs	84,992	-	84,992	102,681	-	102,681
Other costs	99,183	-	99,183	116,238	-	116,238
Independent examination	-	3,090	3,090		1,800	1,800
	<u>186,072</u>	<u>3,090</u>	<u>189,162</u>	<u>220,200</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>222,000</u>

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

### 10 Grants payable

	2020 £	2019 £
Grants to institutions:		
BUGB Home Mission	8,000	10,000
BMS World Mission	9,000	10,000
Other Overseas Mission	11,605	11,762
UK and Local Mission	7,900	10,200
Other	12,652	25,016
	<u>49,157</u>	<u>66,978</u>

### 11 Trustees

Other than Ministers (see note 12), none of the trustees received any remuneration or benefits from the church during the year (2019: nil).

During the year the church paid remuneration of £21,763 (2019: £23,894) to employees, who were related to trustees.

### 12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
	16	19
	<u>16</u>	<u>19</u>
Wages and salaries	154,133	156,760
Social security costs	6,883	8,374
Other pension costs	10,512	10,119
Other costs (Council tax, water, telephone)	20,215	19,132
	<u>191,743</u>	<u>194,385</u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 during the year.

The two Ministers act as church's trustees in accordance with the church constitution and received remuneration of £58,900 (2019: £57,000) and other benefits in respect of their services as Ministers, including the provision of manse accommodation, one being owned by the church and the other being rented by the church from the Minister and his spouse.

£686 in total was reimbursed to the Trustees in respect of expenses incurred as Trustees (2019: £1,983).

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

### 12 Employees

(Continued)

### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2020	1,750,000
Revaluation	33,600
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2020	1,783,600
	<hr/>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 December 2020	1,783,600
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2019	1,750,000
	<hr/>

All of the fixed assets are used for direct charitable purposes.

As at 31 December 2020 the main Church site was recognised in the accounts with a value of £1,175,000 (2019: £1,175,000), based upon a formal valuation undertaken in April 2020.

As at 31 December 2020, the Manse was recognised in the accounts with a value of £633,600 (2019: £600,000), based upon an informal update to the valuation undertaken by the trustees with reference to the Nationwide House Price Index.

### 14 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Other debtors	6,473	14,115
Prepayments and accrued income	14,588	48,694
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	21,061	62,809
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Other creditors	17,009	14,704
Accruals and deferred income	28,313	9,455
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	45,322	24,159
	<hr/>	<hr/>



# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

#### 16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 January 2019	Movement in funds			Transfers	Balance at 1 January 2020	Movement in funds			Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	Incoming resources	Resources expended	£	£	£	Incoming resources	Resources expended	£	£	£
Living stones fund	-	269,721	-	-	-	269,722	202,736	(19,075)	-	-	453,383
Organ fund	14,762	-	-	-	-	14,762	-	-	-	-	14,762
YP bursary fund	1,953	-	(2,500)	1,047	-	500	-	-	-	-	500
Day centre fund	1,648	-	-	-	-	1,648	-	-	-	(10)	1,638
Discretionary fund	1,610	-	(800)	-	-	810	2,950	(2,000)	-	-	1,760
HUB enhancement	1,527	1,500	-	-	-	3,027	1,500	-	-	-	4,527
Crisis fund	1,300	-	-	-	-	1,300	-	(2,605)	1,305	-	-
Christmas fund	222	1,640	(1,620)	-	-	242	-	-	(242)	-	-
BMS/harvest fund	41	713	(713)	-	-	41	-	-	(41)	-	-
Tear fund	33	-	-	-	-	33	-	-	(33)	-	-
Church weekend away fund	(8,374)	13,520	(6,413)	-	-	(1,267)	-	(248)	1,515	-	-
Other	-	389	(389)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	14,722	287,483	(12,435)	1,047	290,818		207,186	(23,928)	2,494	476,570	

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

#### 16 Restricted funds

Living Stones Fund – fund to refurbish and modernise the church sanctuary

Organ fund – fund for the repair and replacement of the church organ

YP Bursary Fund- fund to support young people going on short term mission projects

Day Centre Fund – fund to support day centre for older folk (now closed)

Discretionary Fund – fund used at the discretion of the pastors and elders to support those in the fellowship going through a time of particular hardship

HUB enhancement fund – a fund to enhance the facilities of the HUB, including the memorial block with any fixtures or fittings needed.

Crisis fund – fund to be able to donate to a major crisis happening in the world (eg earthquake disaster)

Christmas fund – fund for annual Christmas appeals to support one or two chosen charities

BMS Fund – fund used to support BMS, usually following an appeal at a harvest service

Church weekend away – fund to hold monies given specifically for church weekends away

(Continued)

# **UNION BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

### **17 Designated funds**

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 January 2019 £	Movement in funds			Transfers 1 January 2020 £	Balance at 1 January 2020 £	Movement in funds			Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Incoming resources £			Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Incoming resources £		
Property maintenance fund	16,870	-	(18,490)	-	30,000	28,380	-	(38,777)	-	30,000	19,603
Sanctuary redevelopment fund	59,878	308	(2,032)	16,616	40,000	98,154	16,616	-	-	-	114,770
BU deposit fund	110,642	1,394	-	371	-	112,036	371	-	-	-	112,407
Retained contingency fund	41,400	-	-	373	-	41,399	373	-	-	-	41,772
	<u>228,790</u>	<u>1,702</u>	<u>(20,522)</u>	<u>17,360</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>279,969</u>	<u>17,360</u>	<u>(38,777)</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>288,552</u>

Redevelopment Fund – fund to refurbish and modernise the church sanctuary, but where the monies were given with the explicit permission for them to be used on other projects in the church if not needed for the Living Stones Project. Also includes money agreed by the trustees/church to be transferred from other funds (normally the General Fund) for use on the Sanctuary Redevelopment

Property Fund – fund for the general maintenance and repair of church property

Retained contingency fund – fund to hold reserves policy money

BU deposit fund – monies held on our behalf by the BU following the sale of the manse garden.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

- 25 -

# UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

### 19 Related party transactions

The custodian Trustee of the church is the Baptist Union Corporation Limited which is charity number 249635, and which is controlled by the Baptist Union Council. The church is also a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, and the Central Baptist Association.

There were no transactions between the church and its related charities during the current or prior year.

20	Cash generated from operations	2020 £	2019 £
	Surplus/(deficit) for the year	220,973	299,080
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(1,350)	(1,878)
	Movements in working capital:		
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors	41,748	(62,809)
	Increase in creditors	21,163	24,159
	<b>Cash generated from operations</b>	<b>282,534</b>	<b>258,552</b>

### 21 Analysis of changes in net funds

The Church had no debt during the current or previous year.