



**BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
LALESTON**

TRUSTEES REPORT & ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 5th APRIL 2025



Bethel Baptist Church
High Street
Laleston
CF32 0HP

Charity No: 1131135

Trustees Report & Statement of Accounts
For the Financial Year ending 5th April 2025

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Bethel Baptist Church Trustees Report – 2024-2025

Objectives and Activities

Our stated charitable objective is “to glorify God by the advancement of the Christian Religion for the benefit of the public in accordance with the basis of faith of the church.”

The trustees work alongside the pastor and deacons of the church to promote the ministry of the church in every way. This includes pastoral ministry to members and other attenders, evangelistic ministry to those outside the church and mission ministry supporting friends who are working in several other parts of the world. We are committed to following the teaching of the bible in our activities and the basis of faith of the church reflects that commitment.

Public Benefit

When planning our activities for the year, the trustees, pastor and deacons have considered the Commission’s guidance on public benefit and the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. More information on this guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/public-benefit-rules-for-charities>

We benefit the public by providing a safe, accessible and welcoming environment for Christian worship in the village of Laleston. This is achieved through our regular weekly meetings, some less frequent but regular activities and through special events at various times throughout the year. We meet a valuable social need in providing opportunities for local people to meet together.

To meet these objectives and to continue to run activities, we also need to maintain and upgrade our buildings and facilities.

Achievements and Performance

During the last year, we have continued our weekly programme of services on Sundays (10.30am and 6.00pm), various ladies meetings on Mondays and bible study and prayer meetings on Thursday evenings and Friday mornings. In addition to those weekly events, we also hold monthly coffee mornings and occasional men’s breakfast events. A few times a year we host free lunches, either on Sunday or mid-week and then usually in the summer, we hold a garden party to provide an afternoon of social time, activities for children and an event to publicise the church. We also occasionally visit two local care homes (Newton care home and Breaksea care home in Porthcawl) to take worship services for their residents.

Our Sunday services have been well attended during the last year with a small increase of people attending, especially on Sunday mornings. We have continued recording the morning sermon and sending out the YouTube link and notes to members and friends in case anyone was not able to attend. This has been helpful for some members who have been kept from services for various health reasons or have been away on holiday.

The ladies meetings continue to alternate between a craft meeting attended by local ladies and a worship meeting with an invited speaker. Both meetings usually have around 10-15 people in attendance and are run by church volunteers.

Craft meeting - many thanks to Mary Isaac for organising this meeting and for the report details following. New members have been added over the last year and are very welcome. The group knit, sew and crochet items donated to the people of Ukraine through Anne and Godfrey Morris who deliver them to a collection hub in Maesteg.

The group has made blankets and children's clothes to support this work throughout the year. Many thanks to Godfrey and Anne for their help.

The group gave £50 out of their funds to two charities, RNLI and Guide dogs for the blind. They also enjoyed food together on a couple of occasions. The meeting is enjoyed by all those who attend and is a helpful benefit to those who live alone or may be lonely.

Worship meeting - on the alternate weeks, there is a worship service for ladies. Many thanks to Marilyn John for organising and arranging this meeting. Over the past year, a number of guests have been invited to come and speak along with a few people from within the church. The group sings hymns and songs together before the speaker brings a message from the bible. The time is followed by refreshments and as with the craft meeting, serves a very beneficial purpose for those who attend.

Our monthly coffee morning is a free event organised by church volunteers and is attended by around 15-20 people, many of whom live in our local community. We serve drinks and other refreshments, all offered free, and give a short talk from the bible for about 10 mins.

The men's breakfast events are an opportunity for local men to meet up and chat and listen to someone give a short talk, often an invited guest. During this last year, we held a total of four events, attended by around 10-15 men each time and again, this event was offered for free.

As an active part of our local community, we attended the Laleston Village Fete in June to publicise the church and provide activities for children. We also gave away a number of bibles and other books to those interested to know more about the Christian faith.

We held a garden party in July to invite local people into the church to enjoy a free community event. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all who came.

In addition to other local events, we started a free walking group during 2024. This is an opportunity for people to enjoy a 2-3 hour guided walk around the local area, ending with refreshments in the church. Numbers fluctuated, but between 3-8 people attended this new event and we plan to continue this from Spring to Autumn in 2025.



Mission – during the year we continued to support a number of missionaries working in S. Ireland, Hungary and also in the UK. As some of our former mission partners finished their work, we began supporting the work of Grace Rural Wales Partnership (Y GRWP), working with rural farming communities in the heart of Wales. We also support Union, the organisation that runs the theological college, Union School of Theology in Bridgend.

Building work – we made some progress in our building project, looking to extend the present buildings with a new main meeting room in our garden space to the rear of the church. Following a positive response from the local council to our preliminary enquiry, we put in an application for planning permission in July. The planning department has been very delayed in responding to this application and we are still waiting for permission to be granted.

Some regular maintenance work was carried out during the year, including repairs to parts of the roof damaged over the winter. We also continued to maintain the graveyard and garden area.

Financial Review

The giving for the year was again increased from the previous year which is encouraging and we are grateful for the gift aid money recovered from those who are taxpayers. Our accounts for the year show a surplus of just over £7,000 which we plan to use for possible building work in the future.

We are thankful and grateful for the faithful way the members and friends of the church support the church in all that we seek to do.

Our total income for the year was £56,664, comprising £49,629 into the unrestricted fund and £7,035 into the designated fund. Our total expenses were £48,042, leaving us a surplus of £1,587 in our unrestricted fund and £5,451 in the designated fund (£7,038 total). The designated fund stands at £14,427. With money already in the unrestricted fund of £32,647, the total at the end of the year was £34,234. As mentioned above in the section on future building work, we have longer term plans for some expansion and the surplus money in the unrestricted fund will be used for that purpose along with any extra money from grants that we hope to apply for as soon as planning permission is granted.

Reserves Policy

The trustees along with the deacons and pastor have agreed together to maintain a reserve fund of £5,000 to cover running costs of the church for a period of approximately 3 months in the case of any financial emergency affecting the current account finances of the church. The level of this fund will be reviewed annually by the trustees and members of the church.

Volunteers

Many of the activities of the church rely on the time and energy given by volunteers. Activities include organising speakers for ladies meetings, setting up the rooms for meetings, cleaning, preparing flowers, serving refreshments, playing piano, recording and banking money and auditing the church accounts. The trustees would like to register their sincere thanks to all those who work so hard to make the church run smoothly and who give their time so freely.

Structure, Governance and Management

The trustees are appointed annually at the AGM. The day-to-day running of the church is under the pastor and the deacons, appointed by the members. Deacons serve for 3 years and must then be appointed by the members to continue to serve for 3 year periods. The deacons and pastor meet monthly to discuss the life and ministry of the church and to review the finances.

The current deacons are Marilyn John and David Laviers.



The church is now administered by two trustees, Jim Grindell (Pastor) and Kevin Green (secretary) and we are hoping to add to the number of trustees soon. To further help the church in the future, we would like to change our status from being a Charitable Trust to becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We will be formally discussing this at our AGM this year.

Administrative Information

Bethel Baptist Church is situated in the village of Laleston, just outside Bridgend. Our postal address is:

Bethel Baptist Chapel

High Street
Laleston
CF32 0HP

Trustees:

Jim Grindell (Pastor)
Kevin Green (Secretary)

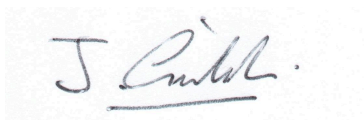
Pastor:

Jim Grindell

Deacons:

Marilyn John
David Laviers (treasurer)

Report approved by the Trustees on 4th June 2025 and signed on their behalf by Jim Grindell (Pastor).



Signed.....

Bethel Baptist Church Laleston

Registered Charity No: - 1131135

Receipts & Payments Account

Year Ending 5th April 2025

Year Ending 5th April 2024

Receipts	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund
		£	£	£	£
Weekly Collections		11,041		10,192	
Gift Aid Donations		31,540	6,560	25,668	60
Gift Aid Recovered		6,667		6,610	
Building Fund Donations			475		1,880
Public Charity Donations		0	0		1,500
Hire of Church Premises		0			
Interest Received		381		241	
Funeral Gifts		0			
Grants Received		0			
Legacy			0		
Total Receipts		49,629	7,035	42,711	3,440
Payments					
Ministers Stipend		28,468		26,764	
Pension Contribution - Employers Contribution		1,993		1,873	
Visiting Speakers		1,081		1,009	
Local Mission		73		800	
Conference - Zoom					
Missionary Donations	1	3,600		2,550	
Grant Expenditure		0		2,658	
Safeguarding		150		208	
Electricity		369		367	
Gas		1,232		838	
Insurance		753		732	
Boiler Service		(162)		410	
Building Repairs		9,190		79	
Cess Pit		100		100	
Fire Safety		0			
Grounds Maintenance		570		469	
Fellowship Expenditure		146		51	
Sundries	2	479		704	
Bethel Extension			1,584		
Total Payments		48,042	1,584	39,612	0
Annual Surplus / (Deficit)		1,587	5,451	3,099	3,440
Funds as at 5th April 2024 & 2023		32,647	8,976	29,548	5,536
Funds as at 5th April 2025 & 2024		34,234	14,427	32,647	8,976
			48,661		41,623

Bethel Baptist Church Laleston

Registered Charity No: - 1131135

Notes to Accounts

Note		Year Ending 5th April 2025	Year Ending 5th April 2024
		£	£
1	Union	750	600
	B. Griffin - 100 Fold	750	600
	J. McMaster - Eire	750	750
	S.Bowkett - YGRWP	750	
	T. Burgan - Hungary	600	600
	Total	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,550</u>
2	Payroll Software	101	178
	CCLI Music Copyright	97	93
	Financial Assistance		300
	Paper Towels & Handwash	15	
	Garden Chairs		64
	Miscellaneous	8	
	Cleaning Materials		22
	Vacuum Cleaner	229	
	Flowers	29	47
	Total	<u>479</u>	<u>704</u>

Bethel Baptist Church Laleston

Registered Charity No: - 1131135

Assets & Liabilities

	Year Ending 5th April 2025		Year Ending 5th April 2024	
	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Church Building, Graveyard & Grounds	400,000		400,000.00	
Liquid Assets				
Santander Bank Account	44,556		26,175	
Barclays Bank Account	2,178		7,972	
Barclays Bank Account		1,927		7,476
Total Funds	<u>46,734</u>	<u>1,927</u>	<u>34,147</u>	<u>7,476</u>
		48,661		41,623
Unrestricted Funds	34,234		32,647	
Designated Funds	14,427		8,976	
Total Funds	<u>48,661</u>		<u>41,623</u>	
Note: - re Designated Fund				
Barclays Bank Account for the Designated Fund contains		1,927		7,476
The Santander Account also holds funds for the Designated Fund		12,500		1,500
		<u>14,427</u>		<u>8,976</u>
The Santander Account gives interest Barclays does not				
Notes				
Contingent Debtor for Unclaimed Gift Aid	9,959		6,667	
Overpayment re Electricity			33	
Contingent Liabilities				
Electricity	48			
Gas	91		98	



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH LALESTON

On accounts for the year
ended

5TH APRIL 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1131135

Set out on pages

6, 7, 8

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act
2011 ("the Act").

Independent
examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I
have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission
under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have
come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) in connection with
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

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

I have no concerns and 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

SH Parry

Date:

10.6.25

Name:

SUZANNE HELEN PARRY

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

RETIRED CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

39 PARKFIELDS, PEN-Y-FAI
BRIDGEND, CF31 4NQ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Report to the trustees members of		Report to the trustees members of
Charity no. (if any)	3TH APRIL 2022	Of accounts for the year ended
1131132		Set out on pages
6-7-8		6-7-8
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended		
As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").		
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(2)(b) of the Act.		
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than those disclosed below) in connection with the examination which require to be disclosed in the report.		
* accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 120 of the Act or * the accounts do not accord with the accounting records		
I have no concerns and 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. * Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.		
Date: 10.6.22	Signed:	Signature
Name:	Name:	Name:
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):
Address:	Address:	Address: