

Adeyfield Free Church, Hemel Hempstead, United Reformed Church Charity

Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st March 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Adeyfield Free Church (Registered Charity No. 1131868) is a local church of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain (URC), and is a member church of Thames North Synod of the URC. It operates in conformity with their Scheme of Union and Governing Document as well as a local constitution. At local level activities are under the direction of church meeting consisting of 51 members who have affirmed their Christian faith and support the objectives of the church.

A new Church Building has been constructed at Maylands Plaza, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 4GZ, which was occupied by the church from February 2020. In March 2020 the church activities were suspended as part of the COVID-19 regulations. The impact of this on the charity is unclear at the moment but the trustees are actively mitigating the effects on Church life.

The Church Office telephone number is 01442 260175 / 07933 570594

The members of the Elders' Meeting for the time being are recognised as the charity trustees. Those who served this year are as follows:

Minister: Vacant

Church Secretary: Heather Lewis

Elder: Shirley Ford – Acting Treasurer as of August 2020

Elder: Penny Stuart

Elder: Janiel Le Roux

Elder: Pamela Annison

Elder: Dave Kerry

Elder: Brian Jackson

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Church Meetings are held bi-monthly in addition to an Annual General Meeting. For most of this year Elders have been formally meeting weekly to progress the many tasks required to complete the building. Trustees (Elders) hold formal business meetings as well as gathering most weeks to pray and discuss church related matters. This past year it has been necessary to hold most of these meeting via zoom due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Elders are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit (contained in Charity Commission publication "The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit") and has regard to it in the administration of the Church. The Elders believe that the Church provides benefit to the public by:

- providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for the congregation and for anyone else who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers
- promoting Christian values and service by members of the congregation to the community, for the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

The ordained minister, who had been on long term sick since December 2019, was recommended to take early retirement (due to ill health) on 30th April 2021.

Public worship of one service each Sunday has been conducted via zoom and small groups have continued to meet using zoom. Unfortunately activities for young people, children and outreach to the community have not been able to be held. Regular teaching for existing members and adherents as well as opportunities to promote the Christian faith to adults and children has continued where possible.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

As a local congregation of the United Reformed Church, Adeyfield Free Church seeks to advance the Christian religion through its activities and the facilities offered to the community by its building, and described more specifically in its mission statement as 'Love Jesus, Love each other and Love our community'

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic we have rarely been able to worship in the church and have been holding regular worship services via zoom. Small groups have also used this medium to continue meeting regularly throughout the year.

Fingerprints, our pre-school, has been able to continue to be open during the year and have had a good attendance over this time.

Messy Church SEND have not been able to meet in the building and will hope to recommence this activity again once government restrictions allow.

Cubs have started to meet in the outside garden area at church and also hope to start meeting indoors once government restrictions allow. Unfortunately we presently do not have sufficient leaders to enable a Beavers groups to be restarted but will look at encouraging this to restart in September for the new academic year.

Two other activities, for parents/carers and toddlers we had hoped to restart when moving into our new church were Who Let The Dad's Out and Scramblers but this has not been able to happen due to the current pandemic. It is hoped to look at recommencing these activities although maybe not in the same format as previously, when we can safely meet inside the building again.

Our outreach to the community events, including invites to a Sunday lunch each month have not been able to take place but the church will look to start these again in the coming year. A pastoral team oversees pastoral care and support for members and their families as well as for individuals and groups in the wider community.

Several groups which the church sponsors include a majority of people who are not otherwise connected with the church serving young people, parents and elderly people.

Adeyfield Free Church is a member of Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead and links with other churches in supporting initiatives including Pray Hemel, which meets monthly at different venues. Other community projects include CAP, DENS, Foodbank and Liberty Tea Rooms and Community Hub. Support continues for individuals and organizations elsewhere in the UK and abroad with similar mission objectives of promoting the Christian gospel and serving those in need.

REDEVELOPMENT OF ADEYFIELD FREE CHURCH

We continue to be grateful to North Thames Synod for their ongoing guidance, help and support both financially and in practical matters.

We were much encouraged by the award of a grant from Hobson Charity, in the sum of £5,000 towards the foundation costs for the pre-school canopy.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £61,261
Total receipts on designated funds were £28,422
Total receipts on restricted funds were £18,042
Gift Aid repayments were £ 15,847
Total receipts for the year were £107,724

Expenditure from unrestricted funds was £83,738
Expenditure from designated funds was £8,825
Expenditure from restricted funds was £15,888
Total Expenditure was £108,452

Statement of the reserves policy.

Unrestricted Fund (this is the General Fund): The policy is to retain at least three months' expenditure as "free" reserves, to meet future shortfalls in income or unexpected expense. The balance at 31 March 2021 (£8,204) means there is not sufficient reserves presently. This is due to increased expenditure as we took ownership of the new church alongside a reduction in income due to the Coronavirus pandemic. It is anticipated that these funds will continue to be reduced as we incur start up costs for activities when these are able to recommence.

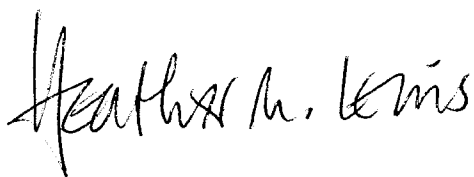
Designated Fund (this is the Named Fund): The policy is not to retain reserves. It is expected that income will balance expenditure during each financial year. However, at the end of the financial year reserves of £777 existed, mainly comprising funds for the Scouts Group and donations not yet passed on to the recipients.

Restricted Funds (these are the Youth and Building Funds): These are funds for specific long term projects so reserves are not held.

APPROVAL

Approval has been deferred until the trustees can meet.

(Approved by the Trustees on 21/06/2021 and signed on its behalf by Heather Lewis, Church Secretary.)



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2021 Total £	Last Year 2020 Total £
RECEIPTS						
Offerings		50,527	124	6,631	57,282	72,584
Fund raising and donations		0	887	708	1,595	3,389
Monies raised for named causes	3	0	5,256	0	5,256	9,910
Gift Aid tax repayments		10,726	1,269	3,853	15,847	18,922
Property - church/hall users	4	0	20,886	0	20,886	0
Grants Received		0		6,850	6,850	79,352
Bank interest & investment income		8	0	0	8	105
Balance					0	50
Total receipts		61,261	28,422	18,042	107,724	184,312
PAYMENTS						
Ministry & Mission Fund		33,629	400	0	34,029	32,210
Ministry expenses		1,073	104	0	1,177	803
Administrator Pay		10,663	1,012	0	11,675	7,244
Youth Worker		0	0	0	0	0
Church running costs	5	20,496	644	0	21,140	18,310
Programme activity costs	6	175	1,117	0	1,292	5,547
Support of outside causes	7	5,169	5,376	0	10,545	17,954
Maintenance of church buildings	8	9,192	0	0	9,192	6,769
Maintenance of Manse	9	3,222	0	0	3,222	6,905
MAX Expenses		119	172	15,888	16,179	102,128
Balance					0	50
Total payments		83,738	8,825	15,888	108,452	197,920
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)		-22,478	19,596	2,153	-728	-13,608
TRANSFERS between funds	2	0	0	0	0	0
CASH FUNDS b/fwd 1 April		30,409	48,526	6,276	85,211	98,819
CASH FUNDS c/fwd 31 March		8,204	69,119	8,160	85,483	85,211

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Monetary assets						
Cash		0	0	0	0	0
Bank current account		7,876	21,119	7,762	36,757	36,485
Deposit accounts		328	48,000	398	48,726	48,726
Total monetary assets	10	8,204	69,119	8,160	85,483	85,211
Assets used for church purposes						
Buildings under statutory trusts	11	Church buildings and manse				
Church contents	11	Furnishings and equipment				
Liabilities						
Significant creditors		0				

APPROVED by the Trustees on 21st June 2021 and signed on their behalf

HEATHER MARY LEWIS (name)(signature) Heather M. Lewis

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

NOTES

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, using the Receipts and Payments basis available to small charities, and the United Reformed Church guidance.

2 FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the church for any of its ordinary purposes.

Designated Funds represent unrestricted funds set aside by the church for specific designated purposes; they can be transferred back into general funds at the church's decision.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Transfers for year £	Balance c/fwd £
Youth Work Fund	48,106	0	0	0	48,106
Named Fund and Synod Loan Fund	420	28,422	8,178	0	20,664
Totals for designated funds	48,526	28,422	8,178	0	68,770

Restricted Funds represent income which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of a trust or bequest, or donations or grants received or invited for a specific purpose. These funds can only be spent on the specific purpose for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent must be carried forward as a balance on that fund for future expenditure on that specific purpose, or returned; it cannot be absorbed into general funds.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Balance c/fwd £
Building Fund	6,276	18,042	15,888	8,430
Totals for restricted funds	6,276	18,042	15,888	8,430

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2021 Total £	Last Year 2020 Total £
3 MONIES RAISED FOR NAMED CAUSES					
Website Refund	0	0	0	0	59
Christians Against Poverty	0	525	0	525	2,600
DENS	0	160	0	160	0
Daniel Gitau	0	950	0	950	0
Bolivia	0	0	0	0	0
Gideons	0	20	0	20	26
Tearfund	0	0	0	0	0
Fingerprints	0	0	0	0	0
Janet Fawcett	0	360	0	360	360
Joel & Claire Harri	0	984	0	984	984
Paul & Rose Harvey	0	1,152	0	1,152	1,140
Discovery	0	495	0	495	2,220
Phone Contribution	0	81	0	81	68
Beaver Colony	0	529	0	529	2,453
Totals raised for named causes	0	5,256	0	5,256	9,910

4 PROPERTY INCOME

Other lettings income	0	20,886	0	20,886	0
Total property income	0	20,886	0	20,886	0

5 CHURCH RUNNING COSTS

Gas and electricity	11,273	198		11,471	7,635
Insurance	2,488			2,488	2,561
Water rates	50			50	149
Telephone	1,311	11		1,322	1,702
Stationery and photocopying	688			688	580
Other admin expenses	294	432		726	180
Website and Social Media	3,482	0		3,482	4,586
Licences and music	539	0		539	508
Payroll Fees	371	3		374	409
Total church running costs	20,496	644	0	21,140	18,310

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2021 Total £	Last Year 2020 Total £
6 PROGRAMME ACTIVITY COSTS					
Youth & Children's activities	17			17	735
Worship and Teaching	138			138	620
Social Ministry	20			20	990
Beavers and Cubs	0	1,117		1,117	3,202
				0	0
Total programme activity costs	175	1,117	0	1,292	5,547
7 SUPPORT OF NAMED CAUSES					
DENS	200	195		395	200
Discovery	500	725		1,225	4,355
Bolivier	0	0		0	0
Christians Against Poverty	1,494	651		2,145	3,359
Youth Across Hemel	0	0		0	0
Evangelical Alliance	80	0		80	80
Hardship	0	0		0	0
Gideons	100	43		143	115
Tearfund	300			300	425
Through the Roof	500	0		500	500
Coffeemates	200	0		200	200
Churches Together	50	0		50	50
Samaritan'a Purse	0	0		0	0
Community Action	0	0		0	0
Ken & Denise Abrahall	0	0		0	0
Janet Fawcett	0	420		420	420
Daniel Gitau	750	1,098		1,848	750
Joel & Claire Harri	820	820		1,640	2,460
Paul & Rose Harvey	175	1,425		1,600	1,600
Fingerprints		0		0	3,011
Ladies day	0	0		0	429
Total support of named causes	5,169	5,376	0	10,545	17,954
8 MAINTENANCE OF CHURCH BUILDINGS					
Service Charge	306			306	2,973
Health and Safety	2,386			2,386	1,920
General Maintenance	5,676			5,676	1,852
Cleaning	824			824	24
Total maintenance of church buildings	9,192	0	0	9,192	6,769
9 MAINTENANCE OF MANSE					
Council Tax, Water rates	2,522	0		2,522	2,465
Manse maintenance	190	0		190	3,949
Manse insurance	510	0		510	491
Total maintenance of manse	3,222	0	0	3,222	6,905

10 MONETARY ASSETS

The church monies are not held in segregated accounts, but for the sake of this financial statement the total of each account is allocated appropriately over the various funds.

11 ASSETS USED FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

The manse at 78 Poynders Hill, HP2 4NT is vested in URC Thames North Synod Trust as trustees and is not a church asset. This is held for the benefit of Adeyfield Free Church in accordance with the statutory trusts applicable to URC properties under the URC Acts. The Manse was insured by the church for £427,769

The church building at Maylands Avenue was handed over to the church on 20th December 2019. The building is vested in URC Thames North Synod Trust as trustees and is not a church assets The building is held on a 999 year lease from Hightown Housing Association. The Shell and Core of the building is insured by the landlord. Tenant's Improvements to the building is valued for insurance purposes at £3,268,488 and is insured by the church. The church contents are insured, by the church, for £187,110

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 to 3 for the year ended 31 March 2021 from the accounting records of the Church.

(name)

(signature)

(date)

Shirley A Ford



14 June 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements of Adeyfield Free Church URC for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 1 to 3.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied ourselves that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is our responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act);

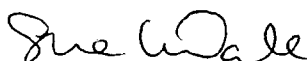
state whether particular matters have come to our attention;

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and

Signed by the Independent Examiner/s:

Date: 14th June 2021



Name and address of the Independent Examiner/s:

IAN WOLSTENCROFT
20 TANSMORE CLOSE
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
HERTS HP2 5LH

SUE GRIMSDALE
15 RAMBLING WAY
BERKHAMSTED
HERTS
HP4 2FS

Represented by:	31 Mar 2018	31 Mar 2019	31 Mar 2020	31 Mar 2021
Cash at Bank				
Lloyds TSB Current #1	2,414.16	1,913.16	2,722.69	457.00
Alliance & Leicester	40,091.92	48,277.71	33,762.56	36300.00
Deposit accounts – BM	48,578.20	48,629.04	48,726.29	48726.00
URC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cash at Bank	<u>91,084.28</u>	<u>98,819.91</u>	<u>85,211.54</u>	<u>85483.00</u>

Reserves Movement	31 Mar 2018	Surplus 19	31 Mar 2019	Surplus 20	31 Mar 2020		
Current	33,258.27	14,735.34	47,993.61	-17,584.02	30,409.59	-22205.59	8204.00
Building Fund	1,360.12	364.98	1,725.10	4,551.28	6,276.38	1883.62	8160.00
Named Fund	7,030.27	-6,034.69	995.58	-575.63	419.95	357.05	777.00
Portakabin Replacement	1,330.00	-1,330.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Youth Fund	48,105.62	0.00	48,105.62	0.00	48,105.62	0.00	48105.62
Synod Loan Fund						0.00	20236.00
Total	<u>91,084.28</u>		<u>98,819.91</u>		<u>85,211.54</u>		<u>85482.62</u>

Restricted Funds:-

Building fund			
Income	107,501.25	105,035.28	18042.00
Transfer In	7,330.00	0.00	0.00
Expenditure	114,504.01	100,484.00	15888.00
	<u>327.24</u>	<u>4,551.28</u>	<u>2154.00</u>

Designated Funds:-

Youth Fund			
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Synod Loan Fund			
Income			20286.12
Expenditure			649.75
			<u>19636.37</u>

Portakabin Replacement			
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer Out	1,330.00	0.00	0.00
Expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>