

South Street Baptist Church
Exeter and Brampford Speke



Annual Report

and

Receipts and Payments Accounts

for the year to
31 December 2022



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date	
From	1 st January 2022	To	31 st December 2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name South Street Baptist Church Exeter and Brampford Speke

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1133068

Charity's principal address 3, Palace Gate, Exeter.

Postcode EX1 1JA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Revd Ross Maynard	Minister		
2	Mary Ellis	Church Secretary		
3	Peter Jackson	Church Treasurer		
4	Heather Parkinson	Deacon		
5	Lynn Bailey	Deacon		
6	Elizabeth Vizard	Deacon		
7	Joanna Ingham	Deacon		
8	David Bulkeley	Deacon	From October 2022	
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
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16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Section B

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

The Church's Constitution adopts the model Governing Document prepared by the Baptist Union Corporation for use by the denomination. The Church's property assets are held in trust by the Baptist Union Corporation.

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

The Church is an unincorporated association, with Managing Trustees appointed by a meeting of its members.

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

The Managing Trustees are appointed by a meeting of Church Members.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

PURPOSE

The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

BELIEFS

As a Member of the Baptist Union the Church subscribes to the Union's Declaration of Principle:

"That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.

That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who 'died for our sins according to the Scriptures, was buried, and rose again on the third day'.

That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world".

ACTIVITIES

- Regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching.
- Baptism, as defined in the paragraph above.
- The Communion of the Lord's Supper on a frequent and regular basis
- Giving and encouraging pastoral care
- Nurture and growth of Christian disciples
- Evangelism and mission locally, regionally, nationally and internationally
- Teaching, encouraging, welcoming and including young people.
- Service to the local community
- Encouraging and supporting charitable social action locally, in the UK and abroad
- Encouraging relationships with and supporting Baptists and other Christians.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In conducting the affairs of the Church, the Diaconate consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in relation to the advancement of religion. In particular, we offer to all people with whom we come into contact:

- Worship and prayer – through weekday activities as well as Sunday services.
- Pastoral care – particularly for our extended Church Family, but also for other needy folk.
- Outreach work – through a range of activities to spread the Christian message.
- Missionary work – supporting our own Church member working in Burkina Faso, and also the work of the BMS World Mission, Christian Aid, etc

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Managing Trustees have read the Charity Commission guidance and taken it into account in the running of the Church, and in preparing this Annual Report.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Main Achievements

During 2022, we have continued to meet for worship in the building on South Street each Sunday morning, in the chapel at Brampford Speke on two or three Sundays each month (each venue celebrating Holy Communion once a month), and online through OPEN on most Sunday evenings. A small group has met under the title Dove Church on a weekday evening roughly fortnightly, combining worship with a chance to chat together over a simple meal. In November and December, this was combined with opening our premises to all as a Warm Space along with other places supported by the City Council. Prayer times linked with our Dove Café and also Renew Refresh (a scheme linked to the Renew Wellbeing organisation) give further opportunities for quiet reflection, and small groups also meet for prayer and Bible study in a member's home and at the village chapel. Our full-time minister, Rev Ross Maynard, is involved in almost all of these events, with Rev Simon Taylor (who is part-time) having particular responsibility for our traditional worship in the church and chapel.

The life of the church is strengthened by the pastoral care offered by a Pastoral Care Team under the leadership of our Pastoral Associate, Rev Peter Woolway. This keeps us in touch with a number of members who are no longer able to attend events; such people also value receiving our recordings of Sunday morning services on CD or through YouTube. As the age profile of our congregations is skewed towards the higher age bracket, it is not surprising that a number of long-standing members died during the year; with two new members joining during the year, we ended the year with 65 on the roll.

The church continues to run the Palace Gate Centre on our premises, and it has been a joy to have it full again after the ravages of Covid. Cruse no longer use office space in the Centre, and by the end of the year we are preparing to let that along with our second-floor offices to new tenants. Considerable work to repair the roof was needed, as well as redecoration, but we hope that soon the income from these spaces will start again. One of our Receptionists resigned at the end of 2022, so that is another vacancy to fill. Demand for meeting spaces continues, with many different 'anonymous' groups who follow the twelve-step programmes using our rooms as well as community groups such as the Male Voice Choir. The St Leonard's Pre-school uses our upper hall through the week, and includes the children of some refugees who currently live in a near-by hotel.

We try to maintain links with other churches in the City Centre; the Eco Church project awarded us a Bronze Award, and taking this further may provide reasons to share our experiences with our neighbouring churches, as well as strengthening links with the local City Councillors. We continue to support missionaries in Burkina Faso and in Chad with prayer and finance, and members give generous support to special appeals for money when these are issued, for example for the famine in East Africa.

Financial Performance

With a strong Church Family and its vibrant Palace Gate Community Centre serving Exeter's city centre on a year-round 7-day week basis, we count our blessings on surviving a financially very difficult 2022.

The majority of the congregation make their offerings online to the Church by monthly bank standing orders, whilst a few continue to make weekly cash donations and others use the Church's QR code to donate direct to our bank account. For much of the year, the total offerings given each month were above budget, but this trend came to an end in the autumn, after the deaths of several generous members of the Church Family. A reduced offerings budget has been approved for 2023 in the light of this trend.

The Church also benefitted from three sizeable legacies and a number of gifts in memoriam during the year, and was also able to claim Gift Aid on most of the regular giving to the Church.

We continue to hold a number of investments with specialist charitable unit trust providers, which were affected by the adverse national economic situation – they produced lower income than in earlier years, and their value at the end of the year was £46,000 lower than at the start of 2022. As the national economy improves in 2023, we expect that this “paper loss” will reduce, and our investment interest will increase.

In last year's Annual Report, reference was made to problems with letting two of our Community Centre's office suites, as the charities that occupied them downsized due to the economic situation. A further problem arose when serious leaking developed in the roof over one of these, and it was late in 2022 that we were able to finance the replacement of this roof – following an internal appeal Thankoffering and using some of the legacies we had received.

In our 2023 Annual Report, we expect to be able to record that a local charitable enterprise, started over 30 years ago by a small inter-denominational group in the city centre, has now moved into both of the vacant office suites.

During 2022 a considerable number of new and existing Centre users have joined us, or increased their occupation – taking advantage of the 7 day per week, 8.30 am to 9.00 pm availability of a range of sizes of rooms and halls. We welcome many mutual support groups, with their requirement for privacy and discreet meeting premises – this is an important part of our mission in the city centre.

Previous Annual Reports have referred to our potential liability for a share of the Baptist Ministers' Pension Scheme deficit; at 1st January, 2022 this stood at an estimated £34,600. We were delighted to receive the news during the summer that, following the latest review, the Pension Scheme Trustees were able to close this part of the Scheme down, and would not need to seek further contributions from participating Baptist Churches.

During 2022, the Church and Centre benefitted from agreed 3 or 4 year energy contracts taken out in earlier years. As a result, the cost of the electricity they used was unaffected by the energy price crisis that affected the country as a whole. The cost of its gas supplies also benefitted from a prior year contract – and has had to pay a substantially higher price per kwh for its consumption from mid-November 2022.

Before it was aware that the Church would have to pay almost £40,000 for the new flat roof in part of the Centre, mentioned above, it had committed to the replacement of the decaying softwood entrance doors to the Church, obtained listed building consent, and ordered new oak doors of a much superior design. At a cost of almost £8,500, the new doors have made a stunning transformation of the front of the Church. Much admired by passers-by in South Street!

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Restricted Funds and Earmarked Reserves are held in trust to be spent in accordance with their donors wishes – several of them cannot be used in the year in which the funds have been received; these are retained until they can be used for their intended purpose.

The substantial Ministry Fund is invested to generate income to help to finance the Church's team ministry, albeit that it may be necessary to sell some of the investments in future years

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None are materially in deficit.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has *supported the key objectives* of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F**Other optional information****Section G****Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Mary E. Ellis

Peter Croft Jackson

Full name(s)

Mary Elizabeth Ellis

Peter Croft Jackson

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Church Secretary

Church Treasurer

Date

12 / 7 / 2023

SOUTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH EXETER AND BRAMPFORD SPEKE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Charity Number 1133068

SECTION A

A1 RECEIPTS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2022	2021
Offerings	58,071			58,071	58,694
Annual Thankoffering		6,367		6,367	6,204
Gift Aid Tax Rebates	14,825			14,825	14,538
Miscellaneous Donations	1,697	250		1,947	2,424
Legacies & Gifts In Memoriam	15,649			15,649	40,490
Investment & Deposit Income	263	16,860		17,123	16,502
Donations for External Mission		4,069		4,069	3,366
Donations for Kate Royal in Burkina Faso		2,637		2,637	2,600
Miscellaneous Receipts	4,027			4,027	2,836
Office Rents	18,217			18,217	20,642
Charges to Centre Users	32,248			32,248	18,941
Dove Café Net Takings	1,616			1,616	445
Manse Rent	9,451			9,451	9,451
Donations to Palace Gate Centre	576			576	5,351
Free Church Chaplaincy contribution	21,000			21,000	2,158
Insurance Claim	0			0	420
TOTAL RECEIPTS	177,640	30,183		207,823	205,062
TOTAL PAYMENTS (below)	208,466	32,992		241,458	195,026
NET INFLOW (OUTFLOW)				-33,635	10,036
Net movement in cash funds in year (below)				-33,635	

SOUTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH EXETER AND BRAMPFORD SPEKE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

A3 PAYMENTS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2022	2021
Ministerial Remuneration	50,642	16,862		67,504	75,986
Preaching Fees	1,022			1,022	519
Worship Materials/Flowers & Fees	1,609	523		2,132	1,686
Youth Services	208			208	189
Miscellaneous Ministry	1,105			1,105	1,708
Administration Expenses	4,533			4,533	5,217
New Equipment Purchases	1,890			1,890	2,849
Donations to Other Mission Organisation	13,560	4,757		18,317	18,350
Kate Royal in Burkina Faso		2,691		2,691	2,787
Miscellaneous Expenses	2,134			2,134	121
Palace Gate Centre Staff Pay	36,096			36,096	35,251
Dove Café Running Costs	455			455	51
Miscellaneous Mission Expenses	394			394	0
Rents for the Manses	21,180			21,180	20,751
Council Tax	3,186			3,186	3,766
Repairs & Maintenance of Buildings	46,622	8,159		54,781	7,385
Service Contracts	1,270			1,270	1,600
Lighting, and Heating	11,143			11,143	6,867
Water Charges	3,204			3,204	2,468
Cleaning Materials & Domestic Equipme	1,669			1,669	1,352
Insurance	4,868			4,868	4,728
Telephone, Internet and Postage	1,676			1,676	1,395
TOTAL PAYMENTS	208,466	32,992		241,458	195,026

SOUTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH EXETER AND BRAMPFORD SPEKE

LIST OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES at 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
B1. CASH FUNDS		
Cash	160	193
CAF Current Accounts	17,217	69,676
Baptist Union Corporation Deposit Accounts	21,321	2,464
	38,698	72,333
Net movement in cash funds in year (outflow)	-33,635	
B2. OTHER MONETARY ASSETS		
Debtors - Church (unrestricted)	2,479	553
(restricted)		221
- Centre (unrestricted)	8,460	8,935
(restricted)		
	10,939	9,709
B3. INVESTMENT ASSETS		
Charity Sector Unit Trusts at cost		
Ministry Fund	348,894	348,894
Franklin M Sleeman Fund	17,000	17,000
	365,894	365,894
B4. ASSETS RETAINED FOR THE CHARITY'S OWN USE		
Church Property - Insured value at 24/6/2021	4,476,848	4,476,848
B5. LIABILITIES		
Creditors due in the short term		
Church (unrestricted)	3,263	1,563
(restricted)		195
Centre	10,630	2,613
	13,893	4,371
Contingent Liabilities		
Defined Benefit Pension Scheme Deficit at 31/12/21	0	34,600

South Street Baptist Church Exeter and Brampford Speke

Registered charity number – 1133068

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees

I report to the trustees on my examination of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

As the charity's trustees, 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 s.145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts as 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



JR Colson FCA

18 Silver St
Thorverton
EX5 5LT

Dated: 19 Oct 2023