

Preston Baptist Church, Paignton Trustees Annual Report Year ended 31"December 2021

Alms and Purposes

The principle aim of Preston Baptist Church is the advancement of the Christian faith In general and within our local area in particular. We are an open and accessible community that is committed to welcoming and assisting all who wish to worship and learn more about God. We offer spiritual help and support and find opportunities for service within the church fellowship and local community. We support missionary and charitable works In the U.K. and various parts of the world.

Activities

The church is open throughout the week to the community, and hosts a variety of activities for all ages —including. For example, Sunday worship, Monday lunches, Bible study groups, ladies fellowship, a Mums & Toddlers group, along with quarterly Church meetings, monthly Leaders' meetings and Messy Church. Holy Communion is observed once a month and weddings, baptisms, dedications and funerals are conducted on request. Our local M.P. holds regular surgeries on site and our rooms are used regularly by a variety of local community groups. Christian festivals are celebrated and attended by many who do not normally worship regularly. Our halls are used every weekday by Preston Community Pre-school which operate as a separate charity and pays a commercial rent to the church for the hire of the halls. We continue to enjoy close ties with the Pre-school. The use of the church buildings by third parties has not fully recovered following the Covid restrictions.

Achievements

(from a Minister's report at the AGM)

It's been fascinating to look back over events since our last AGM, last June, to see how much life has changed.

In terms of ministry there have been two main factors for me to reflect on.

The first is the effect on church life of coming out of covid restrictions.

It's been a long, slow journey and it's not been easy for our church family to regain confidence to return to live worship. There are still some who haven't felt able to. Some have reassessed where they want to worship but now, most who are able, have returned and feel comfortable in worshipping at church, even though covid is still very much with us. And I think all of us have realised that the opportunity to gather together to worship and fellowship is a freedom that we treasure; one that is vital to our mental and emotional health and to the continuing growth of our relationship with God.

During the autumn we were at last able to hold a memorial service for all those who had been bereaved during lockdown. It was a memorable evening together, bringing solace to those whose grief in bereavement was made far worse to bear because of the covid restrictions on funerals.

It has been a real joy to be able to visit people within their homes again, as well as here at church. James has recently started holding a Monday afternoon open door session here at church and perhaps this is a good moment to remind you all that I still keep Thursday mornings as a time when anyone can feel free to come and chat and pray with me here.

Another joy was that whilst we haven't had any baptisms in the last year, we have had a service of dedication for Thea Rose Cunday.

The other big change that has affected ministry - the life and routines of our church and is the arrival of James and his family!

Since last September they have already had a huge impact, even from their first week when other new families arrived, seemingly out of the blue!

It has been a real joy, I think, to everyone, to see young life within the church and I don't think it's been a shock to our system; young and old are integrating beautifully together.

I'm going to leave James to reflect on church life since his arrival in September and to cast a vision for the coming year.

The only things I think that I want to comment on are that our services are inevitably changing as James' personality mingles with ours but the results are positive. There is a strong sense of being in a fresh new season; there's a growing excitement that God is at work amongst us; there's real evidence of people being willing to roll up their sleeves and get involved; and perhaps the biggest encouragement to me is the building of team.

Last year Wendy Jeffs and Bob Baker were voted onto the leadership team and they have both been a tremendous asset on the team. We had an excellent Leaders' weekend recently when we were able to assess where we are now and what we feel God might be saying to us.

David Baker is standing down and we really want to thank him for all his spiritual input and practical wisdom. So we need to replace him as well as hopefully filling the 2nd place that has remained empty. So tonight we're going to be voting on two other strong candidates.

For me, the sense of being part of a team that can discuss frankly, stand united and always know that we have each other's backs is such a comfort after the isolation of being a minister during covid. The future is looking very positive and the church will stand on a strong foundation.

As we look to the future, I'm concerned about the effect that rising living costs is going to have on our church finances. There are going to be difficult times ahead for some of us.

With that in mind I have made the decision to reduce my hours to two days a week from September. That won't include Sundays, and I'll do this for a further year as I intend to retire no later than September '23.

As I've made this decision and feel really peaceful about it, there seems no reason not to tell you all about it.

Tricia Barrett

Messy Church

This popular event reaches out to families with young children on a Friday after school once a month. Crafts, games and activities are themed on a particular story from the bible and parents are invited to take part. Following a brief act of worship, a hot meal is provided and we all eat as a family. This event is free and serviced by volunteers from the church. It is attended by 30-40 people and greatly appreciated as it allows time, space and facilities for families to enjoy doing creative things together in a Christian environment free from domestic pressures.

Community Garden

This outreach is well used and provides pleasure to people in the community —many of whom are flat dwellers without gardens. The individual raised planters are appreciated by people in wheel chairs and those finding it hard to bend. This project, started 9 years ago, is a recognised success as it has become a meeting place where friendships are formed and loneliness avoided. The gardeners share a common interest and the garden provides a pleasant spot, just to sit and relax.

Befriending

Church members are encouraged to make a difference in our community by personally reaching out to family, friends and work colleagues, and strangers, with the Christian Gospel. This can be a costly thing to do —in terms of time and energy —but has the potential to be hugely rewarding. Financial support of missions and community groups The church members decide at the start of each financial year which mission agencies and community groups to support financially, from 10% of our church offerings. In addition, the church will occasionally have a Retiring Offering - special opportunities for church members and friends of the church to give to a particular cause. We also look to financially support members and friends of the church who are going through difficult times. To fund such gifts, the church takes up a special offering at our monthly communion service and members are also invited to give to this Pastoral Fund as and when they are able to.

Financial Accounts

Our offerings were higher than the previous year because the church was able to start meeting together after lockdown. Direct giving to the church bank account also continued to increase which helped to support the church through another difficult year. The church also benefited from being able to let out the manse for part of the year and only have one stipend to pay until September. There was an excess of expenditure over income of £17,680.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have a policy to maintain reserves of at least three months overhead expenditure, At the end of the year the church had free reserves of £46,833 which would more than cover expected expenditure for three months.

Church Trustees

To be eligible for election, Trustees must be church members nominated by other members. Church leaders were called deacons, but, during the year were renamed as members of the church leadership team. Each leader's period of service is for a three year term, which may be extended for a further term, if nominated, but they may serve no longer than two terms before stepping down for at least a year. The Church Officers (Secretary and Treasurer) are elected annually at the AGM and can serve for as many terms as the members decide.

Trustees (Church Leadership team) who served from 1st January 2021 to the date of this report were:

Ministers

Revd Tricia Barrett

Revd James Brown (from 11th September 2021)

Secretary

Marion Harper (annual appointment)

Treasurer

Ian Barrett (annual appointment)

Leadership Team

Susan Gibbons

Richard Barton (until AGM 2021)

Andrew Collis (until AGM 2021)

David Baker (until AGM 2022)

David Matthews

Wendy Jeffs (from AGM 2021)

Robert Baker (from AGM 2021)

Tina Ansell-Baker (from AGM 2022)

Geraldine Leigh (from AGM 2022)

Administrative Information

Preston Baptist Church is situated in Old Torquay Road, Preston, Paignton, TQ3 2RB

Charity Registration number: 1133521

The Church's current Constitution as an unincorporated charity is dated July 2016.

30th April 2022

Preston Baptist Church, Paignton
Receipts and Payments Account for the
Year Ended 31st December 2021

Charity no. 1133521

| | | 2021 | | 2020 |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Unrestricted | Restrictcd | Total | Total |
| Receipts | | | | |
| Offerings & donations | 55,028 | 4,155 | 59,183 | 54,569 |
| Gift aid | - | - | - | - |
| Legacy | - | - | - | - |
| Use of church premises | 17,176 | - | 17,176 | 18,174 |
| Sundry income | 425 | - | 425 | 565 |
| Rental income | 20,530 | - | 20,530 | 17,531 |
| | 93,159 | 4,155 | 97,314 | 90,839 |
| Payments | | | | |
| Stipend and pension | 29,202 | - | 29,202 | 19,541 |
| Telephone | 1,809 | - | 1,809 | 2,132 |
| Travel | 157 | - | 157 | 151 |
| Conferences | - | - | - | 200 |
| Music & worship | 1,142 | - | 1,142 | 1,746 |
| Teaching resources | 126 | - | 126 | 354 |
| Visiting speakers | 500 | - | 500 | 550 |
| Advertising & publicity | 144 | - | 144 | 203 |
| Subscriptions | 584 | - | 584 | 569 |
| Social events & catering | 144 | - | 144 | 195 |
| Mission & community giving | 2,000 | 1,515 | 3,515 | 3,598 |
| Pastoral gifts | - | 1,130 | 1,130 | 793 |
| Evangelistic projects | 229 | - | 229 | 103 |
| Ladies fellowship | - | - | - | - |
| Youth & children | - | - | - | - |
| Flowers | 253 | - | 253 | - |
| Church expenditure | 20,278 | 2,000 | 22,278 | 43,698 |
| Manse expenditure | 8,709 | - | 8,709 | 5,437 |
| Office expenditure | 2,895 | - | 2,895 | 2,174 |
| Investment property expenditure | 1,134 | - | 1,134 | 3,736 |
| Professional fees | 333 | - | 333 | 288 |
| Finance | 348 | - | 348 | 60 |
| Sundry expenditure | 571 | - | 571 | 148 |
| Fixtures, fittings & equipment | 2,921 | - | 2,921 | 1,434 |
| Memorial loan repayment | 2,000 | - | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| | 75,479 | 4,645 | 80,124 | 89,110 |
| Excess of Income over Expenditure | 17,680 | (490) | 17,190 | 1,729 |
| Cash at 1st January 2021 | 29,153 | 6,358 | 35,511 | 33,116 |
| Cash at 31st December 2021 | 46,833 | 5,868 | 52,701 | 34,845 |

Preston Baptist Church, Paignton
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
At 31st December 2021

Charity no. 1133521

| | | 2021 | | 2020 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | Total |
| <i>Cash Funds</i> | | | | |
| Cash at bank | 46,803 | 5,868 | 52,671 | 34,815 |
| Cash in hand | 30 | - | 30 | 30 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>46,833</i> | <i>5,868</i> | <i>52,701</i> | <i>34,845</i> |
| <i>Debtors</i> | | | | |
| Gift Aid | 34,519 | - | 34,519 | 10,000 |
| <i>Other assets</i> | | | | |
| Church - insurance value | 2,400,000 | - | 2,400,000 | 2,400,000 |
| Manse - market value | 380,000 | - | 380,000 | 380,000 |
| Investment property-market value | 165,000 | - | 165,000 | 165,000 |
| Church fittings & equipment | 150,000 | - | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| | <i>3,095,000</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>3,095,000</i> | <i>3,095,000</i> |
| <i>Creditors</i> | | | | |
| Memorial loan from SWBA | 10,000 | - | 10,000 | 12,000 |
| BU Pension deficit | 75,000 | - | 75,000 | 91,600 |
| | <i>85,000</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>85,000</i> | <i>103,600</i> |

Approved by the trustees

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Preston Baptist Church, Paignton
Charity no. 1133521**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Preston Baptist Church, Paignton (the Church) for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the church 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 church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 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 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 Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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 accounts to be reached.



David Rudall FMAAT
Greenwood Accountancy Ltd
5 & 7 Pellew Arcade
Teignmouth TQ14 8EB

Dated: 27 October 2022