

Hill Cliffe Baptist Church

Annual Review of Church Ministries 2022/23



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www.hillcliffe.info

May 2023

Introduction

Please enjoy reading this annual review of our church-led ministries at Hill Cliffe covering the period May 2022 - May 2023.

Leadership Ministries – report from Stuart McPhail

We were delighted to add Tim Appleton (Treasurer) and Sarah Harris (deacon) to our Leadership Team this year, and have Pam and Tim Grainger re-elected as deacons. Our Leadership Team in May 2023 comprises our deacons Sarah, Pam, Graham, Joe, and Tim G - along with Steve (Church Secretary), Tim A (Church Treasurer), John (Church Youth Worker), and Stuart (Minister). This team is called to serve the church in providing leadership for the various ministries and practical responsibilities of the church. Stuart continues to provide spiritual, pastoral and theological overview and direction for the Leadership Team and the church.

During the course of the past review year, Bryan Hancock decided to step back from the Leadership Team in readiness for his and Jackie's relocation to Devon, and Anne Hall stepped back from the team to give opportunity for her health to recover. We are very grateful to Bryan and Anne for their faithful service to the church as part of the Leadership Team.

The Church members commended Katharine McPhail to the Baptist Ministry Ordination interview process with the NWBA. Following her successful interview, the church members agreed to support Katharine financially towards the funding of her Baptist Leadership Programme for the duration of her 3-years as a Minister in Training. She is currently on placement with Hoole Baptist Church in Chester.

From a personal and family point of view, the need for Katharine to relocate to Chester to conduct her Minister in Training placement has, as you can imagine, had a significant impact on us after leading together in Hill Cliffe for most of the last 10 years, and always worshipping together in church as a family.

Teaching Ministry

Since May 2022, we have delivered Sunday morning teaching and prepared complementary weekly Small Group studies on the following series (most recent first):

- Enjoying God
- Jesus on Trial (From each of the 4 Gospels)
- Called to be Different – Studies in 1 Peter
- Advent - Introducing Jesus (From each of the 4 Gospels)
- Faith for Uncertain Times
- Creation Care

- The Story of Jonah
- Summer Psalms
- The Book of Acts - Following God's Lead
- Stand-alone teaching sermons

40 Days of Prayer and Fasting

During the Lent season we facilitated the reading together of Mark's Gospel and prepared a schedule of daily prayer ideas. As in previous years we encouraged the sharing of how we sensed God speaking to us personally and corporately in Small Groups and in Church Members' meetings. The Leadership Team then discussed and prayed over the feedback to discern an emphasis for our vision in 2023-24.

Sunday Evening Prayer Gathering

A small group of people from the church have met each Sunday evening 6-7pm for coffee and prayer. It's a powerful time for meeting with God.

Church Communication

Our Private Prayer and Support Facebook page connects 78 adults across our church family for prayer and support – with around 45 more receiving the updates via the email News Feeds.

The Public Hill Cliffe Facebook page has 201 friends, many of whom are not part of the church congregation. It shares news of services, events, and messages from the church to this wider community.

Our weekly E-Mail to the church family goes out to 145 adults, and this communication is printed and posted (or delivered by Leah) to those not on email each week.

Welcome Team and Connection Team at Church Services

Under Pam's (Welcome Team) and Rhys' (Connection Team) leadership these teams have welcomed and connected many new people and many returning people to the church family during this last year – most of whom have become part of the church community.

My thanks also to those who have served the church in preparing communion and collecting the offering in services.

New Members

We were delighted to welcome the following 9 new members this year (May '22-23):

Graveyard and Church Grounds Maintenance - report from Peter Hindley

This year has been a little bit of ups and downs with Graham and myself having radiotherapy for cancer and also me having a date cancelled for an operation. Many thanks to Graham Palmer for taking over the work around the church until I recover from my operation - God willing it won't be cancelled again. Once again, we have sown more windflower seeds around the graves and also in front of the church entrance.

[In the](#) area opposite the church entrance Bridgetots have planted 3 trees in memory of the Queen's Jubilee, although late planting due to a problem finding the trees that Stan advised them to buy.

Over the last 12 months Stan and myself have recovered more graves so that Stan can complete a new survey of the graves that are not on the original plans. Stan once again provides his machines for me to cut the field free of any charge to the church. The retaining wall that we started to repair is proving more work than first thought so with this in mind we plan to have a work party later this year. The work will be carried out on a Saturday so if you're free on a Saturday in Autumn to help for a few hours or even all day [Please](#) let me know so this can be planned.

After Bryan finished volunteering as he is moving to Devon, Euan Hall is now working with the team on Tuesdays. Many thanks to everyone on the team for all their hard work over the last twelve months. I say this every year, but it is important for the church know how much Stan works hard keeping the grave yard well maintained and keeping the car park clean and tidy.

Children's Ministries – report by Jane Quinn

Sunday Mornings

June 2022 finally saw Junior Church returning to something similar to pre-Covid arrangements. On the first, third and fifth Sundays the children are taught altogether in a Junior Church service. On the second and fourth Sundays the children are split into two groups (Excite Infants and Excite Juniors). We have continued to use the GoTeach resources and over the course of the year have covered themes including Daniel, Genesis, parables, Christmas, Abraham, the early life of Jesus and Easter.

We have 30 children on the register and overall numbers attending Junior Church each week have increased since Covid. The children's enthusiasm and participation levels remain high. We continue to be blessed with an excellent team of ever faithful teachers and helpers however we are operating on a 'just enough' model and would benefit from new volunteers to join the team. The biggest change to the Junior Church team this year was Bryan Hancock stepping down and we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his immense and invaluable contribution and dedication to Junior Church over many years.

Day Camp 2022

It was fabulous to once again be able to run Day Camp after two years missing due to Covid. The week was absolutely fabulous! The team was made up of young and old, new to Day Camp and those with many years of experience and they all pulled together to facilitate a fantastic experience for over 100 children. We had baking, crafts, gardening, engineering and water games to name just a few and spread through the whole week we shared the good news of Jesus through our words and actions. Day Camp is a great week not just for the children but for the team who also deepened relationships with each other and with Jesus.

This year's Day Camp Core Team (Ruth Hughes, Laura Chong, Pam Lanca Coelho, John Harper and Jane Quinn) have already been meeting to plan this year's Day Camp (21st – 25th August). Please pray about whether you could be involved this year in this amazing outreach opportunity and the children you could invite to come along.

Light Party 2022

33 children (including children from church, Excite Club and Bridgetots) attended the Light Party in October. Despite being let down by the bouncy castle at the last minute, the party was a great success and the talk by Andy Hayes was very well received. It was also fantastic to see so many of the Youth serving at the event.

Excite Club (report by John Harper)

A fantastic team has developed since sept 2022 when we brought back Excite Club on a [Thurs](#)[day](#) afternoons. We meet every [Thurs](#)[day](#) of the school term, from 3.45-5pm.

Bryan Hancock started the year in a joint leadership role and has stepped down due to his upcoming relocation. While we miss Bryan's leadership, gifting, character and commitment, it has been a blessing to see how the team has developed to ensure there isn't a void in his absence.

We have had a consistent group of largely churched primary school aged pupils attend (about 80%) and while there is room to grow in size, this year has partly been about laying down good foundations for next year.

We have focussed our teaching programme on the alphabet of Jesus and every week we have covered a letter which highlights something of who Jesus is.

Youth Work Ministries – report from John Harper

Sunday Mornings 3 age specific groups are functioning well and well attended. The oldest group continue to follow the main themes of the adult morning service, while the high school age groups have a change in theme, more or less every 4 weeks.

Bible Study on Friday Evening has changed. It is now largely hosted at church and sometimes at the Shack. Young people attend after school, sharing a meal together. This really helps young people to get to know one another as family and to get to know God's word. We see this as an important part of discipleship for young people in the same way that we see small groups fulfilling a key role for adults at our church. Worship n' Wait has moved and is now part of our [Friday](#) Night. Its purpose is to offer space for young people to worship and spend time with God, listening to His prompting and being encouraged to respond.

HC Youth Club on Thurs evenings regularly has 20-30 young people involved in this weekly ministry (including the young leaders who compliment the 8 adult leaders) We have spent some of this year working our way through the rest of Matthew's gospel as we want to introduce the young people (90%+ are not part of our church in any other ministry) to Jesus. This term we are now attempting to address their questions to God in our talks.

In Oct 22 we ran a Residential at Quinta (Shropshire), where we partnered with NWBA and targeted our younger half of youth. This was a fantastic weekend where a number of young people from [Thurs](#)[day](#) nights, who don't regularly attend on Sundays, were exposed to worship (and responded in a really positive way) and were given opportunities to hear the [Ge](#)[ospel](#) and have time afterwards to consider its call on their lives. We are planning to run this residential again in 2023. 48 of the wider church family were involved in attending the first ever Limitless Youth festival near Stafford. About 20 volunteered to help run a venue and the other half were able to attend as delegates. This week gives young people a great opportunity to make space to hear from God and respond to Him.

It is fantastic to see many of our young people signing up to help or lead at Day Camp this summer and we now have 4 year 8 and [year](#) 9 boys helping to run Excite Club on [Thurs](#)[day](#) afternoons.

A big word of thanks to all of our youth work volunteers who have continued to volunteer with a servant heart and great gifting.

In Youth Work we continue to try to ask the following 2 questions regularly to our young people and each other:

What is God saying to you/us? And what are you/we doing about it?

Small Group Ministries – report from Joe Martin

We currently have 8 small groups at Hill Cliffe. All our groups successfully continue to be places of discipleship, prayer, fellowship and pastoral support. It's great knowing that we've got such fantastic leaders that are willing to work so hard to serve and support their groups. I'm frequently encouraged when I hear how valued our small groups are by our church family.

Over recent months there has been an effort to encourage more of the church family to attend small groups. This has been done through ministry focus on Sunday mornings and by personal invitation by group leaders. This has seen a measure of success to the extent that we now have very limited spaces in existing groups with several groups at capacity.

For very practical reasons, the long-established group coordinated by Bryan, Jackie and Joy is no longer meeting. The group lead by Tim and Jenny has re-launched on Wednesday nights and this will create some extra spaces. However, as the church continues to grow, it is likely we will need yet more capacity. We really don't want to get into a position where we have people wanting to join a group but can't due to the lack of space. Please pray into this issue specifically.

Small groups are an important and integral part of church life at Hill Cliffe. They provide a fantastic opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and with others within his church. They are places where we can learn and grow in our faith. Small groups are a place of trust and support and form the primary pastoral support system within the church. If you're not already part of a small group, I would really encourage you join one. Please speak to me, or any of our small group leaders who would be happy to help you.

Men's Ministry – report from Graham Palmer

We continue mostly monthly to meet for breakfast early on a Saturday morning. Joe Martin, Keith Curtis and Graham Palmer help to plan depending on availability, ably assisted by Colin Webb and Dan Whitehead working hard in the kitchen.

Numbers have been around 15-20 and a fairly consistent group have enjoyed a time of food, fellowship and prayer in the presence of God.

Sometimes a reflection has been shared at the start. And recently God has laid on Joe's heart that we should be encouraging our men to pray more, for ourselves our families and church. We will be continuing this theme during the year, aiming to enable all of us to be more comfortable in praying in this setting and also in church. Feedback from those attending is always good.

We invite and welcome men of Hill Cliffe to join us at any of our meetings. Just have a word with one of us!

Worship Ministries – report from Tim Grainger

I'm grateful to be able to work with such a helpful team and to have to very able worship leaders, Andy and Laura to work alongside. We have good depth in terms of numbers across most aspects of the worship ministry and week on week we are able to facilitate the congregation in worship. We were sorry to see Katharine stand down from her role as worship leader as she is now a Baptist Minister in Training in

Hoole Baptist Church, but she remains in our thoughts and prayers and has left a good and meaningful legacy.

One of the great encouragements is that the congregation really seem to enjoy the worship, and whilst we can encourage even more freedom in this regard, it's great to be able to hear people's voices on a Sunday morning.

It is important to say that a great deal [of](#) work goes on behind the scenes to make sure that a Sunday morning service happens and so please do continue to pray for and pass your encouragement on to all members of the worship team, which very much includes the AV, sound and camera teams. We are all part of the team. It had been a real encouragement to hear that some of the new folks attending recently initially watched the livestream and then decided to attend in person. The livestream therefore continues for the moment to have a helpful place in the worship ministry.

Please pray for protection for our worship team members. We are on the 'front line' when we lead worship or are involved in the tech teams, and often Sunday afternoons or Mondays can be a time of feeling a little low. Please also pray for sensitivity to the Holy Spirit as we lead the congregation, that God would be glorified and be completely central in all we do.

Finance Ministries – report from Tim Appleton

Accounts year ending 31 December 2022.

The year ended with an income of £149,628 and with £151,004 of expenditure. This is a deficit of £1,376 for the year, much lower than the previous 2 years which were heavily impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic. At the end of December 2022 we held £31,820 in our current and savings accounts combined.

We will need to look to balance our accounts in the coming years and rebuild our savings a little. The Pandemic showed us how important it is to be financially resilient.

As a church we want to be good stewards of what God gives us but also to be generous. In 2022 we gave £32,695 to a number of missions, ministries, and charities, locally, nationally, and globally. This equates to 22% of our income. In 2023 we have chosen to continue to support mission partners to whom we have longstanding commitments. Also, we have restructured the remainder of our regular giving to allow us to be prudent with what we have, and with freedom to react as finances improve.

In September 2022 Ruth Hughes, after many years as treasurer began handing over the role to myself. She has been super supportive during the hand-over period. She has been diligent, hardworking, faithful, and selfless throughout her time as treasurer and is an extremely tough act to follow.

Without the generous giving of our church members, both regular donations and one-off gifts, we would not have a church. My personal thanks to every one of you.

Thank you for the value you place on Hill Cliffe and all the things it is to you, our community, and our mission partners around the World.

Outreach Ministries

Local Mission/ Outreach Partnerships – update from Stuart

We continue to partner with several local outreach ministries – including Bridgewater Churches Together; Walking Day; Church Warrington; BYP; Active Hope; YFC; Street Pastors; The Church at Creamfields - providing volunteer, prayer and (at times) financial assistance from our church to support them.

Stockton Heath Festival – report from Pam

In July we once again opened up our Church to the local community as we participated in the Stockton Heath Festival. The Primary Schools Gospel Concert saw children from local schools perform a selection of gospel songs to a packed audience, predominantly made up of their relatives, friends and school personnel, with many being welcomed into the Church building for the first time. The Film Night was another ticketed event forming part of the Festival program and was equally well attended, with Hill Cliffe providing refreshments to all who came along. Both events showed Hill Cliffe to be a place of Welcome where the Good News of Jesus is lived out and shared with our community.

The Church gazebo on the Festival field was in a great location allowing passers-by to learn of Hill Cliffe's ministries, accept invitations to Church events, ask for prayer or simply chat while their children engaged with the craft table. The gazebo provided further opportunity to connect with festival goers, share faith and represent our Church family to people of all ages, backgrounds and interests from our local community, something we look forward to replicating this coming year.

Thanks must be extended to all who helped at these events and supported the vision of Hill Cliffe to be a place of welcome to all.

Hill Cliffe Café – report from Amy Harper

This time last year Cafe was still a dream being awakened amongst the core team. After easing back in ahead of the Summer break we are now very much back in full swing each Friday, with a faithful team and regular visitors; many of whom tend to stay for the full morning. We're always grateful for cake contributions and appreciate the support the wider church lends to Cafe. As Tim A will attest, the card reader has been a great addition too!

We have been seeking opportunities to use the Sanctuary space to share more of what our faith means. The lead up to Christmas and Easter provided natural openings for this and we have been encouraged by glimpses of God at work in people's lives. We have enjoyed guest appearances from Lisa Hutt with her art work and A Cappella too.

Please keep praying that Cafe remains a warm and encouraging place where people can engage with their journey of faith, whatever stage of it they may be on.

Creation Care – report from Stuart

A small group from the church have begun to meet to consider how we might encourage and facilitate the church in creation care-related issues. To find out more or to get involved please contact Stuart.

World Mission Ministries – report from Mary Evans

This missions report is a little different - partly because I am writing in Australia without my usual resources and with the internet where I stay being out. But partly because of how God was challenging me! You might say this is a 'fill in the blanks report'.

Our contributions 'as a church' to international mission remain much the same. We support Stephanie, serving with SIM in Malawi, BMS and in particular the Duprees in Albania, and the Byles who were in Cambodia and have now returned to the UK as Nick's work with EMI has taken on an increasingly international focus. We also support development and relief work through Tear Fund and Christian Aid and groups supporting refugees as those from Ukraine.

However, as we sometimes sing in services 'We are the church'! And the question I think God is asking us each, individually, as members of Hill Cliffe church, is 'As you look back over the past year, how have you contributed this year to the challenge I gave to all Christians to reach out to all nations.' I have had to ask myself, have I given and prayed for the work we are committed to supporting? Have I read carefully the information provided over the weeks? Have I written letters indicating interest and support? Have I listened to God as he might have given me a call to take an interest and pray for another world-facing organisation or another country? The 'mission report' of the church is really the summary of all our answers to these and other such questions. This is how Hill Cliffe has responded to God's challenge to world mission during 2022-2023. Of course, only God will read that report! I have to confess that my own answers to such questions is often 'sometimes, partly, and not as much or so often as I should'. But it is also 'Thank you so much for letting me be a part, however small, of the work you are continuing to do throughout your world!' We are all challenged as to how we, corporately and individually, will respond over the next year to the commission God has given to each one of us. Maybe if you are willing to let me know how you have responded to that challenge, then in next year's we can fill in the gaps!

Pastoral Care – report by Stuart

Anne Hall and Bryan Hancock have recently stepped back from involvement in the group for reasons mentioned above. We are grateful for their faithful ministry in this

service to the church. Graham and Stuart have continued to meet to assess our congregation's pastoral needs.

We continue to work on –

1. **Reviewing** the Church Congregation List to assess where particular pastoral support is needed, and how best to help (if required).
2. **Preparing** a set of Signposting Resources (to be posted on Noticeboards, on church emails, Facebook Page, and on our Website) to help people identify where they can get expert help or support across a range of pastoral issues and disciplines.
3. **Identifying** people to help with practical support needs in the church family.

Funeral and Graveyard Support

We are very grateful to Chris Hudson who has served in this ministry for many years with excellence and great pastoral care. As Chris recovers from ill health, she has decided to step back from this area of ministry. She does so with our grateful thanks. We are currently reviewing this ministry area, but Leah will take on much of the administrative role for the graveyard and funerals work.

Church Membership at Hill Cliffe:

There are 3 key elements to how we describe Membership at Hill Cliffe.
Church Members are:

COMMITTED – to our Church Family, our Church Covenant (Values), our shared Vision Emphasis and our Leadership.

INVOLVED – in our Church Family Gatherings, Ministries and Vision

INVESTING – in our Church Family Resources and Vision Emphasis

If you would like to explore becoming a member at Hill Cliffe please contact Stuart

Annual Church Covenant:

The Church Members at Hill Cliffe have committed that each year we will covenant together on the basis of our agreed Church Values (Based on Baptist Union Values) in God's strength. Please see *Appendix 1* below for the Annual Covenant.

This covenant represents our desire and aspiration to live a godly life in following Jesus, and to do so with the support, fellowship and accountability of our brothers and sisters in the Hill Cliffe Church Family.

What it does not represent is the pretence that we are going to fulfil our aspirations perfectly. The Church Members are requested to make a fresh commitment to this Covenant each year at our AGM.

Appendix 1: Annual Church Covenant

Annual Church Covenant

As a Church Membership we have committed that each year we will covenant together on the basis of our agreed Church Values (Based on Baptist Union Values) in God's strength. This covenant represents our desire and aspiration to live a godly life in following Jesus, and to do so with the support, fellowship and accountability of our brothers and sisters in the Hill Cliffe Church Family. What it does not represent is the pretence that we are going to fulfil our aspirations perfectly.

We will make our new covenant at our AGM Church Meeting. Because we take this joint-commitment seriously, If you are not able to make it to that meeting, please indicate the renewal of your covenant via email to Steve Gray, steve.gray@hillcliffe.info or in writing a brief note.

Hill Cliffe Baptist Church's Church Values

1. We are a Worshipping Community

I commit afresh in God's strength to...

- Maintaining a close relationship with God through regular Bible reading, prayer and spiritual disciplines.
- Striving to live a life that glorifies Jesus with my whole life, submitting to the authority of God's Word as the final arbiter on all issues.
- Honouring God in all my relationships – in private, in public, in the home, in the workplace, or in the church – in my words and my actions.
- Worshipping God together in the gathering of our church family on Sundays and in the various other family gatherings for prayer, ministry and fellowship.
- Worshipping God in actively participating in obeying His missionary call.

John 4:23,24; 1 Corinth 12:11-13; Acts 2:42-47; Romans 12:1; Hebrews 13:15,16; 1 Thess 2:8; Psalm 119:2

2. We are a Missionary Community

I commit afresh in God's strength to...

- Actively participating in God's missionary call to 'go and make disciples of all nations', in my family, my neighbourhood and my workplace.
- Sharing my hope in the One who is the way, the truth and the life.
- Actively supporting our missionaries and mission partners across the world in prayer and financial support.

Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Thess 2:8; 1 Peter 2:9; Matthew 5:13-16; Phil 2:12-18

3. We are a Holy Community

I commit afresh in God's strength to...

- Walking in holiness as an act of worship to Jesus Christ who has saved me that I can live a new life in the Holy Spirit.
- Striving to live with integrity, honesty and faithfulness in all my relationships, loving and forgiving others as I have been loved and forgiven by God.
- Striving to maintain the unity in Christ amongst God's family at Hill Cliffe, refusing to gossip and back-bite, but rather honouring one another in the Lord.
- Striving to honour Jesus by avoiding involvement in anything we know contradicts God's Word and ideals.
- Seeking to put off the old nature and the sins against the body, such as sexual immorality, adultery, sex outside of marriage, pornography, gluttony, drunkenness, etc.
- Seeking to honour, preserve and protect the gift of marriage and God's ideals for marriage in our church family.
- Submitting to the loving discipline of the Holy Spirit and God's Word in confession, repentance and restoration when we sin.

Ephesians 5:1-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22; 2 Timothy 3:1-17; 1 Peter 1:13- 2:2; Romans 6:12

4. We are a Sacrificial Community

I commit afresh in God's strength to...

- Sacrificing my time and comfort in serving our family at Hill Cliffe – in prayer, encouragement, care for the needy, in hospitality and in love.
- Sacrificing my money, time, gifts and talents in actively participating in the growth of the Kingdom of God.
- Sacrificing myself in identifying with those who are rejected, deprived and powerless.
- Sacrificing my time and comfort in purposefully serving the needs of the aliens and strangers, the vulnerable and the needy in our society in the love of Christ.

Romans 12:1; Luke 11:42; Hebrews 13:5; 2 Corinth 9:7; 1 John 2:2

5. We are a Prophetic Community

I commit afresh in God's strength to...

- Seeking to encourage and bless my church family in speaking and acting prophetically as I am led and empowered by the Holy Spirit, and guided by God's Word and our Church leaders.
- Seeking to speak and act prophetically in our wider society in tune with godly wisdom, justice and grace – confronting evil, injustice and hypocrisy and challenging worldly concepts of power, wealth, status and security.

Romans 16:25-27; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Acts 2:17-19; Ephesians 4:11-16; Acts 13:1-3; Phil 2:12-18

6. We are an Inclusive Community

I commit afresh in God's strength to...

- Helping ensure that the gospel and the church transcend the barriers of language, race, class, age, gender and culture in the Christ-like love of God.

John 3:16-21; Galatians 3:26-29; Revelation 7:9,10

HILL CLIFFE BAPTIST CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT

	Note	2022	2021
Receipts			
Offerings	2	115,423	101,180
Income tax recovered on offerings		22,595	16,679
Youth and Children events		6,916	2,061
Rents and contributions for use of premises		660	1,025
Café and catered events		-	-
Graveyard		1,360	785
Other		2,382	303
Flood donation		-	4,284
Legacies		-	500
Interest	3	292	62
Total Receipts		149,628	126,878
Payments			
Ministry	4	72,379	73,610
Mission	5	32,695	34,300
Upkeep of church premises	6	29,511	19,864
Administration	7	3,500	3,161
Children and Youth	8	9,516	4,894
Serving, reaching and discipling	9	3,403	1,110
Total Payments		151,004	136,939
Surplus (Deficit)		(1,376)	(10,061)
Cash balance at previous year end		33,196	43,257
Cash balance at current year end		31,820	33,196

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022	2021
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances		14,435	
BUC deposit account		17,093	32,032
Money received not banked			
Assets Held for Church's own use	10	1,540,142	1,540,142
Total Assets		1,571,670	1,572,174
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities	11		
Long Term Loans	12		
Pension Scheme liability	13	-	32,500
Other liabilities			
Total Liabilities		-	32,500

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out on pages [1 & 2] relating to the year ending 31 December 2022 are as approved by the deacons.

Signed: (Treasurer or other Deacon authorised to sign on behalf of all the deacons)

[Date]

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of Accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and in accordance with Section 133 Charities Act 2011.

2. Donations and other income	2022	2021
Donations	115,423	101,180
Total Donations and Other Income	115,423	101,180

3. Investment income	2022	2021
Savings interest	292	
Total Investment Income	292	0

4. Ministry	2022	2021
Staff stipends, NI and pension contributions	67,128	67,923
Manse costs	4,185	4,082
Study and conference expenses	1,066	1,605
Total Ministry	72,379	73,610

Stuart McPhail acts as one of the church's trustees and receives remuneration and other benefits in respect of his services as Pastor, including the provision of manse accommodation [owned by the church]

5. Mission	2022	2021
Home Mission	6,000	6,000
BMS World Mission	6,000	6,000
Christians Against Poverty	720	720
Warrington Youth For Christ	960	960
Tearfund	720	720
Active Hope	960	960
SIM	6,115	6,115
Broomfields Youth Project	1,700	1,700
Message Trust	60	720
Warrington Street Pastors	960	960
Mission Aviation Fund	60	720
Open Doors	60	720
Flood donations		5,685
Sponsorship and Other mission	4,000	2,320
Engineering In Mission	2,400	
Langham Partnership	660	
Prison Fellowship	660	
Christian Aid	660	
Total Mission	32,695	34,300

6. Upkeep of church premises	2022	2021
Energy/Telephone	8,661	5,241
Cleaning	1,178	918
Insurance	3,605	3,269
Repairs and maintenance	8,345	2,398
Equipment		
Manse Maintenance	198	548
Minibus Maintenance	295	686
Graveyard Contractor	7,230	6,804
Total Upkeep of church premises	29,511	19,864

7. Administration	2022	2021
Printing and stationery	970	525
Subscriptions	2,531	2,636
Total Administration	3,500	3,161

8. Children and Youth	2022	2021
Resources and equipment	1,221	1,958
Day camp	4,402	2,936
Mission and other trips	3,893	
Total children and youth	9,516	4,894

9. Serving, Reaching and discipling	2022	2021
Welcome and Stewarding	131	
Teaching and Worship	25	-
Pastoral	124	-
Adult/Family outreach	966	180
Investing in leaders and discipleship		25
Kitchen/catering	2,158	905
Total Serving, reaching and discipling	3,403	1,110

10. Assets held for the Church's Own Use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd]:

Church Premises and Land, (Including Burial Ground), at Red Lane valued in the accounts at £1,200,000 based on insured value

Church Manse at 15A Cobbs Lane valued in the accounts at £255,142 based on insured value

The church also owns fixtures, furniture and equipment with an insured value of £85,000

11. Current Liabilities	2022	2021
Cheques written but not cashed		
Total Current Liabilities	-	-

12. Long Term Liabilities	2022	2021
Long term liabilities	-	-
Total Long-Term Liabilities	-	-

13. Pension Scheme Liabilities

The Church is a participating employer the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is a separate legal entity administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011. Prior to this date the main benefit provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was a pension of one eightieth of final minimum pensionable income for each year of pensionable service together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. Since 1 January 2012, benefits have been provided through a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan.

A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. At the valuation date the market value of the DB Plan assets was £298 million, whilst the level of assets needed to pay benefits was £316m, giving a deficit of £18m (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other participating employers in the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit. The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme is due to take place not later than as at 31 December 2022.

The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buyout their Pension Scheme liabilities at 31 December 2021 was £255,000.

At the end of June 2022, the Baptist Pension Scheme signed an agreement with the insurance company Just Group ('Just') to secure members' pension benefits under the Defined Benefit ('DB') Plan. This agreement is referred to as a 'buy-in policy'. It follows a similar agreement with Just in 2019 that covered most pensions in payment at that time. The combined agreements mean that Just are now providing financial backing for all DB pensions provided through the Scheme's DB Plan.

The cost of such policies is largely driven by financial markets and these have moved substantially in the Scheme's favour, particularly over the course of the last few months. As a result, this transaction takes the Scheme out of a shortfall position for the first time in two decades. Although risks remain, the Baptist Union and the Trustee of the Scheme have agreed that deficit contributions from each participating employer in the DB Plan will reduce to just £1 per month from August 2022.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Hillcliffe Baptist Church

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1134511

Set out on pages

1 - 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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 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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:

Lisa Price

Date:

19/10/2023

Name:

Lisa Marie Price

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

AAT

(if any):

Address:

17 Wood Lane
Appleton, Warrington
WA4 3DB

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

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