

## **Tilehouse Street Baptist Church Annual Report 2022**

Charity Registration Number: 1135132

The charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the Church engages in a range of activities for the purpose of 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.

### Trustees (Deacons)

Revd. Jane Robson (Minister)

Mrs Joyce Bleasby

Mr Paul Chamberlain (Designated Person for Safeguarding)

Mrs Margaret Granger (Safeguarding Trustee)

Mrs Sheila Hallas (Secretary)

Mr John Maguire

Revd. Ian Stears-Handscorn

Mr Andrew Turner (Treasurer)

Motto Text      Isaiah 43 verses 18 – 19

The Lord says, "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!

Do you not perceive it?"

### Aims

The Church's primary aim is to worship God, make known his love, share the good news of the gospel and to care for all people, locally and across the world.

### Governance

The deacons have met regularly to consider and discuss both the life of the Church and issues of wider importance. Meetings have been held face to face and always begin and end with prayer.

Church Meetings which, under God, have the ultimate authority over the Church's activities have continued in hybrid form. The average attendance is excellent with around 15 – 20 persons present and another 4 – 6 joining remotely.

### Safeguarding

The Safeguarding team has conscientiously worked to ensure that correct policies and procedures are in place and followed. The records have been updated and the Baptist Union Level 1 training video was screened during a morning service.

### Membership

On January 1<sup>st</sup> there were 50 members on the Tilehouse Street roll. One lady died in May, a few months short of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. There are 10 members at our daughter church in Stondon, thus bringing the total to 59 at the end of the year.

### Worship

It is a joy to gather for worship every week. A number of people, including residents in a local care home, watch the live streamed services either as they happen or later in the week. The services are imaginative and creative and the sermons are both thoughtful and thought provoking. This year we have completed our meander through Mark, jogged through Judges and lingered with Luke. During Advent, we considered the various ways in which God speaks.

It was a pleasure to welcome visiting preachers from time to time and a delight to receive a visit from our link missionaries who were on home assignment from Nepal.

In October the monthly services at Foxholes Care Home which were suspended during the Covid pandemic resumed and are appreciated by the residents.

#### Prayer

Prayer, both private and communal, is an essential part of Church life. The monthly Saturday meetings in the church have continued. The weekly prayer meetings held on Zoom each Wednesday were moved to the evening and the number participating in them has increased.

#### Bible Study Groups

There are two small groups which meet regularly. One group took part in the Churches Together in Hitchin Lent Groups and welcomed five or six people from other churches. This year we looked at the prayers of Jesus.

#### Open Church

This chance to chat and relax is enjoyed by those who come and is an opportunity to get to know those who seldom attend a Sunday service.

In late autumn, the church meeting took the decision to open the church for longer on a Thursday morning and offer the facilities as a 'Warm Welcome Space' for those struggling with the current cost of living crisis. This began in December and will continue throughout the winter.

#### Pastoral Care

Jane, Val, the pastoral care co-ordinator, and others do their best to provide spiritual support and practical help to anyone in need.

#### The Buildings

These are used to almost their full capacity and a wide range of activities take place in them, from badminton to ballet and Pre-school to Pilates. Three other small churches also worship on the premises.

A Quinquennial Inspection was carried out in the late summer. The report identified some problems needing attention but none requiring immediate action.

Unfortunately, in February Storm Eunice blew down a section of the boundary wall on the east side of the car park and the rebuilding is still to be finished.

#### Other Events

In June, we shared in a lunch as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and with the rest of the country mourned her passing in September.

As part of the Hitchin Festival in July, we held an open day entitled, 'Now thank we all our God' which gave many people the opportunity to display all sorts of creative talents such as photography, painting and floristry. One gentleman had spent much time lovingly hand crafting a violin which he cannot play but a young lady present played it for us. This success inspired us to hold an Advent Fair which raised money for the local Food Pantry.

Another year has passed into history. We may not have the numbers and strength to be able to do all that we would like but we do not dwell in the past. We continue to look to the Holy Spirit for guidance and we care and pray for each other. With excitement and anticipation we look to see what new thing God is doing.

Sheila Hallas  
February 2023

# **Tilehouse Street Baptist Church**

Registered Charity no. 1135132

Income and Expenditure Account  
for the year

1st January to 31st December 2022

# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

## Trustees

Rev J Robson	Minister
Mrs S Hallas	Secretary
Mr A Turner	Treasurer
Mrs M Granger	Deacon
Mrs J Bleasby	Deacon
Rev I Stears-Handscomb	Deacon
Mr J Maguire	Deacon
Mr P Chamberlain	Deacon

## Address

Tilehouse Street Baptist Church  
Upper Tilehouse Street  
Hitchin, Herts  
SG5 2EE

## Property Trustees

Baptist Union Corporation Limited  
Baptist House  
129 Broadway  
Didcot  
Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

## Main Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd  
PO Box 289  
West Malling, Kent  
ME19 4TA

Baptist Union Corporation Limited  
Baptist House  
129 Broadway  
Didcot  
Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Santander Uk Plc  
2 Triton Square  
Regents Place  
London NW1 3AN

# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

	2022	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds
INCOME	£	£
Voluntary income	89,148.19	85,002.20
Fundraising activities	-	-
Interest	2,152.97	298.78
Charitable activities	30,681.51	14,586.86
Total Receipts	<u>121,982.67</u>	<u>99,887.84</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable expenses	14,625.95	17,686.78
Governance costs	89,859.73	93,880.91
Total Payments	<u>104,485.68</u>	<u>111,567.69</u>
Deficit/Surplus of income over expenditure	<u>17,496.99</u>	<u>(11,679.85)</u>
Total funds brought forward	177,973.18	189,653.03
Total funds carried forward	<u>195,470.17</u>	<u>177,973.18</u>

# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

## FUND ACTIVITIES for the year ending 31st December 2022

GENERAL FUND		2022	2021
Income		£	£
Offerings		38,931.10	37,066.44
Donations and fees		14,847.40	10,326.69
Gift Aid - Income tax recovered		12,085.67	10,769.26
HMRC JRS payments		-	2,149.91
Lettings		28,879.51	14,114.86
Outlook contributions		55.00	140.00
Interest received		378.73	33.02
		<u>95,177.41</u>	<u>74,600.18</u>
Expenditure			
Ministerial (including stipend, expenses pension & pulpit supply)		31,336.27	31,139.53
Manse expenses		3,012.67	3,457.03
BU pension deficit payment		2,828.52	4,060.68
Standing charges -			
Heat & light	5,306.79		5,565.38
Water	658.24		313.98
Insurance	<u>5,067.48</u>		<u>4,785.59</u>
		11,032.51	10,664.95
Domestic -			
Cleaning	9,170.50		8,625.76
Grounds	5,982.60		5,258.63
Refreshments	<u>123.35</u>		-
		15,276.45	13,884.39
Organist, licences & piano tuning		793.89	428.33
Outreach & publicity - General	<u>179.40</u>		<u>152.12</u>
		179.40	152.12
Office -			
Administrator	5,980.08		5,720.04
Stationery & stamps	84.79		178.84
Computer supplies	573.97		444.56
Telephone & broadband	412.20		400.21
Photocopier	<u>511.70</u>		<u>527.15</u>
		7,562.74	7,270.80
Equipment		366.92	-
Subscriptions & gifts		1,119.40	954.20
Professional fees		-	1,506.00
Conferences & Training		50.00	95.00
Donations		2,000.00	2,200.00
Sundries		63.38	62.50
		<u>75,622.15</u>	<u>75,875.53</u>
Less transfer to Pastoral Care fund		-	100.00
Less transfer to Building maintenance fund		8,000.00	10,500.00
		<u>11,555.26</u>	<u>(11,875.35)</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR			
BALANCE 1st JANUARY		25,302.39	25,177.74
Reserve policy transfer (from Legacies fund)		-	12,000.00
BALANCE 31st DECEMBER		<u><u>36,857.65</u></u>	<u><u>25,302.39</u></u>

# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

## FUND ACTIVITIES for year ending 31st December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>PASTORAL CARE FUND</b>		
Balance 1st January	1,035.93	1,004.18
Transfer from General fund	-	100.00
Interest	11.87	1.75
	<u>1,047.80</u>	<u>1,105.93</u>
Gifts & Loans	149.00	70.00
Balance 31st December	<u><u>898.80</u></u>	<u><u>1,035.93</u></u>
<b>BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND</b>		
Balance 1st January	754.17	1,534.39
Transfer from General fund	8,000.00	10,500.00
Anniversary offering - windows/painting	2,280.00	-
Interest	-	-
	<u>11,034.17</u>	<u>12,034.39</u>
Expenditure - general	1,368.14	873.28
church & halls boiler maintenance	1,447.60	2,965.60
windows & painting (2021)	-	7,441.34
quinquennial inspection	1,440.00	-
wall collapse	6,654.80	-
Balance 31st December	<u><u>123.63</u></u>	<u><u>754.17</u></u>
<b>ORGAN FUND</b>		
Balance 1st January	13,062.87	13,651.80
Donations	-	-
Interest	154.87	22.92
	<u>13,217.74</u>	<u>13,674.72</u>
Expenditure - tuning	-	310.00
blower maintenance	1,034.16	301.85
Balance 31st December	<u><u>12,183.58</u></u>	<u><u>13,062.87</u></u>
<b>LEGACIES FUND</b>		
Balance 1st January	68,322.01	80,184.28
Legacies	-	-
Interest	843.39	137.73
	<u>69,165.40</u>	<u>80,322.01</u>
Reserves (transfer to General fund)	-	12,000.00
Balance 31st December	<u><u>69,165.40</u></u>	<u><u>68,322.01</u></u>

# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

## FUND ACTIVITIES for the year ending 31st December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>BADMINTON CLUB</b>		
Balance 1st January	258.06	357.06
Income - Subscriptions	552.00	229.00
	<u>810.06</u>	<u>586.06</u>
Expenditure - shuttles & sundries	12.33	28.00
Donation to General fund	200.00	300.00
Balance 31st December	<u>597.73</u>	<u>258.06</u>
<b>DONATIONS FUND</b> (see notes on page 8)		
Balance 1st January	1,818.42	100.00
Donations received	8,423.26	9,456.00
Gift Aid claimed	1,588.48	1,791.25
Pension deficit donation	420.00	-
General fund donations	2,000.00	2,200.00
	<u>14,250.16</u>	<u>13,547.25</u>
Church donations paid	10,512.72	11,728.83
Anniversary offering (windows/painting)	2,280.00	-
Balance 31st December	<u>1,457.44</u>	<u>1,818.42</u>
<b>OUTREACH &amp; MINISTRY FUND</b>		
Balance 1st January	14,260.52	14,236.07
Interest	176.04	24.45
	<u>14,436.56</u>	<u>14,260.52</u>
Transfer to General fund	-	-
Balance 31st December	<u>14,436.56</u>	<u>14,260.52</u>
<b>FLOWER FUND</b>		
Balance 1st January	339.87	263.07
Contributions	590.00	505.00
Interest	-	-
	<u>929.87</u>	<u>768.07</u>
Expenditure	462.80	428.20
Balance 31st December	<u>467.07</u>	<u>339.87</u>



# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

## FUND ACTIVITIES for the year ending 31st December 2022

	2022	2021
<b>STONDON CHAPEL FUND</b>		
	£	£
Income		
Offerings	9,120.53	9,543.00
Income tax recovered	1,603.75	1,824.25
Furlough payments	-	134.40
Donations	738.00	400.00
Grants	-	-
Little Treasures	-	-
Coffee mornings & fund raising	-	-
Lettings	1,250.00	243.00
Other income (Harvest & Christmas appeals)	745.00	896.00
Interest	588.07	78.91
	<u>14,045.35</u>	<u>13,119.56</u>
Expenditure		
Pastorate	-	5,184.00
Preaching fees	1,208.50	237.80
Standing charges - Heat & light	304.79	368.33
Water	868.63	339.37
	<u>1,173.42</u>	<u>707.70</u>
Building - Maintenance	411.00	467.48
Cleaning	736.08	704.04
Projects	-	1,450.00
Insurance, fire extinguishers	1,017.55	1,179.08
	<u>2,164.63</u>	<u>3,800.60</u>
Music licence	209.05	271.33
Outreach & publicity	-	-
Trailblazers/Junior church	-	-
Little Treasures	-	-
Training	-	-
Equipment	143.88	143.88
Donations - Home Mission	500.00	600.00
BMS	500.00	600.00
Baptist Twinning	800.00	800.00
Appeals	832.50	1,099.75
	<u>2,632.50</u>	<u>3,099.75</u>
Sundries	50.00	-
	<u>7,581.98</u>	<u>13,445.06</u>
DEFICIT/SURPLUS FOR YEAR	<u>6,463.37</u>	<u>(325.50)</u>
BALANCE 1st JANUARY	52,818.94	53,144.44
BALANCE 31st DECEMBER	<u>59,282.31</u>	<u>52,818.94</u>

# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

<b>DONATIONS FUND NOTES</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Notes (for 2022)</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
Home Mission	2,624.38	2,421.87	see note 1
BMS	2,284.63	2,271.88	see note 2
Birthday Scheme	217.50	201.25	
Operation Agri	1,148.56	944.00	Harvest offerings
CTiH Phase	1,700.00	1,600.00	donation from General Fund
Regents Park Baptist College	300.00	300.00	donation from General Fund
Foodbank	-	300.00	donation from General Fund
CTiH Phase	36.25	-	Individual donations
CTiH Phase	50.00	-	Knit & Natter
Knit for Peace	50.00	-	Knit & Natter
Food Pantry	598.61	-	Harvest and Advent Fair
Garden House Hospice	-	1,818.75	Church Anniversary
Foodbank	-	944	Harvest offerings
Foodbank	-	166.67	Individual donations
Christian Aid	-	807.91	Christian Aid Week
Spurgeons Child Care	-	1,053.67	Spurgeons Update Service
Spurgeons Child Care	619.41	-	Appeal and Card sorting
Parkinsons	-	435.00	Christmas Card sorting
Garden House Hospice	86.40	-	Carol service
Christian Aid	138.25	686.25	Christmas Day Service
<b>Total:</b>	<b>9,853.99</b>	<b>13,951.25</b>	<b>Notes 4,5</b>

## Notes (for 2022):

1. includes £420.00 Pension Rebate; £1,775.00 Gift Day; £429.38 gift aid
2. includes £80.25 BMS Globes £1,775.00 Gift Day; £429.38 gift aid
3. gift aid is claimed wherever possible; Total claimed on donations £1,204.48
4. the total excludes £404.00 received in 2022 for 2021  
and includes £102.50 gift aid for 2022 received in 2023
5. the total donations are equivalent to 10.4% of the church income

## Other notes:

- i) 2022 Mission Gift Day total was £4,408.75 (including £858.75 gift aid)
- ii) 2021 Mission Gift Day total was £4,573.75 (including £873.75 gift aid)

# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

## Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31st December 2022

		2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
CAF bank -	Cash account	19,705.44	11,294.52
CAF bank -	Gold account	12,604.46	12,556.47
Baptist Union -	Deposit account	97,933.73	96,440.66
Nat West bank -	Badminton Club	597.73	258.06
Stondon Chapel -	Santander UK Plc	20,709.33	14,834.03
	Baptist Unions deposit account	38,572.98	37,984.91
	Total at bank and in hand	<u>190,123.67</u>	<u>173,368.65</u>
Sundry debtors			
	Prepaid insurance	4,463.50	3,974.53
	Lettings	883.00	630.00
	Total assets	<u>195,470.17</u>	<u>177,973.18</u>
Current liabilities			
	None	-	-
	Net assets over liabilities	<u>195,470.17</u>	<u>177,973.18</u>
Unrestricted Funds			
	General fund	36,857.65	25,302.39
	Pastoral care fund	898.80	1,035.93
	Flower fund	467.07	339.87
	Building maintenance fund	123.63	754.17
	Organ maintenance fund	12,183.58	13,062.87
	Badminton Club	597.73	258.06
	Donations fund	1,457.44	1,818.42
	Legacies fund	69,165.40	68,322.01
	Outreach & Ministry fund	14,436.56	14,260.52
	Stondon chapel fund	59,282.31	52,818.94
	Total funds	<u>195,470.17</u>	<u>177,973.18</u>

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# Tilehouse Street Baptist Church

## Notes to the Accounts

### Reserves Policy

Tilehouse Street Baptist Church has a reserves policy which is to retain a minimum of three months expenditure in the General Fund.

### Basis of Accounting

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

### Insured Value of Assets held for Church's own use

Property - The Church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following, the legal title to which is held by the Baptist Union Corporation:

	Church premises	5,130,560
	Manse	291,841
	Stondon premises	550,471
		<u>5,972,872</u>
Other -	Organ, Pianos, Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	151,440
	Manse fixtures & fittings	28,256
	Stondon, Pianos, etc.	91,746
		<u><u>6,244,314</u></u>

The Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities set out on Pages 1 to 10 relating to the year ending 31 December 2021 are as approved by the Trustees

Treasurer

A. M. Turner

Date

6/2/2023

**Report to the trustees of** Tilehouse Street Baptist Church, Hitchin

**On accounts for the year ended** 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 **Charity no (if any)** 1135132

**Set out on pages** 1 to 10

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.


**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, 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:**



**Date:**

15/2/23

**Name:**

JAMES WEIST

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

TREASURER ST. MARK'S CHURCH HITCHIN

**Address:**

17, SEARSON AVENUE

HITCHIN

SG5 1NZ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

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



## **Tilehouse Street Baptist Church (TSBC) Independent Examination of Accounts for the Year 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

The examination followed the directions as per the Charity Commission's recommendations for accounts maintained on a "receipt and payment" basis.

### **Direction 1 – Eligibility for Independent examination.**

I checked the [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) website section on charity accounts independent examination to ensure that I am eligible to carry out an examination.

Accounts show total receipts for the year of £121,983, and net assets of £195,470. This puts TSBC above the £25,000 threshold where examination is required, but below the £250,000 income/ £3,260,000 assets threshold where an examination by a professionally qualified person, or full audit is required.

Receipt amount includes Stondon Chapel receipts, a subsidiary of TSBC.

### **Direction 2 – Documentation**

I have a letter of appointment from Janet Impey (former treasurer) dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009 stating that I have been unanimously appointed by the members of TSBC. I have confirmed that the minutes of the AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 show that it was agreed that I be appointed for year 2022.

I have copied and will keep for 6 years the financial statement, balance sheet and general account P&L. I will keep a copy of both this working report and the summary report.

### **Direction 3 – Understanding TSBC**

I have a copy of the Constitution for TSBC dated November 2009. I have looked through this and in particular section 26 which related to Record Keeping and Accounting. I have not seen anything that goes against the directions in the constitution.

I have talked generally with the current and former treasurer and one of the Church Deacons. This is now the thirteenth year I have been doing the independent examination, and I feel I have an understanding of the organisation and finances of TSBC.

### **Direction 4 – Accounting Records**

The accounts are kept in a clear, organised and detailed manner. The financial statement is presented in summary form with supporting documentation showing

individual transaction details. Procedures in Direction 5 will verify whether or not the accounts are reasonably complete.

#### Direction 5 – Comparison of Accounts with Accounting Records

I first checked the statement of assets and liabilities in the financial report with the 31<sup>st</sup> December balance sheet, these are in agreement.

I looked for independent supporting documentation of the major assets in the balance sheet. End of year bank statements show these figures to be accurate. The smaller funds (Friday club, badminton club and sunshine committee) were accepted without detailed verification.

I checked that the opening balances for all accounts are the same as the closing balances of the same accounts in the copy for the 2021 financial report that I retained for my records.

I checked the movement of funds during the year, and that the balance sheet value for the end of 2021 plus receipts for 2022 less payments and current liabilities for 2022 equalled the balance sheet value for end of 2022.

#### Direction 6 – Analytical Procedures

Examination of the income shows a substantial increase in general receipts of over £20k against 2021. This is made up of small increases in offerings, donations and gift aid plus a large (£14.7k) increase in rental income. The amount of rental for 2022 was just slightly higher than the last pre-covid year 2019, so nothing unexpected. Expenditure was £7k less than 2021 made up of some small differences plus £5.9k less pastorate spending at Stondon Chapel.

I also checked random payments to ensure there were invoices to support them.

#### Direction 10 – Examiner's Report

I have signed a copy of the summary examiner's report as I believe the accounting requirements have been met. Dated 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

#### Matters of Material Significance

I have not found any matters of material significance that need to have attention drawn to them.