

LITTLE HILL CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1138737

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Trust

Registered 2010-11-01

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 4 Manor Street
Wigston
Leicestershire
LE18 2BS

Phone 01162592659

Email mail@littlehill.org.uk

Website www.littlehill.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE TRUSTEES SHALL PERMIT THE BUILDINGS ERECTED ON THE SAID PIECE OF LAND TO CONTINUE TO BE USED, OCCUPIED AND ENJOYED AS AN UNDENOMINATIONAL AND EVANGELICAL WORK COMMENCED AND CARRIED ON BY THE SAID LITTLE HILL CHURCH AS A PLACE OF PUBLIC WORSHIP FOR THE SERVICE OF ALMIGHTY GOD AND THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG PERSONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES INCIDENTAL TO OR CONNECTED WITH THE WORK OF A CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Activities: Christian church. Regular services and activities are organised for all age groups plus occasional events. These are all for the promotion of the Christian faith in the Wigston area, teaching & supporting those who are already Christians and introducing and explaining the faith to those who are not.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LITTLE HILL CHURCH
- Leicester City
- Leicestershire

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2025-03-31 | £107,057 | £109,895 | - | - |
| 2024-03-31 | £93,678 | £83,592 | - | - |
| 2023-03-31 | £110,371 | £110,035 | - | - |
| 2022-03-31 | £81,564 | £87,666 | - | - |
| 2021-03-31 | £77,536 | £72,761 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|------------------------------|------|------------|
| ANDREW FRANK IRVINE | | 2017-01-09 |
| Benjamin Samuel Daly | | 2026-04-13 |
| Dr Kehinde Olatunji Sunmboye | | 2024-05-14 |
| FAQIR SINGH KALLOW MBE | | 1975-05-16 |
| Harley Jason James Clarke | | 2024-05-14 |
| JOHN HOWARD EARDLEY | | |
| James Harrison | | 2017-01-09 |
| Joshua Harrison | | 2014-01-27 |
| MR MIKE SMITH | | |
| PETER JOHN HOLMES | | |
| Richard James Andrew | | 2024-05-14 |

LITTLE HILL CHURCH

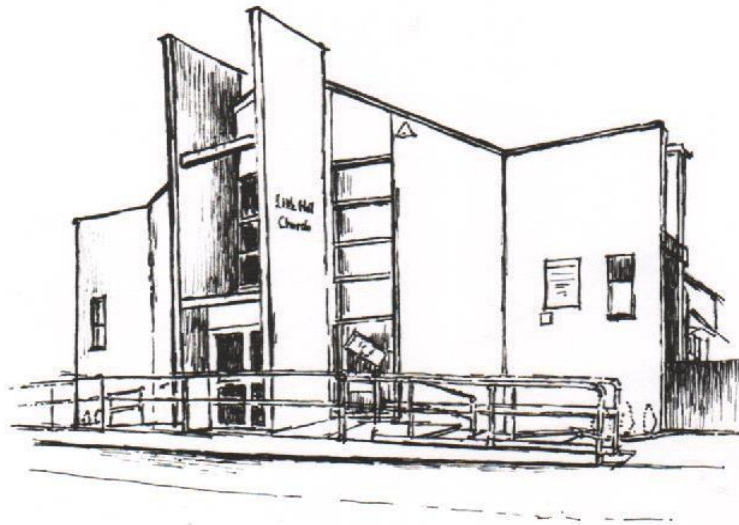
England & Wales - Charity number 1138737

Accounts



Little Hill Church

Wigston



Trustees' Report for the Year ending 31 March 2025

Little Hill Church

Launceston Road, Wigston, Leics, LE18 2GZ

www.littlehill.org.uk

Registered Charity (England & Wales) No. 1138737

HM Revenue and Customs (Charities) Reference: XN32811

Governing Documents

The objects of Little Hill Church and procedures for its government are laid down in the Trust Deed of 16 May 1975 (amended on 20 January 1993) and the Constitution adopted about 1975

Trustees during the year:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Rich Andrew | Harley Clarke | John Eardley (Chair of Trustees) |
| James Harrison | Joshua Harrison | Peter Holmes |
| Andrew Irvine | Faqir Kallow | Mike Smith |

Kenny Sunmboye

Elders:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Faqir Kallow (Chair) | John Eardley |
| Joshua Harrison | Kenny Sunmboye |

Deacons:

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Rich Andrew | Harley Clarke | James Harrison |
| Peter Holmes (Chair) | Andrew Irvine | Mike Smith (Treasurer) |

Bankers:

HSBC, 2-6 Gallowtree Gate, Leicester, LE1 1DA

Independent Accounts Examiner

Melanie Smith

11 Tremaine Drive, Wigston, Leics., LE18 2GW

Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting this report of the church's activities for the year ending 31 March 2025, which includes the information below and the attached Receipts and Payments Account.

Purpose and Objectives

Little Hill Church is 'an undenominational and evangelical work for the service of Almighty God and the education of young persons' and for other purposes 'incidental to or connected with the work of a Christian church in accordance with the teaching of the Scriptures' (Trust Deed clause (a)).

Little Hill Church exists for:

- a. the building up of Christians through preaching and teaching,
- b. bringing Christians together to love one another,
- c. the worship of God through prayer, praise and 'breaking of bread' (communion)
- d. baptising believers,
- e. fulfilling the commission to make disciples. (Constitution para.1)

Public Benefit Statement

Little Hill Church aims to provide public benefit through the advancement of the Christian Religion, in accordance with reformed evangelical theology, through the various activities highlighted below. The main area of activity has been Wigston and the immediate surrounding area, but Little Hill Church believes in a global mission in accordance with the command of Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:19 and 20. We have therefore provided support for members, other individuals and organisations, as resources permit, where such individuals and organisations are seen as sympathetic to our theological position and are themselves engaged in the promotion of Christian Religion.

Regular Activities

In pursuit of these objectives, the following regular activities have been undertaken during the year ending 31 March 2025.

On **Sunday mornings** Joshua Harrison, the church's Pastor, has continued to preach through the Gospel of Luke. A series on Biblical Ethics ran through the autumn and into the new year. **Sunday afternoon** services have continued with men from the church preaching through various Biblical topics. Joshua Harrison completed his series on the letter to the Philippians and preached a series on the book of Job. There have also been visits from guest preachers at both our Sunday morning and afternoon services which have been very much appreciated.

- During the last year, the church has run a **creche** during the Sunday morning service each week. This is run by volunteers on a rota basis. The age range of children attending the creche is 0-4 years old. Typically, we have 2-3 children attend each week. We provide toys and books along with basic drawing equipment. The purpose of the creche is to provide childcare so parents can join in with the main service.
- **Children's Talks:** Talks continue to be given mainly by James Eardley with Trevor Bowman covering breaks and other men on standby. Numbers of children tend to average around ten each week. Talks aim to be mostly interactive as a means of all ages and abilities having access to the content. Children engage well and learning is consolidated upstairs during Lion's Cubs.

Talk subjects over the past year have included several prophets, a series on people Jesus met and another on Jesus' parables. Additional talks have included: a harvest thanksgiving talk and a Blythswood talk by Derek McDonnell sharing about this gospel charity work. These, though not in the regular curriculum used, address questions children may have on other aspects of the Christian life.

The 'objective' of each talk is to present the Gospel simply to the children, through a key story theme, making clear the

great human need for forgiveness and salvation from sin through Christ Jesus.

- **Thursday Meetings:** We meet every Thursday for fellowship, prayer and ministry from God's word. In our Bible studies this year, we have completed a series on God's Attributes, and begun a series on God the Holy Spirit. Monthly home-based Fellowship Groups have studied and discussed chapters from the church's Bible reading scheme (many are following this to read through the Bible in three years). Once a month we meet for the Lord's Supper and we also meet for a monthly time devoted mainly to prayer where we split into small prayer groups. All these meetings are a blessing and help the church to grow in its spiritual life.
- **Ladies' Bible Study:** Over 20 ladies gather each Tuesday morning to study God's precious Word, pray and share fellowship together. Others use the Bible study notes at home. Studies this year have included series on Proverbs, Timothy and Titus, and 'The Gospel from Genesis to Revelation'. There have been meetings for praise and worship at Christmas and Easter, as well as occasional visits from outside speakers. The group is grateful for the contribution made by Judith Rowe in leading studies this year, as she now takes a break for family reasons, and for Victor Rowe who continues to provide the refreshments so faithfully.
- **Warm Space** Warm Space opens each Thursday from 10-12 noon with breaks for Easter, Summer and Christmas. Numbers coming in average 30-45 with a rotating core team of up to 8 people running it. Once again we have seen new people come in from the local area, friendships have been formed and some people have attended other events. We celebrate birthdays together and this year the VE Day celebration. We serve light refreshments, there is a craft table, table tennis, jigsaws and a kiddie corner. The local carers walking group join us every other week. We thank God for the opportunities to serve especially with the focus on welcoming local people into the building.

- Monthly **Saturday Prayer Focus Meetings** are held to praise God and pray for the work of the gospel locally here in Wigston, nationally and internationally.
- **Friday Fellowship** continued through the year with a meeting most months, providing hymn singing and a devotional talk followed by a lunch. This is designed for senior citizens from the church and other friends.

Evangelism The church has held meetings for various age groups over the years. All the following meetings are provided at no cost to individuals, and most are term-time activities.

- **Little Ones at Little Hill** is a group for pre-school children that happens on Monday afternoons from 1:30-3:00pm in term time. In total, there are five ladies from the church who serve at Little Ones in different ways. All are DBS checked and church members. One of our helpers retired at the end of July after many years of serving faithfully at Little Ones. We offer a wide variety of toys, activities, and crafts for the children to enjoy. We then have story time, where the children hear a Bible story and sing some songs afterwards – a mixture of nursery rhymes and children’s choruses that contain simple Biblical truths. Approximately 25-30+ parents and carers attend, with a similar number of children and babies. The aim of Little Ones is for the team members to show friendship to the parents and carers, to share their Christian faith when appropriate, to invite them to Sunday services and evangelistic events, and to sow seeds of Biblical truth in the story time for children (for example, that God made the world).
- **Kids’ Club** is our weekly meeting for primary school aged children held on Friday evenings during term time. It has been great to keep this meeting going, and we continue to be encouraged meeting new families from the local area. We teach stories from the Bible and sing Christian songs with the children. There are a variety of activities, including sports and crafts, as well as fun games and events. There are regularly between 15-25 children attending this meeting each week.

- **Lion's Cubs:** The attendance of children at Lion's Cubs on Sunday mornings continues at an increased number. We have between 6 and 19 attending, averaging about 12. The children are aged between 4 and 12 years. We currently have one leader and one helper in attendance at each session but call on additional helpers when necessary.

The group follows the same curriculum as the Children's Talks giving opportunity to ensure the lessons are understood.

The children enjoy activities related to the stories, singing, learning Bible verses and sharing their news. It is a wonderful privilege to teach our children and share the Lord Jesus with them.

- **Open-Air witness in Wigston:** This is scheduled for the last Saturday of each month, under the banner of The Open-Air Mission. A total of nine took place between April 2024 and March 2025. Between two and five members of the church regularly take part in this. The aim is to share the Christian message with local people. This is done through preaching, offering free literature (in English and a range of languages spoken locally), and engaging in conversation. Invitations are regularly given to Sunday services and other church activities, such as the Thursday 'Warm Space'. A free-literature table and display board are used. It is usually located on Bell Street, near Sainsbury's, between 10:30 and 12:30. There is generally a good uptake of literature and several conversations each time. This activity is covered by the Open-Air Mission's public liability insurance, risk assessments, and code of practice. Please see oamission.com for further information.
- **Youth Club** is becoming more established with young people aged 11-16. Attendance varies from four to sixteen teenagers. The evenings consist of practical activities on a four-week rotational basis; sports and games one evening; team activities around tables; a series of challenges in pairs; or a club night where there are choices available for the young people. Every effort is made to make each session interesting and fun. Each evening there is a talk addressing various issues of life or simply

relating an aspect of the life of Jesus from the Bible. There are opportunities for questions and conversations pertaining to teenage life.

- **ParkLife:** This is our summer outreach to youngsters and others in the local parks. Unfortunately, we were not able to go out this year because we had no female volunteers - only men. There is a desperate need for a lady (or more), otherwise we will not be able to go out in the near future. This is an urgent prayer need.
- **Women2Women:** We had three events this year, the first at Buttercups Cafe on a Saturday morning (August 2024) when about 30 women gathered for informal fellowship. Everyone enjoyed coffee, cake and chat. There were many guests and it was good to get to know new people.

In November 2024 we held a craft afternoon at the church which was very well attended. Derek McDonnell did a presentation about Blythswood (a Christian charity involved with education, community support and also sending Christmas Shoeboxes to struggling communities especially in Eastern Europe). There was also a short film about the joy that our gifts bring and the importance of sharing the Good News about Jesus along with the shoeboxes. There was great feedback from the event and many women took a shoebox home to fill for Blythswood.

Our third event was a very popular 'Portuguese night' at Zeph's cafe Oadby in March 2025. Ioana Eardley spoke to around 50 women about growing up in Romania (just after the 1989 revolution) then her journey to England and to faith in Jesus Christ. We had a quiz, a Portuguese-style meal and read John 3:16 in Romanian and English; everyone took home a Portuguese-inspired cork coaster. About two thirds of the attendees were guests of church members with several from other informal meetings like Warm Space. We find that interviews facilitate good conversations and Ioana's story certainly sparked a lot of interest and discussion.

- **Men's Evangelism:** Between April 2024 and March 2025 we put on two men's outreach evenings. In June we offered a meal at a local Indian restaurant, with a themed quiz and an after-dinner gospel talk. In December we hosted a group quiz night in the church building, with food brought in, plus a Gospel talk. These events are free for all attenders, paid for by the church. Both have had between 35 and 40 men in attendance, of a wide age range from teenagers to senior citizens. Approximately a third of attendees are church members; others are guests, family members, friends and work colleagues.
- **Senior Citizens:** Four Saturday teas were held in this period. The programmes typically included music, poems (both classic and light-hearted), quizzes, gentle sitting-down exercises, and a gospel talk, followed by the tea.
- **Free-literature case:** Christian literature, Gospels, New Testaments and Bibles continue to be taken from the box, at the rate of a few copies per month. The literature is checked and restocked on an on-going basis. Literature relevant to Easter, Christmas and Remembrance Day is made available at relevant times. A poster with a QR code link to the online YouVersion is in one of the door windows, making the Bible instantly available to smart-phone users in many international languages. This is to make sure that as many as possible are able to read the Bible, and also reflects the multicultural demographic of the Little Hill estate. This year the case (and church main door frame) was graffitied with messages and questions. Thankfully these were in pencil, so removable. Our response to this was to add question slips and church-addressed envelopes, enabling genuine questions to be submitted and answered. None have been received to date.
- **Ministry to International Students:** In partnership with Globe Café five Church Trips to Little Hill were arranged. We had 82 students visiting from 15 different countries: China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Singapore, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Saudi Arabia, St Vincent and The Grenadines and Vietnam. The Carol Service proved once again to be extremely popular, and the church was packed

with many visitors as well as regular attenders. We continue to thank God for the privilege we have as a church to make Christ known amongst these needy souls, especially as many of them are not allowed to go to church or speak about Jesus in their own country.

Worship and Ministry

- Joshua Harrison is the full-time pastor and he continues to bring a consistent, consecutive ministry.

Other Activities

- **Church History Lectures:** Since 2018 an annual series of Church History Lectures has been given by one of our members, Dr Lesley Rowe. This year saw the continuation of the series 'Three Great Johns' with lectures on John Bunyan and John Newton. The 2025 series on 'Three Victorian Defenders of the Faith' opened with a lecture on JC Ryle, delivered by Rev Dr Lee Gatiss, Director of Church Society, on a return visit to Little Hill. An encouraging number of people, including friends from other churches, has attended, and enjoyed sharing fellowship together. A good number of viewings on YouTube demonstrates a wider interest in the subject.
- Little Hill Church continues to support the **Blythswood shoebox project** with collection and despatch again taking place at a member's house. Blythswood is a Scottish-based charity providing Christian care for body and soul to many in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia.

A record 3061 boxes containing Christmas gifts and practical necessities for distribution to the needy in Eastern Europe were collected and sent. The greatest number of boxes were sent to Ukraine, giving hope to many suffering from the conflict.

- **Food Bank:** We continue to support the local community by the collection of food donated by members of the church.

A collection point is located in the foyer of the building and when full this food is taken to one of the South Leicestershire hubs.

Practicalities

- **Deacons and Elders** have separate monthly meetings to consider their respective responsibilities.
- **Elders and Deacons** continue to meet monthly at the Church Council to conduct the business of the church. Here decisions are made and practicalities discussed including church finances. Members of the church are invited to attend.
- Those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults have been **DBS** checked and continue to be rechecked after five years.
- The **Little Hill Link** is sent out electronically to inform the church of forthcoming activities and is a useful prayer stimulus. Copies are printed and posted to those who are not online.
- **A library of Christian books** is available for members and visitors to borrow.

Risk Management

- The Deacons conduct an **annual inspection** of the premises to identify and evaluate any physical risks to which the church and its attendees may be subject, and they are satisfied that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate or eliminate these. A system of **annual Risk Assessments** for activities is used.
- We continue to review **Safeguarding Policy** each May which now includes protection for vulnerable adults.

Management of Funds

The attached Receipts and Payments Account shows total income of £107,057 (excluding gifts designated for other

organisations), compared to £92697 the previous year. This is entirely made up of voluntary donations, mainly from members of the congregation. There are no fundraising activities.

All designated giving has been used for the purpose stated by the givers.

The income enabled us to complete an upgrade of the foyer and begin refurbishment of the toilets, as well as maintaining our regular activities and ministry without any significant reduction in reserves.

Day to day expenditure is normally met by individuals within the congregation and reimbursed on production of an invoice or till receipt. More than 95% of payments are now made by Bank Transfer or Direct Debit. Two Deacons are authorised to conduct Internet Banking. All payments are checked against the records after the end of each month and signed off by two Deacons other than the Treasurer.

The church continues to support gospel work elsewhere. This year £17065 has been sent as gifts to individuals and organisations involved in evangelism, training leaders, Christian advocacy and general relief work around the world. This is just under 16% of the church's income.

Throughout the year the church held a comprehensive insurance policy with Congregational Insurance which included cover for Public Liability, Employer's Liability and Trustees' Indemnity. The Public Liability cover includes activities of the church on or off the premises.

The Trustees consider that the church is in a sound financial position with sufficient reserves for our regular activities and current maintenance projects.

Approval

The Trustees' report was approved by the Trustees at a meeting on 8.09.2025.

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 <u>Gifts and Donations</u> | | |
| Giftable Gifts | 59,400.60 | 55,498.00 |
| GASDS | 2,153.35 | 2,333.01 |
| Gifts and Donations | 17,761.00 | 14,545.00 |
| Other Offerings | 6,961.83 | 6,480.55 |
| | <u>86,276.78</u> | <u>78,856.56</u> |
| 2 <u>Designated Income</u> | | |
| Love Gifts | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Designated Gifts: | | |
| Other Designated Gifts | 825.00 | 980.00 |
| | <u>825.00</u> | <u>980.00</u> |
| 3 <u>Ministry</u> | | |
| Pastor's Salary, Nat Ins & Pension | 41,539.10 | 39,836.85 |
| Pastor's expenses and training | 304.99 | 427.16 |
| Other meeting costs | 785.93 | 1,451.61 |
| Special Gifts | 487.00 | 82.66 |
| Lectures | 295.42 | 412.71 |
| Warm Space | 1,248.04 | 1,181.34 |
| Visiting Preachers | 1,220.00 | 1,535.00 |
| Weekend/day away | 895.51 | 0.00 |
| | <u>46,775.99</u> | <u>44,927.33</u> |
| 4 <u>Evangelism</u> | | |
| Evangelism - General | 40.00 | 225.46 |
| Publicity | 21.00 | 254.45 |
| HBC | 326.12 | 411.07 |
| Little Ones | 293.45 | 380.53 |
| Kids Club | 81.14 | 101.65 |
| Friday Fellowship | 586.70 | 785.16 |
| Women to Women | 1,169.32 | 926.95 |
| Mens Events | 1,344.09 | 1,677.60 |
| Senior Citizens | 464.73 | 281.05 |
| Youth | 621.47 | 341.47 |
| Lions Cubs | 45.54 | 100.57 |
| Printing/Literature | 1,846.69 | 2,353.84 |
| Catering | 1,286.35 | 1,159.90 |
| | <u>8,126.60</u> | <u>8,999.70</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 5 | | |
| <u>Gifts</u> | | |
| Vinukonda | 1,750.00 | 1,750.00 |
| Zambesi Mission | 1,600.00 | 1,600.00 |
| Blythswood Care | 575.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Friends International Penny Wang | 1,150.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Friends International Ruth Duffin | 1,150.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Platform 67 | 575.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Open Air Mission | 1,150.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Christian Institute | 1,150.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Int'l Mission to Jewish People (formerly Christian Witness to Israel) | 2,150.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Int'l Mission to Jewish People - presentation/ministry | 250.00 | 0.00 |
| Bulkington Congregational Church | 0.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Thurlaston Chapel > printing | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| Platform 67 - presentation/ministry | 825.00 | 0.00 |
| Our Daily Bread Ministries | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| UFM - Daveys | 250.00 | 0.00 |
| UFM - 50/50 Hicham/Coquerel | 1,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Children for Christ Ministry | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| Good News For Everyone | 0.00 | 250.00 |
| Leic South Food Bank | 0.00 | 200.00 |
| SIM International Matt & Lisa Wallis | 250.00 | 0.00 |
| European Mission Fell - presentation/ministry | 250.00 | 0.00 |
| North Church CIO | 0.00 | 60.00 |
| SGA - for Ukraine work | 2,000.00 | 0.00 |
| SGA - visiting speaker re Phoebe Project | 250.00 | 0.00 |
| | <u>17,065.00</u> | <u>13,600.00</u> |
| 6 | | |
| <u>Designated Expenditure</u> | | |
| Designated Gifts: | | |
| Other Designated Gifts | 895.00 | 1,033.75 |
| Love Gifts | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | <u>895.00</u> | <u>1,033.75</u> |
| 7 | | |
| <u>Accommodation</u> | | |
| Light & Heat | 4,947.31 | 3,311.86 |
| Insurance | 2,206.26 | 966.98 |
| Cleaning and Hygiene | 709.08 | 526.42 |
| Building and Fixtures | 20,638.73 | 1,359.76 |
| Building repairs & services | 2,336.60 | 2,239.85 |
| Water Rates | 501.12 | 461.21 |
| | <u>31,339.10</u> | <u>8,866.08</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2025 | 2024 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 8 <u>Administration</u> | | |
| Bank Charges | 129.62 | 131.11 |
| Recording | 57.23 | 24.54 |
| Library | 12.47 | 0.00 |
| Equipment purchases | 2,963.72 | 2,634.87 |
| Equipment repairs | 64.25 | 438.00 |
| Printing/photocopying | 218.90 | 227.80 |
| Postage | 208.66 | 300.80 |
| Telephone | 375.38 | 368.43 |
| Stationery | 144.00 | 97.89 |
| Advertising | 140.26 | 121.90 |
| Audit | 250.00 | 230.00 |
| Website | 605.16 | 619.44 |
| Professional fees | 676.17 | 744.96 |
| Affiliations and CRB checks | 742.50 | 225.50 |
| | <u>6,588.32</u> | <u>6,165.24</u> |

Little Hill Church

Receipts and Payments Account y.e. 31st March 2025

| | | 2025 | | 2024 | |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Note | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Opening Balances | | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | 3,870.82 | | 3,126.36 | |
| Bank Deposit Account | | 29,215.55 | | 19,874.50 | |
| Receipts | | | | | |
| Gifts and donations | 1 | 86,276.78 | | 78,856.56 | |
| Designated Income | 2 | 825.00 | | 980.00 | |
| Income Tax Refund | | 14,960.47 | | 13,374.70 | |
| Bequests and Legacies | | 5,102.46 | | 0.00 | |
| Interest Received | | 472.46 | | 466.35 | |
| Miscellaneous receipt | | 245.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Payments | | | | | |
| Ministry | 3 | 46,775.99 | | 44,927.33 | |
| Evangelism | 4 | 8,126.60 | | 8,999.70 | |
| Gifts | 5 | 17,065.00 | | 13,600.00 | |
| Designated Expenditure | 6 | 895.00 | | 1,033.75 | |
| Accommodation | 7 | 31,339.10 | | 8,866.08 | |
| Administration | 8 | 6,588.32 | | 6,165.24 | |
| Closing Balances | | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | | 3,030.05 | | 3,870.82 |
| Bank Deposit Account | | | 27,148.48 | | 29,215.55 |
| | | 140,968.54 | 140,968.54 | 116,678.47 | 116,678.47 |

NOTE

No credit has been included in the accounts for a sum of £7,742 (2024 £7,500) which is due by way of an Income Tax Refund against Giftaid for the period.

AUDITORS REPORT

I have examined the Church's Books of Account and the Receipts and Payments Accounts which, in my opinion accurately state the Church's affairs.

CHANGE TO ACCOUNTING POLICY

The Church decided to change the way the accounts are prepared and presented with effect from 1st April 2019 from an accruals basis to a receipts and payments basis.

The effect of this is that there is no longer a balance sheet showing the value of the church building, other fixed assets, current assets and liabilities.



.....
Melanie Smith

Qualified with CIPFA in 1976, (member between 1976-2013) but no longer a member of the Institute
16th June 2025

LITTLE HILL CHURCH

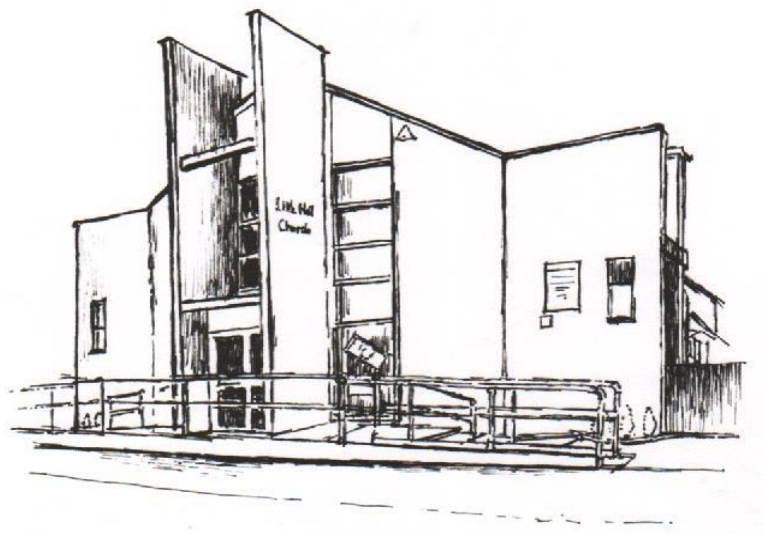
England & Wales - Charity number 1138737

Accounts



Little Hill Church

Wigston



Trustees' Report for the Year ending 31 March 2024

Little Hill Church

Launceston Road, Wigston, Leics, LE18 2GZ

www.littlehill.org.uk

Registered Charity (England & Wales) No. 1138737

HM Revenue and Customs (Charities) Reference: XN32811

Governing Documents

The objects of Little Hill Church and procedures for its government are laid down in the Trust Deed of 16 May 1975 (amended on 20 January 1993) and the Constitution adopted about 1975

Trustees during the year:

John Eardley (Chair of Trustees)

James Harrison

Joshua Harrison

Peter Holmes

Andrew Irvine

Faqir Kallow

Mike Smith

Elders:

Faqir Kallow (Chair)

John Eardley

Joshua Harrison

Deacons:

James Harrison

Peter Holmes (Chair)

Andrew Irvine

Mike Smith (Treasurer)

Bankers:

HSBC, 2-6 Gallowtree Gate, Leicester, LE1 1DA

Independent Accounts Examiner

Melanie Smith

11 Tremaine Drive, Wigston, Leics., LE18 2GW

Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting this report of the church's activities for the year ending 31 March 2024, which includes the information below and the attached Receipts and Payments Account.

Purpose and Objectives

Little Hill Church is 'an undenominational and evangelical work for the service of Almighty God and the education of young persons' and for other purposes 'incidental to or connected with the work of a Christian church in accordance with the teaching of the Scriptures' (Trust Deed clause (a)).

Little Hill Church exists for:

- a. the building up of Christians through preaching and teaching,
- b. bringing Christians together to love one another,
- c. the worship of God through prayer, praise and 'breaking of bread' (communion),
- d. baptising believers,
- e. fulfilling the commission to make disciples. (Constitution para.1)

Public Benefit Statement

Little Hill Church aims to provide public benefit through the advancement of the Christian Religion, in accordance with reformed evangelical theology, through the various activities highlighted below. The main area of activity has been Wigston and the immediate surrounding area, but Little Hill Church believes in a global mission in accordance with the command of Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:19 and 20. We have therefore provided support for members, other individuals and organisations, as resources permit, where such individuals and organisations are seen as sympathetic to our theological position and are themselves engaged in the promotion of Christian Religion.

Regular Activities

In pursuit of these objectives, the following regular activities have been undertaken during the year ending 31 March 2024.

- On **Sunday mornings**, Joshua Harrison has continued to preach through the Gospel of Luke. Our **Sunday afternoon** services have continued, and men from the church have preached through a varying range of topics, while Joshua Harrison has completed the short series on the Psalms, and also preached through the letter to the Philippians. There have also, during this time, been visits from guest preachers at both our Sunday morning and afternoon services. These have been very much appreciated.
- During the last year, the church has run a **creche** during the Sunday morning service each week. This is run by volunteers on a rota basis. The age range of children attending the creche is 0-4 years old. Typically, we have 2-3 children attend each week. We provide toys and books along with basic drawing equipment. The purpose of the creche is to provide childcare so parents can join in with the main service.
- **Children's Talks:** Talks continue to be given mainly by James Eardley with Trevor Bowman covering breaks and other men on standby. Numbers of children have grown to around ten on average. Talks aim to be mostly interactive as a means of all ages and abilities having access to the content. Children engage well and learning is consolidated upstairs during Lion's Cubs. Talk subjects over the past year have included Easter, Jacob, Joseph, the King's Coronation, Moses, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Samuel, Saul, Christmas, David and Elijah. All talks are gospel-centric teaching children key themes of God's character and people's need for forgiveness and salvation through Christ Jesus.

- **Thursday Meetings:** We meet every Thursday for fellowship, prayer and ministry from God's word. Bible studies this year have covered the theme of God's Attributes whilst our monthly home-based Fellowship Groups have studied and discussed chapters from the church's Bible reading scheme (many are following this to read through the Bible in three years). Once a month we meet for the Lord's Supper and we also meet for a monthly time devoted mainly to prayer where we split into small prayer groups. All these meetings are a blessing and help the church to grow in its spiritual life.
- **Ladies' Bible Study:** It has been a great blessing to have Judith Rowe join the leadership team this year and to see a growing number of ladies gathering each Tuesday morning. Over 20 ladies meet regularly to study God's precious Word, pray and share fellowship together. Others use the Bible study notes at home. Studies this year have included series on 'Meeting Jesus', Thessalonians, and 'The Messiah'. There have been meetings for praise and worship at Christmas and Easter, as well as occasional visits from outside speakers. The group is grateful for the service of James Langtry who provided the refreshments so faithfully, and for Victor Rowe who continues to do so.
- **The SHED** fellowship for men has continued with the same format, meeting each fortnight. We start with a time for devotions and then move on to another activity. There are on average ten men attending each session. Activities have included BBQs, quizzes, various indoor games, a talk on amateur radio, visiting the model railway in Abbey Park, painting slate coasters and a wonderful Christmas lunch.
- **Warm Space** continues much as it began though we amended the timing to 10 -12 noon. We open every Thursday morning with breaks for Easter, Summer and Christmas. We are delighted to see local people of all ages coming. There is a core number of folk who come regularly and have developed friendships, some attending other LHC events. Not forgetting of course our own church folk who drop in. Numbers coming range between 25 and 40.

We serve light refreshments, there is a craft table, table tennis, jigsaws and a kiddie corner. A walking group also visit every other week after their exercise. We have been blessed with enough people to run Warm Space week by week and thank God for the opportunities it brings to show the love of Jesus to all who come along.

- Monthly **Saturday Prayer Focus Meetings** are held to praise God and pray for the work of the gospel locally here in Wigston, nationally and internationally.
- **Friday Fellowship** continued through the year meeting monthly, providing hymn singing and a devotional talk for senior citizens from the church and other friends, followed by a lunch.

Evangelism

The church has held meetings for various age groups over the years. All the following meetings are provided at no cost to individuals, and most are term-time activities.

- **Little Ones at Little Hill** is a group for pre-school children that happens on Monday afternoons from 1:30-3:00pm in term time. We have recently transitioned from having one leader to a leadership team of three ladies, which has been a smooth process that allows for organisation and sharing of responsibilities.

In total, there are six ladies from the church who serve at Little Ones in different ways. All are DBS checked and church members. We offer a wide variety of toys, activities, and crafts for the children to enjoy. We then have story time, where the children hear a Bible story and sing some songs afterwards – a mixture of nursery rhymes and children's choruses that contain simple Biblical truths. Approximately 25-30+ parents and carers attend, with a similar number of children and babies.

The aim of Little Ones is for the team members to show friendship to the parents and carers, to share their Christian faith when appropriate, to invite them to Sunday services and evangelistic events, and to sow seeds of Biblical truth in the story time for children (for example, that God made the world).

- **Kids' Club** is our weekly meeting for primary school aged children held on Friday evenings during term time. It has been great to keep this meeting going, and we continue to be encouraged meeting new families from the local area. We continue to teach stories from the Bible and sing choruses with the children. There is a variety of activities, including sports and crafts, as well as fun games and events. There are regularly between 15-25 children attending this meeting each week. It has also been encouraging to have new members join the team of helpers.
- **Lion's Cubs:** The number of children at Lion Cubs on Sunday mornings varies but has certainly grown in this last year. We range between four and 16 attending, averaging at 11. The children are between four and 11 years of age. We currently have one leader and one helper in attendance but with the rise in numbers we call on another helper when necessary. Our Bible stories this year have been based on the lives of Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, the book of Judges, Ruth, Samuel, Saul, Solomon and David, plus Easter and Christmas stories. The children enjoy activities, singing, learning Bible verses and sharing their news. It is a wonderful privilege to teach our children and share the Lord Jesus with them, whatever their background.
- **Open-Air witness in Wigston:** This is scheduled for the last Saturday of each month, under the banner of The Open-Air Mission. A total of ten took place in 2023. Between two and five members of the church regularly take part in this. The aim is to offer free Christian literature and engage people in conversation and share the Christian message with them, using a free-literature table and display board. It is usually located on Bell Street, outside Sainsbury's, and between 10:30 and 12:30 approx. There is generally a good uptake of literature offered and several conversations each time.
- **Youth Club** is becoming more established with young people aged 11-16. Attendance varies from five to 12 teenagers. The evenings consist of practical activities on a three-week

rotational basis; sports and games one evening; team activities around tables; or a club night where there are choices available for the young people. Every effort is made to make each session interesting and fun. Each evening there is a talk addressing various issues of life or simply relating an aspect of the life of Jesus from the Bible. There are opportunities for questions and conversations pertaining to teenage life.

- **ParkLife:** We were able to go out four times this year visiting the four local parks around the church speaking to youngsters about the purpose of life and giving out literature and details about the church. On the whole, conversations have been very meaningful and worthwhile. We have enough men for this outreach work but not women.
- **Women2Women:** We had three events this year, the first at Buttercups Cafe on a Saturday morning (July 2023) when about 30 women gathered for informal fellowship. Everyone enjoyed coffee, cake and chat. There were many guests and it was good to get to know new people who had had other contacts with the church (e.g. through Warm Space). We decided not to have our usual Christmas event since the church calendar was very full already with lots of evangelistic events for people to choose from. Instead, on a Saturday in December we went to Wistow Garden Centre for morning coffee. Fourteen people came and we were also able to celebrate the birthday of one of our senior citizens. Our third event was a very popular 'French Night' at Zeph's Café, Oadby in March 2024 (we even had a reserve list). Karima Shirfield spoke to about 50 women about growing up in a Muslim family in France and her journey to Christ and, later, to England. We had prayers in French and English and everyone took home flowers and a copy of John 3.16 in French. About two thirds of the attendees were guests of church members and Karima's talk sparked a lot of interest and good discussions afterwards.
- **Men's Evangelism:** During the last year we have held two men's guest evenings. These have both consisted of a meal at a restaurant followed by a quiz and an after-dinner gospel talk. Both events have had around 40 men attend.

- **Senior Citizens:** Four Saturday teas were held in this period. The programmes typically included music, poems (both classic and light-hearted), quizzes, gentle sitting-down exercises, and a gospel talk, followed by the tea.
- **Free-literature case** Christian booklets, leaflets and Bibles continue to be occasionally taken from the box, at the rate of a few copies per month. The literature is checked and refreshed approximately monthly. Literature relevant to Easter and Christmas is made available at these times. In June, a poster was placed in one of the door windows with a QR code link to the online YouVersion, which makes the Bible instantly available to smart-phone users in many international languages. This is to make sure that as many as possible are able to read the Bible, and also reflects the increasing multi-cultural demographic of the Little Hill estate.
- **Ministry to International Students:** As always, in partnership with Globe Cafe, six Sunday Church trips were arranged. The Carol Service once again proved to be extremely popular, the church was packed with regular attenders, students and visitors. PRAISE GOD! The overall numbers of students attending Globe Café remains low (on average 15) so we are very encouraged that on average 16 students came for church trips. Students have come from, China, Afghanistan, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Romania, Thailand, Vietnam and Zambia. What an amazing privilege we have as a church to make Christ known amongst these needy souls, especially as many of them are not allowed to go to church or speak about Jesus in their own country.
- **Holiday Bible Club:** In the October half-term break, we ran a Holiday Bible Club for primary school aged children. The theme was on the Old Testament story of Moses and the Exodus. As well as Bible stories and songs, there were a variety of activities, games and crafts for the children to enjoy. Different members from the church volunteered to help with the week. Attendance was about ten children each day. It was well received by the children who attended and their families.

Worship and Ministry

- Joshua Harrison is the full-time pastor and he continues to bring a consistent, consecutive ministry. This year he has preached from various parts of the Bible, including Psalms and the book of Luke. He continued his role as a Chaplain for the local Police Service.

Other Activities

- **Church History Lectures:** Since 2018 an annual series of Church History Lectures has been given by one of our members, Dr Lesley Rowe. This year saw the continuation of the series 'Famous or Forgotten?', with lectures on Sir John Hartopp and William Carey. The 2024 series on 'Three Great Johns' opened with a lecture on John Owen, delivered by Rev Dr Lee Gatiss, Director of Church Society. An encouraging number of people, including friends from other churches, has attended, and enjoyed sharing fellowship together. A good number of viewings on YouTube demonstrates a wider interest in the subject.
- Little Hill Church continues to support the **Blythswood shoebox project** with collection and despatch again taking place at a member's house. Blythswood is a Scottish-based charity providing Christian care for body and soul to many in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia.

A record 2702 boxes containing Christmas gifts and practical necessities for distribution to the needy in Eastern Europe were collected and sent. Many continued to be sent to those suffering in Ukraine and other neighbouring countries who have been giving support to Ukrainian refugees who have fled the conflict.

- As in previous years, Little Hill Church has a collection point in the church foyer for the **South Leicester Food Bank**. On a regular basis these items are taken to the main collection hub in Wigston.

Practicalities

- **Deacons and Elders** have separate monthly meetings to consider their respective responsibilities.
- **Elders and Deacons** continue to meet monthly at the Church Council to conduct the business of the church. Here decisions are made and practicalities discussed including church finances. Members of the church are invited to attend.
- Those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults have been **DBS** checked and continue to be rechecked after five years.
- The **Little Hill Link** is sent out electronically to inform the church of forthcoming activities and is a useful prayer stimulus. Copies are printed and posted to those who are not online.
- **A library of Christian books** is available for members and visitors to borrow.

Risk Management

- The Deacons conduct an **annual inspection** of the premises to identify and evaluate any physical risks to which the church and its attendees may be subject, and they are satisfied that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate or eliminate these. A system of **annual Risk Assessments** for activities is used.
- We continue to review **Safeguarding Policy** each May which now includes protection for vulnerable adults.

Management of Funds

The attached Receipts and Payments Account shows total income of £92,697 (excluding gifts designated for other organisations), compared to £111,371 the previous year. This is entirely made up of voluntary donations, mainly from members of the congregation. There are no fundraising activities.

All designated giving has been used for the purpose stated by the givers.

The income enabled us to commence an upgrade of the foyer, as well as maintaining our regular activities and ministry, without any significant reduction in reserves.

Day to day expenditure is normally met by individuals within the congregation and reimbursed on production of an invoice or till receipt. Approximately 95% of payments are now made by Bank Transfer or Direct Debit. Two Deacons are authorised to conduct Internet Banking. All payments are checked against the records after the end of each month and signed off by two Trustees other than the Treasurer.

The church continues to support gospel work elsewhere. This year £13,703 has been sent as gifts to individuals and organisations involved in evangelism, training leaders, Christian advocacy and general relief work around the world. This is just under 15% of the church's income.

Throughout the year the church held a comprehensive insurance policy with Congregational Insurance which included Public Liability, Employer's Liability and Trustees' Indemnity. The Public Liability cover included activities of the church on or off the premises.

The Trustees consider that the church is in a sound financial position with sufficient reserves for our regular activity and current maintenance projects.

Approval

The Trustees' report was approved by the Trustees at a meeting on 5.08.2024.

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2024 | 2023 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1 <u>Gifts and Donations</u> | | |
| Giftaided Gifts | 55,498.00 | 51,630.00 |
| GASDS | 2,333.01 | 1,567.60 |
| Gifts and Donations | 14,545.00 | 32,630.00 |
| Other Offerings | 6,480.55 | 6,088.00 |
| | <u>78,856.56</u> | <u>91,915.60</u> |
| 2 <u>Designated Income</u> | | |
| Love Gifts | 0.00 | 810.00 |
| Designated Gifts: | | |
| Other Designated Gifts | 980.00 | 1,955.00 |
| Weekend/day away | 0.00 | 2,397.00 |
| | <u>980.00</u> | <u>5,162.00</u> |
| 3 <u>Ministry</u> | | |
| Pastor's Salary, Nat Ins & Pension | 39,836.85 | 38,267.01 |
| Pastor's expenses and training | 427.16 | 435.00 |
| Other meeting costs | 1,451.61 | 1,030.27 |
| Special Gifts | 82.66 | 33.00 |
| Lectures | 412.71 | 24.00 |
| Warm Space | 1,181.34 | 744.33 |
| Visiting Preachers | 1,535.00 | 2,690.00 |
| | <u>44,927.33</u> | <u>43,223.61</u> |
| 4 <u>Evangelism</u> | | |
| Evangelism - General | 225.46 | 17.40 |
| Publicity | 254.45 | 388.09 |
| HBC | 411.07 | 0.00 |
| Little Ones | 380.53 | 352.91 |
| Kids Club | 101.65 | 325.69 |
| Friday Fellowship | 785.16 | 645.80 |
| Women to Women | 926.95 | 950.40 |
| Mens Events | 1,677.60 | 1,172.28 |
| Parklife | 0.00 | 51.49 |
| Senior Citizens | 281.05 | 59.45 |
| Youth | 341.47 | 111.79 |
| Lions Cubs | 100.57 | 0.00 |
| Printing/Literature | 2,353.84 | 2,359.92 |
| Catering | 1,159.90 | 1,120.40 |
| | <u>8,999.70</u> | <u>7,555.62</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 5 | | |
| <u>Gifts</u> | | |
| Vinukonda | 1,750.00 | 1,750.00 |
| Zambesi Mission | 1,600.00 | 800.00 |
| Blythswood Care | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Friends International Penny Wang | 2,000.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Friends International Ruth Duffin | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Answers in Genesis | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| Platform 67 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Open Air Mission | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Christian Institute | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Int'l Mission to Jewish People (formerly Christian Witness to Israel) | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Bulkington Congregational Church | 1,500.00 | 0.00 |
| Thurlaston Chapel > printing | 120.00 | 0.00 |
| Thurlaston Chapel Bible Notes | 0.00 | 120.00 |
| Platform 67 - Pakistan relief | 0.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Platform 67 - Earthquake relief | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| Our Daily Bread Ministries | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| UFM - Daveys | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| UFM - Hicham | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| Good News For Everyone | 250.00 | 0.00 |
| Leic South Food Bank | 200.00 | 0.00 |
| SIM International Matt & Lisa Wallis | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| UCCF - for Jemima Howell student worker | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| North Church CIO | 60.00 | 300.00 |
| Bethany Harrison - support for short term mission | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| | <u>13,600.00</u> | <u>17,090.00</u> |
| 6 | | |
| <u>Designated Expenditure</u> | | |
| Designated Gifts: | | |
| Other Designated Gifts | 1,033.75 | 1,955.00 |
| Love Gifts | 0.00 | 3,035.00 |
| Weekend/day away | 0.00 | 3,363.48 |
| | <u>1,033.75</u> | <u>8,353.48</u> |
| 7 | | |
| <u>Accommodation</u> | | |
| Light & Heat | 3,311.86 | 2,483.21 |
| Insurance | 966.98 | 1,906.85 |
| Cleaning and Hygiene | 526.42 | 416.68 |
| Building and Fixtures | 1,359.76 | 15,516.39 |
| Building repairs & services | 2,239.85 | 1,710.04 |
| Water Rates | 461.21 | 384.25 |
| | <u>8,866.08</u> | <u>22,417.42</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 8 <u>Administration</u> | | |
| Bank Charges | 131.11 | 171.08 |
| Recording | 24.54 | 280.86 |
| Equipment purchases | 2,634.87 | 7,148.13 |
| Equipment repairs | 438.00 | 0.00 |
| Printing/photocopying | 227.80 | 760.50 |
| Postage | 300.80 | 443.30 |
| Telephone | 368.43 | 387.07 |
| Stationery | 97.89 | 84.52 |
| Advertising | 121.90 | 246.10 |
| Audit | 230.00 | 230.00 |
| Website | 619.44 | 570.00 |
| Professional fees | 744.96 | 597.17 |
| Affiliations and CRB checks | 225.50 | 477.00 |
| | <u>6,165.24</u> | <u>11,395.73</u> |

Little Hill Church

Receipts and Payments Account y.e. 31st March 2024

| | | 2024 | | 2023 | |
|--------------------------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Opening Balances | Note | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | 3,126.36 | | 5,774.77 | |
| Bank Deposit Account | | 19,874.50 | | 16,268.77 | |
| Bank No2 Account | | 0.00 | | 622.00 | |
| Receipts | | | | | |
| Gifts and donations | 1 | 78,856.56 | | 91,915.60 | |
| Designated Income | 2 | 980.00 | | 5,162.00 | |
| Income Tax Refund | | 13,374.70 | | 13,179.98 | |
| Bequests and Legacies | | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Interest Received | | 466.35 | | 75.75 | |
| Miscellaneous receipt | | 0.00 | | 37.85 | |
| Repayment of Loan to Shepshed Church | | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Payments | | | | | |
| Ministry | 3 | | 44,927.33 | | 43,223.61 |
| Evangelism | 4 | | 8,999.70 | | 7,555.62 |
| Gifts | 5 | | 13,600.00 | | 17,090.00 |
| Designated Expenditure | 6 | | 1,033.75 | | 8,353.48 |
| Accommodation | 7 | | 8,866.08 | | 22,417.42 |
| Administration | 8 | | 6,165.24 | | 11,395.73 |
| Closing Balances | | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | | 3,870.82 | | 3,126.36 |
| Bank Deposit Account | | | 29,215.55 | | 19,874.50 |
| Bank No2 Account | | | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| | | 116,678.47 | 116,678.47 | 133,036.72 | 133,036.72 |

NOTE

No credit has been included in the accounts for a sum of £7,500 (2023 £6,414) which is due by way of an Income Tax Refund against Giftaid for the period.

AUDITORS REPORT

I have examined the Church's Books of Account and the Receipts and Payments Accounts which, in my opinion accurately state the Church's affairs.

CHANGE TO ACCOUNTING POLICY

The Church decided to change the way the accounts are prepared and presented with effect from 1st April 2019 from an accruals basis to a receipts and payments basis. The effect of this is that there is no longer a balance sheet showing the value of the church building, other fixed assets, current assets and liabilities.



.....
Melanie Smith

Qualified with CIPFA in 1976, (member between 1976-2013) but no longer a member of the Institute
29th July 2024

LITTLE HILL CHURCH

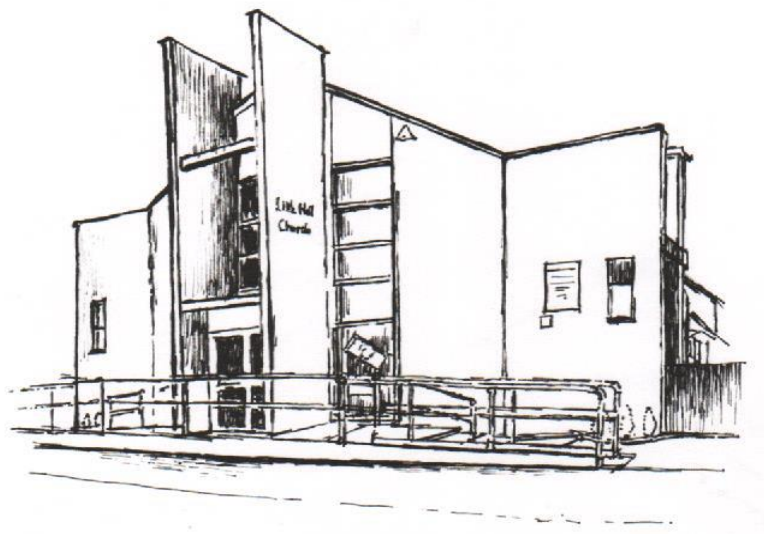
England & Wales - Charity number 1138737

Accounts



Little Hill Church

Wigston



Trustees' Report for the Year ending 31 March 2023

Little Hill Church

Launceston Road, Wigston, Leics, LE18 2GZ

www.littlehill.org.uk

Registered Charity (England & Wales) No. 1138737

HM Revenue and Customs (Charities) Reference: XN32811

Governing Documents

The objects of Little Hill Church and procedures for its government are laid down in the Trust Deed of 16 May 1975 (amended on 20 January 1993) and the Constitution adopted about 1975

Trustees during the year:

John Eardley (Chair of Trustees)

James Harrison

Joshua Harrison

Peter Holmes

Andrew Irvine

Faqir Kallow

Mike Smith

Elders:

Faqir Kallow (Chair)

John Eardley

Joshua Harrison

Deacons:

James Harrison

Peter Holmes (Chair)

Andrew Irvine

Mike Smith (Treasurer)

Bankers:

HSBC, 2-6 Gallowtree Gate, Leicester, LE1 1DA

Independent Accounts Examiner

Melanie Smith

11 Tremaine Drive, Wigston, Leics., LE18 2GW

Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting this report of the church's activities for the year ending 31 March 2023, which includes the information below and the attached Receipts and Payments Account.

Purpose and Objectives

Little Hill Church is 'an undenominational and evangelical work for the service of Almighty God and the education of young persons' and for other purposes 'incidental to or connected with the work of a Christian church in accordance with the teaching of the Scriptures' (Trust Deed clause (a)).

Little Hill Church exists for:

- a. the building up of Christians through preaching and teaching,
- b. bringing Christians together to love one another,
- c. the worship of God through prayer, praise and 'breaking of bread' (communion),
- d. baptising believers,
- e. fulfilling the commission to make disciples. (Constitution para.1)

Public Benefit Statement

Little Hill Church aims to provide public benefit through the advancement of the Christian Religion, in accordance with reformed evangelical theology, through the various activities highlighted below. The main area of activity has been Wigston and the immediate surrounding area, but Little Hill Church believes in a global mission in accordance with the command of Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:19 and 20. We have therefore provided support for members, other individuals and organisations, as resources permit, where such individuals and organisations are seen as sympathetic to our theological position and are themselves engaged in the promotion of Christian Religion.

Regular Activities

In pursuit of these objectives, the following regular activities have been undertaken during the year ending 31 March 2023.

- On **Sunday mornings**, Joshua Harrison has continued to preach through the Gospel of Luke. Our **Sunday afternoon** services have continued, and men from the church have preached through a varying range of topics, while Joshua Harrison has completed the series on Women in the Old Testament, and another short series on the Psalms. There have also, during this time, been visits from guest preachers at both our Sunday morning and afternoon services. These have been very much appreciated.
- **Children's Talks:** talks continue to be given each Sunday morning with James Eardley and Trevor Bowman taking the majority of the talks with other men on standby. James took over from Trevor as leader of talks from September 2022 and began 2023 with talks beginning at Genesis and taking the children through some key Old Testament narratives. Talks take a variety of approaches using interactive elements to engage a range of ages and abilities. A growing number of children have attended each week with figures of ten or more some weeks. We pray for grace to explain God's love in the gospel to the children and their need of Jesus as Saviour.
- **Ladies' Fellowship:** About 13-20 ladies gather each Tuesday morning to study God's word, pray and share fellowship. Others use the Bible study notes at home. They have a precious time together as they seek to 'bear one another's burdens' and to encourage each other to grow in their faith. Studies this year have included series on 'Praying the Psalms', Ephesians, and 'Questions God Asks'. They are grateful for the continuing service of the two men from the fellowship who provide the refreshments.

- **The SHED** fellowship for men has continued with the same format, meeting each fortnight initially for devotions and then for another activity. A similar number of men, around ten, have attended each session. Activities have included target-shooting, Call my Bluff, examining engineering models, a Romanian morning and a visit to the Triumph Motorcycle Museum.
- Monthly **Saturday Prayer Focus Meetings** resumed in the building to praise God and pray for the work of the gospel locally here in Wigston, nationally and internationally.
- **Friday Fellowship** continued through the year meeting monthly with a break in September and December, providing a meal, fellowship, a devotional talk and hymn singing for senior citizens from the church and other friends.

Evangelism

The church has held meetings for various age groups over the years. All the following meetings are provided at no cost to individuals and most are term-time activities.

- **Little Ones at Little Hill** is for pre-school children. There is no charge and meetings are held on Mon afternoons 1:30 - 3:00 pm during term time. Approximately 25 mums, dads, grandparents and carers attend along with 25+ pre-school children and babies. Many of the adults come along as a result of either seeing our large banner placed outside the church advertising the activity, or by reading about the activity on the church website.
A team of six ladies, all of whom are DBS checked, and are church members, help with the smooth running of the group. Due to the large size of the building, we are able to offer a wide range of activities, including weekly craft activities, home corner play, construction toys, dressing up, safe enclosed baby area, bikes and push-along toys in enclosed area, book corner and larger toys for physical activities.
Refreshments for adults are provided in the foyer on a 'serve yourself system' and the children have a drink and a biscuit during story time. This involves the telling of a Bible story, singing, finger play rhymes and celebration of birthdays.
Team members mix and mingle with adults and children showing friendship and sharing their Christian faith when appropriate, also inviting them to evangelistic events organised by the church.
- **Kids' Club** is our weekly meeting for primary school aged children held on Friday evenings during term time. It has been great to keep this meeting going, and encouraging to meet new families from the local area. We continue to teach stories from the Bible and sing choruses with the children. There are a variety of activities that we do with them including sports and crafts, as well as fun games and events. There are regularly about 15-20 children attending this meeting each week.
- **Lion's Cubs:** During the morning service we have a children's slot, when all the children 11 years old and under gather at the front of the church and listen to a Bible story followed by a song which relates to the story. After this, the children aged four to eleven leave to have their own activity upstairs. This involves follow-up activities based on the stories told earlier. Activity sheets are enjoyed by the different ages along with singing and craft activities. Numbers vary from four to ten. During the session we also celebrate birthdays, encourage the children to share any news and pray together. There are four main leaders, who rotate on a three-week basis supported by a weekly rota of five other church members.

- **Youth Club** has started again for young people aged 11-16. There has regularly been a group of about ten attending and they enjoy a variety of sports, games and other activities. They have been looking at some of the big questions in life such as 'How did I get here?' and 'Where am I going?'. These are considered and looked at from a Biblical perspective, and give good opportunities for the young people to ask their own questions and explore life in the context of the Christian faith.
- **ParkLife:** The biggest challenge this year was having the right balance of men and women available to be involved in the team. We managed to go out a 'handful' of times and were asked the usual questions such as: "Where is God when we need him?", "Why all the suffering in the world?", "What's wrong being gay?", to name a few questions. As always, it was a great privilege to talk about Jesus to some of the youngsters and point them to our church website as a good contact point.
- **Women2Women:** We held two events, firstly in November 2022 entitled "Cake!" with a video demonstration of a cake topper and a competition to make our own. Elizabeth Flanagan then gave her amazing testimony of life as a nun in Ireland still experiencing spiritual emptiness. Elizabeth was eventually converted following an invitation to a Gospel Mission. The majority of the ladies at the event were invited guests and it was a good gospel opportunity.

The second event was in March 2023, a curry night at The Cuisine of India restaurant in Wigston. There was a maximum capacity of 40 and all seats were taken. Again, many of the ladies invited friends and neighbours to this event. Following the meal Dr Tanya Sperry (retired GP) spoke from her heart about having peace with God and used the illustration of Hannah in the Bible. Afterwards, (being close to Mothers' Day), all the ladies were given a bunch of daffodils, an evangelistic magazine, plus an invitation to our Easter services.

- **Senior Citizens.**
Saturday teas recommenced with a single event in November 2022 after a break of two and a half years. The programme consisted of music with a slide projection, some light-hearted poems and a gospel talk, followed by a sit-down tea.
- **The free-literature case** outside the building continues to be used by local people. As in its first year, it has suffered no vandalism. Several Bibles, booklets, and tracts are taken from it each month. The main selection is refreshed every 3-4 weeks.
- **Ministry to International Students:** This year, in partnership with Globe Cafe, six Sunday trips have been arranged to our church. These included the Harvest and Carol services followed by either a meal at church or in a church member's home, including a summer barbecue. Despite the overall reduction of International Students visiting this country, we averaged between 15 and 25 for these visits and the students really appreciated the love and warmth shown by the church. The talks and visual aids helped to accommodate the students with English as a second language. Students were from Vietnam, Ecuador, Nepal, Morocco, Thailand, Romania, India, Pakistan, China, Afghanistan, Kenya, Kazakhstan, UK, Turkey, Taiwan, Iraq, Myanmar, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Zimbabwe, Angola, Iran and Singapore. We rejoice that God has brought these nations to us for this gospel opportunity.

Worship and Ministry

- Joshua Harrison is the full-time pastor and he continues to bring a consistent, consecutive ministry. This year he has preached from various parts of the Bible, including Psalms and the book of Luke. He continues his role as a Chaplain for the local Police Service.

Encouragements

- Little Hill Church continues to support the **Blythswood shoebox project** with collection and despatch again taking place at a member's house. Blythswood is a Scottish-based charity providing Christian care for body and soul to many in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia.

2350 boxes containing Christmas gifts and practical necessities for distribution to the needy in Eastern Europe were collected and sent. Many were sent to those suffering in Ukraine and other neighbouring countries who have been giving support to Ukrainian refugees who have fled the conflict.

- The church has a collection facility in the foyer for the **Leicester South Foodbank** which is managed by another local church. The food donated is transported to the collection centre on a regular basis.
- **Church History lectures** continue to be given by one of our members, Dr Lesley Rowe. A good group of people, including friends from other local churches, have attended, and enjoyed sharing fellowship together. A significant number of viewings on YouTube demonstrates a wider interest in the subject. The series on the Great Ejection of 1662 continued with lectures on 'Black Bartholomew's Day 1662' and the 'Experiences of some Leicestershire Bartholomeans'. The 2023 series 'Famous or Forgotten?' opened with a lecture on Samuel Shaw of Ashby.

- **Warm Space**

In Autumn 2022 the idea of "Warm Space" was implemented following the government-promoted scheme encouraging churches, libraries and community centres to offer their facilities to help with the demands of the energy crisis. The church was opened one morning a week as an informal cafe style setting with the added provision of puzzles/board games, table tennis and a kiddie corner. A team of eight planned Warm Space and launched it in November 2022 on Thursday mornings from 9.30-12.30.

It has proved a great opportunity for evangelism to the local community with some coming to their local church building for the first time. Church members have also found it beneficial. Numbers vary between 25-45, many of which are not known to us initially and the majority are now regulars on a weekly, fortnightly or ad hoc basis. The following are amongst the regulars attending:

- individuals and family groups with children
- a carers' walking group
- an adopter's group

Good friendships have been made, some leading to invitations to other church events. On the whole, folk come in for company and some of the regulars have expressed how they truly value Warm Space as a place to unwind and share their burdens and needs.

Practicalities

- **Deacons and Elders** have separate monthly meetings to consider their respective responsibilities.
- **Elders and Deacons** continue to meet monthly at the Church Council to conduct the business of the church. Here decisions are made and practicalities are discussed including church finances. Members of the church are invited to attend.

- Those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults have been **DBS** checked and continue to be rechecked after five years.
- The **Little Hill Link** is sent out electronically to inform the church of forthcoming activities and is a useful prayer stimulus. Copies are printed and posted to those who are not online.
- **A library of Christian books** is available for members and visitors to borrow.

Risk Management

- The Deacons conduct an **annual inspection** of the premises to identify and evaluate any physical risks to which the church and its attendees may be subject, and they are satisfied that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate or eliminate these. A system of **annual Risk Assessments** for activities is used.
- We continue to review **Safeguarding Policy** each May which now includes protection for adults.

Management of Funds

The attached Receipts and Payments Account shows total income of £110,371, a significant increase over previous years. This is entirely made up of voluntary donations, mainly from members of the congregation. There are no fundraising activities.

All designated giving has been used for the purpose stated by the givers, and gifts from 2021/22 accounts which were rolled over to 2022/23 have been paid.

The increased income enabled us to complete a major refurbishment of the kitchen as well as supporting our full-time pastor/teacher and maintaining our regular activities (in some cases recommencing them after the pandemic closures), without any reduction in reserves.

Day to day expenditure is normally met by individuals within the congregation and reimbursed on production of an invoice or till receipt. Approximately 95% of payments are now made by Bank Transfer or Direct Debit. Two Deacons are authorised to conduct Internet Banking. All payments are checked against the records after the end of each month and signed off by two Trustees other than the Treasurer.

The church continues to support gospel work elsewhere. This year £17,090 has been sent as gifts to individuals and organisations involved in evangelism, training leaders, Christian advocacy and general relief work around the world. This is just over 15% of the church's income.

Throughout the year the church held a comprehensive insurance policy with Ansvar Insurance which included Public Liability, Employer's Liability and Trustees' Indemnity. The Public Liability cover included activities of the church on or off the premises.

The Trustees consider that the church is in a sound financial position with sufficient reserves for projected expenditure.

Approval

The Trustees' report was approved by the Trustees at a meeting on 9.10.2023.

Little Hill Church

Receipts and Payments Account y.e. 31st March 2023

| | | 2023 | | 2022 | |
|--------------------------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Opening Balances | Note | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | 5,774.77 | | 1,673.42 | |
| Bank Deposit Account | | 16,268.77 | | 26,787.57 | |
| Bank No2 Account | | 622.00 | | 307.00 | |
| Receipts | | | | | |
| Gifts and donations | 1 | 91,915.60 | | 67,169.81 | |
| Designated Income | 2 | 5,162.00 | | 2,763.00 | |
| Income Tax Refund | | 13,179.98 | | 11,628.62 | |
| Bequests and Legacies | | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Interest Received | | 75.75 | | 2.58 | |
| Miscellaneous receipt | | 37.85 | | 0.00 | |
| Repayment of Loan to Shepshed Church | | 0.00 | | 10,000.00 | |
| Payments | | | | | |
| Ministry | 3 | | 43,223.61 | | 39,066.27 |
| Evangelism | 4 | | 7,555.62 | | 4,122.54 |
| Gifts | 5 | | 17,090.00 | | 15,106.00 |
| Designated Expenditure | 6 | | 8,353.48 | | 880.00 |
| Accommodation | 7 | | 22,417.42 | | 11,714.64 |
| Administration | 8 | | 11,395.73 | | 16,777.01 |
| Loan to Shepshed Church | | | 0.00 | | 10,000.00 |
| Closing Balances | | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | | 3,126.36 | | 5,774.77 |
| Bank Deposit Account | | | 19,874.50 | | 16,268.77 |
| Bank No2 Account | | | 0.00 | | 622.00 |
| | | 133,036.72 | 133,036.72 | 120,332.00 | 120,332.00 |

NOTE

No credit has been included in the accounts for a sum of £6,414 (2022 £6,246) which is due by way of an Income Tax Refund against Giftaid for the period.

AUDITORS REPORT

I have examined the Church's Books of Account and the Receipts and Payments Accounts which, in my opinion accurately state the Church's affairs.

CHANGE TO ACCOUNTING POLICY

The Church decided to change the way the accounts are prepared and presented with effect from 1st April 2019 from an accruals basis to a receipts and payments basis. The effect of this is that there is no longer a balance sheet showing the value of the church building, other fixed assets, current assets and liabilities.



.....
Melanie Smith

Qualified with CIPFA in 1976, (member between 1976-2013) but no longer a member of the Institute
9th August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 <u>Gifts and Donations</u> | | |
| Giftaided Gifts | 51,630.00 | 47,810.00 |
| GASDS | 1,567.60 | 1,162.41 |
| Gifts and Donations | 32,630.00 | 14,045.00 |
| Other Offerings | 6,088.00 | 4,152.40 |
| | <u>91,915.60</u> | <u>67,169.81</u> |
| 2 <u>Designated Income</u> | | |
| Love Gifts | 810.00 | 2,295.00 |
| SIM for Lydia King | 0.00 | 216.00 |
| Designated Gifts: | | |
| Other Designated Gifts | 1,955.00 | 0.00 |
| Weekend/day away | 2,397.00 | 252.00 |
| | <u>5,162.00</u> | <u>2,763.00</u> |
| 3 <u>Ministry</u> | | |
| Pastor's Salary, Nat Ins & Pension | 38,267.01 | 36,791.32 |
| Pastor's expenses and training | 435.00 | 601.94 |
| Other meeting costs | 1,030.27 | 293.51 |
| Special Gifts | 33.00 | 0.00 |
| Lectures | 24.00 | 94.50 |
| Warm Space | 744.33 | 0.00 |
| Visiting Preachers | 2,690.00 | 1,285.00 |
| | <u>43,223.61</u> | <u>39,066.27</u> |
| 4 <u>Evangelism</u> | | |
| Evangelism - General | 17.40 | 435.23 |
| Publicity | 388.09 | 100.00 |
| Little Ones | 352.91 | 123.93 |
| Kids Club | 325.69 | 65.36 |
| Friday Fellowship | 645.80 | 76.07 |
| Women to Women | 950.40 | 121.07 |
| Mens Events | 1,172.28 | 0.00 |
| Parklife | 51.49 | 0.00 |
| Senior Citizens | 59.45 | 0.00 |
| Youth | 111.79 | 0.00 |
| Printing/Literature | 2,359.92 | 2,994.50 |
| Catering | 1,120.40 | 206.38 |
| | <u>7,555.62</u> | <u>4,122.54</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 5 | | |
| <u>Gifts</u> | | |
| Vinukonda | 1,750.00 | 1,750.00 |
| Zambesi Mission | 800.00 | 800.00 |
| Blythswood Care | 1,000.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Friends International Penny Wang | 1,500.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Friends International Ruth Duffin | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Answers in Genesis | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Platform 67 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Open Air Mission | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Christian Institute | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Int'l Mission to Jewish People (formerly Christian Witness to Israel) | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Blythswood Care Ukraine Emergency | 0.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Thurlaston Chapel Building Project | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Thurlaston Chapel Bible Notes | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| Platform 67 - Pakistan relief | 2,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Platform 67 - Earthquake relief | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| Our Daily Bread Ministries | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| UFM - Daveys | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| UFM - Hicham | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| Market Overton Free Church | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Glencroft Church | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| SIM International Lydia King | 0.00 | 216.00 |
| SIM International Matt & Lisa Wallis | 1,000.00 | 0.00 |
| UCCF - for Jemima Howell student worker | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| North Church CIO | 300.00 | 0.00 |
| Bethany Harrison - support for short term mission | 1,000.00 | 0.00 |
| | <u>17,090.00</u> | <u>15,106.00</u> |
| 6 | | |
| <u>Designated Expenditure</u> | | |
| Designated Gifts: | | |
| Other Designated Gifts | 1,955.00 | 0.00 |
| Love Gifts | 3,035.00 | 0.00 |
| Weekend/day away | 3,363.48 | 880.00 |
| | <u>8,353.48</u> | <u>880.00</u> |
| 7 | | |
| <u>Accommodation</u> | | |
| Light & Heat | 2,483.21 | 2,088.75 |
| Insurance | 1,906.85 | 1,724.74 |
| Cleaning and Hygiene | 416.68 | 530.74 |
| Building and Fixtures | 15,516.39 | 0.00 |
| Building repairs & services | 1,710.04 | 7,181.67 |
| Water Rates | 384.25 | 188.74 |
| | <u>22,417.42</u> | <u>11,714.64</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2023 | 2022 |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 8 <u>Administration</u> | | |
| Bank Charges | 171.08 | 44.96 |
| Library | 0.00 | 438.78 |
| Recording | 280.86 | 103.84 |
| Equipment purchases | 7,148.13 | 11,489.54 |
| Equipment repairs | 0.00 | 875.28 |
| Printing/photocopying | 760.50 | 41.98 |
| Postage | 443.30 | 541.61 |
| Telephone | 387.07 | 249.48 |
| Stationery | 84.52 | 271.78 |
| Advertising | 246.10 | 0.00 |
| Audit | 230.00 | 230.00 |
| Website | 570.00 | 730.66 |
| Professional fees | 597.17 | 1,509.10 |
| Affiliations and CRB checks | 477.00 | 250.00 |
| | <u>11,395.73</u> | <u>16,777.01</u> |

LITTLE HILL CHURCH

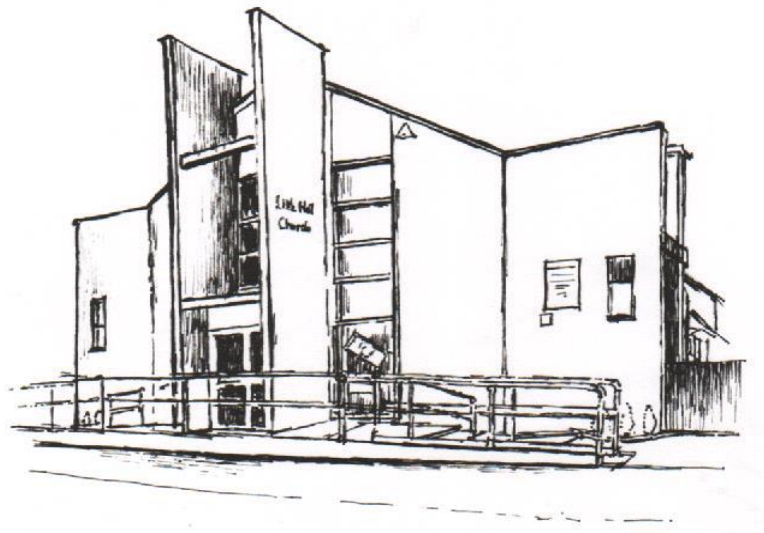
England & Wales - Charity number 1138737

Accounts



Little Hill Church

Wigston



Trustees' Report for the Year ending 31 March 2022

Little Hill Church

Launceston Road, Wigston, Leics, LE18 2GZ

www.littlehill.org.uk

Registered Charity (England & Wales) No. 1138737

HM Revenue and Customs (Charities) Reference: XN32811

Governing Documents

The objects of Little Hill Church and procedures for its government are laid down in the Trust Deed of 16 May 1975 (amended on 20 January 1993) and the Constitution adopted about 1975

Trustees during the year:

John Eardley (Chair of Trustees)

James Harrison

Joshua Harrison

Peter Holmes

Andrew Irvine

Faqir Kallow

Mike Smith

Elders:

Faqir Kallow (Chair)

John Eardley

Joshua Harrison

Deacons:

James Harrison

Peter Holmes (Chair)

Andrew Irvine

Mike Smith (Treasurer)

Bankers:

HSBC, 9 Leicester Road

Wigston. Leics LE18 1NR

Independent Accounts Examiner

Melanie Smith

11 Tremaine Drive, Wigston, Leics., LE18 2GW

Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting this report of the church's activities for the year ending 31 March 2022, which includes the information below and the attached Receipts and Payments Account.

Purpose and Objectives

Little Hill Church is 'an undenominational and evangelical work for the service of Almighty God and the education of young persons' and for other purposes 'incidental to or connected with the work of a Christian church in accordance with the teaching of the Scriptures' (Trust Deed clause (a)).

Little Hill Church exists for:

- a. the building up of Christians through preaching and teaching,
- b. bringing Christians together to love one another,
- c. the worship of God through prayer, praise and 'breaking of bread' (communion),
- d. baptising believers,
- e. fulfilling the commission to make disciples. (Constitution para.1)

Public Benefit Statement

Little Hill Church aims to provide public benefit through the advancement of the Christian Religion, in accordance with reformed evangelical theology, through the various activities highlighted below. The main area of activity has been Wigston and the immediate surrounding area, but Little Hill Church believes in a global mission in accordance with the command of Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:19 and 20. We have therefore provided support for members, other individuals and organisations, as resources permit, where such individuals and organisations are seen as sympathetic to our theological position and are themselves engaged in the promotion of Christian Religion.

Regular Activities

In pursuit of these objectives, the following regular activities have been undertaken during the year ending 31 March 2022. This period has been that of the worldwide Covid 19 Pandemic. The church has resumed public meetings with simultaneous livestreaming via You Tube on Sundays. Thursday Bible studies have been audio recorded.

- **Numbers** attending have gradually built up with only a handful still shielding.
- On **Sunday mornings**, Joshua Harrison has continued to preach through the book of Exodus concluding in February 2022. We are now enjoying a new series in the Gospel of Luke. On resuming our Sunday afternoon services in the church building, men from the church have preached through a varying range of topics including studies on the Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians, The Lord's Prayer from Matthew's Gospel and a series on Women in the Old Testament. There have also, during this time, been visits from guest preachers at both our Sunday morning and afternoon services. These have been very much appreciated.
- **Children's Talks:** We have continued to give a talk to the children each Sunday morning. There have been two significant issues which have been successfully addressed this year. The children have not been referred to by name or appeared on camera because the morning service is still streamed on-line. This is to comply with our Safeguarding Policy.

We now have a high proportion of children with Special Education Needs. This has necessitated a more interactive approach being adopted by the speakers.

- **Tuesday morning** continues to be a time of blessing, fellowship and encouragement around God's Word. 13-18 ladies attend with some still receiving the notes online. We have also welcomed several new members. We resumed meeting in the building from the Autumn. Two men from the fellowship kindly offered to help with refreshments so that we could meet the Covid regulations. This year we have studied the following series: 'Joshua - the Power of God's Promises', 'Meeting God', and 1 Peter and 2 Peter. Some in the group are facing the challenges of illness and age and praying for each other is a vital part of our meeting.
- **SHED:** This men's fellowship meeting has continued each fortnight. Each meeting begins with devotions and a variety of activities follow. These have included:- crisp tasting, bridge building, lighthouses, clay modelling and IT security. Around 10 men attend each session.
- Monthly **Saturday Prayer Focus Meetings** resumed in the building to praise God and pray for the work of the gospel locally here in Wigston, nationally and internationally.
- In January 2022 we started a **monthly lunchtime meal** with a devotional talk and hymn singing, for senior citizens in the fellowship and other friends. There is no charge for those attending.

Evangelism

The church has held meetings for various age groups over the years. All the following meetings are provided at no cost to individuals and most are term-time activities. As stated in each report these meetings have been severely disrupted this year.

- **Little Ones at Little Hill** is for pre-school children. There is no charge and meetings are held on Mon afternoons 1:30 - 3:00 pm during term time. Approximately 20+ mums, dads and carers attend along with 25+ pre-school children and babies.
A team of five, DBS checked, church members help with the smooth running of the group. Due to the size of the building, we are able to offer a wide range of activities, including craft activities, home corner play, construction toys, dressing up, safe enclosed baby area, bikes and push-along toys in enclosed area, book corner and larger toys for physical activities. Refreshments for adults are provided in the foyer and the children have a drink and a biscuit during story time. This involves telling of a Bible story, singing, finger play rhymes and celebration of birthdays.
Team members mix and mingle with adults and children showing friendship and sharing their Christian faith when appropriate, also inviting them to evangelistic events organised by the church.
- **Kids' Club** is our weekly meeting for primary school aged children held on Friday evenings during term time. It has been great to start this meeting again after the pause for Covid, and encouraging to meet new families from the local area. We continue to teach stories from the Bible, and sing choruses with the children. There are a variety of activities that we do with them including sports and crafts, as well as fun games and events. There are regularly about 20 children attending this meeting each week.
- **Lions' Cubs** reconvened when church services were held again in the building, following the restrictions of Covid. During the morning service we have a children's slot – a bible story.

Following this, the children aged four to eleven leave to have their own activity. This involves follow up activities based on the stories told earlier. Activity sheets are enjoyed by the different ages along with singing and craft activities. Numbers vary from four to ten. There are four main leaders, who rotate on a three-week basis supported by five other church members.

- **Parklife:** Following the easing of the government restrictions we were able to visit a few local parks around the Church from July to September 2021. The team reached quite a number of youngsters of 15+ years, some wanting to know the purpose of life and asking many questions about life, death, suffering and 'where is God in a messed-up world'. Many tracts were given out and we were able to point some of the youngsters to the Church website. Unfortunately, we were not able to go out this year because we have insufficient female helpers.
- **Women2Women:** Two 'in-person' events were held in the Autumn of 2021 and Spring 2022 (complete with Covid risk assessments). We were encouraged by the large number of visitors for our first event back in the church after the pandemic: 'Christmas Coffee and Cookies' was a very informal meeting (Nov. 2021). As well as a quiz, a craft and some Christian music from singer/songwriter Ellie Ling, there was time for everyone to consider 'What I don't like about Christmas' and 'What I like about Christmas'. The shared dialogue included the Gospel message relating to Christ's incarnation. All ages attended, with a popular 'children's corner' and teenagers helping set up. In March 2022 we celebrated Mothering Sunday with 'A Mother's Love'. At this event, several women told stories from their family history about those who were like a mother to them (but were not their biological mother). The idea was to be inclusive to those who were childless, unmarried or had different experiences of motherhood in their lives. Ruth Eardley spoke about Amy Carmichael (1867 – 1951), a heroic missionary who fought against temple prostitution in India and rescued hundreds of children.
- A permanent, weather-proof, **Free Literature Stand** is outside the church building 24/7 and continues to be used by the local gospel. Globe Café comes under the auspices of Friends International, an organisation working with international community. A steady trickle of tracts, booklets and Bibles are taken. New Testaments are taken from it every week. We are thankful that it has not been vandalised this year.
- **Ministry to International Students:** Since July 2021 we have had six trips to our church arranged in partnership with Globe Café with a total of 120 international students joining us (Globe Café is a ministry of Friends International). These represent 18 countries (China, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, South Korea, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Turkey, Vietnam and Zimbabwe). The highlight was our Christmas Carol Service where 40 students attended and we sang "Silent Night" in nine languages (English, Chinese, Japanese, Malayalam, Indonesian, Urdu, Spanish, Romanian, Telugu). Meals in Church members' homes are always a treat, and the students enjoy this very much.

Worship and Ministry

- Joshua Harrison is the full-time pastor and he continues to bring a consistent, consecutive ministry. This year he has preached from Psalms and the book of Exodus. He continues his role as a Chaplain for the local Police Service.

Encouragements

- Little Hill Church continues to support the **Blythswood shoebox project** with collection and despatch again taking place at a member's house. Blythswood is a Scottish-based charity providing Christian care for body and soul to many in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia. In spite of

ongoing covid difficulties, 2172 boxes containing Christmas gifts and practical necessities for distribution to the needy in Eastern Europe were collected and sent.

- Financial giving has been maintained for the support of our full-time Pastor Teacher and we have been able to continue support of our overseas partners in the gospel.
- The church had a collection facility in the foyer for the **Leicester South Foodbank** which is managed by another local church. We have had to suspend this during the pandemic and members were directed to the local collection point.
- **Lectures on Church History** have once more been given by one of our members, Dr Lesley Rowe. It has been good to recommence the lectures in the church building, as well as making them available to a wider audience via YouTube. The series on 17th-century evangelical best-sellers 'Publishing the Gospel' continued with accounts of Richard Baxter's 'A Call to the Unconverted' and Joseph Alleine's 'An Alarm to Unconverted Sinners'. A new series focusing on the Great Ejection of 1662 began with a background lecture looking at events leading up to the Ejection.

Practicalities

- **Deacons and Elders** have separate monthly meetings to consider their respective responsibilities. These have been conducted via zoom.
- **Elders and Deacons** continue to meet monthly at the Church Council to conduct the business of the church. Here decisions are made and practicalities are discussed including church finances. Members of the church are invited to attend.
- Those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults have been **DBS** checked and continue to be rechecked after five years.
- The **Little Hill Link** and is sent out electronically to inform the church of forthcoming activities and is a useful prayer stimulus. Copies are printed and posted to those who are not on-line.
- **A library of Christian books** is available for members and visitors to borrow. This is in the process of being revamped to make it more effective.

Risk Management

- The Deacons conduct an **annual inspection** of the premises to identify and evaluate any physical risks to which the church and its attendees may be subject, and they are satisfied that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate or eliminate these. A system of **annual Risk Assessments** for activities is used.
- The church holds a comprehensive **insurance policy** with Ansvar Insurance which includes Public Liability, Employer's Liability and Trustees' Indemnity. The Public Liability cover includes activities of the church on or off the premises.
- We continue to review **Safeguarding Policy** each May which now includes protection for adults.

Management of Funds

The attached Receipts and Payments Account shows total income of £81,564. This is entirely made up of voluntary donations, mainly from members of the congregation. There are no fund-raising activities.

Many churches and other charities again suffered substantial reductions in income as the pandemic continued to curtail gatherings, so we give thanks that the effect on our resources has been relatively small – a fall of 10% the previous year and a recovery of half of that this year. We were still able to replace our stock of chairs, many of which had been in use for over 40 years.

Day to day expenditure is normally met by individuals within the congregation and reimbursed on production of an invoice or till receipt. Approximately 85% of payments are now made by Bank Transfer or Direct Debit. Two Deacons are authorized to conduct Internet Banking. All payments are checked against the records after the end of each month and signed off by two Trustees other than the Treasurer.

During the year we were able to make an interest-free loan of £10,000 from our reserves to a similar church in the county, at a critical point in their building project. The risk was fully considered and the loan was repaid within a month.

This church continues to support gospel work elsewhere. This year £15,106 has been sent as gifts to individuals and organisations involved in evangelism, training leaders, Christian advocacy and general relief work around the world. This is approximately 18.5% of the church's income.

The Trustees consider that the church is in a sound financial position with sufficient reserves for projected expenditure.

Approval

The Trustees' report was approved by the Trustees at a meeting on 10.10.2022

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2022 | 2021 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1 | | |
| <u>Gifts and Donations</u> | | |
| Giftaided Gifts | 47,810.00 | 45,800.00 |
| GASDS | 1,162.41 | 911.05 |
| Gifts and Donations | 14,045.00 | 14,576.20 |
| Other Offerings | 4,152.40 | 505.00 |
| | <u>67,169.81</u> | <u>61,792.25</u> |
| 2 | | |
| <u>Designated Income</u> | | |
| Love Gifts | 2,295.00 | 1,165.00 |
| SIM for Lydia King | 216.00 | 0.00 |
| Weekend/day away | 252.00 | 0.00 |
| | <u>2,763.00</u> | <u>1,165.00</u> |
| 3 | | |
| <u>Ministry</u> | | |
| Pastor's Salary, Nat Ins & Pension | 36,791.32 | 36,499.61 |
| Pastor's expenses and training | 601.94 | 0.00 |
| Other meeting costs | 293.51 | 108.80 |
| Special Gifts | 0.00 | 370.48 |
| Lectures | 94.50 | 0.00 |
| Visiting Preachers | 1,285.00 | 990.00 |
| | <u>39,066.27</u> | <u>37,968.89</u> |
| 4 | | |
| <u>Evangelism</u> | | |
| Evangelism - General | 435.23 | 0.00 |
| Publicity | 100.00 | 223.89 |
| Little Ones | 123.93 | 157.70 |
| Kids Club | 65.36 | 154.40 |
| Friday Fellowship | 76.07 | 0.00 |
| Women to Women | 121.07 | -30.00 |
| Printing/Literature | 2,994.50 | 727.69 |
| Catering | 206.38 | 14.25 |
| | <u>4,122.54</u> | <u>1,247.93</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2022 | 2021 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 5 | | |
| <u>Gifts</u> | | |
| Vinukonda | 1,750.00 | 2,250.00 |
| Zambesi Mission | 800.00 | 800.00 |
| Blythswood Care | 1,500.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Blythswood Care Ukraine Emergency | 2,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Simon Terry | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| Thurlaston Chapel Building Project | 1,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Thurlaston Chapel Bible Notes | 120.00 | 240.00 |
| Friends International Penny Wang | 1,000.00 | 1,350.00 |
| Friends International Ruth Duffin | 1,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Answers in Genesis | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Platform 67 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Open Air Mission | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Christian Institute | 1,000.00 | 500.00 |
| Our Daily Bread Ministries | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| Association of Evangelists | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| Shephed Word of Light Church | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| UFM Alan Davey | 0.00 | 150.00 |
| Int'l Mission to Jewish People (formerly Christian Witness to Israel) | 1,000.00 | 150.00 |
| Samson Ogalo | 0.00 | 600.00 |
| Market Overton Free Church | 1,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Glencroft Church | 100.00 | 0.00 |
| SIM International Lydia King | 216.00 | 500.00 |
| Good News for Everyone - formerly Gideon | 0.00 | 250.00 |
| Evangelical Movement of Wales | 0.00 | 300.00 |
| FIEC | 0.00 | 700.00 |
| | <u>15,106.00</u> | <u>13,410.00</u> |
| 6 | | |
| <u>Designated Expenditure</u> | | |
| Designated Gifts: | | |
| Love Gifts | 0.00 | 1,215.00 |
| Weekend/day away | 880.00 | 0.00 |
| | <u>880.00</u> | <u>1,215.00</u> |
| 7 | | |
| <u>Accommodation</u> | | |
| Light & Heat | 2,088.75 | 2,053.91 |
| Insurance | 1,724.74 | 1,722.43 |
| Cleaning and Hygiene | 530.74 | 560.95 |
| Building repairs & services | 7,181.67 | 5,501.78 |
| Water Rates | 188.74 | 167.15 |
| | <u>11,714.64</u> | <u>10,006.22</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2022 | 2021 |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 8 <u>Administration</u> | | |
| Bank Charges | 44.96 | 0.00 |
| Library | 438.78 | 296.23 |
| Recording | 103.84 | 133.34 |
| Equipment purchases | 11,489.54 | 5,190.20 |
| Equipment repairs | 875.28 | 258.99 |
| Printing/photocopying | 41.98 | 143.00 |
| Postage and Telephone | 791.09 | 1,231.18 |
| Stationery | 271.78 | 94.75 |
| Advertising | 0.00 | 37.00 |
| Audit | 230.00 | 264.50 |
| Website | 730.66 | 288.71 |
| Professional fees | 1,509.10 | 624.98 |
| Affiliations and CRB checks | 250.00 | 350.00 |
| | <u>16,777.01</u> | <u>8,912.88</u> |

Little Hill Church

Receipts and Payments Account y.e. 31st March 2022

| | | 2022 | | 2021 | |
|--------------------------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| | Note | | | | |
| Opening Balances | | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | 1,673.42 | | 1,477.09 | |
| Bank Deposit Account | | 26,787.57 | | 22,209.13 | |
| Bank No2 Account | | 307.00 | | 307.00 | |
| Receipts | | | | | |
| Gifts and donations | 1 | 67,169.81 | | 61,792.25 | |
| Designated Income | 2 | 2,763.00 | | 1,165.00 | |
| Income Tax Refund | | 11,628.62 | | 12,067.65 | |
| Bequests and Legacies | | 0 | | 2,500.00 | |
| Interest Received | | 2.58 | | 10.79 | |
| Repayment of Loan to Shepshed Church | | 10,000.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Payments | | | | | |
| Ministry | 3 | | 39,066.27 | | 37,968.89 |
| Evangelism | 4 | | 4,122.54 | | 1,247.93 |
| Gifts | 5 | | 15,106.00 | | 13,410.00 |
| Designated Expenditure | 6 | | 880.00 | | 1,215.00 |
| Accommodation | 7 | | 11,714.64 | | 10,006.22 |
| Administration | 8 | | 16,777.01 | | 8,912.88 |
| Loan to Shepshed Church | | | 10,000.00 | | 0.00 |
| Closing Balances | | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | | 5,774.77 | | 1,673.42 |
| Bank Deposit Account | | | 16,268.77 | | 26,787.57 |
| Bank No2 Account | | | 622.00 | | 307.00 |
| | | 120,332.00 | 120,332.00 | 101,528.91 | 101,528.91 |

NOTE

No credit has been included in the accounts for a sum of £6,246 (2021 £5,672) which is due by way of an Income Tax Refund against Giftaid for the period.

AUDITORS REPORT

I have examined the Church's Books of Account and the Receipts and Payments Accounts which, in my opinion accurately state the Church's affairs.

CHANGE TO ACCOUNTING POLICY

The Church decided to change the way the accounts are prepared and presented with effect from 1st April 2019 from an accruals basis to a receipts and payments basis. The effect of this is that there is no longer a balance sheet showing the value of the church building, other fixed assets, current assets and liabilities.



.....
Melanie Smith

Qualified with CIPFA in 1976, (member between 1976-2013) but no longer a member of the Institute
9th August 2022

LITTLE HILL CHURCH

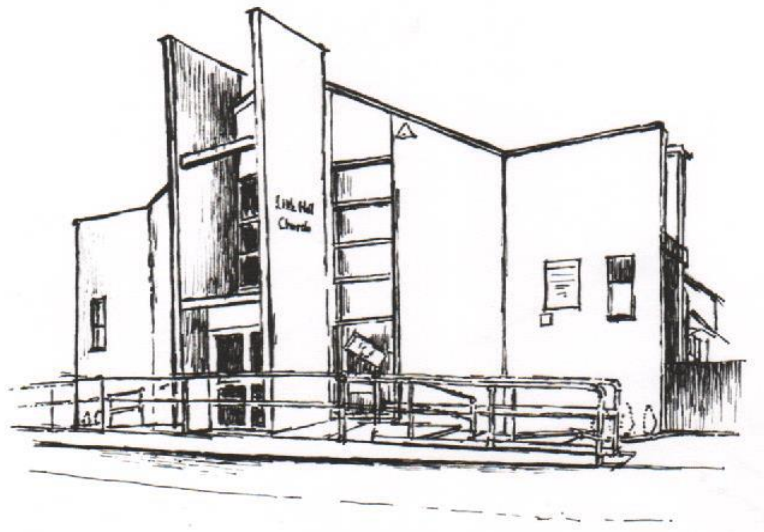
England & Wales - Charity number 1138737

Accounts



Little Hill Church

Wigston



Trustees' Report for the Year ending 31 March 2021

Little Hill Church

Launceston Road, Wigston, Leics, LE18 2GZ

www.littlehill.org.uk

Registered Charity (England & Wales) No. 1138737

HM Revenue and Customs (Charities) Reference: XN32811

Governing Documents

The objects of Little Hill Church and procedures for its government are laid down in the Trust Deed of 16 May 1975 (amended on 20 January 1993) and the Constitution adopted about 1975

Trustees during the year:

John Eardley (Chair of Trustees)

James Harrison

Joshua Harrison

Peter Holmes

Andrew Irvine

Faqir Kallow

Paul Linnell – until 31 Oct 2020

Mike Smith

Nick Stenfalt – until 31 Oct 2020

Elders:

Faqir Kallow (Chair)

John Eardley

Paul Linnell – until 31 Oct 2020

Joshua Harrison

Deacons:

James Harrison

Peter Holmes (Chair)

Andrew Irvine

Mike Smith (Treasurer)

Nick Stenfalt – until 31 Oct 2020

Bankers:

HSBC, 9 Leicester Road

Wigston. Leics LE18 1NR

Independent Accounts Examiner

Melanie Smith

11 Tremaine Drive, Wigston, Leics., LE18 2GW

Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting this report of the church's activities for the year ending 31 March 2021, which includes the information below and the attached Receipts and Payments Account.

Trustee Changes

Two trustees resigned this year and served therefore only up to 31st October 2020, namely Paul Linnell and Nick Stenfalt.

Purpose and Objectives

Little Hill Church is 'an undenominational and evangelical work for the service of Almighty God and the education of young persons' and for other purposes 'incidental to or connected with the work of a Christian church in accordance with the teaching of the Scriptures' (Trust Deed clause (a)).

Little Hill Church exists for:

- a. the building up of Christians through preaching and teaching,
- b. bringing Christians together to love one another,
- c. the worship of God through prayer, praise and 'breaking of bread' (communion),
- d. baptising believers,
- e. fulfilling the commission to make disciples. (Constitution para.1)

Public Benefit Statement

Little Hill Church aims to provide public benefit through the advancement of the Christian Religion, in accordance with reformed evangelical theology, through the various activities highlighted below. The main area of activity has been Wigston and the immediate surrounding area, but Little Hill Church believes in a global mission in accordance with the command of Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:19 and 20. We have therefore provided support for members, other individuals and organisations, as resources permit, where such individuals and organisations are seen as sympathetic to our theological position and are themselves engaged in the promotion of Christian Religion.

Regular Activities

In pursuit of these objectives, the following regular activities have been undertaken during the year ending 31 March 2021. This period has been that of the worldwide Covid 19 Pandemic. During times when the church was legally able to meet morning services have been held at the church but simultaneously livestreamed via You Tube. These livestreamed services also served other local churches not yet set up on-line who were sent the link. At first these services were viewed by hundreds of households, reflecting a reported hunger for spiritual help being sought by anonymous surfers of the web. These figures settled into a regular pattern of 100-200 before reducing to around 100 as churches began to meet again in person. Evening services were introduced on-line from July 2020 via Zoom. Thursday meetings have consisted of a recorded message on the Little Hill You Tube channel followed by a live meeting on Zoom for prayer.

- These services have been open to all but attendance in the building has been overseen and numbers managed via a booking system on-line or by phone to ensure adherence to Government Guidelines for Safety. Morning congregations have generally numbered from a handful to around 40 as shielding ended and the vaccine programme progressed. Live primary

age children's activities during morning worship were suspended and an on-line 'Lion's Cubs' has been held at 3.45 pm each Sunday via Zoom.

- On Sunday evenings we used previous ministry recordings of our former Pastor David Gregson on key Bible Doctrines such as 'Justification' and 'Election'. We then began to meet via Zoom in July 2020 and attendances at these services have been between 30-50 people. Guest preachers gave messages and then our own men have preached a series on the letter of James.
- On Sunday Mornings Joshua Harrison has continued to preach a series on the book of Exodus and a short series on Psalms 90-100.
- Thursday evenings have been times for Bible ministry and praying together as a church. YouTube recordings of ministry were viewed by around 250 households at first, reflecting usage by other churches not yet set up to broadcast their services on-line. These numbers reduced to a usual number of around 30-40 by March 2021. We have studied 'What is a Christian', 'The Names of Christ', 'Bible Doxologies' and 'The Seven Sayings from the Cross'.
- We are grateful to God for the technology and those skilled in its use which have enabled us to continue worshipping, being fed from God's word and to have fellowship together.
- During the period of Covid restrictions an email support group with over 40 ladies from the fellowship has been in operation. This has been used to encourage one another with hymns, poems and devotional thoughts, and to share prayer requests. We have sent out weekly Bible Study notes (online and through the post) for our ladies to reflect on in their homes, and we are pleased that new ladies have been able to join in these studies. This year has included series on 'Women of the Old Testament', 'The Sermon on the Mount' and 'Hope', as well as special programmes for Christmas and Easter. We have also had a historical talk on YouTube. Each Tuesday morning we have had a Zoom prayer meeting, with 10-14 ladies present, which has been a time of great blessing and fellowship. We thank God for the long and faithful service of one of the group's leaders, Jennifer Linnell, who has stepped down during this year.
- The fortnightly men's meeting called The SHED (for Support, Help, Encouragement and Development) has continued using Zoom and has been attended by around 12 men. Each meeting begins with devotions and prayer. There are regular times considering medical and IT issues. Other activities have included photography, origami, baking, gardening, and quizzes.
- The church restarted its monthly Saturday Prayer Focus Meetings in July via Zoom to praise God and pray for the work of the gospel locally here in Wigston, nationally and internationally.
- In January 2020 we started a weekly meal with a devotional talk from the Bible, around Monday tea-time, for senior citizens in the fellowship and other friends. This had to be suspended due to Covid 19.

Evangelism

The church has held meetings for various age groups over the years. All the following meetings are provided at no cost to individuals and most are term-time activities. As stated in each report these meetings have been severely disrupted this year.

- Little Ones at Little Hill is for pre-school children (15-20 mums/carers and 20-25 children). Due to the pandemic, Little Ones has been unable to meet during the last 12 months. In order to maintain contact with both mums/carers and their pre-school children, packs of Bible story books, activity sheets, craft activities and 'keeping in touch' letters, have been delivered/posted every 6-8 weeks. Several parents/carers have expressed their appreciation and look forward to the group restarting when restrictions are lifted.
- Kids' Club is for Primary School children and is normally held weekly. Due to Covid restrictions we have not been able to hold meetings but at regular intervals activity packs have been sent to children in order to maintain contact.
- Alpha is aimed at 10-14-year-old children. They are involved in sports, other games and craft activities, as well as trips, together with Bible stories and teaching. Currently over 25 children

are on the register. We have not been able to run this activity this year due to Covid 19 restrictions.

- Each year during the summer months a group of four people from the church go out to the local parks to talk with mainly young people (aged 15 and above) to discuss the big questions concerning the purpose of life and to share the gospel. Due to Covid 19 we were unable to visit the parks this year.
- Three Women2Women events were held this year – all online via Zoom owing to the constraints of the Covid pandemic. In July 2020 we had “And now for something completely different”, a ‘magazine- style’ compilation of stories, poems, quizzes, recipes and crafts. Adzo Hamiel was interviewed and shared about her Christian faith and how this influences her life and work. ‘A Christmas Selection Box’ proved popular at the end of November with speaker Jenny Whalley. Again there was a great opportunity to share the good news about Jesus and to build friendships. In March 2021 we held an ‘Easter Eggstravaganza’ which attracted around 60 participants. The speaker was Tanya Sperry who was working as a Covid helpline advisor and also at a vaccination clinic. The meetings gave those who had spent months in isolation a chance to meet together and hear a relevant and hopeful Christian message.
- No specific men’s events have been held this year.
- A Guest Harvest service also took place with International Students attending, and two Carol Services. All these above were widely publicised, open to all, and free of charge.
- Senior Citizens’ Teas: Activities for this most vulnerable group have not been possible due to Covid 19. A card was printed and posted out to those who had previously attended to keep in touch and reassure them they had not been forgotten.
- Our support for Simon Terry’s Door-to-Door Ministry on Little Hill Estate ended this year as he began his new role as Headteacher at Emmanuel Christian School.
- A member of the church usually meets with international students on a weekly basis at Globe Café in Trinity Hall in the city centre, along with Christians from other churches. Outings are arranged, mainly on Saturdays, giving opportunity to befriend and introduce international students to the gospel and have regular weekly Bible Studies. Globe Café comes under the auspices of Friends International, an organisation working with international students in cooperation with local churches
- During lockdown we were able to organise five on-line student visits attracting 62 students from 11 countries across the world. We were able to discuss the sermon together on Zoom after each service and although we couldn't invite students to homes for meals, we were able to distribute gifts and literature to those students living in Leicester. It was moving and encouraging to know that one Chinese student on a coach trip in China was listening keenly to the gospel whilst on a crowded coach. We hope our pattern of student visits will resume by the Autumn.

Worship and Ministry

- Joshua Harrison is the full-time pastor and he continues to bring a consistent, consecutive ministry. This year he has preached from Psalms and the book of Exodus. He continues his role as Chaplain for the local Police Service.

Encouragements

- Little Hill Church continues to support the Blythswood shoebox project though the collection point was moved to a member's house. Blythswood is a Scottish-based charity providing Christian care for body and soul to many in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia. In spite of covid difficulties, 2200 boxes containing Christmas gifts and practical necessities for distribution to the needy in Eastern Europe were sent.
- Financial giving has been maintained for the support of our full-time Pastor Teacher and we have been able to continue support of our overseas partners in the gospel.

- The church had a collection facility in the foyer for the Leicester South Foodbank which is managed by another local church. We have had to suspend this during the pandemic and members were directed to the local collection point.
- Lectures on Church History have once more been given (online) by one of our members, Dr Lesley Rowe (Associate Fellow in History, University of Warwick). The series 'Ordinary People: Extraordinary God', looking at the lives of three unremarkable 17th-century Christians, continued with the stories of William Okeley and Charles Doe. A new series, 'Publishing the Gospel', focusing on three evangelical best-selling books from the 17th century, commenced with an account of Arthur Dent's 'The Plain Man's Pathway to Heaven'. An additional lecture with particular relevance to the current situation, on 'Leicestershire and the Plague of 1625', has received a large number of viewings. Although we have missed the fellowship with those from other churches which we had when we were able to meet in the building, the use of YouTube has enabled the lectures to be heard by a much wider audience.

Practicalities

- Deacons and Elders have separate monthly meetings to consider their respective responsibilities. These have been conducted via zoom.
- Elders and Deacons continue to meet monthly at the Church Council via Zoom to conduct the business of the church. Here decisions are made and practicalities are discussed including church finances. Members of the church are invited to attend.
- Those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults have been DBS checked and continue to be rechecked after five years.
- A new church website has been launched this year proving itself vital in hosting the Livestream and Zoom links for all meetings. Attendance at Sunday morning services has been booked via the website. Information is available on Sunday and Thursday meetings with speakers, guest events and a link to a Little Hill Church sermon archive. It is updated regularly.
- At the start of the national lockdown we were unable to use the church building for collective worship. Additional equipment was purchased enabling us to stream ministry from the church in the morning via You Tube and to meet on-line for other meetings via Zoom. For those unable to access these technologies we recorded and distributed the messages on both CD and DVD as requested. This has been a vital and much valued means of maintaining the teaching ministry, prayer ministry, fellowship and other meetings.
- The weekly welcome sheet was renamed the Little Hill Link and is sent out electronically to inform the church of forthcoming activities and is a useful prayer stimulus. Copies are printed and posted to those who are not on-line.
- A library of Christian books is available for members and visitors to borrow. This is in the process of being revamped to make it more effective.

Risk Management

- We have meticulously followed government guidelines when putting in place the necessary safety measures enabling us to open the church building again for worship with limited numbers. These measures included adequate signage, hand sanitiser dispensers at every entry/exit point, and stewards to ensure that the two metre rule was adhered to. Those wanting to attend the services were encouraged to notify the church beforehand in order to produce a seating plan each week that complies with current regulations. The names and addresses of all attendees were recorded and stored for test and trace purposes. Weekly contact with church members was made either by phone, Zoom, or other forms of social media to encourage and to be aware of any extra support that was needed.
- The Deacons conduct an annual inspection of the premises to identify and evaluate any physical risks to which the church and its attendees may be subject, and they are satisfied that

appropriate measures are in place to mitigate or eliminate these. A system of annual Risk Assessments for activities is used.

- The church holds a comprehensive insurance policy with Ansvar Insurance which includes Public Liability, Employer's Liability and Trustees' Indemnity. The Public Liability cover includes activities of the church on or off the premises.
- We continued to review our Safeguarding Policy which now includes protection for adults. This policy was substantially updated last year and will be reviewed annually each May.

Management of Funds

- The attached Receipts and Payments Account shows a total income of £77,535. This is entirely made up of voluntary donations, mainly from members of the church. There are no fundraising activities. Many churches and other charities have suffered substantial reductions in income during the pandemic, so we give thanks that the effect on our resources has been relatively small – a fall of about 10% - in spite of the drastic reduction in meetings and attendance. Our responses to the pandemic described above have inevitably led to a significant increase in expenditure on electronic equipment and also postage and stationery.
- Day to day expenditure on activities is normally met by individuals within the congregation and reimbursed on production of an invoice or till receipt. Approximately 70% of payments are made by Direct Debit or Bank Transfer. Two deacons are authorised to conduct internet banking. All invoices are checked against the records after the end of each month and signed off by two trustees other than the treasurer.
- The church continues to support gospel work elsewhere. This year, £13,410 has been sent as gifts to individuals and organisations involved in evangelism, training leaders, children's education and general relief work around the world. This is approximately 17% of the church's income.

Approval

The Trustees' report was approved by the Trustees at a meeting on 23.08.2021

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | | |
| <u>Gifts and Donations</u> | | |
| Giftaided Gifts | 45,800.00 | 52,766.00 |
| GASDS | 911.05 | 2,831.05 |
| Gifts and Donations | 14,576.20 | 8,980.00 |
| Other Offerings | 505.00 | 7,700.85 |
| | <u>61,792.25</u> | <u>72,277.90</u> |
| 2 | | |
| <u>Designated Income</u> | | |
| Love Gifts | 1,165.00 | 0.00 |
| | <u>1,165.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |
| 3 | | |
| <u>Ministry</u> | | |
| Pastor's Salary, Nat Ins & Pension | 36,499.61 | 35,802.27 |
| Pastor's expenses and training | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Other meeting costs | 108.80 | 553.59 |
| Special Gifts | 370.48 | 336.50 |
| Visiting Preachers | 990.00 | 1,180.00 |
| | <u>37,968.89</u> | <u>37,872.36</u> |
| 4 | | |
| <u>Evangelism</u> | | |
| Evangelism - General | 0.00 | 111.00 |
| Publicity | 223.89 | 0.00 |
| Little Ones | 157.70 | 137.00 |
| Kids Club | 154.40 | 223.63 |
| Senior Citizens | 0.00 | 24.00 |
| Alpha | 0.00 | 154.42 |
| * Women to Women | -30.00 | 502.71 |
| Men's Events | 0.00 | 864.80 |
| Holiday Bible Club | 0.00 | 705.41 |
| Printing/Literature | 727.69 | 784.95 |
| Catering | 14.25 | 1,181.60 |
| | <u>1,247.93</u> | <u>4,689.52</u> |
| 5 | | |
| <u>Gifts</u> | | |
| Vinukonda | 2,250.00 | 1,750.00 |
| Zambesi Mission | 800.00 | 1,845.00 |
| Blythswood Care | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Simon Terry | 500.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Thurlaston Chapel | 240.00 | 0.00 |
| Friends International | 1,350.00 | 1,375.00 |
| Answers in Genesis | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Platform 67 | 1,000.00 | 1,100.00 |
| Open Air Mission | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Pilgrims Friends Society | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Christian Institute | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| Our Daily Bread Ministries | 120.00 | 0.00 |
| Association of Evangelists | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| Shepshed Word of Light Church | 1,000.00 | 0.00 |
| UFM Alan Davey | 150.00 | 0.00 |
| Christian Witness to Israel | 150.00 | 0.00 |
| Samson Ogalo | 600.00 | 0.00 |
| SIM International Lydia King | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| Good News for Everyone - Gideon | 250.00 | 0.00 |
| Evangelical Movement of Wales | 300.00 | 0.00 |
| FIEC | 700.00 | 0.00 |
| Other Gifts | 0.00 | 13.15 |
| | <u>13,410.00</u> | <u>9,683.15</u> |

Notes to the Accounts

| <u>Note</u> | 2021 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 6 | | |
| <u>Designated Expenditure</u> | | |
| Designated Gifts: | | |
| Love Gifts | 1,215.00 | 0.00 |
| | <u>1,215.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |
| 7 | | |
| <u>Accommodation</u> | | |
| Light & Heat | 2,053.91 | 3,293.38 |
| Insurance | 1,722.43 | 1,672.54 |
| Cleaning and Hygiene | 560.95 | 520.38 |
| Building repairs & services | 5,501.78 | 9,042.17 |
| Water Rates | 167.15 | 308.26 |
| | <u>10,006.22</u> | <u>14,836.73</u> |
| 8 | | |
| <u>Administration</u> | | |
| Bank Charges | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Library | 296.23 | 220.44 |
| Recording | 133.34 | 35.64 |
| Equipment purchases | 5,190.20 | 1,314.09 |
| Equipment repairs | 258.99 | 37.80 |
| Printing/photocopying | 143.00 | 675.30 |
| Postage and Telephone | 1,231.18 | 498.37 |
| Stationery | 94.75 | 98.58 |
| Advertising | 37.00 | 22.00 |
| Audit | 264.50 | 184.00 |
| Website | 288.71 | 216.28 |
| Professional fees | 624.98 | 1,551.78 |
| Affiliations and CRB checks | 350.00 | 510.00 |
| | <u>8,912.88</u> | <u>5,364.28</u> |

* Negative figure due to writing back a cheque drawn in 2019/20 which has not been presented

Little Hill Church

Receipts and Payments Account y.e. 31st March 2021

| | | 2021 | | 2020 | |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| | Note | | | | |
| Opening Balances | | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | 1,477.09 | | 2,557.35 | |
| Bank Deposit Account | | 22,209.13 | | 8,453.33 | |
| Bank No2 Account | | 307.00 | | 277.58 | |
| Receipts | | | | | |
| Gifts and donations | 1 | 61,792.25 | | 72,277.90 | |
| Designated Income | 2 | 1,165.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Income Tax Refund | | 12,067.65 | | 12,771.33 | |
| Bequests and Legacies | | 2,500.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Interest Received | | 10.79 | | 34.47 | |
| Compensation | | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| Miscellaneous | | 0.00 | | 67.30 | |
| Payments | | | | | |
| Ministry | 3 | | 37,968.89 | | 37,872.36 |
| Evangelism | 4 | | 1,247.93 | | 4,689.52 |
| Gifts | 5 | | 13,410.00 | | 9,683.15 |
| Designated Expenditure | 6 | | 1,215.00 | | 0.00 |
| Accommodation | 7 | | 10,006.22 | | 14,836.73 |
| Administration | 8 | | 8,912.88 | | 5,364.28 |
| Closing Balances | | | | | |
| Bank Current Account | | | 1,673.42 | | 1,477.09 |
| Bank Deposit Account | | | 26,787.57 | | 22,209.13 |
| Bank No2 Account | | | 307.00 | | 307.00 |
| | | <u>101,528.91</u> | <u>101,528.91</u> | <u>96,439.26</u> | <u>96,439.26</u> |

NOTE

No credit has been included in the accounts for a sum of £5,672 (2020 £6,196) which is due by way of an Income Tax Refund against Giftaid for the period.

AUDITORS REPORT

I have examined the Church's Books of Account and the Receipts and Payments Accounts which, in my opinion accurately state the Church's affairs.

CHANGE TO ACCOUNTING POLICY

The Church decided to change the way the accounts are prepared and presented with effect from 1st April 2019 from an accruals basis to a receipts and payments basis. The effect of this is that there is no longer a balance sheet showing the value of the church building, other fixed assets, current assets and liabilities.



.....
Melanie Smith

Qualified with CIPFA in 1976, (member between 1976-2013) but no longer a member of the Institute
5th July 2021