

2021 Balance Sheet

Mount Elim Evangelical Church Charity No. 1141828

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2021

Current Accounts

	2021
1. Main Current Account	£
Balance at bank as of 1st Jan 2021 Current Account	7,655.59
Income	45,750.82
Total In	53,406.41
Less Expenditure	44,915.69
Balance at Bank as of 31st December 2021	8,490.72

2. Active Saver Current Account	
Balance at bank as of 1st Jan 2021 Current Account	139.76
Interest	0.01
Income	52.86
Total In	192.63
Less Transfers Out	45.09
Balance at Bank as of 31st December 2021	147.54

3. Busy Bees Account	
Balance at bank as of 1st Jan 2021 Current Account	319.94
Income	0.00
Total In	319.94
Less Expenditure	69.94
Balance at Bank as of 31st December 2021	250.00

4. Youth Account	
Balance at bank as of 1st Jan 2021 Current Account	154.13
Income	150.00
Total In	304.13
Less Expenditure	180.48
Balance at Bank as of 31st December 2021	123.65

5. Building Current Account	
Balance at bank as of 1st Jan 2021 Current Account	46,061.61
Income	29,815.70
Total In	75,877.31
Less Expenditure	47,165.57
Balance at Bank as of 31st December 2021	28,711.74

NSI Savings Account	
Balance at bank as of 1st January 2021	41,404.20
Transfers In	4.14
Interest	0.00
Total In	41,408.34
Transfers Out	0.00
Balance at bank as of 31 Dec 2021	41,408.34

	Balance at Bank as of 31st December 2021	
Current Account	8,490.72	7,655.59
Active Saver Account	147.54	139.76
Busy Bees Account	250.00	319.94
Building Account	28,711.74	46,061.61
Youth Account	123.65	154.13
NSI Saving Account	41,408.34	41,404.20
Total	79,131.99	95,735.23

2021 Year End PL

Mount Elim Evangelical Church
Charity No. 1141828

Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Statement of Financial Activities on Main Account

	2020	2021
Income	£	£
Offerings	32,777.82	35,227.57
Tax reclaimed on Gift Aid	7,962.50	9,373.76
Gifts	23.79	30.00
Transfers	95.87	-
Donations	1,445.00	-
Hall Hire	664.30	40.00
Other income	1,250.80	1,079.49
Bank interest	-	-
	<u>44,220.08</u>	<u>45,750.82</u>
Expenditure		
Pulpit & Salary	24,174.04	24,275.06
Tax & NI	6,146.16	6,135.32
Cleaning	430.00	260.00
Electricity	1,296.00	1,296.00
Building insurance and repairs	769.22	886.64
Water	109.31	76.92
Paul Davies	2,750.00	2,700.00
Pension Contributions	1,698.48	1,708.00
Grass	237.00	276.00
Outreach	1,613.52	395.00
Sunday School, Clwb Ponty, Youth	279.83	178.93
Conferences and Study Books	250.89	250.49
Equipment	327.98	486.10
Safeguarding	129.00	263.75
Donations	2,500.00	2,340.00
Transfers	2,025.03	2,493.75
Sundry	728.04	205.00
Church expenses	323.05	688.73
	<u>45,787.55</u>	<u>44,915.69</u>
Profit/(Loss)	<u>(1,567.47)</u>	<u>835.13</u>

As an Independent Checker I have checked and signed the accounts and have found nothing of material value that prevented me from agreeing with the year end statement as of 31st December 2021 for the funds held at Barclays PLC on Current, Active Saver, Busy Bees, Youth and Building Accounts, and the National Savings and Investment Savings Account.

Date: 14th February 2022

Signed: Gaius A. Douglas, Accountant, FFA, FFTA

2021 Year End PL

Mount Elim Evangelical Church
Charity No. 1141828

Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Statement of Financial Activities Building Account

	2020	2021
Income	£	£
Donations	12,725.00	27,295.00
Grants	100.00	-
Easyfundraising	178.49	69.66
Transfers	350.00	649.94
Gift Aid	1,175.03	1,523.75
Other	10.00	277.35
	<u>14,538.52</u>	<u>29,815.70</u>
Expenditure		
Professional Fees	6,706.12	2,541.97
Planning	5,703.00	1,530.00
Transfers	-	-
Land Search	-	67.60
Contractor Costs	-	-
Land Purchase	-	42,750.00
Other		
	<u>12,409.12</u>	<u>46,889.57</u>
Profit/(Loss)	<u>2,129.40</u>	<u>- 17,073.87</u>

Mount Elim Evangelical Church, Pontardawe

AGM

Wednesday, 30 March at 7:00pm

Present:, Sue Bradley, Paul Clement, Jayne Clement, Elisabeth Clement, Denise Davies, Joseph & Gwenllian Dooher, Ken Evans, Kath Hamm, Gaynor Hughes, Caroline Jones, Kayleigh Jones, Steffan & Cath Jones, Dilys Milton, Stefan Panov, Victoria Porter, Colin Rowe, Samantha Sandry, David Sercombe, Dawn Williams (21)

On Zoom: Babs Dewitt, Martyn Edwards, Tony Epps, Pete Smith, Alan Thomas (5)

Apologies/ Not Present: Caryl Evans, Jill Heggarty, Anni Panova, Dan Sandry, Pat Smith, Kerry Thomas, Glynis Tierney, Dorothy Wonnacott (8)

30.1 Devotions

Steffan read Acts 4:23-31. Having been questioned then freed by the Sanhedrin, it's important to note that Peter and John had two immediate instincts:

- i. To "return to their own people" – the people of God. Having seen the threat and peril, they wanted to know the safety and comfort of their brothers and sisters in the Lord.
- ii. To pray together with God's people, knowing that they are addressing the "Sovereign Lord".

This is still an example for us today. Covid has reminded us of the importance of fellowship and prayer, and may we continue to cultivate these spiritual instincts into the future.

David prayed, and we sang "Blessed be the tie that binds"

30.2 New Members

Martyn Edwards and Colin Rowe were welcomed to their first members meeting. They will be given the 'right hand of fellowship' at the next Communion Service.

30.3 Minutes of 3 November 2021

These were proposed by Ken, seconded by Joseph, carried unanimously, and signed.

30.4 Matters Arising

- i. 29.3i - The connection with the Baptist Convention of New England has escalated, and they have invited Steffan and the family to visit in the summer, covering much of their flight costs. They will have a few days to travel in the first week, the second week will be with the church members in New England. Steffan will stay on for a third week to attend their Pastors' Retreat.
- ii. 29.9 - We still haven't met with Kirstie Richards, who has been very busy coordinating various community responses
- iii. 29.11 - We are grateful to Joseph for cleaning the paths around the church

30.5 Pastor's Report

It has continued to be a challenging time, with Covid still affecting everyone's lives. Since the previous Members' Meeting we had a period of Level 2 restrictions from December 26th to mid-February. We also grieved the loss of Kathleen Barker, one of the founders of the church and such an influential figure at Mount Elim over the years. We will continue to pray for her family.

Personally, twisting his ankle and catching Covid forced Steffan to slow down. He also mentioned his frustration at not being able to visit people as freely as before because of Covid fears. He and Cath are grateful for all of your prayers, acts of kindness, and every prayerful effort to grow in godliness, love and unity. "Blessed are the peacemakers" and "the Lord delights in a cheerful giver". Thankfully there are plenty of those at Mount Elim.

Since the last meeting he has continued to preach through 1 Thessalonians and Ecclesiastes, focusing on Isaiah in the prayer meeting (alongside the A Passion for Life videos). He has also been involved in some wider initiatives:

- A Passion for Life Cymru Wales, including coordinating the production of the Welsh videos
- Rooted - a new monthly meeting for 13-18 year olds in Swansea, NPT and Carmathenshire

Encouragements:

- i. [REDACTED]
- ii. New people continuing to settle in well – [REDACTED]
- iii. The godliness of the members facing challenges, and seeing the church pull together
- iv. The opportunities provided by Christmas, with a significant number of guests at the carol services.
- v. Returning to a greater degree of normality
- vi. The remarkable generosity shown by so many people, within and outside Mount Elim, towards the building project

Concerns:

- i. Those with significant health issues - [REDACTED]
- ii. Need to make sure everyone in church is cared for and tapped into church life, eg, [REDACTED]
- iii. Need to return to the tried and tested means of grace that have been a blessing to Christians throughout the centuries – prayer meeting, two Sunday services, fellowship, etc.
- iv. Steffan is aware that he needs to get into a better pattern of visiting, after the disruption of Covid

It continues to be a privilege to minister in Mount Elim and Pontardawe.

30.6 Building Project

Alan gave a report on Zoom

- i. As a church we have raised almost £50,000 since the autumn, which is marvellous (the target is £75,000). This is in addition to the £90,000 raised since we first embarked on the project.
- ii. Other churches and friends have wonderfully given £44,000 since January (target is £100,000)
- iii. Monthly donations are up to £1,400, which is excellent. It would be great to increase this to £2000 as it makes loans more accessible.
- iv. We are grateful to the Lord for his common grace in enabling the Welsh Government to give us the full Communities Facilities Grant of £250,000. This will need to be match-funded and used by March 2023.
- v. We are still waiting to hear from a variety of trusts and grants. Please pray for them.
- vi. Charter Homes are still keen to purchase the current building. Pray this will proceed smoothly.
- vii. A loan might be required if sufficient funds do not come in time. Alan has met with a Manager from Kingdom Bank (Jeremy Marshall is a former CEO and has been a helpful contact)
- viii. The monthly prayer meeting continues on Zoom on the second Saturday of every month

30.7 Financial Report

i. Alan presented the audited Balance Sheets for 2021 (see hand-out), and the following balances for March 2022:

Current Account:	£ 9,310.83
Savers Account:	£ 922.15
Building Account:	£ 76,397.76
NSI Account:	£ 41,408.34
Busy Bees Account:	£ 250.00
Youth Account:	£ 173.65

ii. We are grateful for the provision of Gaius Douglas from Penuel, Roch, as the new auditor.

30.8 Church Reports

These were read out by the respective leaders (see hand-out/ attachment)

Steffan expressed thanks for the way so many people are serving the Lord so faithfully at Mount Elim.

A few people prayed for the Lord's blessing on the church and the community

30.9 Prayer Meeting

i. Prayer Meeting will return to church next Wednesday (April 6th), with Zoom incorporated for those genuinely unable to attend

ii. Steffan will reinstate the RSVP pattern:

Week 1 - Revival and Blessing

Week 2 - Study

Week 3 - Vulnerable Members and Friends

Week 4 - People and Missions beyond Mount Elim

iii. Heledd Job will be visiting the prayer meeting on *Thursday*, May 19

30.10 Plan for the Year

i. Easter

- Good Friday, 15th - Bring-own-food picnic at 4.30pm; service with Mark Barnes at 6pm (it has been difficult arranging a joint service with Gosen this year due to key losses at Gosen)
- Easter Sunday, 17th - Steffan preaching at both services
- Easter Monday, 19th - Church Walk and Picnic at Lliw Reservoir, meeting at 10am
- Sunday, 24th - Family Service with Paul Davies at 10.30am (he will preach in the evening)

ii. 40th Anniversary Weekend - May 7-8th

Saturday

11am - 3pm - Open Church - activities for the children outdoors; exhibition and opportunity to chat and pray indoors.
6.30pm - Preaching Service with Ian Parry

Sunday

10.30am - Morning Service with Ian Parry
12pm - Fellowship Meal
1.30pm – Message and Q&A

Flyers for Easter and the 40th Anniversary will be produced, to be delivered locally

iii. Church Trip to Tenby - June 18th

A bus will be organised

iv. Summer Outreach

- July 10th - Open Air Service at 10.30am
- Women's Meal and a Tea Afternoon
- Men's Walks and Breakfasts
- Sept 3rd - Heart of the Valley Show

30.11 EMW Events

Camp: We are grateful for three donations which have enabled us to offer a subsidy to those wanting to send their children/ grandchildren on camp. There is a good number of children able to go this year. Please pray for them.

Aberystwyth Conference: A day trip will be arranged to visit the conference for a day,

30.12 Practical Matters

- i. [REDACTED] has volunteered to take on the responsibility for seating and heating
- ii. [REDACTED] will arrange [REDACTED] books (with [REDACTED] as back-up if needed)
- ii. We are grateful to [REDACTED] for painting the wall behind the pulpit
- ii. [REDACTED] -will do a tea/coffee rota for Sunday evenings

30.12 AOB

- i. Denise kindly requested that we leave a car parking space in front of the church for her and Jill
- ii. £2000 has been raised towards the work of SGA and EMF in Ukraine – thank you very much for your generosity.

30.13 Prayer

Pete prayed and the meeting was closed at 9.10pm

Annual Report

AGM March 2022

1. Sunday Schools

Junior Groups: Lizzie, Jayne and Sue currently teach the younger children. We are still using the Go Teach and Come Learn books. Since we returned to Sunday school in the church we've looked at the first Table of the Ten Commandments, The Lord's death and resurrection, King David and the Teachings of Jesus. The children listen very well, are happy to ask questions and enjoy the activities in their work books. Attendance is pretty constant, around 6-8 most weeks. Pray for the teachers as they prepare the lessons that that they would be blessed and as they present the Word of God to the children that God would speak to them and they would come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour (**Jayne**)

Senior Group: It continues to be a real privilege for Gwenllian and myself to teach Sunday school. [REDACTED] come regularly and it is a pleasure to get to know them better. Last spring we used 'One Way' notes to study Old Testament figures, learning about God's unchanging character and his people's experience of Him throughout their lives. It was especially thrilling to see Jesus so clearly in the Old Testament. In September both teachers felt a burden to study Luke and to begin to equip the young people to study the Bible themselves. We are therefore using Scripture Journals so that we can highlight and make notes on passages. The last month we have been hearing testimonies from church members and have been blessed from hearing these personal stories. Please pray for wisdom, clarity and strength for us as teachers. Please also pray for the young people, that they would truly grasp the height, width and depth of God's love for them. (**Cath**)

2. Busy Bees

After many months of Covid, we restarted Busy Bees outside while the weather was good, and inside when restrictions started to be lifted. The meetings were held on Thursday mornings. With the numbers quite low and then Level 2 restrictions reimposed at Christmas we decided to pause until it was safer to meet. We have now reopened, reverting back to Tuesday mornings. At the moment our numbers are high. We are welcoming at least 16 toddlers with their mums, grans (and one dad) every week. Everyone seems to enjoy the sessions.

Cath and I alternate each week, with Glynis, Denise, Lynn and Dilys attending most weeks. We could not operate without the help of these ladies as they prepare the food and help with the tidying up afterwards. They are also invaluable in talking with the mums. etc. We have a free play session, snack time and sometimes a simple Bible story and craft, followed by singing with instruments and usually parachute games which the children love.

We thank God for the increase in our numbers and for the ladies who faithfully help us. Please pray the Lord will work in their hearts, and might also bring families to church. If anyone would like to join us, please feel free to come along on a Tuesday morning at 9.30am (**Kerry**)

3. Children and Young People

Clwb Ponty: After a year mostly on Zoom it has been a blessing being mostly back in church since last year's AGM. We have appreciated being able to re-introduce many of the elements that have made this a special group. 12-14 children meet every week, and we are grateful to Paul Davies again for his continued help, as well as [REDACTED] when they come with their children/ grandchildren).

This year we have done an overview of key events from the Gospels and the 'Romans Road' which considers key verses from Paul's Letter to the Romans. We still have fewer children from non-church families, therefore fewer opportunities to make contact with new families, but we are praying that as we continue to move out of Covid, renewed school links and the reopening of Busy Bees might feed into the Tuesday evening meetings (**Steffan**)

Impact Youth: We have eight children regularly attending. This term we have been at Bethel, Clydach. In January we continued with our study of Acts using a visual guide that the children each have a copy of. We have looked in depth at the disciples, The Holy Spirit and people like Stephen. We ended with two sessions of 'Table Talk' where the children discussed the good news of Jesus and how to share it with their friends. It was wonderful to hear them all engaging so enthusiastically. After half term, Nat Ayling led the sessions using youth resources by OMF called 'Sharing Jesus With The World'.

We encourage the children to share prayer points each week and Paul, Nat and I have been so encouraged to hear some of them pray out loud. Please pray for the children who are at different stages of their journey with God, that their young hearts would be opened to receive Jesus as their personal Saviour; and for the children who will be transitioning from Clwb Ponty to Impact in the next few weeks. (**Caroline**)

4. Women's Meeting

We currently hold the ladies' meetings every Monday at 10am where we meet around the table with tea, coffee and toast. The meeting is also open to those who wish to join on Zoom, although this can be difficult due to volume control. In total there are 19 ladies 'on the books' and we have had the pleasure of welcoming many new faces, including [REDACTED] whom we have had the pleasure of witnessing changing to becoming 'in Christ'.

We have followed a study book called 'Understanding the Way of Salvation' and in March we started a new study book, 'Finding Christ in the Old Testament'. We are very excited to study this new book and look forward to being responsive to the Holy Spirit and obedient to God's word. We pray before the meeting in preparation for continued unity, for lives to be saved and that our words will be centred around God. Some earnest questions have been asked in the group, and at times it has also been necessary to just pray and come alongside each other to listen and speak words of encouragement and help relieve the heavy burdens. This has been very precious and a joy and a comfort to remember that ultimately God is always in control.

In the spring/ summer we are hoping to arrange a fellowship meal on a Saturday and a coffee morning on a weekday (**Dawn**)

5. Men's Ministry

We continue to be grateful for new contacts over the last 18 months and we are praying for opportunities to deepen those friendships. We are delighted that two of the men have now become members of Mount Elim - Colin and Martyn. With Alun Davies' help we are again hoping to plan some walks in the spring and summer this year. There is a men's curry night tomorrow evening with men such as [REDACTED]-attending.

The Men's group, designed for those who are 'younger' in their faith, enjoyed a very good year and explored many topics. We met on Zoom on a Thursday every six weeks or so and covered a lot of ground. In Wayne Grudem's 'Systematic Theology' we have studied and discussed 'Nature of Man', 'The Sovereignty of God in Salvation', 'The Person of Christ' and 'The Atonement'. We also had two sessions from 'Disciplines of a Godly Man' by R. Kent Hughes which was very challenging and thought provoking.

Apart from increasing our understanding of the truths of our Theology and exploring our own attitudes to being a better Christian we had a great time of fellowship and talk. (**Alan**)