

Trustees' Annual Report

Bethel Independent Evangelical Church, Clydach

(Also known as Bethel Evangelical Church, Clydach)

For the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

1. Basic details

Registered Charity number :	1142690
Principal Address:	Bethel Evangelical Church Heol Y Nant Clydach Swansea SA6 5HB
Trustees:	Mr. Mark Barnes (Elder) Mr. Nigel Paul Clifford (Elder) Mr. Nathanael Ayling (Elder)

2. Structure and Governance

Structure

The church is governed by a constitution adopted on the 22nd June 2011 and amended on the 13th March 2013 and 13th April 2016. The trustees of the church are those appointed as Managing Trustees in accordance with the Church's Members' Handbook. The right of nomination to trusteeship belongs to the existing trustees, but nominees must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the Church meeting. The Managing Trustees have full and final responsibility for the general control and management of the administration of the church.

Recruitment and training of new trustees

The trustees take formal responsibility for the effective induction of all new trustees as well as ensuring that all potential trustees are fully informed of their legal responsibilities before they agree to stand for election. The induction of trustees includes: (1) the legal responsibilities of a trustee; (2) the charity's financial position and an explanation of most recent accounts; (3) The Church's Constitution and Members' Handbook; (4) current and future plans and (5) a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance on trusteeship.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and sought to reduce these risks, so far as is possible. The major elements of reducing our exposure to risk are: prayer, effective oversight and regular review.

The trustees continue to be mindful of the inherent risks associated with the Church's work, especially in respect of the work with children, young people and vulnerable adults. A Safeguarding Policy is in place, and all who work regularly or intensively with children are subject to DBS checks.

Training is provided to church volunteers, to ensure they have the skills and knowledge required to carry out their work to a high standard.

The insurance requirements of the Church are regularly reviewed, to ensure that all prospective liability situations are adequately covered.

3. Objectives and Activities

The Church has the following objectives:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the basis of faith primarily but not exclusively within Clydach and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
2. Such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the managing trustees further the work of the church.

We believe that the work of redemption through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, is the greatest possible benefit to mankind. There is no greater task nor higher calling than its proclamation, and that is at the heart of the church's benefit to the public.

This is done through a variety of activities which are for public benefit, including:

1. The holding of weekly worship services, which are open to all, free of charge.
2. Regular meetings and courses that introduce the Christian faith to interested members of the public, again without charge.
3. Holding regular prayer meetings, which include prayer for the nation and local community.
4. A weekly Playgroup, Children's club and Youth group, that are free of charge, and open to all. These meetings offer Bible stories, games and quizzes, and help children to understand the spiritual and moral teaching of the Bible, as well as supporting young families.
5. Free of charge pastoral visits and counselling for members of the church and the general public who request it.
6. Regular visits to local schools, to assist them in providing religious assemblies and in the teaching of religious education.

These activities are carried out both by salaried staff, office-bearers and by many church members who volunteer their time. It is estimated that church members contribute around 1,000 hours of volunteer time annually.

4. Brief review of the year

Whilst some other charities may talk about "achievements" and "performance", neither term is appropriate for a church. Throughout the year we have continued to provide regular opportunities for worship, with faithful and relevant Bible teaching, and to provide pastoral care both for church members and others who request it. We have been encouraged by the many local folk that we have been able to befriend. Most importantly of all, God has been at work in our midst, although we continue to long for an even greater sense of His presence. All of this is central to our charitable objectives (see above).

5. Financial Review

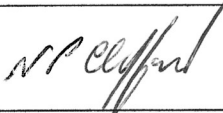
The church had a total cash balance of £215,685.53 at the end of the period, together with £403,635.37 of fixed assets. The church's policy is to have sufficient free reserves to cover working capital requirements and the day to day running costs and planned deficits without the need for bank borrowing. The trustees have committed to maintaining a cash balance sufficient to cover six month's expenditure.


The charity's principal source of funds are donations received from church members and regular attenders. All the church's expenditure is spent on charitable objectives. None is spent on governance or fund-raising.

6. Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Name: NIGEL CLIFFORD	Position: TRUSTEE
Signature: 	Date: 21/04/24

Name: MARIL BARNES	Position: TRUSTEE
Signature: 	Date: 22/04/24

Bethel Evangelical Church

Balance Sheet

1st Sept 2022 to 31st Aug 2023

Income	£64,980.17
Expenditure	£43,693.90
Surplus/Deficit	£21,286.27
Cash Balance	£215,685.53

Cash Funds	Opening	In	Out	Closing	
General Fund	£190,749.20	£50,735.85	£33,345.90	£208,139.15	
Mission Fund	£3,650.06	£6,073.32	£6,701.00	£3,022.38	
Aylings Fund	£0.00	£647.00	£647.00	£0.00	
Paul Daniel Fund	£0.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	
Restricted Fund	£0.00	£5,524.00	£1,000.00	£4,524.00	Note 1
TOTAL	£194,399.26	£64,980.17	£43,693.90	£215,685.53	

Cash Balances	Opening Balance	Closing Balance	Difference
Savings Account	£112,733.11	£113,366.47	£633.36
Barclays Account	£81,651.73	£102,319.06	£20,667.33
Petty Cash	£14.42	£0.00	-£14.42
Debtors	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL	£194,399.26	£215,685.53	£21,286.27

Fixed Assets	Opening Balance	Closing Balance	Difference
Property value	£400,000.00	£400,000.00	£0.00
Existing equipment value	£6,619.03	£3,635.37	-£2,983.66
Equipment purchases	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL	£406,619.03	£403,635.37	-£2,983.66

Equipment means items like chairs, the PA system, pianos, etc. These depreciate (lose value) as they get older.

Bethel Evangelical Church

Income/Expenditure

1st Sept 2022 to 31st Aug 2023

Income	2022-2023	2021-2022	Difference
Gift Aid Giving (Declared)	£9,340.00	£9,477.50	-£137.50
Gift Aid Giving (Small Donations)	£5,641.34	£4,333.75	£1,307.59
Income tax recovered	£3,729.18	£3,069.72	£659.46
Non Gift-Aided Church Collections	£11,760.00	£13,190.00	-£1,430.00
Sundry Donations	£25,505.29	£22,739.34	£2,765.95
Interest received	£633.36	£499.33	£134.03
Miscellaneous Income	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Gifts to Aylings (Gift Aid)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Gifts to Aylings (non-Gift Aid)	£647.00	£540.00	£107.00
Income tax recovered for Aylings	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Fees(weddings etc)	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00
Paul Daniel Support	£2,000.00	£0.00	£2,000.00
Other Restricted Income	£5,524.00	£0.00	£5,524.00
TOTAL	£64,980.17	£53,849.64	£11,130.53

Note 1

Expenditure	2022-2023	2021-2022	Difference
Building Maintenance	£2,035.82	£255.00	£1,780.82
Heat/light/water	£2,670.22	£2,005.18	£665.04
Other expenses	£711.00	£0.00	£711.00
School's ministry	£1,800.00	£2,400.00	-£600.00
Children's Club	£553.94	£637.61	-£83.67
Youth Group	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00
Playgroup	£590.48	£0.00	£590.48
Evangelistic Camps and Trips	£350.00	£0.00	£350.00
Evangelistic follow-up/Discipleship	£45.39	£0.00	£45.39
Other evangelistic expenses	£1,200.55	£314.08	£886.47
Website and Audio	£1,308.34	£1,388.52	-£80.18
Hospitality Expenses	£942.23	£546.40	£395.83
Staff related costs	£5,105.00	£4,772.35	£332.65
Household essentials	£1,019.41	£774.32	£245.09
Support for Aylings' Ministry	£2,400.00	£2,400.00	£0.00
Other Mission Partners	£4,948.00	£4,948.00	£0.00
Other giving/Miscellaneous gifts	£5,350.00	£14,725.00	-£9,375.00
Church relationships	£100.00	£0.00	£100.00
Administrative costs	£215.99	£74.57	£141.42
Stationery/printed material	£11.32	£110.56	-£99.24
Compliance fees	£598.67	£513.89	£84.78
Health and Safety	£333.66	£0.00	£333.66
Music	£93.53	£152.89	-£59.36
Pulpit supply	£9,768.50	£8,396.00	£1,372.50
Insurances	£1,291.85	£1,154.84	£137.01
Miscellaneous Expenses	£0.00	£60.00	-£60.00

TOTAL	£43,693.90	£45,629.21	-£1,935.31
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Note 1: Restricted funds can only be used for the purpose specified by the donor.



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name BETHEL EVANGELICAL CHURCH		
On accounts for the year ended	31/08/2023	Charity no (if any)	1142690
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:	P. A Layton	Date:	22.3.24
Name:	PATRICIA ANNE LAYTON		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	B.Sc(Hons) MANAGERIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES		

Address:	44 MAESYGWERNEN ROAD
	MORRISTON, SWANSEA, SA6 6LL

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

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