

Trustees' Annual Report (year ended 31st March 2021)

The Trustees of Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church are happy to present their annual report for the year ended 31st March 2021 in keeping with the requirements of the Charities Acts 1993 and 2006, the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2005 and Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church Constitution and Rules 2011.

Trustees:

Rev Stephen Darby	Mr Alun Johnson
Mr Peter Evans	Mr Peter Martin
Mr Marc Howells	Mr John Morley

Hope Church @ Bethel & Calvary

Serving God in Cefn Hengoed and Penybryn

Bethel Chapel, Gelligaer Road, Cefn Hengoed, CF82 7HH
Calvary Chapel, Penybryn Terrace, Penybryn, CF82 7GG
Registered Charity 1143626
(Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church)

Structure, Governance and Management:

The governing documents of the Church are its Constitution and Rules 2011.

The Managing Trustees of the Church are the persons appointed as church officers in accordance with the Church Rules provided that a person may not be appointed as a Managing Trustee if he is 'disqualified from being a trustee of any charity under section 72 of the Charities Act 1993 or any amendment to it or new regulations under it unless such disqualification has been waived by the Charity Commission. There shall be not less than 3 Managing Trustees. The appointment of a Managing Trustee requires a 75% majority vote of those Church Members present at a Church Members' Meeting who will have been notified of the meeting three weeks in advance.

Objectives and Activities:

The purposes of the Church are the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Cefn Hengoed and the surrounding neighbourhood and such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the Managing Trustees, further the work of the Church. The Church is a group of Christians committed to serving God in the local community by helping to address spiritual, social and practical needs. It is independently governed by its own church officers but is in fellowship with the Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales and its income is largely from gifts. Regular activities include Sunday Services, Sunday School and Prayer Meeting/Bible study. Due to Coronavirus restrictions, other activities (Children's Club, Toddlers' Group, Young People's Group, Caffi Calvary, Ladies' Fellowship, Mens' Fellowship and school assemblies) were suspended during the year April 2020 to March 2021.

Developments during the year:

With the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, it has been necessary to adapt much of our activity as a church during the year and to be ready to review and alter our practices as the situation has changed. Whilst this has brought many challenges, providentially it has also resulted in a number of positive developments in the work and we have known blessings and encouragements along the way.

By the beginning of the financial year the UK was in national lockdown and the only services and meetings that could take place were online. We were thankful to God that in consultation with other church leaders, and with advice from the Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales and the Evangelical Movement of Wales, we were able to rapidly put in place a number of measures to enable worship services to go ahead and to respond to the immediate needs of the congregation and community. Initially, we had Sunday morning services and the Bible Study/Prayer Meeting on Wednesday evenings using Zoom. We could sing hymns using backing tracks, share children's messages, pray and read the Bible together and use a pre-recorded video message which was then shared on YouTube. For those who did not have internet access, we placed an audio recording of the sermon along with other words of encouragement on a phone line using a dedicated local number. We set up a Care Team to regularly phone others within the fellowship and to support them as necessary with shopping and collecting prescriptions or other needs. Once Caerphilly County Borough Council began its 'buddy' scheme to support local residents who live alone this relieved the Care Team of some of that practical activity, but the phone calls and when possible doorstep visiting continued. A small technical team was also established within the fellowship to plan and setup livestreaming of services. An internet connection was installed at Bethel Chapel and cabling, screens and sound equipment were put in place. Daily sharing of messages on the church WhatsApp group and fortnightly lockdown Zoom quizzes were appreciated by many.

For the months that children's meetings were suspended, video recorded meetings were shared approximately each half term. In November, an 'in person' gathering for a community Remembrance Service was not possible. Instead, the pastor worked with the two local primary schools, Community Councillors,

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Cefn Hengoed Ladies' Choir and New Hengoed Baptist Church to video record readings, music and other aspects of the service which were then edited together and broadcast on YouTube. The service was widely viewed and well received in the community. On the Sunday before Christmas, using a similar format, a virtual 'Carols by Candlelight' was made available for the local community on YouTube, and again this was with the involvement of the various groups in the locality and had many viewings. On Good Friday, we held a virtual service of reflection and thanksgiving for the community with prayers for frontline workers and families who had suffered loss and hardship during the pandemic.

On 26th November we were able to have our first 'in person' service since the beginning of the pandemic and this was at 4 pm on that Sunday. By Christmas, due to rising rates of infection in our area, we returned to online only services and we continued that way until the first Sunday of May 2021 when morning and evening services were resumed in the building along with Sunday School.

The year as a whole has been a difficult one for many local people and many within our congregation, but we have aimed to make our services and pastoral help as accessible as possible and to be flexible in our approach. Funeral services and the support of bereaved families has been difficult with the restrictions that have been in place, and pastoral support to those in care homes has had to be by phone call for much of the year. However, we have had the joy of welcoming new people into the church family, both online and in person and to see relationships with the local community being strengthened, for which we are grateful to God.

Financial Review:

The annual income of the church for the year 2020/21 was £49922, slightly higher than the previous year. Annual expenditure was £42524, which was a little less than the previous year. There was a surplus of £6781. This reflects the fact that with activities being mainly online during the year there was less expenditure, particularly on gas, preaching expenses and children's work.

Month by month income did not significantly vary, but in April, July, October and January this was a little higher than in other months due to the receipt of HMRC Gift Aid reimbursement and this resulted in a significant surplus in those months. Expenditure was higher in June, September, December and March when HMRC tax and National Insurance payments went out, and there was a deficit in these months, as well as in May when a larger gift to missionary work and our annual donation to the Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales were sent. Special gifts were made in April, May, July and September to help alleviate financial hardship in particular circumstances due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The balance in the Current Account on 31st March 2021 was £31474 and the balance in the Savings Account was £15676. This will be retained as a contingency to meet any further potential building maintenance costs or shortfall in ongoing ministry and running costs.

Signed
(on behalf of the Trustees)

S.C. Darby (Pastor)
John Morley (Sec.)

Date

25th January 2022

April 20-March 21	April 20	May 20	June 20	July 20	Aug 20	Sept 20	Oct 20	Nov 20	Dec 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	March 21	Total	
Income														
Offerings	0	0	0		240	0	0	1000	322	0	0	300	600	2462
Communion/Missionary Donations	0	0	0		0	0	165	230	65	640	40	0	0	1140
Gift Aid (S/O)	1820	1960	2123		1960	2095	2160	2016	2120	2200	2200	2092	2350	25096
Gift Aid (Envelopes)	200	190	270		530	770	730	660	420	585	290	560	630	5835
HMRC Gift Aid reimbursement	2083	0	0		1640.75	0	0	2096.25	0	0	2199	0	0	8019
Friday Fellowship	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mens/Ladies Meeting Donations	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donations	100	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	200	0	500	0	800
S/O not gift aided	150	150	555		820	480	910	285	625	715	905	375	600	6570
Total	4353	2300	2948		5190.75	3345	3965	6287.25	3552	4340	5634	3827	4180	49922
Less cash payments for Sundry items														
Food mens/Ladies breakfast	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc	0	0	0		550	0	50	0	0	16.92	0	0	0	616.92
Total	0	0	0		550	0	50	0	0	16.92	0	0	0	616.92
Total Income	4353	2300	2948		4640.75	3345	3915	6287.25	3552	4323.08	5634	3827	4180	49305.08
Expenditure														
Pastors Salary Payments														
Nett Salary	1948.84	1948.84	1948.84		1948.84	1948.84	1948.84	1948.84	2448.84	1948.84	1948.84	1948.84		23886.08
Tax and NI	0	0	1233.48		0	0	1233.48	0	1233.48	0		1233.48		4933.92
Pension Scheme	165.2	165.2	165.2		165.2	165.2	165.2	165.2	165.2	165.2	165.2	165.2		1982.4
														0
Total	2114.04	2114.04	3347.52		2114.04	2114.04	3347.52	2114.04	2114.04	3847.52	2114.04	2114.04	3347.52	30802.4
Visiting Preachers(Wed/Sunday)					280						160	40		480
Preacher Friday Fellowship														
Missionary Expenditure	60	600			400	200	500.32	21.1	0	400	100			2281.42
Outreach Expenses		250						150	677.89	365				1442.89
Gas									82.17	126.82				208.99
Electric					126.09	111.39			128.67			106.81		472.96
Water												157.92		157.92
Building Insurance							709.82							709.82
Building Maintenance			200		0	170		62.18			66	729.07		1227.25
Web Site			60		254.86			0		155				469.86
Sunday School								0						0
Holiday Bible Club								0						0
Children Clubs								0						0
Stationery					699			0						699
Printing for Outreach							59	0						59
Misc	50.4	129	143.88		583.68	14.99	146.77	138.43	0	100				1307.15
Visiting Preachers Ladies/Mens								0						0
Birthday/Anniversaries Gifts						21.5	41.5	0	22		20.5			105.5
Special payments	600	500			100	900		0						2100
Total	710.4	1479	403.88		1788.77	669.85	1549.66	1310.64	371.71	910.73	1306.82	226.5	993.8	11721.76
Total Expenditure	2824.44	3593.04	3751.4		3902.81	2783.89	4897.18	3424.68	2485.75	4758.25	3420.86	2340.54	4341.32	42524.16
Surplus & Deficit	1528.56	-1293.04	-803.4		737.94	561.11	-982.18	2862.57	1066.25	-435.17	2213.14	1486.46	-161.32	6780.92

Bank balance April-June 20	April - September 20	April - December 20	April 20-March 21
Bank balance b/fwd March 20	24733.22	24733.22	24733.22
Plus Income	9601	35664.08	49305.08
Less Pastors salary payments	-7575.6	-15151.2	-30802.40
Less Cheques cashed	-2304.28	-5421.82	-6686.82
Bank transfer/DD (utilities)	-129	-366.48	-968.87
Less offering banked July			
Transfers			
Cash payment			
Total	24325.34	24942.21	31474.14
Bank balance end June 20	24325.34	27935.86	31474.14
Diff	0	0	0

I confirm that I have audited the accounts which are on order
and in true and accurate review of the record 20/21

Building Fund

Audited by: MR KENDAL SMITH

Signature: *Kendal Smith* 15.5.21

Interest
Bal Mar 21

Apr-20 15672.47
3.53
15676

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Mr Kendal Smith

Address: 34 Brecon Rise, Pant, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 2BW.

Date: 24.1.22

Signature: Kendal Smith