

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)

Trustees' Annual Report (year ended 31st March 2023)

The Trustees of Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church are happy to present their annual report for the year ended 31st March 2023 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

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, Prayer Meeting/Bible study, Toddlers' Group, Children's Club, Friday Fellowship and Men's and Ladies' Breakfasts.

Developments during the year:

By Easter 2022 most of our regular meetings were in place again, Covid restrictions having been lifted. The Toddlers' Group was restarted after Easter with a completely new group of toddlers and parents, as those young children who had formerly attended were now in school. Numbers were low at first but gradually built up to around 10 toddlers plus parents. Men's and Ladies' Breakfasts also began again after Easter on alternate months on a Saturday. These were well attended (usually between 20 and 30 people) and the informal gospel talks by invited speakers were encouraging and much appreciated. A small but consistent group of children have attended Trailblazers and Sunday School and have enjoyed the crafts, games, Bible stories and songs. At the Sunday services there has been a warmth of fellowship and a growing together through God's word. The morning congregation has consisted of around 40 people and the evening 30 people. Friday Fellowship meetings have been times of encouragement and strengthening of fellowship between local churches, although the numbers have not reached pre-Covid levels.

A highlight during the year was the Centenary Celebration weekend (20-22 May) marking 100 years since the formation of the church at Bethel, Cefn Hengoed. The Thanksgiving Service on the Saturday afternoon was attended by around 120 people including pastors and members of various churches, many people who have had a connection to the work of the church over the years, community councillors, the MP for Caerphilly and his wife and local residents. A former deacon, now ministering in Dowlais (Pastor James Allan) preached at the Friday Fellowship meeting. One of the great-grandsons (Pastor Huw Williams) of the first pastor of the church (Pastor Morgan Lewis) preached on the Saturday afternoon and another great-grandson (Pastor Dyfan Williams) on the Sunday afternoon. There was much praise and thankfulness to God for His faithfulness and blessing during a century of gospel work and witness in the locality.

The community came together again for the Remembrance Service led by the pastor at the Memorial Garden, Derwendeg Primary School and continued in the school hall followed by refreshments. There was good attendance and people appreciated gathering together without restrictions this time. Readings from children of Derwendeg Primary School and Hengoed Primary School, music from Cefn Hengoed Ladies' Choir and participation from other community representatives made the occasion memorable.

Easter and Christmas Family Fun events were popular with local families and there was eager participation in the games, crafts, quizzes and attentiveness to the themed talk. The Christmas Carol Services were also well attended with numbers of visitors to the Penybryn Village Hall service and Carols by Candlelight. During the year the pastor continued to visit Valley View Care Home to lead monthly services and to speak and pray with individual residents.

We continue to be grateful to all those who serve in teaching the children, music, preaching and leading services, administering the church accounts, assisting with projection and livestreaming, cleaning, maintenance, health and safety, arranging flowers and other aspects of the life of the church.

Financial Review:

The church's annual income for the year 2022/23 was £58,467, slightly higher than the previous year. The church's annual expenditure was £57,566, leaving a surplus of £901. As a fellowship, we are thankful for God's provision and grateful for the faithful giving of His people.

Monthly income was between £3,273 and £6,304, the highest figures being in April, July, October, December and March due to HMRC Gift Aid reimbursements received in those months. As the March reimbursement came earlier than usual it falls in the 2022/23 financial year rather than the following one.

Monthly expenditure was between £2,643 and £9,857. The highest of these figures was in December and this is due to a payment of £3,485 for technology equipment (a new audio-visual and livestreaming setup) in addition to HMRC Tax and National Insurance payments of £1,713 which go out quarterly with similar amounts. The technology expenses are covered by income from a Caerphilly County Borough Council Community Empowerment Fund grant (£2805 followed by the same figure received again in March). The second highest figure for monthly expenditure was £7,387 in February which included £3,182 legal fees to Edward Connor Solicitors for ongoing work in relation to the revision of the church's trust documents and a further payment of £995 towards the new technology system.

The balance in the Current Account on 31st March 2023 was £36,926 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.

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Registered Charity 1143626
(Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church)

Signed
(on behalf of the Trustees)

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

Date *31st January 2024*

	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Total
Income													
S/O Offerings	2,785.00	5,005.00	2,938.00	2,368.00	3,047.00	3,245.00	2,721.00	2,829.00	2,655.00	2,460.00	2,836.00	3,017.00	35,906.00
Cash Offerings	372.00	805.45	573.50	952.90	719.80	826.10	1,001.40	1,154.30	764.10	813.00	1,219.00	914.50	10,116.05
Communion/Missionary Donations	325.00	20.00	32.50	6.50	-	-	35.00	20.00	80.00	-	260.00	-	779.00
HMRC Gift Aid reimbursement	2,605.36	-	-	2,583.91	-	-	2,027.13	-	-	-	-	-	7,216.40
Caerphilly Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,805.30	-	-	2,805.30	5,610.60
Total	6,087.36	5,830.45	3,544.00	5,911.31	3,766.80	4,071.10	5,784.53	4,003.30	6,304.40	3,273.00	4,315.00	6,736.80	59,628.05
Donations paid over to charities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,161.25	1,161.25
Total Income	6,087.36	5,830.45	3,544.00	5,911.31	3,766.80	4,071.10	5,784.53	4,003.30	6,304.40	3,273.00	4,315.00	5,575.55	58,466.80

Expenditure

Pastors Salary Payments

Payroll - Salary	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,270.28	2,374.36	2,322.52	27,399.68
Payroll - HMRC	-	-	1,715.16	-	-	1,715.16	-	-	1,713.30	-	2.01	1,039.21	6,184.84
Payroll - Pension	165.20	165.20	165.20	165.20	165.20	165.20	165.20	165.20	165.20	-	-	495.60	1,982.40
Total	2,435.48	2,435.48	4,150.64	2,435.48	2,435.48	4,150.64	2,435.48	2,435.48	4,148.78	2,270.28	2,376.37	3,857.33	35,566.92
Legal fees	-	527.16	-	467.42	12.25	-	831.19	211.20	704.10	-	3,182.00	36.75	5,972.07
Utilities - Gas	-	205.97	29.75	16.05	10.96	14.68	-	51.58	318.32	-	489.21	146.87	1,283.39
Utilities - Electric	-	-	103.35	-	-	125.68	-	-	110.28	-	-	-	339.31
Utilities - Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	283.37	283.37
Maintenance	45.00	1,002.79	5.25	10.00	-	-	-	-	111.52	-	118.00	-	1,292.56
Technology	30.39	-	-	153.88	-	-	-	-	3,485.00	250.80	995.00	-	4,915.07
EE Contract	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	21.86	262.32
Stationery	-	82.87	279.72	-	247.00	-	-	-	109.39	-	-	-	718.98
Catering	29.57	517.56	-	-	35.91	-	32.50	-	75.20	-	14.95	-	705.69
Catering - Breakfast	0	36.92	34	23.94	0	70.65	23.84	110.19	0	59.66	37.5	89.21	485.91
Youth	161.67	12	83.4	0	0	0	111.81	0	259.66	0	0	0	628.54
Speaker	130.00	260.00	40.00	200.00	40.00	120.00	225.00	120.00	-	40.00	120.00	80.00	1,375.00
Birthday/Anniversary Gift	-	90.50	14.00	-	35.00	-	-	-	13.20	-	32.06	-	184.76
Special Gift/Mission	50.00	1,672.00	130.00	620.00	-	-	-	280.00	500.00	-	-	300.00	3,552.00
Total	468.49	4,429.63	741.33	1,513.15	402.98	352.87	1,246.20	794.83	5,708.53	372.32	5,010.58	958.06	21,998.97
Total Expenditure	2,903.97	6,865.11	4,891.97	3,948.63	2,838.46	4,503.51	3,681.68	3,230.31	9,857.31	2,642.60	7,386.95	4,815.39	57,565.89
Surplus & Deficit	3,183.39	- 1,034.66	- 1,347.97	1,962.68	928.34	- 432.41	2,102.85	772.99	- 3,552.91	630.40	- 3,071.95	- 760.16	900.91

Bank balance April-March	
Bank balance b/fwd March 22	36,025.08
Plus Income	59,628.05
Less Expenses	(58,727.14)
Total	36,925.99
Bank balance 31st March 2023	36,925.99
Diff	0.00

Building fund

Apr-21	15675.87
INTEREST	1.56
BAL MAR 22	15677.43

I confirm that I have audited the accounts which are on order
and in true and accurate review of the records Year 22/23

Audited by : Miss Sarah Liverick

Signature: *S. Liverick*
Date: *30/11/24*

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 2023.

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: Miss Sarah Liverick

Address: 49 Garden City
Rhymney
NP22 5JZ

Date:

30/1/24

Signature:

S Liverick