



BROMLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2023

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1145850

Legal & Administrative Details

Charity Number:	1145850
Registered Address:	Bromley Baptist Church, Park Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 3HJ
Governing Document:	Constitution dated 4 October 2009 amended 25 July 2021.
Trustee Board	Mrs Jemima Aaron Mrs Clare Morris Mr Ioseph Okosieme Mr Jonathan Smith (tenure concluded June 2024) Mrs Janice Tibble Rev Dr Stephen Langford (appointed 6 February 2024) Ms Fawzia Abd Elnour (appointed 5 May 2024) Mr Nicholas Arnold (appointed 5 May 2024)
Church Officers/Staff:	Mr Michael Meerloo, Caretaker Mr Rahmatolla Tavakkoli, Finance Administrator Ms Nikki Williams-Prescott, Church Administrator
Bankers:	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
Independent Examiner:	Ms Katherine Dee Begbies Chartered Accountants 9 Bonhill Street London EC2A 4DJ

Trustees Report

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the Declaration of Principles of the Baptist denomination. The charity may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit and believe that the church's activities and achievements as set out elsewhere in this report demonstrate success in this regard.

Summary of Activity

The period under review saw the church fulfilling its objectives.

The year ending December 2023 was a year of inter-regnum as we had no ministerial team. We continued to meet the objectives of the church by meeting in person and online (as we have many housebound members). Sunday worship services were held in the church building and streamed via YouTube. Our work with children and young people in Sunday School was in person. Our two weekly prayer meetings continued online, and the two coffee mornings were one online and one in person. The in-person coffee morning is held at 1917 Chill Café in the town centre; this gives us a visible presence in the community and enables us to support a local business. It is led by two church members who offer pastoral support to the various people who come.

The church was also providing a wide range of activities in person in support of the objective of advancing the Christian faith. Central to the work and witness of the church is the provision of regular services of Christian worship on Sundays and at other times. In addition, we offer a wide range of regular activities for families, children, and young people – Contact, Quavers, Boys' Brigade, Sunday School, Crèche and Pop-In.

Our teaching programme is intentionally designed and developed to engage the whole church community in knowing Jesus better and living out his teaching day to day.

We are a church that is active in the community in central Bromley and during the year have sought to benefit those in our community through Friends International, Bromley Borough Foodbank, liaison with Bromley Town management and Bromley Homeless Shelter. Details of the activities of the church can be found on our website www.bromleybaptist.com.

Trustee meetings and Church Family Meetings are held in person, along with our regular Sunday services. The Trustees continued to meet monthly to discuss business and practical matters, and to pray for the life of the church. The number of Church Family Meetings held during the reporting period was five, including the AGM.

Prayer and pastoral support

The trustees and the pastoral team continued to support those in need through prayer and practical action. Monday, Thursday and Friday prayer meetings pray for members and friends, accepting prayer requests from people; this has been online via Zoom. Sunday prayer corner remains open, praying for people in person.

We have seen an increased need of individual households requiring support within the community, particularly with the current financial burdens.

Trustees have visited people at home and held pastoral care meetings with many individuals within our church membership, listening to their needs and praying with them.

Meeting the needs of our community

The church continues to take an active role in supporting Bromley Borough Foodbank through donations of food, volunteering at distribution centres in the borough and sorting foodstuffs at the warehouse. This has seen an increase in recipients with the cost of living increasingly causing greater hardship in the community. In December we were again pleased to be able to distribute Christmas food parcels, on behalf of Foodbank, to needy households in the borough.

Al Anon continue to use our premises for their weekly meetings free of charge and our premises are also used weekly by local charity organisations for sessions and meetings.

Friends International meet weekly to support new arrivals in our community with language lessons and social support over a cup of coffee. The church has supported the Bromley Homeless Shelter again this year and are supplying volunteers with free parking to help them continue their incredible work.

Holiday at Home, an event for the over-70s took place in August, a chance to socialise while doing craft and other activities.

Working with children, families and young people

Our work with children and young people continues. All areas of children's work attract children from the local community and provide us with the opportunity to build positive relationships with them, and their families, and to share the Christian faith with them.

We continue to provide two toddler groups, Contact on a Wednesday morning and Quavers on a Friday morning, both very well attended.

Our monthly Popin session for young children and their parents continues to grow in number. Children play and do craft activities whilst their parents meet, alongside members of the congregation.

Boys' Brigade has run throughout the year, providing leisure activities and bible teaching for teenage boys on a Monday evening.

Members support the continuation of Sunday School, providing activities on a Sunday morning for children during our morning service.

At the beginning of April, we held community "potting day" where church members and families, planted fruit and vegetable seeds and bulbs. Some were taken home, and others were planted in the church planters- lots of learning and plenty of messy fun.

On Easter Sunday we held a family service, when families from within our children's groups were invited to come to learn about the Easter story and celebrate with us. Lots of chocolate bunnies were eaten and our young people performed a short play!

In June we had a family day out to Broadstairs beach; we left from church on a large coach spent the day on the beach and finished with a fish & chip supper before heading home.

As an alternative to Halloween, we hosted a 'Light Party' in October to signify that Jesus is the light in the darkness. This was for local children and their families, who were encouraged to wear their brightest clothes! Tickets were fully sold out and activities were enjoyed by all.

In December we had a family Christmas fun service; families were invited to come dressed as their favourite nativity character and be a part of the Christmas show. Lots of carols were sung, pastries and chocolates were consumed, and gifts were given out.

Missionary support and the wider world

We have continued to support several missionaries and other Christian workers, both in the UK and overseas, through financial donations and prayer. In this financial year we have been able to support the work of additional organisations, including:

- Holy Cross Church, Hove, for their youth and family work
- Poverest Road Baptist Church for their ongoing building project
- JusB to continue their youthwork provision within Bromley
- Drita E Botes Church in Tirana, Albania for their ministry to their community.

Achieving our aims

As stated above, the principal purpose of the church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the Declaration of Principles of the Baptist denomination. We measure our success in the number of people we reach through our activities.

By continuing to broadcast our Sunday worship online we have expanded our reach through YouTube allowing those who could not previously access the church physically to join us in worship. We measure our success in our mission objectives by the gifts we give, despite the economic difficulties we face as a community.

Mission activities are undertaken through giving grants to Baptist mission organisations such as BMS World Mission and Home Mission, Operation Mobilisation and to missionaries along with smaller gifts to other local, national and international organisations. By giving to these groups along with other donors, we seek to contribute to the advancement of the Christian faith outside Bromley in a more effective way than we could do alone.

Personnel

We thank Michael Meerloo who continues to look after the church premises.

We thank Rahmatolla Tavakkoli, for his work on the church finances as Finance Manager.

We thank Nikki Williams-Prescott for her continued work as Church Administrator.

The charity makes decisions through its Trustee Board. As is usual with church organisations, our ministers are Trustees in addition to members of the congregation. As such we had no Chief Executive throughout the period as we were without a Minister and are continuing continued our ministry lead by five trustees. In October we invited Rev'd Dr Stephen Langford from St Andrew's St, Cambridge to be our Interim Minister for the next two to three years and he accepted with a start date of February 1st 2024.

Finance Review

Income for 2023 was £226,659 compared to £168,504 in 2022. Income rose across all types of income, but we were particularly grateful to be notified of £50,000 legacies and bequests, of which £30,000 was received during the year. The majority of the income is made up of voluntary donations through offerings at church services and meetings, although one of the manse was let during the year whilst temporarily not occupied by a minister.

The balance sheet still includes a property that the church received as a legacy in 2021. As agreed at Special Church Family Meeting (28 November 2021) the property will be sold as soon as practicable rather than held for use by the charity. During the year the legal registration of the property was completed and valuations have been obtained prior to marketing.

Expenditure for 2023 was £245,520 compared to £198,361 in 2022. The savings made from not paying ministers salaries were directed towards mission expenditure, and costs have been incurred preparing the manse for the arrival of the new minister.

The year under review generated a deficit of £18,861 compared to the prior year deficit of £29,857. Total funds at the balance sheet date stood at £2,658,752 of which £16,913 is restricted. Of the £2,641,840 unrestricted funds, £1,692,736 is held in a designated fund representing the resources the charity has invested in its assets, including the church and manse, and so is not available for general expenditure. The charity had £949,103 of free reserves at the balance sheet date, but £430,000 will only be accessible once the building left as a legacy has been sold.

Reserves Policy

The church's reserves policy is to hold reserves for the purpose of protecting the work of the church in the short term should income not be sufficient or if the church should need to cease/curtail its activities. The Trustee's policy on free reserves is £75,000 which represents approximately 3 months' running costs.

The property of the church is held in trust by the Baptist Union at a value of £2.16m. The church building is valued at rebuilding cost and the manse at market value in 2013. There are no reserve funds in deficit. The free reserves of the church will be used for the future operating purposes. The Trustees are satisfied with this position.

Structure, Governance and Management

Bromley Baptist Church is a charity governed by its Constitution dated 4 October 2009 amended 25 July 2021. The Trustees are appointed by the Church Family Meeting and all serving ministers shall be a Trustee because of their role and responsibilities.

New trustees are provided with a copy of the Constitution and advised of their duties and responsibilities as Trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend training sessions provided by the Baptist Union.

The church is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the London Baptist Association.

The London Baptist Property Board is the legal owner of the church property and holds the property on trust for the charity.

Risks

The Trustees have assessed the major risks facing the charity and are satisfied that there are policies and practices in place to minimise risks.

Damage to our church building or manse is a major risk and appropriate insurance policies are in place to minimise this risk. The charity also has in place safeguarding policies to minimise the risk to our congregation and health and safety policies which are regularly reviewed.

Plans for the future

The charity aims to continue meeting its charitable objects through giving gifts to mission organisations and active service in Bromley.

The trustees expect to use the legacy we have been given to maintain and perhaps expand our activities and to support the charity through uncertain times.

Statement of Trustees Responsibility

The Trustees are responsible for the governance of the church and the fulfilment of the objectives through its activities acting according to the will of God as discerned by the Church Family Meeting and subject to any specific or general directions of the Church Family Meeting.

The Trustees shall keep in an appropriate state of repair and insure to their full value against fire and other usual risks all the buildings of the charity (except where the responsibility is of a third party where they shall use reasonable endeavours to ensure that the third party does so). They must ensure that suitable public liability and employers liability insurance is in place.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there are no funds materially in deficit
- the church raises the significant majority of its funds from within its own membership and congregation
- all expenditure supports the key objective of the charity

The Trustees are responsible for the preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

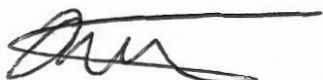
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make adjustments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

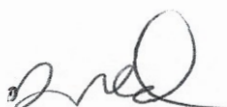
Declaration

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

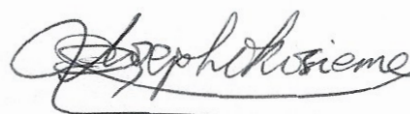
Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees on: 08/10/24



Mr J Smith



Mr N Arnold



Mr Ioseph Okosieme

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bromley Baptist Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the charity") for the period ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention 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 Charities 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.



16/10/2024

KATHERINE DEE FCA CTA
BEGBIES CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
9 BONHILL STREET LONDON, EC2A 4DJ
Date:

BROMLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Year ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

		2023	2023	2023	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Note	Funds	Funds		
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2a	163,638	2,281	165,919	125,322
Charitable activities					
Letting of church premises		16,593	-	16,593	14,351
Church groups	2b	-	7,234	7,234	3,164
Investments and other income					
Rent		20,975	-	20,975	20,100
Interest		15,938	-	15,938	5,567
Total		217,145	9,515	226,659	168,504
Resources Expended					
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds - costs of providing goods and services including rental and legacy management		10,582	-	10,582	5,834
Charitable activities					
Church work (inc preaching, pastoral and evangelism)	3a	132,010	-	132,010	162,276
Church work (church groups/clubs)	2b	-	8,322	8,322	3,241
Mission (inc gifts to organisations and missionaries)	3b	92,225	2,381	94,606	27,010
Total charitable activities		224,235	10,703	234,938	192,527
Total Expenditure		234,817	10,703	245,520	198,361
Net income/(expenditure)		(17,672)	(1,188)	(18,861)	(29,857)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):	13	-	-	-	56,307
Net movement in funds		(17,672)	(1,188)	(18,861)	26,450
Reconciliation of Funds:					
Total Funds brought forward		2,659,512	18,101	2,677,613	2,651,163
Total Funds carried forward		2,641,840	16,913	2,658,752	2,677,614

BROMLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
As at 31st December 2023
Balance Sheet

		2023 Total	2022
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6a	1,692,736	1,722,428
Current assets			
Legacy gifted property for sale		430,000	430,000
Debtors	7	40,138	28,216
Cash at bank and in hand		526,911	526,708
Total current assets		<u>997,049</u>	<u>984,924</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	31,033	29,739
Net current assets		<u>966,016</u>	<u>955,186</u>
Net assets		<u>2,658,752</u>	<u>2,677,614</u>
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	9		
Fixed asset reserve		1,692,736	1,722,428
General reserve		949,103	937,085
Total unrestricted funds		<u>2,641,840</u>	<u>2,659,513</u>
Restricted funds			
Children's fund		9,063	9,063
Hardship fund		750	850
Building fund		-	-
Mission Organisations		-	-
Groups and Clubs		7,100	8,188
Total restricted funds		<u>16,913</u>	<u>18,101</u>
Total Funds		<u>2,658,752</u>	<u>2,677,614</u>

Notes on pages 10 - 19 form part of these accounts.


Approved by the Church Trustees:



Mr N Arnold
Treasurer 2024



Mr J Smith
Treasurer 2023



Mr Joseph Okosieme
Trustee

Date: 8/10/24

BROMLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
Year ended 31st December 2023
Notes to the accounts

Note 1

Accounting Policies

a.) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities": Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 – Charity SORP (FRS 102) Revised, and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applied from 1 January 2019. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the next 12 months. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

b.) Mission giving

The church, under the direction of the Trustees, makes donations to individuals and organisations that complement and support the objects of the church. When church members contribute directly to the mission giving of the church the income and expenditure are accounted for by the church and are included in the financial statements.

c.) Scope of the financial statements

The church benefits substantially from the voluntary unpaid service and active participation of its members. Indeed, it could hardly function without it. However, in accordance with the Charities SORP, no attempt has been made to value this intangible resource, and it is not included in the financial statements.

d.) Tangible fixed assets

Property of the church includes the church building and residential houses (Manses). These assets were first capitalised in 2012 when the first set of accounts for the charity were produced. The valuations of the houses were based on best market estimates at the time of capitalisation and this is treated as the cost going forward for accounting purposes. The church building was valued at its rebuilding cost when capitalised of £900,000 which is materially below the market value of the building. The cost of the land has not been separated from the building as allowed by the SORP where the costs of doing so outweigh the benefits to the user.

Should the Trustees decide to revalue the freehold land and buildings in the future the market value of this land and buildings will be included in the balance sheet.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on the freehold buildings of the church over an estimated useful life of 150 years.

Other assets are depreciated over their useful life as follows:

Fixtures and Fittings 5 years

Equipment 3 years

Impairment of Fixed assets

At the end of each year the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication of those assets being impaired or damaged. If this is the case the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment. Income is generally accounted for when received, except that the tax recoverable in respect of gifts under the Gift Aid scheme is recognised at the same time as the gifts to which it relates. "Gifts and donations" in the financial statements therefore represents cash received in gifts and donations during the year, together with the tax recoverable on them. Deferred Income relates to income given to the church for a future period.

Letting income is received from activities held at church premises when not being used for church activities. Letting income is irregular and accounted for as received. Rent from the surplus manse is recorded as investment income on a receivable basis.

e.) Church groups

In accordance with the SORP certain groups which hold activities at the church, but have no separate legal identity, are included in the accounts. As the funds raised by the groups are for their own purposes, rather than the charity as a whole, these are shown as restricted income and expenditure. The charity makes donations to some of these groups and where these are made the payments are shown as income of that group.

f.) Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. Expenditure is allocated directly to the area of charitable activity which it supports where this can be determined. Support and governance costs are allocated to the category of general church work as this is the main activity undertaken by charity, and any time and resources incurred in support of administering special purpose funds, raising funds or hosting church groups are minimal.

g.) Grants and gifts

Funds that are raised for specific purposes through church collections are shown as restricted income and expenditure and are not accounted for as unrestricted grants as these are not made at the discretion of the trustees.

h.) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and bank deposits.

i.) Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 "Basic financial instruments" and Section 12 "Other financial instruments issues" of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial Instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets include debtors, cash and bank balances, are measured initially at transaction price including transaction costs.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods and services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers.

Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

j.) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as an expense when they are due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in an independently administered fund.

Prior to 2012 pension provision was made through multi-employer defined benefit pension plans. Where it is not possible for the charity to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for a plan as a defined benefit plan, it accounts for the plan as a defined contribution plan.

Where the plan is in deficit and where the charity has agreed, with the plan, to participate in a deficit funding arrangement, the charity recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the contributions payable under the agreement that relate to the deficit. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost where material and any other change in the measurement of this liability is expensed to the Statement of Financial Activities as an employment expense. Further details can be found in Note 5b and 13

2a. Donations and legacies

	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	
	Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>For general purposes</i>						
General Fund	113,638	-	113,638	121,632	-	121,632
Legacy Income	50,000	-	50,000	-	-	-
<i>For missionary and other causes</i>						
For special appeals	-	1,597	1,597	-	3,690	3,690
Total	163,637	1,597	165,235	121,632	3,690	125,322

2b. Other

For the Church groups run by individuals in the congregation, their income (included here), expenditure (under Charitable Activities and opening and closing balances (within the balance sheet) are summarised below:

2023	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing balance
Contact, Quavers & Pop In	241	6,728	6,697	-	271
Friends International	2,580	-	200	-	2,380
Boys Brigade	1,117	335	175	-	1,277
Girls Brigade	3,700	171	700	-	3,170
Friday Evening Fellowship	549	-	549	-	-
	8,186	7,234	8,322	-	7,098

2022	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing balance
Contact, Quavers & Pop In	296	2,197	2,252	-	241
Friends International	2,552	28	-	-	2,580
Boys Brigade	1,117	-	-	-	1,117
Girls Brigade	4,002	567	869	-	3,700
Friday Evening Fellowship	297	372	120	-	549
	8,264	3,164	3,241	-	8,186

3a Church Work

	2023	2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds
	£	£
<i>Direct Costs</i>		
Staff costs (Note 5)	10,476	53,047
Conferences, books, training & evangelism	7,324	7,197
Total Direct Costs	17,799	60,244
<i>Support & Governance Costs</i>		
<i>Support</i>		
Staff costs (Note 5)	24,250	10,519
Maintenance, repairs, redecoration and depreciation (note 4a)	53,956	43,102
Heating, insurance and other services (note 4b)	27,394	30,133
Other Costs	5,731	14,844
	111,331	98,599
<i>Governance Costs</i>		
Independent Examination fee	1,800	2,353
Accounts preparation	1,080	1,080
	2,880	3,433
Total Church expenditure	132,010	162,276

3b Mission Work

	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
For mission	92,225	100	92,325	19,788	3,532	23,320
For special appeals		2,281	2,281		3,690	3,690
For Thank offering		-	-		-	-
	92,225	2,381	94,606	19,788	7,222	27,010

Grants and gifts

	2023	2023	2022	2022
	Institutions	Individuals	Institutions	Individuals
For mission				
BMS World Mission	5,000	-	5,000	-
Bromley Town Centre Chaplin Support	1,200	-	-	-
Churches Together in Central Bromley	-	-	1,075	-
Christian Aid - Earthquake appeal	3,194	-	-	-
Compassion UK	512	-	-	-
Drite E Botes Foundation	-	2,500	-	-
Foodbank	-	-	120	-
Holy Cross Baptist Church	25,000	-	-	-
Home Mission	5,000	-	-	-
Islay Baptist Church	1,200	-	1,000	-
JusB Youth Centre	15,000	-	-	-
Link to Hope	-	-	3,255	-
London Baptist Association	-	-	5,000	-
Mission Without Borders	-	-	3,255	-
Missionaries	-	-	2,955	-
Operation Mobilisation	-	6,100	3,000	1,150
Poverest Road Baptist Church	25,000	-	-	-
Spurgeon's College	1,200	-	1,200	-
Tools with a Mission	3,600	-	-	-
Individuals direct	-	100	-	-
	85,906	8,700	25,860	1,150

4a Maintenance

	2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
	Funds	Funds
	£	£
Repairs & Maintenance	23,248	11,960
Depreciation	30,708	31,142
	53,956	43,102

During the year significant repairs and redecorations were carried out on the manse in preparation for the new minister.

4b Heating, insurance and other services

	2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
	Funds	Funds
	£	£
Electricity & Gas	12,236	11,171
Rent and Rates	-	4,000
Council Tax	2,646	1,578
Phone	1,733	3,300
Water	1,227	2,857
Insurance	5,566	4,309
Office supplies	3,985	2,919
	27,394	30,133

5a Staff

In 2023 the church employed an average of 3 members of staff to carry out the objectives of the church (2022: 3.5). This included a finance officer, a part time caretakers and an office support manager .

	2023	2022
	£	£
Freelancer services	-	2,391
Salaries	34,216	51,779
National Insurance	-	4,457
Employers Pension	510	4,940
Total	34,726	63,566

The full time ministers live in a property provided by the church when in post. The church pays utilities and maintenance on this property. No church employee was paid more than £60,000 in the year. Key management salaries, including employer's NI, totalled £nil as no ministers were in post during the year (2022: £40,153).

5b Pension

Current employees have pensions with the Baptist Pension Scheme, the costs of which are accounted for when they fall due. Deficiency contributions were paid to the Baptist Union scheme on behalf of former ministers Rev A Burnham and Rev Brian Reed. See below for details.

The church pays deficiency contributions for former employees into the Baptist Minister's Pension fund, which is a multi — employer final salary defined benefit pension scheme. The total deficiency contributions paid into the Baptist Union Scheme during 2023 was £12 (2022: £4,793).

No additional adjustment to the outstanding liability on the Baptist Scheme were made at the end of the year for the movement in the long term liability of the deficit (2022: £56,307 decrease).

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Church building	Manses	Fixtures & Fittings	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 2023	900,000	896,993	79,807	30,662	1,907,462
Additions	-	-	-	1,016	1,016
Disposals					-
At 31 December 2023	900,000	896,993	79,807	31,678	1,908,478
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2023	61,500	61,295	37,684	24,555	185,034
Charge for the year	6,000	5,980	12,282	6,446	30,708
Disposals					-
At 31 December 2023	67,500	67,275	49,966	31,001	215,742
Net book value					
At 1 January 2023	838,500	835,698	42,123	6,107	1,722,428
At 31 December 2023	832,500	829,718	29,841	677	1,692,736

One of the manses is currently let whilst not in use by a minister. As this is not expected to be a permanent arrangement, the property has not been reclassified as an investment. The other manse was being prepared for the new minister at the balance sheet date.

7. Debtors

	2023 Total	2022
	£	£
Amounts due within one year		
Legacy due	20,000	-
Other debtors and prepayments	9,544	5,390
Tax recoverable	10,594	22,826
Total	40,138	28,216

8. Creditors

	2023 Total	2021 Total
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Other accruals	28,153	26,858
Accountancy & Independent Examiners fee	2,880	2,880
	31,033	29,738

9. Movement on Funds

	Restricted Funds					Unrestricted Funds		2023 Total £
	Children's Fund £	Mission work £	Hardship Fund £	Building Fund £	Groups & clubs £	Fixed Asset Reserve £	General Fund £	
Incoming resources	-	2,281	-	-	7,234	1,016	216,128	226,659
Resources expended	-	(2,281)	(100)	-	(8,322)	(30,708)	(204,109)	(245,520)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains / (losses)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement on funds	-	-	(100)	-	(1,088)	(29,692)	12,019	(18,860)
Balances brought forward	9,063	-	850	-	8,188	1,722,428	937,083	2,677,614
Balances at 31 December 2023	9,063	-	750	-	7,100	1,692,736	949,103	2,658,755
Comparative figures	Restricted Funds					Unrestricted Funds		2022 Total £
	Children's Fund £	Mission work £	Hardship Fund £	Building Fund £	Groups & clubs £	Fixed Asset Reserve £	General Fund £	
Incoming resources	-	-	3,690	-	3,164	16,122	145,528	168,504
Resources expended	(465)	(3,532)	(3,690)	-	(3,241)	(31,142)	(156,291)	(198,361)
Transfers	-	-	-	(9,675)	-	-	9,675	0
Other gains / (losses)	-	-	-	-	-	-	56,307	56,307
Net movement on funds	(465)	(3,532)	-	9,675	(77)	(15,020)	55,219	26,451
Balances brought forward	9,528	3,532	850	9,675	8,265	1,737,449	881,864	2,651,163
Balances at 31 December 2022	9,063	-	850	-	8,188	1,722,428	937,083	2,677,614

Restricted funds are funds that are given to the charity are held on trust for spending on specific purposes or, in the case of groups and clubs are linked to the charity and do not have their own legal identity.

The Children's Fund - funds given to support work with children.

Mission work - supporting a number of mission workers and other Christian workers both in the UK and overseas via donations.

Hardship Fund - money raised for those in need

The Building Fund - money given to cover specific building costs.

Groups and clubs are activities held in the church building by organisation which have no separate legal identity and so are required to be incorporated in these accounts.

Unrestricted funds are funds that are held by the charity to use for general charitable purposes.

The fixed asset reserve represents the funds which cannot be accessed without disposing of fixed assets or current asset investments.

General funds are those unrestricted funds available in the short term to fund general charitable activities.

10. Net Assets by Fund

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022 Total
Fixed Assets	1,692,736	-	1,692,736	1,722,428	-	1,722,428
Current Assets	980,137	16,913	997,049	966,823	18,101	984,924
Current Liabilities	(31,033)	-	(31,033)	(29,739)	-	(29,739)
Long term liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2,641,840	16,913	2,658,752	2,659,512	18,101	2,677,613

11. Related party transactions

No remuneration or other benefits were paid to trustees during the current or prior year.

No trustee travel expenses were paid.

Details of the manses are contained in note 5.a. No trustees occupied the manses during the year.

Trustees made donations to the charity in line with general congregational giving totalling approximately £26,050. No donations to the Church were made with conditions outside of the usual activities of the Church.

12. Independent examination

The independent examination of the accounts which is required by charity law has been carried out by Katherine Dee of Begbies Chartered Accountants. Begbies fee of £2,400 plus VAT is accrued in the accounts under governance costs.

13. Baptist pension scheme

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme is a separate legal entity and the assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

For any month, each participating employer in the Scheme pays contributions as set out in the Schedule of Contributions in force at that time.

Actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2019

A formal valuation of the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was performed at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. The market value of the DB Plan assets at the valuation date was £298 million. The valuation of the DB Plan revealed a deficit of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £18 million (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other employers supporting the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit.

The Scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year, plus any impact of deficiency contributions (see below).

Fully accredited Ministers are eligible to join the Scheme.

From January 2012, pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Legal and General Life Assurance Society Limited. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Unum Limited. [Members of the Basic Section pay reduced contributions of 5% of Pensionable Income, and their employers also pay a total of 5%.] The further 4% contribution rate is reduced to 3% for Employer contributions made to the Segregated DC Arrangement.

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within the Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit pension of one eightieth of Final Minimum Pensionable Income for each year of Pensionable Service, together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1952 but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011.

Actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2019

A formal valuation of the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was performed at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. The market value of the DB Plan assets at the valuation date was £298 million.

The valuation of the DB Plan revealed a deficit of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £18 million (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other employers supporting the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit.

The key assumptions underlying the valuation were as follows:

Type of financial assumption	% pa
RPI price inflation assumption	3.20
CPI price inflation assumption	2.70
Minimum Pensionable Income increases (CPI plus 0.75% pa)	3.20
Assumed investment returns	
- Pre-retirement	2.95
- Post retirement	1.70
Deferred pension increases	
- Pre April 2009	3.20
- Post April 2009	2.50
Pension increases	
- Main Scheme pension	2.70

Post-retirement mortality in accordance with 80% of the S3NFA and S3NMA tables, with allowance for future improvements in mortality rates from 2013 in line with the CMI 2019 core projections, with a long term annual rate of improvement of 1.75% for males and 1.5% for females, with the core smoothing parameter and with additional initial mortality improvement factor A=0.5%.

During 2022 the Scheme signed an agreement with the insurance company Just Group ("Just") to secure DB Plan members' pension benefits. This agreement is referred to as a 'buy-in policy'. It follows a similar agreement with Just in 2019 that covered most pensions in payment at that time. The combined agreements mean that Just are now providing financial backing for all DB pensions provided through the Scheme's DB Plan.

Recovery Plan

As a result of the buy-in policy, the Trustee and the Baptist Union have agreed that deficit contributions will reduce to £1 per month for each employer from the August 2022 payment until June 2026. Additional contributions may be required in future. As a result of this change, the £61,100 estimated deficit at 31st December 2021, and £21,700 estimated deficit as at 20th June 2022 has been reduced to nil in these accounts for 2022 and 2023.

Movement in Balance Sheet liability

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. The movement in the provision is set out in the table below.

Accounting date (year ending):	31 December 2022	31 December 2022
Balance sheet liability at year start	£0	£0
Minus deficiency contributions paid	£0	£0
Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)	£0	£0
Remaining change to balance sheet liability (recognised in SoFA)	£0	£0
Balance sheet liability at year end	£0	£0

Cessation event

Consequent upon the departure of the Minister, Rev'd Andrew Burnham, from the Church in 2019, the Church had a second cessation event under Section 75 of the Pensions Act 1995, the first having occurred in 2013 with the departure of Rev'd Brian Reed. This makes the Church liable for the proportion of the overall deficit (assessed by reference to the cost of securing benefits by the purchase of annuities) applicable to its previous Ministers who were members of the Scheme.

In 2019 the Church entered into a "Deferred Debt Arrangement". Under this arrangement the Church is no longer liable for the original debt triggered by the departure of Rev'd Brian Reed, but the Church continues to pay the ongoing deficiency contributions as outlined above. There are limited circumstances under the Deferred Debt Arrangement where the Church would become responsible for a debt equal to its share of the current BPS deficit (assessed by reference to the up to date cost of securing benefits by the purchase of annuities).

In 2022 the Church is again without a minister, but has agreed a period of grace whereby the Church does not trigger another section 75 cessation event to enable the Church to find a new Minister.

14. Comparative Statement of Financial Activities - as adjusted

		2022 Unrestricted Funds £	2022 Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
	Note			
Incoming resources				
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2a	121,632	3,690	125,322
Charitable activities				
Letting of church premises		14,351	-	14,351
Church groups	2b	-	3,164	3,164
Investments	including rental and legacy management			
Rent		20,100	-	20,100
Interest		5,567	-	5,567
Total		161,650	6,854	168,504
Resources Expended				
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds - costs of providing goods and services		5,834	-	5,834
Charitable activities				
Church work (inc preaching, pastoral and evangelism)	3a	161,811	465	162,276
Church work (church groups/clubs)	2b	-	3,241	3,241
Mission (inc gifts to organisations and missionaries)	3b	19,788	7,222	27,010
Total charitable activities		181,599	10,928	192,527
Total Expenditure		187,432	10,928	198,361
Net income/(expenditure) & Net		(25,782)	(4,075)	(29,857)
Transfers between funds		9,675	(9,675)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):		56,307		56,307
Net movement in funds		40,200	(13,750)	26,450
Reconciliation of Funds:				
Total Funds brought forward		2,619,313	31,851	2,651,163
Total Funds carried forward		2,659,512	18,101	2,677,614