

B



## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	01	2020		31	12	2020

### Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Bethesda Evangelical Church

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1149548

Charity's principal address

Main Street

Brampton

Postcode

CA8 1SH

#### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1 David Niven			Trustees
2 Paul Bacon			Trustees
3 Huw Iley	Pastor/Chair		Trustees
4 Robert Pickett	Secretary		Trustees
5 Jonathan West			Trustees

## Section B

## Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed (16 <sup>th</sup> October 2012)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by existing trustees

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

## Section C

## Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Sunday Worship Services** – These took place up to 15<sup>th</sup> March. A communion service at 10am and a Family Service at 11am each Sunday. Both services provide an opportunity for people to worship God and learn from the Bible together. Sunday Club is offered during the 11am service for younger children. Due to Covid from 22<sup>nd</sup> March onwards services were held on facebook. This continued for the rest of the year.

**Sunday Club (School)** – This takes place during the 11am Sunday service and currently consists of two separate age groups, one covering up to and including school year 2, the other covering years 3 to 6. Due to covid the Sunday Club ceased to operate from 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Wiggles & Giggles** – Our Parent/carer & Toddler group on a Thursday morning. It continues to be very popular and is an excellent means of improving links with, and serving, the local community. Due to covid these gatherings ceased from March.

**Community Groups** – There are a few different groups that meet during the week for group Bible study and prayer, taking place in the homes of church members. These continued on Zoom from late March due to covid.

**Summer Holiday Club** – This did not take place this year due to covid

**Night Light** – A joint initiative with other churches, this is a youth group aimed at those of secondary school age that meets on a Friday evening, fortnightly in term time. The group aims to create a fun and safe environment where young people can learn something of the Christian faith. The group continued on Zoom from late March onwards due to covid.

**Pathfinders** – A group for secondary school aged children, meeting every Sunday evening. This is aimed at those children who want some deeper Bible study in an informal environment. Several young people regularly attend. Pathfinders stopped for some months due to covid before resuming in September on zoom.

**Make & Mend** – A weekly group, open to all, where people meet together while making and mending things (eg. sewing, making soap, etc). It provides an opportunity for people to learn from each other and to socialise, and is a good way of introducing people to the church community. Every 2 months there is a Friday evening event where a craft expert comes and shares their knowledge. Again this stopped in March due to covid but fellowship continued via a Whatsapp group to which all were invited.

Brampton Silver Band continued to use the building every Tuesday evening until Covid prevented it. We also allow the church to be used by some other groups from time to time.

**Public Benefit**

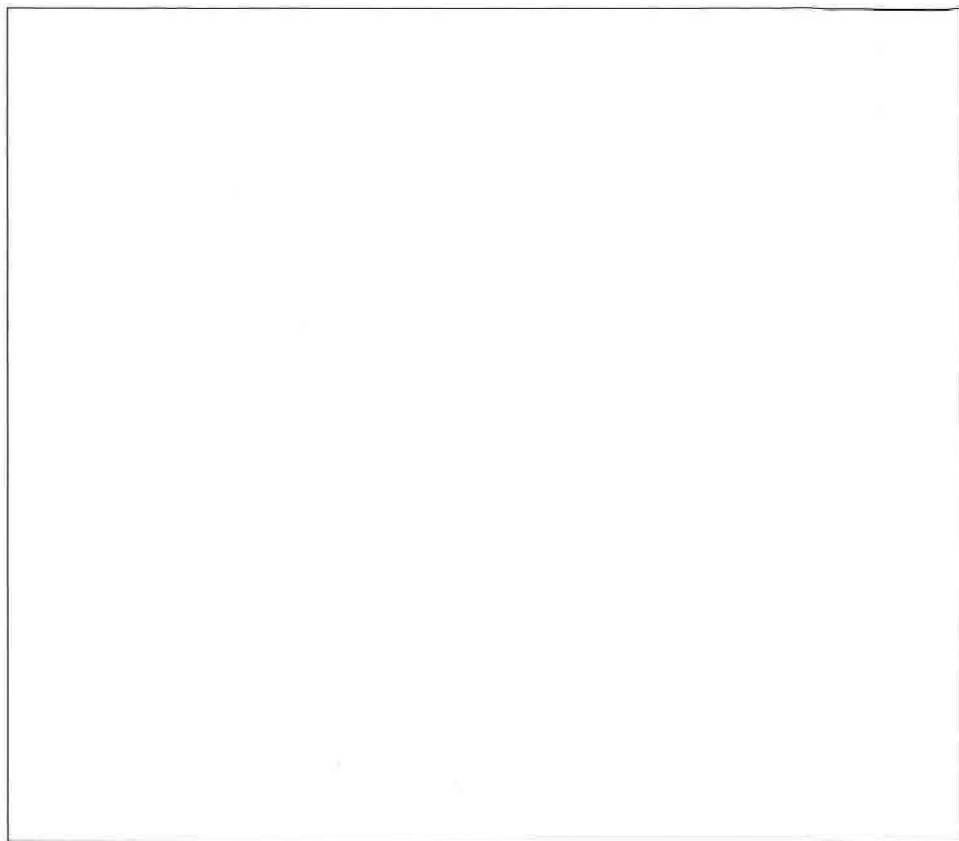
We, as trustees, take our responsibility to ensure that our activities provide public benefit very seriously. We are confident that all the activities listed above provide such benefit. They are all open to members of the general public and are advertised in various ways.

We also very much encourage church attendants to invite friends and acquaintances to these activities and to serve the community in any way that they can. Some of our church services (e.g. Christmas) and the Christianity Explored course are especially geared towards those who might not normally come to church and give people an opportunity to learn more about the Christian Faith.

## Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.



## Section D

## Achievements and performance

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## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

2020 was a year of change for Bethesda Church, some expected and some very unexpected, due to the impact of Covid-19. The year began with continued growth and a busy programme of activities. When the first Covid lockdown began in March, the church needed to adapt rapidly. Some groups were paused, others were moved online. Almost the whole church community managed to adapt to meeting online on Sundays, and numbers attending our midweek *Community Groups* more than doubled, perhaps as people sought out community and found *Zoom* more convenient in some ways than meeting in person. Some older and more vulnerable members of the church did become more isolated and lonely. Families missed the provision of *Sunday Club* and needed to adapt to providing it for children in their own home (in addition to school at home for many!). Parents needed to adapt to new patterns of home working and school at home. Teenagers were very heavily impacted in the high school environment, and *Zoom* for church was a challenge for them when so much of school was online too. Thankfully, the church community did not experience serious illness or death due to Covid during the year. It has been amazing to see the church community stay together, and in some ways even thrive, during the year. Almost all have connected online, some new friendships have formed, and there has been a general unity around church policies in light of Covid. We are grateful for the internet and IT that enabled far more communication and 'togetherness' than we would ever have imagined possible. Some of this will continue to be a useful tool in the future, even as Covid hopefully recedes.

Particular achievements include:

- Rapidly adjusting to church online. Worship services, Bible teaching and prayer were offered every Sunday. Materials for Sunday Club were provided for parents & carers each week. Playlists of encouraging Christian songs were produced weekly. Breaking of Bread services continued (and grew) throughout the year. New church Facebook pages were created, and the church website updated.
- Midweek *Community Groups* moved online, multiplied in number with more leaders involved, and weekly attendance grew. In particular couples were able to attend without needing to worry about childcare, and older folk could attend when the weather was less good.
- Knowledge and skill with various forms of IT grew.
- We were able take 'goodie-bags' to families from Wiggles & Giggles at regular points throughout the year that were very well received. We provided 'care packs' to encourage teachers and other members of staff at four local primary schools. We provided 'care packs' for the staff of a local care home and a team of home-carers in Brampton, and the Make & Mend group made some gifts for residents in the care home. Some members of the church community also sought to serve the wider community through the local food bank and neighbourhood initiatives.
- Our older building was too small for any effective social distancing, so was unused for most of the year. Progress towards sale slowed but did continue. The building we plan to move to is still awaiting refurbishment, and progress also slowed due to the pandemic, but will be even more useful as long as there is any need for social distancing. We hope to complete the project in 2021.
- Trustees adapted policies and risk assessments rapidly in light of changing government guidance and the changing impact of Covid. We are grateful for national church groupings that were able to communicate with government, and provide clear guidance for churches.

- Financial support for the church remained quite consistent throughout the year, despite the pandemic.

## Section E Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

No funds are in deficit

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our income is primarily from the giving of members of the church congregation plus some additional external supporters.

## Section F Other optional information

## Section G Declaration

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

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**



Signature(s) 

Full name(s) ROBERT PICKETT

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) SECRETARY

Date 22/09/2021





**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Bethesda Evangelical Church

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1149548

**Set out on pages**

One to one

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

**Signed:**

**Date:**

18/02/2021

**Name:**

Gordon E Younger, FCCA

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Chartered Association of Certified Accountants

**Address:**

5 Woodlands, Orton Road, Carlisle, CA2 7TR

**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 brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

None

**BETHESDA EVANGELICAL CHURCH , BRAMPTON, CUMBRIA**  
**Registered Charity No. 1149548**

**Income and Expenditure Account**

**For The Year Ended 31st December 2020**

	<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>
Balance Brought Forward	142,393.65	71,178.08
<b>Receipts:-</b>		
Offerings & Donations	43,075.39	44,090.71
Property Fund Donations	32,161.25	66,930.01
Grants, Gifts & Tax Refunds Received	14,749.79	10,654.72
Book Stall Income	132.99	340.50
	<u>90,119.42</u>	<u>122,015.94</u>
	232,513.07	193,194.02
<b>Payments:-</b>		
Employee Costs	35,759.24	35,221.27
Gifts to Missionaries & Evangelists	8,750.00	4,635.00
Training and Conferences	114.01	1,031.80
Property Fund Expenditure	4,056.00	60.00
Repairs, Renewals and Equipment	7,550.84	3,311.31
Heating, Lighting and Water Rates	1,333.39	1,297.62
Youth Work	270.19	891.44
Printing and Stationery	99.65	247.03
Outreach	722.27	1,153.19
Book Stall Expenditure	189.88	465.93
Sundries	2,292.89	2,485.78
	<u>61,138.36</u>	<u>50,800.37</u>
Balance Carried Forward	<u>£171,374.71</u>	<u>£142,393.65</u>

**Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020**

Cash At CAF Bank Ltd. - Church Account	56,895.95	62,475.64
Cash At CAF Bank Ltd. - Property Fund	114,478.76	79,918.01
	<u>£171,374.71</u>	<u>£142,393.65</u>
<b>Represented by -</b>		
General Fund	56,079.95	62,475.64
Restricted Wiggles and Giggles Fund	816.00	0.00
Restricted Property Fund	114,478.76	79,918.01
	<u>£171,374.71</u>	<u>£142,393.65</u>

Treasurer - Ruth Gay

Independent Accounts Examiner  
 Gordon E. Younger, FCCA  
 18th February 2021



