

B



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	01	2024	To	31	12	2024

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

Bethesda Evangelical Church

Townfoot Industrial Estate

Brampton

Postcode

CA8 1SW

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	Paul Bacon			Trustees
2	Huw Iley	Pastor/Chair		Trustees
3	Robert Pickett	Secretary		Trustees
4	Russell John Noble			Trustees
5	Mark Knowles		23/05/2024	Trustees
6	Christine Fenwick		23/05/2024	Trustees

Section B

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

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

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 – weekly Sunday morning services, for people of all ages. Younger children usually join in for the first part of the service, and are then invited to their own group (called 'Sunday Club'), but we also have several all-age services per year. Services are designed to be accessible to those who wish to find out more about the Christian faith, as well as for those who have been Christians for some time. The service includes sung worship, prayer, reading and preaching of the Bible, news of what's happening in the church and local community; and people typically stay as long after the service for refreshments and time to chat! During summer months we also serve those visiting the area on holiday.

Sunday Club (School) – for children of primary school age. The group is available every Sunday, and numbers attending can vary from 5-18! Volunteer leaders work hard to prepare sessions that help children learn from the Bible (especially it's overall storyline) in an age-appropriate and fun way.

Community Groups – we have three groups, meeting weekly for friendship, group Bible study and prayer, some in-person and some continued on Zoom throughout the year. These have been a key source of friendship and encouragement, and have strengthened the church community.

Pathfinders – a group for secondary school aged children, meeting every Sunday afternoon in term time. This is designed for those young people who want some deeper Bible study in an informal environment, with food and games.

Make & Mend – one-off craft events, several times per year. Some designed for children (accompanied by parents/carers); others for youth and adults. A great opportunity to enjoy craft (including learning new skills), in a friendly welcoming environment.

Bethesda @ 5 - is offered once per month, and is now a valued part of church life. All ages are welcome, for a mixture of eating together, games, coffee & chat; followed by a topic to explore and time to pray. It has helped people of different ages and backgrounds to interact and grow in friendship.

Young at Heart - emerged from our social events into a regular group for those of retired age, meeting half-termly through the year, usually in coffee shops! The group is providing valuable friendship and encouragement.

Socials - we organised a range of social events over the year, some with specific age-groups in mind, and some for all. These popular events can enhance existing friendships, but are also very effective for newcomers to Brampton to meet people and settle in.

Special services - we have special services around Christmas, Easter, and Remembrance Sunday, some on our own and some in partnership with other churches in Brampton.

Holiday Clubs for children – Summer Holiday Club is organised in partnership with other churches in the Brompton area, and provides primary school age children the opportunity to explore the Christian faith, with lots of games, craft, singing, drama sketches, snacks and fun thrown in! It can also be a help to parents/carers. It ran in the first week of the school summer holidays. In partnership with other local churches, we ran 'Exploring Easter', as a one-off after school event, with different 'stations' for children and parents/carers to explore the Easter story, with crafts and other fun activities.

Night Light – is a youth group aimed at those of secondary school age, on Friday evening, in school term time. The group aims to create a fun and safe environment where young people can learn something of the Christian faith. Night Light began as a joint initiative with other churches in Brompton area, and is now run by Network Youth Church, with support from local churches. We continue to help provide leaders and speakers for the Club.

Public Benefit

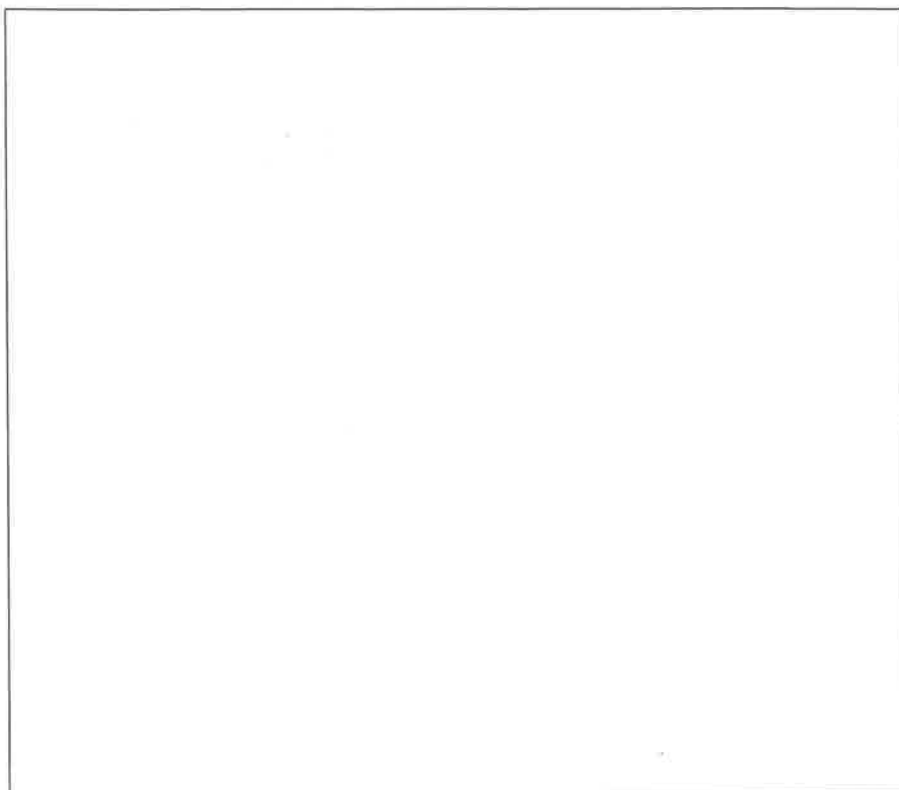
We, as trustees, take our responsibility to ensure that our activities provide public benefit very seriously. We are confident that all the activities listed above provide such benefit. They are all open to members of the general public and are advertised in various ways.

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

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

2024 was an encouraging year of growth for Bethesda. We began the year with Sunday attendance back to pre-Covid levels, and the church continued to grow over the year. As many were new, they need time and help to settle in, and find how they can best contribute to the church community, but we are in a more encouraging position as we head into 2025.

Newcomers are from a wide mix of ages and backgrounds - some have moved into the area, some are returning to church after years away, others have moved from churches where they have been discouraged for a variety of reasons. It has been particularly encouraging to see people return to church after many years away, and their joy in re-connecting. Services continued to be available online, with 5-10% of those attending typically online.

Children (and parents/carers) have enjoyed Sunday Club. The Pathfinders group continued to grow (including some who moved up from the children's groups in September), and it is encouraging to see the Bible discussions developing. Some also attended and enjoyed Christian summer camps, and we hope more will attend in future.

Community Groups, some in-person and some online, have been highly valued by those in them, and now play a key role in the prayer and community life of the church.

The summer Holiday Club went well, with a mix of children from different primary schools in the area, and lots of enthusiasm. It also provided some good links with families in the town.

Bethesda @5 provides good variety to our regular Sunday morning services, facilitates integration across the age groups in the church, and some have found it easy to invite others along to it.

Some new trustees were appointed and we are encouraged with a growing leadership team, with differing skills and experience.

There was significant progress with the refurbishment work on the church building - new doors and windows have made the building warmer and much more welcoming.

We continue to be encouraged by those from Bethesda who are currently away studying at university, as they have continued to grow and serve in new places and churches.

The informal fellowship in Haltwhistle has grown and developed over the year, friendships and vision have deepened. Bethesda continues to offer support and prayer that it will grow into a healthy church to serve Haltwhistle and the surrounding area in the longterm. Some retired missionaries in the church re-visited South Sudan in the summer. That has led to a new church partnership for us, and we were glad to support their building project, which they hope to begin in 2025.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

It is our Charity's policy to hold at least three months expenditure in its unrestricted funds

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

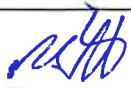
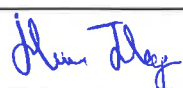
Section G

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	Huw ILEY
----------------	----------

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

SECRETARY	CHAIR
-----------	-------

Date

20/04/2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Bethesda Evangelical Church

No (if any)
1149548

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/01/2024		31/12/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Offering and donations	49,375	2,245	-	51,620	51,189
Property Fund donations	-	34,023	-	34,023	13,305
Grants, gifts and tax refunds received	13,869	5,203	-	19,072	14,126
Book stall income	145	-	-	145	333
Interest income	65	850	-	915	862
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	63,454	42,321	-	105,775	79,815
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	63,454	42,321	-	105,775	79,815
A3 Payments					
Employee costs	40,416	-	-	40,416	39,215
Gifts to Missionaries and Evangelists	7,880	-	-	7,880	9,105
Training and conferences	1,446	-	-	1,446	1,931
Property Fund expenditure	-	2,709	-	2,709	343
Repairs, renewals and equipment	1,292	30,235	-	31,527	971
Light, heat and water rates	1,915	-	-	1,915	660
Youth work	891	-	-	891	673
Printing, postage and stationery	518	-	-	518	391
Outreach	1,087	-	-	1,087	1,086
Book stall expenditure	327	-	-	327	413
Rent	4,500	-	-	4,500	-
Sundries	5,308	-	-	5,308	3,711
Legal and Professional	330	-	-	330	894
Sub total	65,910	32,944	-	98,854	59,393
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	65,910	32,944	-	98,854	59,393
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,457	9,378	-	6,921	20,422
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	30,865	187,509	-	218,374	197,952
Cash funds this year end	28,408	196,886	-	225,294	218,374

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CAF Bank Ltd- Church Account	28,408	3,061	-
	CAF Bank Ltd - Property Account	-	172,622	-
	Kingdom Bank	-	21,203	-
	Total cash funds	28,408	196,886	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			



	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	ROBERT PICKETT	22/7/25
	Huw ILEY	22/7/25



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
BETHESDA EVANGELICAL CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1149548

Set out on pages

1-2

(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'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

[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 in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

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

Signed:

Date:

08/08/2025

Name:

Joanne Thomlinson FCA

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

(if any):

Address:

Dodd & Co Limited
FIFTEEN, Montgomery Way, Rosehill Industrial Estate
CARLISLE, CA1 2rw

Section B	Disclosure
------------------	-------------------

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

--