

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1150750

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Trust

Registered 2013-02-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Frampton Cotterell
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Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE TRUST ARE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, 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.

Activities: Our principal activities include: The provision of Church services, resources & events for Christians and non-Christians Providing services, resources and events for Students, Children & Youth Reaching out to those in need in the Community Support to overseas linked Churches Providing pastoral care to those connected to the church Providing programmes of teaching & discipleship

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Zambia
- Bristol City
- South Gloucestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£103,769	£89,625	-	-
2024-03-31	£79,668	£75,377	-	-
2023-03-31	£79,860	£91,874	-	-
2022-03-31	£81,822	£79,489	-	-
2021-03-31	£82,795	£61,656	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Marion Elizabeth Copeland		2025-05-19
Michelle Moorcraft		2015-10-18
RICHARD BERNARD PENSKA		2013-02-07
RICHARD BROWN		2015-02-08

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1150750

Accounts

New Life Church Bristol

Report and Accounts

year ended 31 March 2025

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	24 Congleton Road St George Bristol BS5 7AP
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Declaration of Trust dated 29th January 2013
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1150750
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Mr R Penska (Chair) Mr D Summerhill Mrs M Moorcraft Mr R Brown Mrs S Hall (Resigned January 2025) Mrs M Copeland (Appointed May 2025)
BANKERS	Barclays Bank
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimée Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Introduction

New Life Church Bristol (NLC) was registered as a charity on 8 February 2013 and this annual report covers the period for the year ended 31 March 2025. The church has continued to meet at Frenchay Village Hall for Sunday morning meetings during the year with mid-week meetings being held in the homes of church members. During the year the church has continued to reach out to people within the Frenchay and wider community, be involved in city wide projects and missions as well as providing grants and gifts as need was identified. Richard and Kim Brown in their role as Pastors continue to be employed by the Church enabling the links with other churches and the community to be strengthened as well as providing time for teaching and pastoral work within the church. Dave and Nicky Summerhill, together with Richard and Kim, work together combining their differing gifts and abilities to provide an effective leadership team. This report sets out the many achievements of the church against our stated objects.

In January 2025 Sue Hall joined the Leadership Team, stepping down from her role as Chair of Trustees, a role in which she has faithfully and effectively served in for 12 years. Richard Penska, an existing trustee, took on the role of Chair of Trustees in January 2025 for an 18-month period.

Objects and activities

The stated objects of New Life Church Bristol are:

- The advancement of the Christian faith through engaging in worship, bible-based teaching, and the furtherance of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs set out in the Trust Deed. This includes extending our work to other areas of the world.
- To undertake the relief of persons who are in need, hardship or sick.

Our principal activities to achieve these objects for the public benefit are:

- The provision of Church services, resources and events for Christians and non-Christians.
- Providing services, resources and events for Children.
- Providing programmes of teaching and discipleship and supporting resources.
- Support to overseas linked Churches and charities.
- Providing pastoral care to those connected with the Church.
- Reaching out to those in need within the Frenchay Community and the wider Bristol area.
- Being a witness for our Christian faith through outreach activities and mission events.
- In collaboration with other charities, develop a project to support the homeless in the local area.
- Providing grants to individuals and organisations to support the outworking of the objects

Further information on these activities and how they have delivered public benefit is described under the section Achievements and Performance below.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit and the guidance for charities for the advancement of religion when making their decisions and planning activities. The activities and achievements are set out below.

Church services

The church continues to meet at Frenchay Village Hall on a Sunday. The service begins at 10.30 am and involves spirit-led worship, bible-based teaching, and prayer ministry as well as the opportunity to meet and develop supportive relationships. Sunday services function well through the significant volunteering contribution made by members serving in the setting up and packing away of equipment, the worship team, PA function, welcoming team and coffee rota.

All our Sunday morning services are open to the public and we always give a special welcome to any visitors to our meetings since one of God's words over the church was that we would be an oasis for people to come and be refreshed and receive what God is saying to them. As our website states our prayer and hope is that the church will be a place where people will be made to feel welcome and included, where they find a place to belong, come to believe in Jesus and become all they can be.

Much of the teaching on a Sunday was brought by the leadership team with other members also being given opportunity to preach as God inspired them. The leadership invited several visiting speakers including Dave Mitchell, Rob and Pam Scott-Cook and Tim Dobson from Woodlands Church that we are associated with, plus Emma Wall from Ebenezer Church, and Tony Martin from Grace Church Glastonbury. Teaching from Sunday mornings is available to the public through podcasts on the church website.

Children's work

During 2024/25 limited children's work has been provided as part of the Sunday morning service, there is a small team providing a pop-up children's session on a fortnightly basis if there are children in the congregation.

The main thrust of NLC's children's work is through the provision of "Open the Book" assembly sessions in the local primary school. Whilst the team delivering these bible story sessions is interdenominational it is led, resourced and co-ordinated by the NLC Leadership. These school assembly sessions utilise the Bible Society material and are carried out on a fortnightly basis to the whole school. NLC and the Open the Book Team feel privileged to be welcomed into Frenchay Primary School to tell these bible stories in a lively and interactive way and to contribute to the worship programme within the school.

Teaching and discipleship

An important element of church activity, and in advancing the Christian faith is the teaching programmes that serve to deepen the congregation's understanding of the bible and how that impacts on their daily lives. These programmes are framed by the Leadership Team and principally delivered by them, with contributions from other members of the congregation.

Through this year the teaching programme for the church has included: the Nicene Creed; the Beatitudes; Moses; and the Practicing the Way.

In July the New Wine Festival took place in the Bath & West Showground and this was attended by a group from the church. The event provided a wealth of teaching, encouragement, and spiritual direction as well as a time to relax and have fun together. New Wine also organised a leaders' conference in February in Harrogate which was entitled "The time is now" and was attended by members of the leadership team and included worship, bible teaching and messages on current issues. It is an important time for encouraging leaders and to hear what God is saying to the church generally as well as renewing connections between leaders.

Overseas linked churches

The Church has continued its strong links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia which is led by Pastor Maureen Luwi. Pastor Maureen is responsible for leading a number of churches within Path of Life Ministries in Zambia based around Solwezi and the surrounding areas. The Church provided financial support to Path of Life Ministries to enable them to extend God's kingdom in this part of the world, deepening the faith of the people in the churches and reaching out to those in need. Financial support was provided for emergency repairs to the church roof and furniture following storm damage and provided funds for a generator due to power supply issues affecting Solwezi. Richard and Kim Brown maintain regular contact with Pastor Maureen through WhatsApp and continued to support her pastorally in her ministry.

The Church also maintains a more informal relationship with Pastor Joseph Kapaso of the Messianic Church in Lusaka. The Church does not provide regular support or funding into the Messianic Church but does respond to emergency or exceptional requests for assistance. In 2024/25 financial support was provided to contribute to building a permanent church structure.

The Beacon of Power Academy School which the church helped to establish in Solwezi, provides an opportunity for those children to attend primary school who normally would not do so due to financial, social and family reasons. Although state education is now free in Zambia, we continue to support the primary school as the state primary schools are significantly over subscribed. This increase in size along with developing regulation of the education system has challenged the ability of the school to operate at its current size.

The Trustees have worked closely with the school over this financial year to reduce the number of classes and staff to ensure that the school remains financially viable over the medium term. This has been achieved but did result in additional financial support during the financial year to pay staff at an appropriate level whilst changes were implemented and to ensure proper redundancy payments were made.

The primary school's only source of funding is through New Life Church and by sponsorship from individuals. Donations by individuals have been classed as restricted income and are titled School4kids. The funding from the church not only provides a high standard of education to some of the most vulnerable children but also supports their families, for example through the provision of mealie meal, a staple part of their diet. Whilst this is a substantial financial commitment for New Life Church this project has the full support of the church congregation.

Approximately every two years representatives from the church visit Zambia to ensure more direct connection to the churches and leaders, and to provide a diligence check on behalf of the trustees. This visit took place April 2025 and therefore some costs associated with that visit are reflected in this year's financial accounts.

Pastoral care

The Church meets during the week to provide a time for informal discussions on Christian teaching, prayer, support to those in need, reaching out to the community as well as social activities and events. One mid-week meeting a month involves the whole church, a couple of weeks in small groups and some weeks are unplanned and kept free for members to outwork their own outreach activities.

The Spiritual Leadership provides support and advice where required to enable people to work through challenges and issues. Although the Leadership team take responsibility for pastoral care, we encourage all members of the Church to reach out to those in need showing the love of God in practical ways. A fund for those in need was available to provide financial assistance to those both inside and external to the Church as the need was identified. This support can extend to support other churches abroad and in this financial year a gift was provided to assist with the impact of the Los Angeles wildfires.

Support to Frenchay Community and wider Bristol area

Part of outworking our objects is to reach out to those in need within the Community and be a witness for our Christian faith. Through this financial year this has very much been delivered through increasing collaboration with other churches and organisations.

The Church has supported the needs of the homeless by providing practical help to the Bristol Churches Shelter project organised by inHope (Charity Number: 298528). This involved working with the City Council to provide shelter for the homeless from October to March. NLCB provided lunch-time support and main meals as well as donations for essential supplies. The impact of the project on both the homeless and the volunteers involved was significant as the volunteers were able to draw alongside people and show unconditional love and compassion to some of the most vulnerable people in the city.

During this year the church, in collaboration with Resound Church, have been able to establish a property to accommodate the homeless, this has been done through the Hope into Action (HiA – Charity Number: 1137686) scheme which encourages private investment into purchasing the property, working alongside a friendship and support group (staffed with volunteers from both churches) and professional empowerment workers from HiA. The property was purchased in April 2024 and had a full complement of three tenants by the end of the financial year.

This year the church took on the responsibility of running a BBQ food stall for the annual Frenchay Flower Show in July 2024. The stall was a huge success raising over £2,000 which was donated to the North Bristol Foodbank.

In March 2025 the church, in conjunction with the Bristol Noise initiative, joined with Waterbrook and Whiteshill churches to organise a free Community Event with over 200 attending as part of promoting a joint Alpha course run by the 3 churches to commence in May 2025.

During the year Church members have also assisted with filling gift bags for prisoners which were given as presents at Christmas organised by a Christian charity called Sixty-One (Charity No. 1159302).

Further support for the poor has also been provided through gifts to foodbanks and to specific individuals.

Outreach activities and Mission events

These activities have been mentioned in other areas of the report, notably the Open the Book Children's assemblies, HiA Home for homeless individuals and the community events.

All church services are open to the public and are more broadly advertised on special occasions such as Easter, Christmas, and Remembrance Sunday, when we do experience more visitors. The church hosted a special Christmas Service ran by 4Front Theatre which was well attended with approximately 90 visitors.

Other outreach activities included encouraging individuals to reach out to their neighbours and friends showing them the love of God.

Provision of grants

The vision of the church is to support those who are in need and further the gospel of Jesus Christ. Tithes and offerings continued to be received by the Church enabling it to provide financial assistance to other organisations as well as covering the running costs of the church. These included Christian ministries such as New Wine, Kintsugi Hope, Noise 365, Sixty-One and inHope Bristol. Small gifts are also given to individuals as need was identified.

The objects and purposes of the Trust are the framework within which the above activities operate and they are measured through an ongoing process of monitoring and evaluation both by the Trustees and the Leadership team. Leadership and Trustee meetings take place roughly every other month plus the occasion ad-hoc meeting depending on need.

Financial Review & Reserves

At the beginning of the year the charity had unrestricted balances of £55,971. Financial giving by church members continues consistently and with no permanent premises, running costs are low and the Trust was able to give out to meet needs as identified by the church and agreed by Trustees. Total income from tithes, offerings and Gift Aid during the year was £103,768 with total expenditure of £89,624. This is an approximately a 40% increase in income partly due an increase in restricted offerings and initiatives.

Included within this income, we received £21,097 in the year in restricted donations all relating to several projects:

- £8,614 for Schools4kids which contributed towards the £27,235 expenditure incurred for the project. The difference was financed through an income transfer from unrestricted funds of £16,679 and existing balances. A balance of £686 remains within the School4kids restricted balances and this will be utilised to contribute to expenditure in 2025/26.
- £4,897 for Hope into Action Home, of which £1,925 remains unspent
- £3,256 for the Flower Show, once the associated costs were applied, this resulted in a donation to North Bristol Foodbank of £2,020. There is no residual balance.
- £4,320 offering for Storm Damage and Food for the Solwezi community all of which was donated in full to the areas of need, with no residual balance.

The Trust continues to pay a salary to Pastor Richard Brown and Kim Brown for the work they do in the church to outwork the Trust objects. Payments adhere to regulations for new living wage levels and tax. During the year funds continued to be invested in the work in Zambia to support the Spiritual Leadership, churches and the running of the school. The Trust was also able to respond with gifts to organisations, charities and individuals as agreed by the Trustees in accordance with Trust objects. Gift aid has been received and has contributed to the balances held.

No fees are charged for services provided by the Church and our operating costs were lower than income by £14,144, after the transfer for Schools4kids.

Unrestricted balances held at the end of the year total £70,133 and these will cover more than 12 month's on-going commitments; £25,000 has been estimated as the balance that needs to be held. A two-year budget has been set and future budget plans will include salary costs for ministry, income and expenditure for the Hope into Action project, training and administration, support for furthering the Christian gospel, investment in Africa, support to the local community and to individuals and organisations as need is identified. The budget and future commitments will be regularly reviewed by Trustees to ensure balances do not increase significantly and funds are used appropriately in accordance with the needs identified by the Spiritual Leadership team.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed under the Declaration of Trust which established New Life Church Bristol as a charity on 29th January 2013. The minimum number of Trustees is three; there is no maximum. The Trustees are required to meet four times a year in person or through electronic means agreed by them.

New Trustees are appointed by the Spiritual Leadership and Trustees and take into account the skills that a person could contribute through their qualifications and experience to the furtherance of the objects and management of the charity. In total there were 5 Trustees through much of 2024/25, with Sue Hall stepping down as the Chair of Trustees and as a Trustee in January 2025, the number of trustees at the end of the financial year stands at 4. The trustees will seek to recruit additional trustees in 2025/26.

All Trustees have a copy and are familiar with the Declaration of Trust and the Charity Commission publication CC3 – the Essential Trustee – what you need to know.

The spiritual governance and leadership of the Charity rests with the Leadership Team and they are responsible for appointing their successors. The responsibility of the Trustees is for the management and administration in accordance with the objects of the Trust and the general law. The Trustees fulfil their legal duties taking into account the spiritual direction of the Charity set by the Leadership Team who themselves act in accordance with the Trust Deed and general law.

During 2019 we decided to formally associate with Woodlands Church (Charity No. 1125029), a large church within the city. This relationship continues to be strengthened and NLCB are able to draw on their advice and resources as required.

The church operates with two Service Level agreements:

1. With Hope into Action, this covers the Friendship Support Group and Church responsibilities with regard to the HiA homeless project delivered in collaboration with Resound Church.
2. With Beacon of Power Primary School (S4K) which outlines the annual financial contribution the church will make from 2024 through to 2029.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity Law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities. Richard Brown is a Trustee and receives a salary as the Pastor. All other payments to Trustees were for the reimbursement of appropriate expenses with no private benefit received. All conflicts of interest are disclosed and recorded

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Richard Penska

[Richard Penska \(Sep 10, 2025 15:35:48 GMT+1\)](#)

R Penska – Chair of Trustees

Date: Sep 10, 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of New Life Church Bristol for the year ended 31st March 2025 on pages 10-13 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

J. Young
J. Young (Sep 11, 2025 09:02:54 GMT+1)

Jaimée Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Sep 11, 2025

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	2025	2024
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
Income receipts						
Donations, legacies and grants		69,043	-		69,043	55,227
Gift aid receipts		13,239	-	1,088	14,327	15,432
Bank interest		391			391	313
Other Income - School 4 kids				7,526	7,526	8,696
Other Income - Hope into Action				4,897	4,897	-
Other Income - Flower Show				3,256	3,256	-
Other - Africa				4,330	4,330	-
Total receipts		82,673	-	21,096	103,769	79,668
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	37,183	-	1,381	38,564	43,241
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	14,649	-	36,412	51,061	32,136
Total payments		51,832	-	37,793	89,625	75,377
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		30,841	-	- 16,696	14,144	4,291
Transfers between funds	6	- 16,679	-	16,679	-	-
Net movement in funds		14,162	-	- 17	14,144	4,291
Cash funds as at last year end		55,971	-	2,628	58,599	54,308
Cash funds at this year end	A	70,133	-	2,611	72,743	58,599

The notes on pages 12-13 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2025 £	2024 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £		
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	70,133	-	2,611	72,744	58,599
	70,133	-	2,611	72,744	58,599
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	19,173	-	1,828	21,001	14,327
Other debtors	-	-	-	-	-
	19,173	-	1,828	21,001	14,327
C Liabilities					
Fee for Independent Examination	882	-	-	882	822
	882	-	-	882	822
D Assets retained for charity's own use					
				Current value £	2024 value £
Music and PA equipment				3,800	3,800
Computers and IT				7,111	7,111
Other general equipment				2,822	2,764
				13,734	13,675

The asset values refer to the original purchase price.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by Richard Penska date Sep 10, 2025
Richard Penska (Sep 10, 2025 15:35:48 GMT+1)

R PENSKA

The notes on pages 12-13 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds			Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted Funds £		
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Charity Admin	3,536	-	145	3,681	3,052
Rent	3,832	-	-	3,832	3,337
Leaders expenses & Ministry	3,833	-	-	3,833	5,219
Equipment	54	-	-	54	6,434
Salary	15,582	-	-	15,582	14,111
Gifts	361	-	-	361	169
General admin plus printing	826	-	-	826	353
Insurance	630	-	-	630	600
Stewardship Examination	892	-	-	892	1,080
Church Hospitality / housekeeping	632	-	-	632	701
Children/Youth/Students	200	-	-	200	533
Worship	170	-	-	170	-
Community Outreach	1,009	-	1,236	2,245	799
Travel and expenses (including Africa trip)	5,625	-	-	5,625	6,853
	<u>37,183</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,381</u>	<u>38,564</u>	<u>43,241</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Path of Life Ministries	1,600	-	-	1,600	3,800
Lusaka Church	2,255	-	-	2,255	750
Grants to Individuals (Africa ML)	6,560	-	-	6,560	6,470
School 4 kids	-	-	31,420	31,420	15,800
Hope into Action	-	-	2,971	2,971	-
Sixty:one - Prisoner gift bags	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
in-Hope (Bristol)	750	-	-	750	500
New Wine Trust	500	-	-	500	1,000
FFTP Individual	50	-	-	50	1,466
FFTP Institutions	1,219	-	-	1,219	-
Mullers (Bristol Churches City Fund)	-	-	-	-	1,000
North Bristol Foodbank (Flower show)	-	-	2,020	2,020	-
Other UK charities	715	-	-	715	350
	<u>14,649</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,412</u>	<u>51,061</u>	<u>32,136</u>

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

4 Transactions with related parties

Richard Brown was paid £7976 which includes mobile phone expenses (2024: £7182) and Kim Brown was paid £7606 (2024: £6927) for their work as Church leaders as permitted by the governing document.

The Africa trip expenses include costs for one trustee and two related persons.

5 Agency

During the year £3,880 was received to cover the direct costs of two additional members going on the Africa trip. The church bank account was used for convenience for the expenditure, which was covered in full by the income. The relevant income and expenditure have been removed as agency funds from the Receipts and Payments accounts this year.

6 Movement of funds

	Balance at 31 March 2024	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	55,971	82,673	-51,832	-16,679	70,133
Designated funds					0
	<u>55,971</u>	<u>82,673</u>	<u>-51,832</u>	<u>-16,679</u>	<u>70,133</u>
Restricted funds					
School4kids	2,628	12,944	-31,565	16,679	686
Hope into Action	-	4,897	-2,971		1,925
Flower Show	-	3,256	-3,256		0
	<u>2,628</u>	<u>21,096</u>	<u>-37,792</u>	<u>16,679</u>	<u>2,611</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>58,599</u></u>	<u><u>103,769</u></u>	<u><u>-89,624</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>72,744</u></u>

The School4kids fund supports the setting up and running of a school in Solwezi, Zambia for those children who are unable to attend school due to financial and family reasons.

Occasional gifts are made to Pastor Joseph in Lusaka for use in his ministry.











Accounts April 2024 - March 2025_FINAL

Final Audit Report

2025-09-11

Created:	2025-08-20
By:	J. Young (jaimee.young@stewardship.org.uk)
Status:	Signed
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"Accounts April 2024 - March 2025_FINAL" History

-  Document created by Jaimée Young (jaimee.young@stewardship.org.uk)
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-  Document emailed to Richard Penska (richardpenska@gmail.com) for signature
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-  Email viewed by Richard Penska (richardpenska@gmail.com)
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-  New document URL requested by Richard Penska (richardpenska@gmail.com)
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-  Document e-signed by Richard Penska (richardpenska@gmail.com)
Signature Date: 2025-09-10 - 2:35:48 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document emailed to Jaimée Young (jaimee.young@stewardship.org.uk) for signature
2025-09-10 - 2:35:53 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Jaimée Young (jaimee.young@stewardship.org.uk)
2025-09-11 - 8:02:29 AM GMT
-  Signer Jaimée Young (jaimee.young@stewardship.org.uk) entered name at signing as J. Young
2025-09-11 - 8:02:52 AM GMT
-  Document e-signed by J. Young (jaimee.young@stewardship.org.uk)
Signature Date: 2025-09-11 - 8:02:54 AM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2025-09-11 - 8:02:54 AM GMT

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1150750

Accounts

New Life Church Bristol

Report and Accounts

year ended 31 March 2024

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	24 Congleton Road St George Bristol BS5 7AP
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Declaration of Trust dated 29th January 2013
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1150750
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Mrs S Hall (Chair) Mr D Summerhill Mrs M Moorcraft Mr R Penska Mr R Brown
BANKERS	Barclays Bank
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimée Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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Page 11	Statement of Assets & Liabilities
Pages 12-13	Notes to the Accounts

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Introduction

New Life Church Bristol (NLCB) was registered as a charity on 8 February 2013 and this annual report covers the period for the year ended 31 March 2024. The church has continued to meet at Frenchay Village Hall for Sunday morning meetings during the year with mid-week meetings being held in the homes of church members. During the year the church has continued to reach out to people within the Frenchay and wider community, be involved in city wide projects and missions as well as providing grants and gifts as need was identified. Richard and Kim Brown in their role as Pastors continue to be employed by the Church enabling the links with other churches and the community to be strengthened as well as providing time for teaching and pastoral work within the church. Dave and Nicky Summerhill, together with Richard and Kim, work together combining their differing gifts and abilities to provide an effective leadership team. This report sets out the many achievements of the church against our stated objects.

Objects and activities

The stated objects of New Life Church Bristol are:

- The advancement of the Christian faith through engaging in worship, bible-based teaching, and the furtherance of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs set out in the Trust Deed. This includes extending our work to other areas of the world.
- To undertake the relief of persons who are in need, hardship or sick.

Our principal activities to achieve these objects for the public benefit are:

- The provision of Church services, resources and events for Christians and non-Christians.
- Providing services, resources and events for Children and Youth.
- Providing programmes of teaching and discipleship and supporting resources.
- Support to overseas linked Churches and charities.
- Providing pastoral care to those connected with the Church.
- Reaching out to those in need within the Frenchay Community and the wider Bristol area.
- Being a witness for our Christian faith through outreach activities and mission events.
- Providing grants to individuals and organisations to support the outworking of the objects of the Trust.

Further information on these activities and how they have delivered public benefit is described under the section Achievements and Performance below.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit and the guidance for charities for the advancement of religion when making their decisions and planning activities. The activities and achievements are set out below.

Church services

The church continues to meet at Frenchay Village Hall on a Sunday morning with a small team arriving early to set up the back drops, equipment and PA in time for the worship team to start practising just after 9 o'clock. The service begins at 10.30 and involves spirit-led worship, bible-based teaching, and prayer ministry as well as the opportunity to meet and develop supportive relationships. Sunday services function well through the significant volunteering contribution made by members serving in the setting up and packing away of equipment, the worship team, PA function, welcome team and coffee rota.

Opportunities are always available for the congregation to share what God has been revealing to them, this may include testimonies as well as the preached word. Our services occasionally vary in style with an 'Open Mic' service having no planned preached word but encouraging the wider congregation to share what God is speaking to them about. Another format was entitled 'Unplugged' where the set up was deliberately stripped back, with a smaller worship team, minimal PA and no backdrops with the service starting with brunch around tables. Once a month this simpler style means we become less dependent on the infrastructure and also reduces the workload for the teams setting up. This year we planned a special thanksgiving service on the weekend of the Kings coronation and during January we held an 'Encounter' evening with the purpose of giving time and space for the Holy Spirit to speak to us through an extended time of worship. The evening was a powerful time with other local churches joining with us and further evenings are planned for the coming year.

All our Sunday morning services are open to the public and we always give a special welcome to any visitors to our meetings since one of God's words over the church was that we would be an oasis for people to come and be refreshed and receive what God is saying to them. As our website states our prayer and hope is that the church will be a place where people will be made to feel welcome and included, where they find a place to belong, come to believe in Jesus and become all they can be. We are happy to accept that their visit may be once or may be for a short period but this year we have seen a few people commit to a longer-term relationship with us and get involved with the running of the church.

Much of the teaching on a Sunday was brought by the leadership team with other members also being given opportunity to preach as God inspired them. During the year the leadership invited several visiting speakers including Dave Mitchell, Pam Scott-Cook and Tim Dobson from Woodlands Church that we are associated with. Teaching from Sunday mornings is available to the public through podcasts on the church website.

Children's Work

With no regular children attending our meetings, any visitors' children were provided with toys and activities at the back of the hall where the church was meeting. Separate meeting facilities were available at the hall if required. Although we have no regular children's work on a Sunday, members of NLCB are part of a team who provide 'Open the Book' sessions in Frenchay Primary school every other week during term time. This involves acting out bible stories as part of the school assembly. At Christmas the church was able to bless the school by paying for 4Front Theatre (<https://www.4front-theatre.com>) to present their Christmas production to the whole of the school.

The Children's work was staffed by volunteers and training is provided as required under our safeguarding policy. The policy is reviewed annually by the appointed Safeguarding Officers and the Trustees.

Teaching and discipleship

Part of advancing the Christian faith is to deepen the church's understanding of the bible and what it teaches. Our Sunday morning services included a number of teaching series covering such areas as the life of Moses, the seven 'I AM statements' of Jesus, the Lord's Prayer and we are just starting to explore the Nicene Creed. As well as teaching on a Sunday, lively discussions took place midweek answering questions and clarifying principles as they were raised. The groups differed in their style and content to suit the needs of members.

In July, the Leadership and Trustee team had an away day together and one of the outcomes from this time was the decision to raise the profile of prayer within the church. During the Autumn, Nicky, supported by Dave's publication skills, created a prayer booklet which was given to every member of the church. This resource was used to guide a period of 21 days of prayer which took place in January supported by teaching on the Lord's prayer and additional prayer meetings including a women's and men's prayer breakfasts. It was a powerful time of drawing close to God and a great way to start the year.

In July the New Wine conference took place in Kent and a group from the church attended in person. The event provided a wealth of teaching, encouragement, and spiritual direction as well as a time to relax and have fun together, even though the weather was wet. As well as providing support and direction throughout the year, New Wine also organised a leaders' conference in February in Harrogate which was titled 'Holy, Healthy and Humble' and was attended by the leadership team and included worship, bible teaching and messages on current issues. It is an important time for encouraging leaders and to hear what God is saying to the church generally as well as renewing connections between leaders.

Overseas linked churches

The Church has continued its strong links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia which is led by Pastor Maureen Luwi. Pastor Maureen is responsible for leading a number of churches within Path of Life Ministries in Zambia based around Solwezi and the surrounding areas. NLCB provided financial support to Path of Life Ministries to enable them to extend God's kingdom in this part of the world, deepening the faith of the people in the churches and reaching out to those in need. Financial support was provided for emergency repairs to a water tank and additional security following a break-in. Funds were also provided to the church in Mwinilunga which is part of Path of Life Ministries. We maintained regular contact with Pastor Maureen through WhatsApp and continued to support her as she developed her ministry following the unexpected loss of her husband in 2021. NLCB also provided funds to the church in Lusaka led by Pastor Joseph Kapaso to support the needs of widows and orphans.

A team of five, led by Dave Summerhill, visited Zambia in June spending time with the churches in both Solwezi and Lusaka where Dave had the opportunity to preach. The main purpose for the visit was to provide a work party in Solwezi to paint the church and school and provide gifts and mealie meal to the children and families of the school and church. The gifts and mealie meal were funded through contributions donated by NLCB members and presented to the families by the team.

The Beacon of Power Academy School which the church helped to establish in Solwezi, provides an opportunity for those children to attend primary school who normally would not do so due to social and family reasons. Although state education is now free in Zambia, we continue to support the primary school as the state primary schools are significantly over subscribed. Through our support the primary school has increased in size and now occupies the classrooms previously used by the secondary school. By March 2024 there had been a significant increase in students from around 150 to over 205.

The primary school is financially supported by the Church and by sponsorship from individuals. Donations by individuals have been classed as restricted income and are titled School4kids. The funding the church provides not only provides a high standard of education to some of the most vulnerable children but also supports their families for example through the provision of mealie meal, a staple part of their diet.

There is currently no plan to visit Zambia in 2024/25 but regular contact will be maintained with Pastor Maureen and Pastor Joseph in Lusaka.

Pastoral care

The Church meets during the week to provide a time for informal discussions on Christian teaching, prayer, support to those in need, reaching out to the community as well as social activities and events. One mid-week meeting a month involves the whole church, a couple of weeks in small groups and some weeks are unplanned and kept free for members to outwork their own outreach activities.

The Spiritual Leadership provides support and advice where required to enable people to work through challenges and issues. The church continued to partner with Kintsugi Hope, who are a UK charity (Charity No. 1175529) seeking to make a difference to people's mental wellbeing. Although the Leadership team take responsibility for pastoral care, we encourage all members of the Church to reach out to those in need showing the love of God in practical ways. A fund for those in need was available to provide financial assistance to those both inside and external to the Church as the need was identified.

Support to the Frenchay Community and wider Bristol area

Part of outworking our objects is to reach out to those in need within the community and be a witness for our Christian faith. At the end of April the church, in conjunction with Bristol Noise (a Bristol based event showing God's love to communities, (Charity No.1134099)), spent the weekend carrying out work in the community including developing some of the outside space at Frenchay Primary School, working on gardens in Lawrence Weston and various maintenance tasks at the Village Hall where we meet. During the year Church members have also assisted with filling gift bags for prisoners which were given as presents at Christmas organised by a Christian charity called Sixty-One (Charity No. 1159302).

The Church has also supported the needs of the homeless by providing practical help to the Bristol Churches Shelter project (part of inHope, Charity No. 298528). This involved working with the City Council to provide shelter for the homeless from 1st October 2023 to 31st March 2024 using bed and breakfast accommodation. NLCB provided lunch-time support and main meals as well as donations for essential supplies. The impact of the project on both the homeless and the volunteers involved was significant as the volunteers were able to draw alongside people and show unconditional love and compassion to some of the most vulnerable people in the city. Further support for the poor has also been provided through gifts to foodbanks and to specific individuals.

Links were maintained with other local churches and wider church networks both in Bristol and nationally which kept the church aware of city wide and national needs which we could contribute to. Through these links the church was able to support needs within the city through inHope and provide grants as needs were identified.

Outreach activities and Mission events

As mentioned previously, during the year a team from a number of churches in the Frenchay and Stapleton area which included members of NLCB, provided 'Open the Book' sessions in Frenchay Primary school every other week during term time. Other outreach activities included encouraging individuals to reach out to their neighbours and friends showing them the love of God.

Together with Frenchay Parish Church, NLCB hand delivered 3,000 Christmas cards to the local community. These cards were specially designed to spread hope and the positive message of Christmas to the local community.

Development of a project to support the homeless in the local area

During the year we have been working with Hope Into Action (HiA) (<https://bristol.hopeintoaction.org.uk>) with support from Resound Church, to obtain a property to provide accommodation for the homeless. Once a property is purchased the church will be responsible for decorating and furnishing the house and providing trained members of the church to act as befrienders to enable the tenants to work through their vulnerabilities and look to live stable and positive lives moving forward. The client group that is on our hearts to support is young adult care leavers. A service level agreement will be put in place to govern our relationship with HiA.

Provision of grants

The vision of the church is to support those who are in need and further the gospel of Jesus Christ. Tithes and offerings continued to be received by the Church enabling it to provide financial assistance to other organisations as well as covering the running costs of the church. These included Christian ministries such as New Wine, Kintsugi Hope, Mullers, Sixty-One and inHope Bristol. Small gifts are also given to individuals as need was identified.

The objects and purposes of the Trust are the framework within which the above activities operate and they are measured through an ongoing process of monitoring and evaluation both by the Trustees and the Leadership team. Leadership and Trustee meetings take place around every six weeks and depending on need.

Financial Review & Reserves

At the beginning of the year the charity had unrestricted balances of £51,680. Financial giving by church members continues consistently and with no permanent premises, running costs are low and the Trust was able to give out to meet needs as identified by the church and agreed by Trustees. Total income from tithes and offerings during the year was £70,708 with total expenditure of £59,442. In addition to this income, we received £8,960 in year in restricted donations all relating to Schools4kids which contributed towards the £15,935 expenditure incurred for the project. The difference was financed through an income transfer from unrestricted funds of £6,975. A balance of £2,628 remains within the School4kids restricted balances and this will be utilised to contribute to expenditure in 2024/25.

The Trust continues to pay a salary to Pastor Richard Brown and Kim Brown for the work they do in the church to outwork the Trust objects. Payments adhere to regulations for new living wage levels and tax. During the year funds continued to be invested in the work in Zambia to support the Spiritual Leadership, churches and the running of the school. The Trust was also able to respond with gifts to organisations, charities and individuals as agreed by the Trustees in accordance with Trust objects. Gift aid has been received and has contributed to the balances held.

No fees are charged for services provided by the Church and our operating costs were lower than income by £4,291, after the transfer for Schools4kids. This was due to the contributions made by three of the Zambia team to the cost of their flights which were paid for in the previous year and also due to banking issues which delayed payment to the school and church in Solwezi. Payment will now be made in 2024/25. Unrestricted balances held at the end of the year total £55,971 and these will cover more than 12 month's on-going commitments; £25,000 has been estimated as the balance that needs to be held. A two-year budget has been set and future budget plans will include salary costs for ministry, income and expenditure for the Hope into Action project, training and administration, support for furthering the Christian gospel, investment in Africa, support to the local community and to individuals and organisations as need is identified. The budget and future commitments will be regularly reviewed by Trustees to ensure balances do not increase significantly and funds are used appropriately in accordance with the needs identified by the Spiritual Leadership team.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed under the Declaration of Trust which established New Life Church Bristol as a charity on 29th January 2013. The minimum number of Trustees is three; there is no maximum. The Trustees are required to meet four times a year in person or through electronic means agreed by them. New Trustees are appointed by the Spiritual Leadership and Trustees and take into account the skills that a person could contribute through their qualifications and experience to the furtherance of the objects and management of the charity. In total there are 5 Trustees and during 2023/24 there were no changes in personnel. All Trustees have a copy and are familiar with the Declaration of Trust and the Charity Commission publication *CC3 – the Essential Trustee – what you need to know* .

The spiritual governance and leadership of the Charity rests with the Leadership Team and they are responsible for appointing their successors. The responsibility of the Trustees is for the management and administration in accordance with the objects of the Trust and the general law. The Trustees fulfil their legal duties taking into account the spiritual direction of the Charity set by the Leadership Team who themselves act in accordance with the Trust Deed and general law.

During 2019 we decided to formally associate with Woodlands Church (Charity No. 1125029), a large church within the city. This relationship has been strengthened through the year and NLCB are able to draw on their advice and resources as required.

The links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia is an important part of the Church's mission. In June 2023, Dave Summerhill led a team of 5 people to carry out some painting works at the school and church in Solwezi and to meet up with leaders in both Solwezi and Lusaka and preach in both churches. The finances for the school are overseen by Peter Moorcraft, a member of New Life Church Bristol. The church is also in the process of setting up a formal agreement with Hope into Action covering the development of a homeless project in collaboration with Resound Church.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity Law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities. Richard Brown is a Trustee and receives a salary as the Pastor. All other payments to Trustees were for the reimbursement of appropriate expenses with no private benefit received. All conflicts of interest are disclosed and recorded.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 8th July 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

S.HALL

S Hall – Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of New Life Church Bristol for the year ended 31st March 2024 on pages 10-13 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

Jaimée Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 10th July 2024

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2024	2023
		General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds		
		£	£	£	£	£
Income receipts						
Donations, legacies and grants		55,227	-	8,696	63,923	63,396
Gift aid receipts		15,168	-	264	15,432	16,425
Other		313	-	-	313	39
		<u>70,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,960</u>	<u>79,668</u>	<u>79,860</u>
Total receipts		<u>70,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,960</u>	<u>79,668</u>	<u>79,860</u>
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	43,107	-	135	43,242	45,206
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	16,336	-	15,800	32,136	46,668
		<u>59,442</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,935</u>	<u>75,377</u>	<u>91,874</u>
Total payments		<u>59,442</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,935</u>	<u>75,377</u>	<u>91,874</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		11,266	-	-	4,291	- 12,014
Transfers between funds	-	6,975	-	6,975	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>4,291</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,291</u>	<u>- 12,014</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		51,680	-	2,628	54,308	66,322
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>55,971</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>58,599</u>	<u>54,308</u>

The notes on pages 12-13 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2024 £	2023 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £		
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	55,971	-	2,628	58,599	54,308
	<u>55,971</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>58,599</u>	<u>54,308</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	13,239	-	1,088	14,327	15,432
Other debtors		-	-	-	8,937
	<u>13,239</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,088</u>	<u>14,327</u>	<u>24,369</u>
C Liabilities					
Fee for Independent Examination	822	-	-	822	1,080
	<u>822</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>822</u>	<u>1,080</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				Current value £	2023 value £
Music and PA equipment				3,800	3,422
Computers and IT				7,111	5,459
Other general equipment				2,764	2,788
				<u>13,675</u>	<u>11,669</u>

The asset values refer to the original purchase price.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by S. HALL date 8th July 2024

The notes on pages 12-13 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted Funds £		
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Charity Admin	2,917	-	135	3,052	2,805
Rent	3,337	-	-	3,337	2,892
Leaders expenses & Ministry	5,219	-	-	5,219	5,319
Equipment	6,434	-	-	6,434	2,643
Salary	14,111	-	-	14,111	11,942
Gifts	169	-	-	169	306
General admin plus printing	353	-	-	353	120
Insurance	600	-	-	600	578
Stewardship Examination	1,080	-	-	1,080	744
Church Hospitality / housekeeping	701	-	-	701	496
Children/Youth/Students	533	-	-	533	122
Worship	-	-	-	-	122
Community Outreach	799	-	-	799	1,036
Travel and expenses (including Africa trip)	6,853	-	-	6,853	16,081
	<u>43,107</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>43,242</u>	<u>45,206</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Path of Life Ministries	3,800	-	-	3,800	12,180
Lusaka Church	750	-	-	750	5,023
Grants to Individuals (Africa)	6,470	-	-	6,470	5,400
School 4 kids	-	-	15,800	15,800	16,050
Sixty:one - Prisoner gift bags	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,200
in-Hope (Bristol)	500	-	-	500	1,075
New Wine Trust	1,000	-	-	1,000	5,500
FFTP Individual	1,466	-	-	1,466	-
Mullers (Bristol Churches City Fund)	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Other UK charities	350	-	-	350	240
	<u>16,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,800</u>	<u>32,136</u>	<u>46,668</u>

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

4 Transactions with related parties

Richard Brown was paid £7182 which includes mobile phone expenses (2023: £6206) and Kim Brown was paid £6927 (2023: £5736) for their work as Church leaders as permitted by the governing document.

5 Movement of funds

	Balance at 31 March 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
General funds	51,680	70,708	-59,442	-6,975	55,971
Designated funds	<u>51,680</u>	<u>70,708</u>	<u>-59,442</u>	<u>-6,975</u>	<u>55,971</u>
Restricted funds					
School4kids	2,628	8,960	-15,935	6,975	2,628
Zambia projects	-	0	0		-
	<u>2,628</u>	<u>8,960</u>	<u>-15,935</u>	<u>6,975</u>	<u>2,628</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>54,308</u></u>	<u><u>79,668</u></u>	<u><u>-75,377</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>58,599</u></u>

The School4kids fund supports the setting up and running of a school in Solwezi, Zambia for those children who are unable to attend school due to financial and family reasons.

Occasional gifts are made to Pastor Joseph in Lusaka for use in his ministry.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1150750

Accounts

New Life Church Bristol

Report and Accounts

year ended 31 March 2023

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

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NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Introduction

New Life Church Bristol (NLCB) was registered as a charity on 8 February 2013 and this annual report covers the period for the year ended 31 March 2023. By the start of the financial year the church was meeting in a similar manner to pre pandemic times but very mindful of the need to continue to ensure the safety of the congregation and keep certain measures in place e.g. how communion was taken. Richard and Kim Brown in their role as Pastors continue to be employed by the Church enabling the links with other churches and the community to be strengthened as well as providing time for teaching and pastoral work within the church. This report sets out the many achievements of the church against our stated objects.

Objects and activities

The stated objects of New Life Church Bristol are:

- The advancement of the Christian faith through engaging in worship, bible-based teaching, and the furtherance of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs set out in the Trust Deed. This includes extending our work to other areas of the world.
- To undertake the relief of persons who are in need, hardship or sick.

Our principal activities to achieve these objects for the public benefit are:

- The provision of Church services, resources and events for Christians and non-Christians.
- Providing services, resources and events for Children and Youth.
- Providing programmes of teaching and discipleship and supporting resources.
- Support to overseas linked Churches and charities.
- Providing pastoral care to those connected with the Church.
- Reaching out to those in need within the Frenchay Community and the wider Bristol area.
- Being a witness for our Christian faith through outreach activities and mission events.
- Providing grants to individuals and organisations to support the outworking of the objects of the Trust.

Further information on these activities and how they have delivered public benefit is described under the section Achievements and Performance below.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit and the guidance for charities for the advancement of religion when making their decisions and planning activities. The activities and achievements are set out below.

Church services

The church continues to meet at Frenchay Village Hall on a Sunday morning with a small team arriving early to set up the back drops, equipment and PA in time for the worship team to start practising just after 9 o'clock. The service begins at 10.30 and involves spirit-led worship, bible-based teaching, and prayer ministry as well as the opportunity to meet and develop supportive relationships. Sunday services function well through the significant volunteering contribution made by members serving in the setting up and packing away of equipment, the worship team, PA function, stewarding and coffee rota.

Opportunities are always available for the congregation to share what God has been revealing to them, this may include testimonies as well as the preached word. Our services occasionally vary in style with an 'Open Mic' service having no planned preached word but encouraging the wider congregation to share what God is speaking to them about. Another format was entitled 'Unplugged' where the set up was deliberately stripped back, with a smaller worship team, minimal PA and no backdrops with the service starting with brunch around tables. Once a month this simpler style means we become less dependent on the infrastructure and also reduces the workload for the teams setting up. During the year we held three specific thanksgiving services, one to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and then the second, later in the year following the Queen's funeral, to mark an extraordinary life of service to the Country and her commitment to the Christian faith. The third thanksgiving service celebrated ten years of the church being established.

All our Sunday morning services are open to the public and we always give a special welcome to any visitors to our meetings since one of God's words over the church was that we would be an oasis for people to come and be refreshed and receive what God is saying to them. We are happy to accept that their visit may be once or may be for a short period but this year we have seen a few people commit to a longer-term relationship with us and get involved with the running of the church.

Much of the teaching on a Sunday was brought by the leadership team with other members also being given opportunity to preach as God inspired them. During the year the leadership invited several visiting speakers including Dave Mitchell, Pam Scott-Cook and Tim Dobson from Woodlands Church that we are associated with. Teaching from Sunday mornings is available to the public through podcasts on the church website.

Children's and Youth Work

At the beginning of the year there were only a couple of young people attending the youth group on a regular basis and because they both attended other youth groups it was decided to bring the work to an end in July. With no regular children attending our meetings, any visitors' children were provided with toys and activities at the back of the hall where the church was meeting. Separate meeting facilities were available at the hall if required. Although we have no regular children's work on a Sunday, members of NLCB do provide 'Open the Book' sessions in Frenchay Primary school every other week during term time. This involves acting out bible stories as part of the school assembly.

Both the Children and the Youth group were staffed by volunteers who have completed DBS checks and training as required under our safeguarding policy. A copy of the safeguarding policy has been passed to the appropriate Social Care Department and the policy is reviewed annually by the appointed Safeguarding Officers and the Trustees.

Teaching and discipleship

Part of advancing the Christian faith is to deepen the church's understanding of the bible and what it teaches. Our Sunday morning services included a couple of teaching series covering areas such as the life of Moses and a theme titled 'I'm so over it', encouraging the congregation to look forward following the challenging time over the pandemic. As well as teaching on a Sunday, lively discussions took place midweek answering questions and clarifying principles as they were raised. The groups differed in their style and content to suit the needs of members and one of the groups focused on a teaching series on prayer through the Lectio 365 prayer initiative.

In August the New Wine conference took place in Peterborough and a group from the church attended in person. The event provided a wealth of teaching, encouragement, and spiritual direction as well as a time to relax and have fun together, including watching the final of the women's football European Cup. As well as providing support and direction throughout the year, New Wine also organised a leaders' conference in March in Harrogate which was attended by the leadership team and included worship, bible teaching and messages on current issues. It is an important time for encouraging leaders and to hear what God is saying to the church generally as well as renewing connections between leaders.

Overseas linked churches

The Church has continued its strong links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia which is led by Pastor Maureen Luwi. Pastor Maureen is responsible for leading a number of churches within Path of Life Ministries in Zambia based around Solwezi and the surrounding areas. New Life Church Bristol (NLCB) provided financial support to Path of Life Ministries to enable them to extend God's kingdom in this part of the world, deepening the faith of the people in the churches and reaching out to those in need. Financial support was also provided to the church in Lusaka and this included funds to provide security gates to the church courtyard and a grant towards the purchase of a car to support them in their ministry work, especially in more rural areas. Support was also provided to the church in Mwinilunga which is part of Path of Life Ministries.

We maintained regular contact with Pastor Maureen through WhatsApp and supported her as she came to terms with the unexpected loss of her husband in 2021. She took on the responsibility of running the church and continued having the oversight of Beacon of Power Academy School. It became apparent through the regular contact with Maureen that a visit to Zambia, by Kim and Richard, NLCB senior leaders was required to be able to support and encourage Maureen personally and in her senior leadership role where a woman lead is not the normal cultural practice in the country. The visit took place in June and achieved the outcomes intended to support Maureen, review the progress with the school and provide teaching to leaders in both Solwezi and Lusaka.

The Beacon of Power Academy School which the church established in Solwezi, provides an opportunity for those children to attend primary school who normally would not do so due to financial, social and family reasons. Following the change in Government in Zambia, their new education policy removed the fee-paying requirement for attending state schools allowing all children to attend without charge. Consequently, the secondary school where pupils were required to pay school fees is no longer operating. Although state education is now free in Zambia, we continue to support the primary school as the state primary schools are significantly over subscribed. Through our continued support the primary school has increased in size and now occupies the classrooms previously used by the secondary school. By March 2023 there had been a significant increase in students from around 90 to over 150 and the associated families linked to the school.

The primary school is financially supported fully by the Church and by sponsorship from individuals. Donations by individuals have been classed as restricted income and are titled School4kids. The funding the church provides not only provides a high standard of education to some of the most vulnerable children but also supports their families for example through the provision of mealie meal, a staple part of their diet, and mosquito nets.

A visit to Zambia will take place in 2023/24 and will involve a team carrying out painting work in the school. The initial costs of this visit are included in the 2022/23 accounts.

Pastoral care

The Church meets during the week to provide a time for informal discussions on Christian teaching, prayer, support to those in need, reaching out to the community as well as social activities and events. One mid-week meeting a month involves the whole church, a couple of weeks in small groups and some weeks are unplanned and kept free for members to outwork their own outreach activities.

The Spiritual Leadership provides support and advice where required to enable people to work through challenges and issues. The church continued to partner with Kintsugi Hope, who are a UK charity (Charity No. 1175529) seeking to make a difference to people's mental wellbeing. Although the Leadership team take responsibility for pastoral care, we encourage all members of the Church to reach out to those in need showing the love of God in practical ways. A fund for those in need was available to provide financial assistance to those both inside and external to the Church as the need was identified.

Support to the Frenchay Community and wider Bristol area

Part of outworking our objects is to reach out to those in need within the Community and be a witness for our Christian faith. At the end of May the church, in conjunction with the Noise (a Bristol based event showing God's love to communities), spent the weekend carrying out work in the community including outdoor maintenance work at Frenchay Primary School and the Village Hall where we meet. During the year Church members have also assisted with filling gift bags for prisoners which were given as presents at Christmas organised by a Christian charity called Sixty-One (Charity No. 1159302).

The Church has also supported the needs of the homeless by providing practical help to the Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter project. This involved working with the City Council to provide shelter for the homeless between the months of November 2022 and March 2023 using bed and breakfast accommodation. NLCB provided lunch-time support and main meals as well as donations of clothes and toiletries. The impact of the project on both the homeless and the volunteers involved was significant as the volunteers were able to draw alongside people and show unconditional love and compassion to some of the most vulnerable people in the city. Further support for the poor has also been provided through gifts to foodbanks and to specific individuals.

Links were maintained with other local churches and wider church networks both in Bristol and nationally which kept the church aware of city wide and national needs which we could contribute to. Through these links the church was able to support needs within the city through inHope (Charity No. 298528) and provide grants as needs were identified.

Outreach activities and Mission events

As mentioned previously, during the year a team from a number of churches in the Frenchay and Stapleton area (Churches Together), which included members of NLCB, provided 'Open the Book' sessions in Frenchay Primary school every other week during term time. Other outreach activities included encouraging individuals to reach out to their neighbours and friends showing them the love of God following the difficult and challenging times of COVID.

The Churches Together team also organised for 7,200 Christmas cards to be delivered to the area we serve using the Royal Mail's delivery service. These cards were specially designed to spread hope and the positive message of Christmas to the local community.

Provision of grants

The vision of the church is to support those who are in need and further the gospel of Jesus Christ. Tithes and offerings continued to be received by the Church enabling it to provide financial assistance to other organisations as well as covering the running costs of the church. These included Christian ministries such as New Wine, Sixty-One and inHope Bristol. Small gifts are also given to individuals as need is identified.

The objects and purposes of the Trust are the framework within which the above activities operate and they are measured through an ongoing process of monitoring and evaluation both by the Trustees and the Leadership team. Leadership meetings which include the Chair of Trustees usually take place on a monthly basis with the Leadership and Trustees also meeting together occasionally.

Financial Review & Reserves

At the beginning of the year the charity had unrestricted balances of £63,694. Financial giving by church members continues consistently and with no permanent premises, running costs are low and the Trust was able to give out to meet needs as identified by the church and agreed by Trustees. Total income from tithes and offerings during the year was £70,854 with total expenditure of £91,874. Due to lower costs during the pandemic, it gave the Trust opportunities to support both projects in Zambia and organisations in the United Kingdom. In addition to this income, we received £9,006 in year in restricted donations of which £8,276 was for Schools4kids which contributed towards the £16,125 expenditure incurred for the project. The difference was financed through an income transfer from unrestricted funds. A balance of £2,628 remains within the School4kids restricted balances and this will be utilised to contribute to expenditure in 2023/24.

The Trust continues to pay a salary to Pastor Richard Brown and Kim Brown for the work they do in the church to outwork the Trust objects. Payments adhere to regulations for new living wage levels and tax. During the year funds continued to be invested in the work in Zambia to support the Spiritual Leadership, churches and the running of the school. The Trust was also able to respond with gifts to organisations, charities and individuals as agreed by the Leadership and Trustees in accordance with Trust objects. Gift aid has been received and has contributed to the balances held.

No fees are charged for services provided by the Church and our operating costs were higher than income by £12,000. There were opportunities to support projects due to the cumulation of reserves during the pandemic. Unrestricted balances held at the end of the year total £51,680 and these will cover more than 12 month's on-going commitments; £25,000 has been estimated as the balance that needs to be held. A two-year budget has been set and future budget plans will include salary costs for ministry, training and administration, support for furthering the Christian gospel, investment in Africa, support to the local community and to individuals and organisations as need is identified. The budget and future commitments will be regularly reviewed by Trustees to ensure balances do not increase significantly and funds are used appropriately in accordance with the needs identified by the Spiritual Leadership team.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed under the Declaration of Trust which established New Life Church Bristol as a charity on 29th January 2013. The minimum number of Trustees is three; there is no maximum. The Trustees are required to meet four times a year in person or through electronic means agreed by them. New Trustees are appointed by the Spiritual Leadership and Trustees and take into account the skills that a person could contribute through their qualifications and experience to the furtherance of the objects and management of the charity. In total there are 5 Trustees and during 2022/23 there were no changes in personnel. All Trustees have a copy and are familiar with the Declaration of Trust and the Charity Commission publication *CC3 – the Essential Trustee – what you need to know* .

The spiritual governance and leadership of the Charity rests with the Leadership Team and they are responsible for appointing their successors. The responsibility of the Trustees is for the management and administration in accordance with the objects of the Trust and the general law. The Trustees fulfil their legal duties taking into account the spiritual direction of the Charity set by the Leadership Team who themselves act in accordance with the Trust Deed and general law.

During 2019 we decided to formally associate with Woodlands Church (Charity No. 1125029), a large church within the city. This relationship has been strengthened through the year and NLCB are able to draw on their advice and resources as required.

The links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia is an important part of the Church's mission. In May 2022 the senior leaders visited Zambia and met with local church leaders in the capital Lusaka as well as Maureen Luwi, who took on the responsibility of leading the Solwezi church after her husband unexpectedly passed away in 2021. The finances for the school are overseen by Peter Moorcraft, a member of New Life Church Bristol.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity Law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities. Richard Brown is a Trustee and receives a salary as the Pastor. All other payments to Trustees were for the reimbursement of appropriate expenses with no private benefit received. All conflicts of interest are disclosed and recorded.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 21st September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

S Hall – Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of New Life Church Bristol for the year ended 31st March 2023 on pages 10-13 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

Jaimée Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 25th September 2023

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds			2023	2022
		General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds		
		£	£	£	£	£
Income receipts						
Donations, legacies and grants		55,697	-	7,699	63,396	67,942
Gift aid receipts		15,118	-	1,307	16,425	13,877
Other		39	-	-	39	3
Total receipts		<u>70,854</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,006</u>	<u>79,860</u>	<u>81,822</u>
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	45,131	-	75	45,206	24,114
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	29,888	-	16,780	46,668	54,400
Total payments		<u>75,019</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,855</u>	<u>91,874</u>	<u>78,514</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers	-	4,165	-	7,849	12,014	2,333
Transfers between funds	-	7,849	-	7,849	-	-
Net movement in funds	-	<u>12,014</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,014</u>	<u>2,333</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		63,694	-	2,628	66,322	63,989
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>51,680</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>54,308</u>	<u>66,322</u>

The notes on pages 12-13 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2023 £	2022 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £		
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	51,680	-	2,628	54,308	66,322
	<u>51,680</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>54,308</u>	<u>66,322</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	15,168	-	264	15,432	16,425
Other debtors	8,937	-	-	8,937	-
	<u>24,105</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>24,369</u>	<u>16,425</u>
C Liabilities					
Fee for Independent Examination	1,080	-	-	1,080	744
	<u>1,080</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,080</u>	<u>744</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use					
				Current value £	2022 value £
Music and PA equipment				3,422	1,917
Computers and IT				5,459	6,133
Other general equipment				2,788	2,942
				<u>11,669</u>	<u>10,991</u>

The asset values refer to the original purchase price.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by _____ date 21.09.2023

 S. HALL

The notes on pages 12-13 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			Total 2023	Total 2022
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Charity Admin	2,730	-	75	2,805	3,142
Rent	2,892	-	-	2,892	2,256
Leaders expenses & Ministry	5,319	-	-	5,319	3,636
Equipment	2,643	-	-	2,643	632
Salary	11,942	-	-	11,942	10,846
Gifts	306	-	-	306	393
General admin plus printing	120	-	-	120	198
Insurance	578	-	-	578	557
Stewardship Examination	744	-	-	744	726
Church Hospitality / housekeeping	496	-	-	496	727
Children/Youth/Students	122	-	-	122	476
Worship	122	-	-	122	5
Community Outreach	1,036	-	-	1,036	477
Travel and expenses (including Africa trip)	16,081	-	-	16,081	43
	<u>45,131</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>45,206</u>	<u>24,114</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Path of Life Ministries	12,000	-	180	12,180	15,500
Lusaka Church	5,023	-	-	5,023	1,562
Grants to Individuals (Africa)	4,850	-	550	5,400	7,475
School 4 kids	-	-	16,050	16,050	18,968
Sixty:one - Prisoner gift bags	1,200	-	-	1,200	1,000
in-Hope (Bristol)	1,075	-	-	1,075	1,050
New Wine Trust	5,500	-	-	5,500	-
Ukraine Crisis via Life Church Ministries	-	-	-	-	8,355
Other UK charities	240	-	-	240	490
	<u>29,888</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,780</u>	<u>46,668</u>	<u>54,400</u>

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

4 Transactions with related parties

Richard Brown was paid £6206 which includes mobile phone expenses (2022: £5632) and Kim Brown was paid £5736 (2022: £5214) for their work as Church leaders as permitted by the governing document.

5 Movement of funds

	Balance at 31 March 2022	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	63,694	70,854	-75,019	-7,849	51,680
Designated funds	<u>63,694</u>	<u>70,854</u>	<u>-75,019</u>	<u>-7,849</u>	<u>51,680</u>
Restricted funds					
School4kids	2,628	8,276	-16,125	7,849	2,628
Zambia projects	-	730	-730	-	-
	<u>2,628</u>	<u>9,006</u>	<u>-16,855</u>	<u>7,849</u>	<u>2,628</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>66,322</u></u>	<u><u>79,860</u></u>	<u><u>-91,874</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>54,308</u></u>

The School4kids fund supports the setting up and running of a school in Solwezi, Zambia for those children who are unable to attend school due to financial and family reasons.

Occasional gifts are made to Pastor Joseph in Lusaka for use in his ministry.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1150750

Accounts

New Life Church Bristol

Report and Accounts

year ended March 2022

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	24 Congleton Road St George Bristol BS5 7AP
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Declaration of Trust dated 29th January 2013
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1150750
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Mrs S Hall (Chair) Mr D Summerhill Mrs M Moorcraft Mr R Penska Mr R Brown
BANKERS	Barclays Bank
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimee Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Introduction

New Life Church Bristol (NLCB) was registered as a charity on 8 February 2013 and this annual report covers the period for the year ended 31 March 2022. At the beginning of the year the COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect the way the activities within the charity were conducted. At times it made planning for activities and services very uncertain especially with the new Omicron variant. By June we were back meeting again in person at Frenchay Village Hall following all national guidelines and adjusting our services as these regulations changed. During July we received the sad news from Zambia that Pastor Evans Luwi had passed away. We continue to support the work through Maureen, Evan's wife, who is now leading the church as well as the school. Richard and Kim Brown in their roles of Pastor and Treasurer respectively continue to be employed by the Church enabling the links with other churches and the community to be strengthened as well as providing time for pastoral work within the church. This report sets out how the church has continued to adapt to these challenging times and the many achievements against our stated objects.

Objects and activities

The stated objects of New Life Church Bristol are:

- The advancement of the Christian faith through engaging in worship, bible-based teaching, and the furtherance of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs set out in the Trust Deed. This includes extending our work to other areas of the world.
- To undertake the relief of persons who are in need, hardship or sick.

Our principal activities to achieve these objects for the public benefit are:

- The provision of Church services, resources and events for Christians and non-Christians.
- Providing services, resources and events for Children and Youth.
- Providing programmes of teaching and discipleship and supporting resources.
- Support to overseas linked Churches and charities.
- Providing pastoral care to those connected with the Church.
- Reaching out to those in need within the Frenchay Community and the wider Bristol area.
- Being a witness for our Christian faith through outreach activities and mission events.
- Providing grants to individuals and organisations to support the outworking of the objects of the Trust.

Further information on these activities and how they have delivered public benefit is described under the section Achievements and Performance below.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit and the guidance for charities for the advancement of religion when making their decisions and planning activities. The activities and achievements are set out below.

Church services

At the beginning of the year, due to the pandemic, all Sunday morning services continued to be conducted through Zoom software. In May we trialled one hybrid meeting with the worship team and preached word taking place at the village hall with everyone else connecting via Zoom. This meeting involved a lot of extra work to set up so we did not continue with this approach. By June we were able to meet back in the village hall but there were many restrictions including having to socially distance, wear masks and not being able to sing. The services continue to involve spirit-led worship, bible-based teaching, and prayer ministry as well as the opportunity to meet and develop supportive relationships. Sunday services functioned well through the significant volunteering contribution made by members serving in the setting up and packing away of equipment, the worship team, PA function, stewarding and coffee rota.

Opportunities are always available for the congregation to share what God has been revealing to them, this may include testimonies as well as the preached word. Our services varied in style with an 'Open Mic' service having no planned preached word but encouraged the wider congregation to share what God was speaking to them about. Another format was entitled 'Unplugged' where the set up was deliberately stripped back, with a smaller worship team, minimal PA and no backdrops with the service starting with brunch around tables. Once a month this simpler style meant we became less dependent on the infrastructure and also reduced the workload for the teams setting up. This year a special advent series took place with four services themed around 'Christmas at the Movies' with a message based on a favourite Christmas movie with the congregation enjoying snacks such as popcorn, hot dogs and ice cream.

The number of visiting speakers was less than in previous years due to the pandemic. However, we were able to invite Dave Mitchell and Rob Scott-Cook from Woodlands Church that we are associated with. Teaching from Sunday mornings was available to the public through podcasts on the church website.

Children's and Youth Work

During the school term the Youth Group continued to meet on a Tuesday evening with face-to-face meetings taking place as soon as regulations allowed. The evenings enabled the group to connect in with one another providing opportunities to chat, play games, pray, listen and contribute to bible teaching, discuss current issues and support one another through the challenges of the pandemic. Gifts were given out at Christmas. With no regular children attending our meetings, any visitors' children were provided with toys and activities at the back of the hall where the church was meeting. Separate meeting facilities were available at the hall if required.

Both the Children and the Youth group are staffed by volunteers who have completed DBS checks and training as required under our safeguarding policy. A copy of the safeguarding policy has been passed to the appropriate Social Care Department and the policy is reviewed annually by the appointed Safeguarding Officers and the Trustees.

Teaching and discipleship

Part of advancing the Christian faith is to deepen the church's understanding of the bible and what it teaches. Our Sunday morning services included a number of teaching series covering areas such as the gospels, Acts and Nehemiah. As well as teaching on a Sunday, lively discussions took place midweek answering questions and clarifying principles as they were raised. These continued partly on Zoom and also face-to-face as the year progressed. The mid-week groups changed during the year with one of the large groups being split into two and the young adults group being combined within these groups.

In August the New Wine conference took place; the church usually attends in person but the event was transferred to an online platform for the second year running. The event provided a wealth of teaching and encouragement as members continued to face the challenges of the pandemic. A number of the church joined together at a campsite to listen to the conference online. As well as providing support and direction throughout the year, New Wine also organised a leaders' conference in March in Harrogate which was attended by the leadership team and included worship, bible teaching and messages on current issues. It also focussed on encouraging leaders after a challenging two years of leading the church through the pandemic.

Overseas linked churches

The Church has continued its strong links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia which was led by Pastor Evans Luwi. Pastor Evans was responsible for leading a number of churches within Path of Life Ministries in Zambia based around Solwezi and surrounding areas. New Life Church Bristol (NLCB) provided financial support to Pastor Evans to enable him to extend God's kingdom in this part of the world, deepening the faith of the people in the churches and reaching out to those in need. After much prayer and consideration, the Trustees and leadership team agreed to fund the purchase of a car to support Pastor Evans and his wife Maureen with their ministry. Their location next to a river, which floods during the rainy season, makes getting to and from the church and school very difficult and the provision of funding for a car was a great blessing to them and their work. Financial support was also provided for Pastor Joseph, who leads a church in Lusaka and Pastor Edwards who leads a church in Mwinilunga.

It was with great sadness that a few weeks later after providing funds for the car we received the news that Pastor Evans had passed away after a short period of illness. Evans will be dearly missed by everyone who knew him, especially his family and those who worked closely with him in ministry. We maintained regular contact with Maureen and supported her financially and in prayer as she worked through the way forward for her family and church. Recent discussions with Maureen indicate that both the church and the school are going well and after a gap of two years due to the pandemic the leadership of NLC are hoping to visit in 2022.

The Beacon of Power Academy School which the church established in Solwezi, provides an opportunity for those children to attend primary school who normally would not do so due to financial and family reasons. Following the change in Government in Zambia, their new education policy removed the fee-paying requirement for attending schools allowing all children to attend without charge. This had a negative impact on the secondary school which was funded through families paying fees and this element of the provision closed. Discussions continue about the future of the secondary school and how this may operate under the new government policy.

The primary school is financially supported by the Church and by sponsorship from individuals. Donations by individuals have been classed as restricted income and are titled School4kids.

Pastoral care

The Church meets during the week to provide a time for informal discussions on Christian teaching, prayer, support to those in need, reaching out to the community as well as social activities and events. Activities were initially limited to what could be achieved through the use of Zoom with members continuing to meet in small groups during the day and evenings with one mid-week meeting a month involving the whole church. As COVID restrictions eased, meetings took place outside in gardens and other venues until it was possible to meet inside homes again.

Support to the Frenchay Community and wider Bristol area

Part of outworking our objects is to reach out to those in need within the Community and be a witness for our Christian faith. Although many of the ways we would normally outwork these were restricted due to the pandemic, at the end of May the church, in conjunction with the Noise (a Bristol based event showing God's love to communities), spent the weekend carrying out work in the community including outdoor maintenance work at Frenchay Primary School and the Village Hall where we would normally meet. During the year Church members have also assisted with filling gift bags for prisoners which were given as presents at Christmas organised by a Christian charity called Sixty-One (Charity No. 1159302).

The Church has also supported the needs of the homeless by providing finance and practical help to the Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter project. This involved working with the City Council to provide shelter for the homeless between the months of November 2021 and March 2022 in a COVID safe environment using hotel accommodation. NLCB provided lunch-time support and main meals as well as donations of clothes and toiletries. The impact of the project on both the homeless and the volunteers involved was significant as the volunteers were able to draw alongside people and show unconditional love and compassion to some of the most vulnerable people in the city. Further support for the poor has also been provided through gifts to foodbanks and to specific individuals.

Links were maintained with other local churches and wider church networks both in Bristol and nationally which kept the church aware of city wide and national needs which we could contribute to. Through these links the church was able to support needs within the city and provide grants as needs were identified. Our support to the work in Zambia has continued with the provision of funds to meet needs both in the churches and school.

Outreach activities and Mission events

Although opportunities as a church to outreach were limited at the beginning of the year, by September, the Churches Together team including members of NLCB provided 'Open the Book' sessions in Frenchay Primary school once more. Each child was presented a special booklet telling the Christmas story. Other outreach activities included encouraging individuals to reach out to their neighbours and friends showing them the love of God as they suffered difficult and challenging times. Cakes were also baked for hospital staff as a small gift of thanks for the incredible work they were doing.

The Churches Together team also organised for 7,200 Christmas cards to be delivered to the area we serve using the Royal Mail's delivery service. These cards were specially designed to spread hope and the positive message of Christmas to the local community.

Provision of Grants

The vision of the church is to support those who are in need and further the gospel of Jesus Christ. Due to the pandemic and also NLCB leaders not travelling to Zambia in 2021 the operating costs of the church were much lower. Tithes and offerings continued to be received by the Church enabling it to provide financial assistance to other organisations. These included Christian ministries such as the Sixty-One, In-hope Bristol and the Ukrainian crisis through Life Church Ministries. Individuals also gave into the Ukrainian fund and this has been identified as restricted income.

The objects and purposes of the Trust are the framework within which the above activities operate and they are measured through an ongoing process of monitoring and evaluation both by the Trustees and the Leadership team. Leadership meetings which include the Chair of Trustees usually take place on a monthly basis with the Leadership and Trustees also meeting together occasionally.

Financial Review & Reserves

At the beginning of the year the charity had unrestricted balances of £61,361. Financial giving by church members continued consistently throughout the pandemic, not only maintaining the financial viability of the Trust, but due to low running costs the Trust was able to give out to meet needs as identified by the church and agreed by Trustees. Total income from tithes and offerings during the year was £70,630 with total expenditure of £68,297. In addition to this income there was a restricted fund totalling £13,820 including balances from which £11,192 expenditure was incurred for the School4kids project, Pastor Joseph in Zambia and the Ukrainian crisis.

The Trust continues to pay a salary to Pastor Richard Brown and his wife Kim for the work they do in the church to outwork the Trust objects. Payments adhere to regulations for new living wage levels and tax. During the year funds continued to be invested in the work in Zambia to support the Spiritual Leadership, churches and the running of the school. The Trust was also able to respond with gifts to organisations, charities and individuals as agreed by the Leadership and Trustees in accordance with Trust objects. Gift aid has been received and has contributed to the balances held.

No fees are charged for services provided by the Church and our operating costs were lower than income. Balances held at the end of the year total £66,322 and these will cover more than 12 month's on-going commitments; £25,000 has been estimated as the balance that needs to be held. A two-year budget has been set and future budget plans will include salary costs for ministry, training and administration, support for furthering the Christian gospel, investment in Africa, support to the local community and to individuals and organisations as need is identified. The budget and future commitments will be regularly reviewed by Trustees to ensure balances do not increase significantly and funds are used appropriately in accordance with the needs identified by the Spiritual Leadership team.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed under the Declaration of Trust which established New Life Church Bristol as a charity on 29th January 2013. The minimum number of Trustees is three; there is no maximum. The Trustees are required to meet four times a year in person or through electronic means agreed by them. New Trustees are appointed by the Spiritual Leadership and Trustees and take into account the benefits that a person could contribute through their qualifications and experience to the furtherance of the objects and management of the charity. In total there are 5 Trustees and during 2021/22 there were no changes in personnel. All Trustees have a copy and are familiar with the Declaration of Trust and the Charity Commission publication *CC3 – the Essential Trustee – what you need to know*.

The spiritual governance and leadership of the Charity rests with the Leadership Team and they are responsible for appointing their successors. The responsibility of the Trustees is for the management and administration in accordance with the objects of the Trust and the general law. The Trustees fulfil their legal duties taking into account the spiritual direction of the Charity set by the Leadership Team who themselves act in accordance with the Trust Deed and general law.

During 2019 we decided to formally associate with Woodlands Church (Charity No. 1125029), a large church within the city. This relationship has been strengthened through the year and NLCB are able to draw on their advice and resources as required.

The links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia is an important part of the Church's mission. Although the leadership did not visit in 2021, regular contact was maintained with Pastor Evans and then his wife Maureen Luwi. The finances for the school are overseen by Peter Moorcraft, a member of New Life Church Bristol.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity Law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities. Richard Brown is a Trustee and receives a salary as the Pastor. All other payments to Trustees were for the reimbursement of appropriate expenses with no private benefit received. All conflicts of interest are disclosed and recorded.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 14 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

S Hall – Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of New Life Church Bristol for the year ended 31st March 2022 on pages 9-12 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

J. YOUNG

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 15th September 2022

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2022 £	2021 £	
	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £			
Income receipts						
Donations, legacies and grants	57,736	-	10,206	67,942	67,411	
Gift aid receipts	12,891	-	986	13,877	15,368	
Income from charitable activities	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	3	-	-	3	16	
	<u>70,630</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,192</u>	<u>81,822</u>	<u>82,795</u>	
Capital and similar receipts						
Sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	
Sale of investments	-	-	-	-	-	
Loan repayments	-	-	-	-	-	
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
Total receipts	<u>70,630</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,192</u>	<u>81,822</u>	<u>82,795</u>	
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	23,975	-	140	24,115	18,929
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	44,322	-	11,052	55,374	42,727
		<u>68,297</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,192</u>	<u>79,489</u>	<u>61,656</u>
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Purchase of investments		-	-	-	-	-
Loans made		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total payments		<u>68,297</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,192</u>	<u>79,489</u>	<u>61,656</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		2,333	-	-	2,333	21,139
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	0
Net movement in funds		<u>2,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,333</u>	<u>21,139</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		61,361		2,628	63,989	42,850
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>63,694</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>66,322</u>	<u>63,989</u>

The notes on pages 11-12 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2022 £	2021 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £		
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	63,694	-	2,628	66,322	63,989
	<u>63,694</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>66,322</u>	<u>63,989</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	15,118	-	1,307	16,425	13,877
	<u>15,118</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,307</u>	<u>16,425</u>	<u>13,877</u>
C Liabilities					
Fee for Independent Examination	744	-	-	744	726
	<u>744</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>744</u>	<u>726</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				Current value £	2021 value £
Music and PA equipment				1,917	1,758
Computers and IT				6,133	8,909
Other general equipment				2,942	2,806
				<u>10,991</u>	<u>13,473</u>

The asset values refer to the original purchase price.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by S. HALL date 14.09.22

The notes on pages 11-12 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted Funds £		
	£	£	£		
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Charity Admin	3,002	-	140	3,142	3,206
Rent	2,256	-	-	2,256	467
Leaders expenses & Ministry	3,636	-	-	3,636	801
Equipment	632	-	-	632	2,265
Salary	10,846	-	-	10,846	9,667
Gifts	393	-	-	393	394
General admin plus printing	198	-	-	198	169
Insurance	557	-	-	557	534
Stewardship Examination	726	-	-	726	720
Church Hospitality / housekeeping	727	-	-	727	-
Children/Youth/Students	476	-	-	476	121
Worship	5	-	-	5	-
Community Outreach	477	-	-	477	586
Travel and expenses	43	-	-	43	-
	<u>23,975</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>24,115</u>	<u>18,929</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Grants for:					
Ministry work in Africa	36,482	-	-	36,482	20,025
Relief of poverty	7,840	-	3,355	11,195	13,807
School 4 kids	-	-	7,697	7,697	8,895
	<u>44,322</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,052</u>	<u>55,374</u>	<u>42,727</u>

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

The grants to institutions amounting to more than £1,000 in the year were:

Sixty:one - Prisoner gift bags	1,000
in-Hope (Bristol)	1,050
Ukraine Crisis via Life Church Ministries	5,000

4 Transactions with related parties

Richard Brown, a trustee, was paid £5632.32 which includes mobile phone expenses (2021: £5076.93) for his work as a Pastor and not as a trustee.

Kim Brown was paid £5214 (£2021: £4590) for her work as treasurer as permitted by the governing document.

5 Movement of funds

	Balance at 31 March 2021	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	61,361	70,630	-68,297	0	63,694
Designated funds	<u>61,361</u>	<u>70,630</u>	<u>-68,297</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>63,694</u>
Restricted funds					
School4kids	2,628	7,837	-7,837	0	2,628
Ukraine Crisis via Life Church Ministries	0	3,355	-3,355	0	0
	<u>2,628</u>	<u>11,192</u>	<u>-11,192</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,628</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>63,989</u></u>	<u><u>81,822</u></u>	<u><u>-79,489</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>66,322</u></u>

The School4kids fund supports the setting up and running of a school in Solwezi, Zambia for those children who are unable to attend school due to financial and family reasons.

Occasional gifts are made to Pastor Joseph in Lusaka for personal use in his ministry.

Donations were received towards the Ukraine crisis and channelled through Life Church ministries who had a team and links to churches in Poland

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1150750

Accounts

New Life Church Bristol

Report and Accounts

year ended March 2021

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	24 Congleton Road St George Bristol BS5 7AP
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Declaration of Trust dated 29th January 2013
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1150750
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Mrs S Hall (Chair) Mr D Summerhill Mrs M Moorcraft Mr R Penska Mr R Brown
BANKERS	Barclays Bank
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimee Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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Page 10	Statement of Assets & Liabilities
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NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Introduction

New Life Church Bristol (NLCB) was registered as a charity on 8 February 2013 and this annual report covers the period for the year ended 31 March 2021. The year has been significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic which has changed many of the ways our activities within the charity have been conducted. This report sets out how the church has adapted to this challenging situation and the many achievements against our stated objects.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions all Sunday morning services were conducted through Zoom software during the year except for a three-week period in September 2020 when the church carried out a number of practical projects in the Frenchay community. Mid-week meetings also transitioned to Zoom to enable people to meet and share life together in smaller groups. Although outreach activities have been restricted, support has been provided and links have been maintained with other local churches and networks. Through these links the church was able to support needs within the city and provide grants as needs were identified. Our support to the work in Zambia has continued with the provision of funds to meet needs both in the churches and school. Richard and Kim Brown in their roles of Pastor and Treasurer respectively continue to be employed by the Church enabling the links with other churches and the community to be strengthened as well as providing time for pastoral work within the church.

Objects and activities

The stated objects of New Life Church Bristol are:

- The advancement of the Christian faith through engaging in worship, bible-based teaching, and the furtherance of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs set out in the Trust Deed. This includes extending our work to other areas of the world.
- To undertake the relief of persons who are in need, hardship or sick.

Our principal activities to achieve these objects for the public benefit are:

- The provision of Church services, resources and events for Christians and non-Christians.
- Providing services, resources and events for Children and Youth.
- Providing programmes of teaching and discipleship and supporting resources.
- Support to overseas linked Churches and charities.
- Providing pastoral care to those connected with the Church.
- Reaching out to those in need within the Frenchay Community and the wider Bristol area.
- Being a witness for our Christian faith through outreach activities and mission events.
- Providing grants to individuals and organisations to support the outworking of the objects of the Trust.

Further information on these activities and how they have delivered public benefit is described under the section Achievements and Performance below.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit and the guidance for charities for the advancement of religion when making their decisions and planning activities. The activities and achievements are set out below.

Church services

Our church services moved to Zoom from mid-March 2020 due to the pandemic and the church continued to meet in this way throughout the year. Although the use of Zoom software was new to most people in the church everyone was supported to enable them to connect into the meetings and over the year, we adapted our services to work more effectively within this new medium. Visitors to the church were also able to join our meetings providing a connection for them to church life and our services were advertised through the church website. The services continued to involve spirit-led worship, mainly through pre-recorded songs from other churches, bible-based teaching, and prayer ministry. Opportunities were available for the congregation to participate and interact in the meetings whether in a planned way or as God prompted at the time. Teaching from Sunday mornings was available to the public through podcasts on the church website.

As a church we were blessed during the year by messages from Rob Scott-Cook and Dave Mitchell from Woodlands Church that we are associated with. Links were maintained with other local churches and wider church networks both in Bristol and nationally which kept the church aware of city wide and national needs which we could contribute to.

Children's and Youth Work

No children's meetings took place this year due to no face-to-face meetings being held but after a short break at the beginning of the pandemic, Youth Group meetings resumed on a Tuesday evening via Zoom. The evenings enabled the group to connect in with one another providing opportunities to chat, play games, pray, listen and contribute to bible teaching, discuss current issues and support one another through the challenges of isolation in the pandemic. Gifts were given out at Christmas.

Both the Children and the Youth group are staffed by volunteers who have completed DBS checks and training as required under our safeguarding policy. A copy of the safeguarding policy has been passed to the appropriate Social Care Department and the policy is reviewed annually by the appointed Safeguarding Officers and the Trustees.

Teaching and discipleship

Part of advancing the Christian faith is to deepen the church's understanding of the bible and what it teaches. As well as teaching on a Sunday, lively discussions take place on a midweek basis answering questions and clarifying principles as they are raised and these continued throughout the year using Zoom. For part of the year the focus in midweek meetings was on mission studying a resource called 'Mission Shaped Living' enabling us all to think more about how to reach out to friends and family with the gospel. At the beginning of the year Nicky Summerhill, one of the leaders, provided a weekly written word of encouragement for the church and people were also encouraged to link into other online teaching that was available.

Overseas linked churches

The Church has continued its strong links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia led by Pastor Evans Luwi. Pastor Evans is responsible for leading a number of churches within Path of Life Ministries in Zambia based around Solwezi and surrounding areas. New Life Church Bristol (NLCB) provides financial support to Pastor Evans to enable him to extend God's kingdom in this part of the world, deepening the faith of the people in the churches and reaching out to those in need. Financial support was also provided for Pastor Joseph, who leads a church in Lusaka and Pastor Edwards who leads a church in Mwinilunga.

The leadership had already planned that they would not be going out to Zambia in 2020 and this had been communicated to Pastor Evans during our visit in 2019, therefore the coronavirus pandemic did not affect our plans. This has been a challenging time for those in Zambia due to the pandemic and especially due to the rise in the cost of food. As a result, we were able to send extra financial support in order to purchase mealie meal for families of the school and provide masks and sanitizers.

The Beacon of Power Academy School which the church established in Solwezi, provides an opportunity for those children to attend school who normally would not do so due to financial and family reasons. In January there were 55 children attending the primary school. NLCB has contributed to the building and setting up of the secondary school which has included a new science block, computer room and staff rooms. The secondary school is self-funded by the pupils that attend and there were 42 pupils at the secondary school in January.

The primary school is financially supported by the Church and by sponsorship from individuals. Donations by individuals have been classed as restricted income and are titled School4kids.

Pastoral care

The Church meets during the week to provide a time for informal discussions on Christian teaching, prayer, support to those in need, reaching out to the community as well as social activities and events. Activities were limited to what could be achieved through the use of Zoom with members continuing to meet in small groups during the day and evenings with one mid-week meeting a month involving the whole church. A number of social activities were organised including quizzes and social gatherings.

The Spiritual Leadership provides support and advice where required to enable people to work through challenges and issues. During the year the church became a partner church of Kintsugi Hope, who are a UK charity (Charity No. 1175529) seeking to make a difference to people's mental wellbeing and a small number of people attended a training course to be able to run a local wellbeing group. Although the Leadership team take responsibility for pastoral care, all members of the Church reach out to those in need showing the love of God in practical ways. A fund for those in need was available to provide financial assistance to those both inside and external to the Church as the need was identified.

Support to the Frenchay Community and wider Bristol area

Part of outworking our objects is to reach out to those in need within the Community and be a witness for our Christian faith. Although many of the ways we would normally outwork these were restricted due to the pandemic, during September the church spent three Sundays carrying out work in the community including outdoor maintenance work at Frenchay Primary School and the Village Hall where we would normally have met.

Other tasks included litter picking in the local Frenchy community, cleaning road signs and help to tidy gardens where people needed assistance. During the year Church members have also assisted with filling gift bags for prisoners which were given as presents at Christmas organised by a Christian charity called Sixty-One (Charity No. 1159302).

The Church has also supported the needs of the homeless by providing finance and practical help to the Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter project. This involved working with the City Council to provide shelter for the homeless between the months of January and March 2021 in a COVID safe environment using hotel accommodation. The impact of the project on both the homeless and the volunteers involved was significant as the volunteers were able to draw alongside people and show unconditional love and compassion to some of the most vulnerable people in the city. Further support for the poor has also been provided through gifts to foodbanks and to specific individuals.

Outreach activities and Mission events

Opportunities as a church to outreach were limited due to periods of lockdown across the country and this included the 'Open the Book' sessions in Frenchay Primary school which a few people from the church were part of. However, the team were able to record themselves acting out the nativity story and provide each child with a copy of the story booklet. Although outreach activities were limited individuals were encouraged to reach out to their neighbours and friends showing them the love of God as they suffered difficult and challenging times. Cakes were also baked for hospital staff as a small gift of thanks for the incredible work they were doing.

Provision of Grants

The vision of the church is to support those who are in need and further the gospel of Jesus Christ. During the pandemic the operating costs of the church were much lower and with tithes and offerings continuing to be received the Trust was able to provide financial assistance to other organisations. These included Christian ministries such as the Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter, the Noise 2020, Bristol Churches City Fund, New Wine Trust and organisations supporting those who are in need, hardship or sick.

The objects and purposes of the Trust are the framework within which the above activities operate and they are measured through an ongoing process of monitoring and evaluation both by the Trustees and the Leadership team. Leadership meetings which include the Chair of Trustees usually take place on a monthly basis with the Leadership and Trustees also meeting together occasionally although these occurred more frequently during the year due to the challenges of the pandemic.

Financial Review & Reserves

At the beginning of the year the charity had unrestricted balances of £40,222. Financial giving by church members continued consistently throughout the pandemic, not only maintaining the financial viability of the Trust, but due to low running costs the Trust was able to give out to meet needs as identified by the church and agreed by Trustees. Total income from tithes and offerings during the year was £73,675 with total expenditure of £52,536. In addition to this income there was a restricted fund totalling £11,748 including balances from which £9,120 expenditure was incurred for the School4kids project and Pastor Joseph in Zambia.

The Trust continues to pay a salary to Pastor Richard Brown and his wife Kim for the work they do in the church to outwork the Trust objects. Payments adhere to regulations for new living wage levels and tax. During the year funds continued to be invested in the work in Zambia to support the Spiritual Leadership, churches and the running of the school. The Trust was also able to respond with gifts to organisations, charities and individuals as agreed by the Leadership and Trustees in accordance with Trust objects. Gift aid has been received and has contributed to the balances held.

No fees are charged for services provided by the Church and our operating overheads were low during the year due to the pandemic. Balances held at the end of the year total £63,989 and these will cover more than 12 month's on-going commitments; £25,000 has been estimated as the balance that needs to be held. A two year budget has been set and future budget plans will include salary costs for ministry, training and administration, support for furthering the Christian gospel, investment in Africa, support to the local community and to individuals and organisations as need is identified. The budget and future commitments will be regularly reviewed by Trustees to ensure balances do not increase significantly and funds are used appropriately in accordance with the needs identified by the Spiritual Leadership team.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed under the Declaration of Trust which established New Life Church Bristol as a charity on 29th January 2013. The minimum number of Trustees is three; there is no maximum. The Trustees are required to meet four times a year in person or through electronic means agreed by them. New Trustees are appointed by the Spiritual Leadership and Trustees and take into account the benefits that a person could contribute through their qualifications and experience to the furtherance of the objects and management of the charity. In total there are 5 Trustees and during 2020/21 there were no changes in personnel. All Trustees have a copy and are familiar with the Declaration of Trust and the Charity Commission publication *CC3 – the Essential Trustee – what you need to know*.

The spiritual governance and leadership of the Charity rests with the Leadership Team and they are responsible for appointing their successors. The responsibility of the Trustees is for the management and administration in accordance with the objects of the Trust and the general law. The Trustees fulfil their legal duties taking into account the spiritual direction of the Charity set by the Leadership Team who themselves act in accordance with the Trust Deed and general law.

During 2019 we decided to formally associate with Woodlands Church (Charity No. 1125029), a large church within the city. This relationship has been strengthened through the year and NLCB are able to draw on their advice and resources as required.

The links with the Path of Life Ministries in Zambia is an important part of the Church's mission. Although the leadership did not visit in 2020, regular contact was maintained with Pastor Evans and a report on their activities was received February 2021. The finances for the school are overseen by Peter Moorcraft, a member of New Life Church Bristol.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity Law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities. Richard Brown is a Trustee and receives a salary as the Pastor. All other payments to Trustees were for the reimbursement of appropriate expenses with no private benefit received. All conflicts of interest are disclosed and recorded.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 22nd October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

S Hall – Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of New Life Church Bristol for the year ended 31st March 2021 on pages 9-12 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

Jaimée Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 25 October 2021

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2021 £	2020 £
		General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £		
Income receipts						
Donations, legacies and grants		59,340	-	8,071	67,411	66,201
Gift aid receipts		14,319	-	1,049	15,368	16,981
Income from charitable activities		-	-	-	-	-
Other		16	-	-	16	52
		<u>73,675</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,120</u>	<u>82,795</u>	<u>83,234</u>
Capital and similar receipts						
Sale of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Sale of investments		-	-	-	-	-
Loan repayments		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total receipts		<u>73,675</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,120</u>	<u>82,795</u>	<u>83,234</u>
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	18,704	-	225	18,929	35,691
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	33,832	-	8,895	42,727	60,103
		<u>52,536</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,120</u>	<u>61,656</u>	<u>95,794</u>
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Purchase of investments		-	-	-	-	-
Loans made		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total payments		<u>52,536</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,120</u>	<u>61,656</u>	<u>95,794</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		21,139	-	0	21,139	-12,560
Transfers between funds		-	-	0	-	0
Net movement in funds		<u>21,139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>21,139</u>	<u>-12,560</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		40,222	-	2,628	42,850	55,410
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>61,361</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>63,989</u>	<u>42,850</u>

The notes on pages 11-12 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2021 £	2020 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £		
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	61,361	-	2,628	63,989	42,850
	<u>61,361</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>63,989</u>	<u>42,850</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	12,891	-	986	13,877	15,368
	<u>12,891</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>986</u>	<u>13,877</u>	<u>15,368</u>
C Liabilities					
Fee for Independent Examination	726	-	-	726	720
	<u>726</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>720</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				Current value £	2020 value £
Music and PA equipment				1,758	2,781
Computers and IT				8,909	5,596
Other general equipment				2,806	3,343
				<u>13,473</u>	<u>11,720</u>
The asset values refer to the original purchase price.					

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by S. HALL date 22.10.21

The notes on pages 11-12 form part of these accounts.

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted Funds £		
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Charity Admin	2,981	-	225	3,206	2,166
Rent	467	-	-	467	2,852
Leaders expenses & Ministry	801	-	-	801	4,648
Equipment	2,265	-	-	2,265	2,155
Salary	9,667	-	-	9,667	8,644
Gifts	394	-	-	394	328
General admin plus printing	169	-	-	169	487
Insurance	534	-	-	534	532
Stewardship Examination	720	-	-	720	540
Church Hospitality / housekeeping	-	-	-	-	1,066
Children/Youth/Students	121	-	-	121	530
Worship	-	-	-	-	175
Community Outreach	586	-	-	586	1,015
Travel and expenses	-	-	-	-	10,050
	<u>18,704</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>18,929</u>	<u>35,188</u>
3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others					
Grants for:					
Path of Life Ministries	20,025	-	-	20,025	41,694
Relief of poverty	13,807	-	-	13,807	7,933
School 4 kids	-	-	8,895	8,895	10,979
	<u>33,832</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,895</u>	<u>42,727</u>	<u>60,606</u>

NEW LIFE CHURCH BRISTOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

The grants to institutions amounting to more than £1,000 in the year were:

Bristol City Fund / Foodbank (via Mullers)	1,000
New Wine Trust	1,500
Sixty:one - Prisoner gift bags	1,000
Transforming Lives for Good (via Mullers)	1,000
in-Hope (Bristol)	1,000
Bristol Noise	1,000
Westminster Theological Centre (WTC)	1,000
New Wine Trust	2,000

4 Transactions with related parties

Richard Brown, a trustee, was paid £5076.93 which includes mobile phone expenses (2020: £4322) for his work as a Pastor and not as a trustee.

Kim Brown was paid £4590 (£2020: £4322) for her work as treasurer and church leader, as permitted by the governing document.

5 Movement of funds

	Balance at 31 March 2020	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	40,222	73,675	-52,536	0	61,361
Designated funds	<u>40,222</u>	<u>73,675</u>	<u>-52,536</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>61,361</u>
Restricted funds					
School4kids	2,628	8,570	-8,570	0	2,628
Gift to Pastor Joseph, Zambia	0	550	-550	0	0
	<u>2,628</u>	<u>9,120</u>	<u>-9,120</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,628</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>42,850</u>	<u>82,795</u>	<u>-61,656</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>63,989</u>

The School4kids fund supports the setting up and running of a school in Solwezi, Zambia for those children who are unable to attend school due to financial and family reasons.

Occasional gifts are made to Pastor Joseph in Lusaka for personal use in his ministry.