

**NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(SOUTH GILLINGHAM) TRUST**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

Charity No: 1152608

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TRUST INFORMATION

The following Trustees were serving at the time these accounts were approved:

James Bellchambers	Chairman
Mark Anderton	Director/Trustee
Alan Eldridge	Director/Trustee
Carol Lunniss	Director/Trustee

Other senior officers of the Trust:

Bradman Sogie-Thomas	Financial Controller
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Charity Number	1152608
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Registered Office	17 Brisbane Avenue Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1XZ
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Bankers	National Westminster Bank PLC 74 High Street Rainham Kent ME8 7JH
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Solicitor	Whitehead Monckton Monckton House 72 Kings Street Maidstone Kent ME14 1BL
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TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Trustees, Directors and Professional Advisors

The four Trustee/Directors serving at the time these accounts were approved are shown on page 3. The charity's banker and solicitor are also listed on page 3, with the independent examiner shown on page 7.

Structure, Governance and Management

New Life Community Church (South Gillingham) Trust (the company) is a Limited Company with charitable status constituted by Articles of Association dated 18 March 2013. The Articles of Association govern the appointment of Directors who are also Trustees. Whenever this report refers to Trustees or Trustee, it is referring to those who hold the joint responsibilities of Director and Trustee. The Board of Trustees is authorised to appoint new Trustees to fill vacancies arising through removal, resignation or death of an existing Trustee, subject to the express approval of the Pastor/Elders.

Objectives and Activities

The Trust's objectives are:

- The advancement of the Christian Faith and the worship of God in Gillingham, Kent and elsewhere, through preaching, teaching, proclamation of the gospel, the distribution of Christian literature and pastoral care
- The relief of persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress
- The advancement of education on the basis of Christian principles

The Company has been formed to support the ongoing work of the New Life Community Church, ("NLCC"), an active independent group that came into existence in 1987/8.

Achievements and Performance

Whilst Covid-19 has had an effect on the performance of the Church in the first part of the year, the removal of Covid restrictions at the end of March 2022 has seen a return to normal. Church services have been held whenever possible on a Sunday morning in the main hall of the Rainham School for Girls, Derwent Way, Rainham, Kent. When government restrictions have prevented the Church meeting, services have been held over the internet, on Zoom and Facebook. Under these conditions, Zoom has been used to permit prayer meetings, bible studies and local house groups to continue. Attendance at Church meetings at the school have risen from about 35 to 65 as the year has progressed. Meetings have continued to be broadcast on the internet to allow others to join in who cannot attend personally.

The Company with its Church body, New Life Community Church, has continued to support a number of individuals and charities involved in mission work at home and overseas. Principle areas of support have been:

- **Salvation Army.** We have provided financial assistance to two local branches (Gillingham and Chatham) of the Salvation Army to support local issues.
- **Food Bank.** Providing financial support to the Food Bank (Medway) which in turn is providing emergency food support to people in desperate short-term need in the community.
- **Christians Against Poverty (CAP).** Working with CAP which provides immediate relief and ongoing counselling and debt management services in the Gillingham area.
- **Emerge Advocacy** (The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service). We have provided financial assistance to EmERGE Advocacy, a charitable ministry of youth workers supporting people struggling with their feelings or mental health issues.

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- **Ukraine.** We have provided financial assistance to the Red Cross International for their relief work in Ukraine.
- **Philippines.** We have provided financial support to struggling churches in the Philippines.

With the cessation of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions in the first part of the year, the Church has continued to grow throughout the remainder of the year. It is pleasing to note a wide range of ethnic backgrounds continues in the Church. The Church has been involved with many other churches in the Medway Towns through both the 'Churches Together in Medway' and the 'Churches Together in Rainham'.

Serious Incidents

During the year there were no serious incidents resulting in loss of funds or giving risk to the charity's property, work, beneficiaries or reputation.

Public Benefit Statement

The charity acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes that are for the public benefit, as required by the Charity Commission's statutory guidance on the matter. Details of how the charity has achieved this have been provided in this report. The following is a summary:
In the UK:

- Working with CAP (Christians Against Poverty)
- Financial Gifts to the poor and needy in the community
- Support and giving to the Salvation Army
- Support and giving to the local Food Bank
- Support and giving to local young people suffering emotional and mental distress
- Financial support for a Pastor

Overseas:

- Support and giving to people suffering through the Ukrainian war
- Support and giving to struggling churches in the Philippines

Future Developments

Under the Pastoral leadership of Mark Anderton, the Church will continue to support active evangelism in the "parish" area and seek to reach out and help adults, young people, children, those in debt and severe hardship. We will continue to support a wide range of mission work, both at home and overseas. The Trustees continually review our commitments to those ongoing ministries currently supported as well as investigating possible new commitments.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above. Signed on 15th October 2023 on behalf of the charity's Trustees:



James T Bellchambers – Chairman

Financial Review

The NLCC Board of Trustees/Directors continues to encourage the ethos of the Church in giving and supporting those in need, including UK charities and mission work in The Philippines.

In comparison to 2021, total income and expenditure were up by 50% and 20% respectively. This was mainly due to an increase in offerings received which was used to fully offset the increase in mission giving and ministry support costs.

1. VOLUNTARY INCOME

Details	2022	2021	Change
Gift Aid	7,695	5,431	2,264
Offerings	43,277	27,757	15,520
Stewardship (UKET)	3,041	2,800	241
Interest	72	4	68
Total Income	54,085	35,992	18,093

2. EXPENDITURE

Details	2022	2021	Change
Pastoral Costs	35,149	32,809	2,340
Missions	8,907	5,665	3,242
Ministry Support Costs	9,726	6,685	3,041
Other Charity Activity Costs	2,578	1,590	988
Total Charitable Expenditure	56,360	46,749	9,611
Governance - Independent Examiner	1,680	1,680	0
Total Expenditure	58,040	48,429	9,611

3. MISSION GIVING

	2022	2021	Change
The Philippines	2,489	1,822	667
Other Ministries	6,418	3,843	2,575
Total	8,907	5,665	3,242

Declaration

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 15th October 2023 and signed on its behalf:



Bradman Sogie-Thomas
Financial Controller

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT to the trustees of the NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH (SOUTH GILLINGHAM) TRUST

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 and consider that the company is exempt from an audit.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that any material error has occurred in respect of the accounting records; and
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Colin Gough
TAG (Maidstone) Ltd
10 Coverdale Avenue
Maidstone
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ME15 9DR

Date: 19 October 2023