

Luton Central Baptist Church Annual Report to the Charity Commission

In this report the trustees of Luton Central Baptist Church present their report and financial statements for the 2023 calendar year.

Registered Address: 52a Park Street, Luton, LU1 3ET

Church Office Telephone: 01582 422 635

Charity Registration Number: 1155929

Trustees:

Mrs Kemi Adesida (from January to December 2023),
Mr Samson Akinola (elder),
Mr Ian Benjamin (elder),
Mr Oral Carrington (from January 2023),
Mr Steve Conybeare,
Mr John Evans (treasurer),
Dr Patrice Evans (elder, from January 2023),
Rev Andrew Gale (minister, resigned March 2023),
Ms Elizabeth Oyedemi,
Ms Melanie Quinn,
Mr Erwin Tadiar (secretary, elder, resigned March 2023),
Mr Joshua Uthayaseelan.

Property Trustees:

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited, Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 8RT

Bankers:

Our main bank is Lloyds George St Luton (309528) Branch, Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

Church organisations have funds with a number of other banks, and the church has substantial funds with the Coventry Building Society, Kingdom Bank, Green Pastures, and with the Baptist Union Corporation.

Independent Examiner:

Mr Moses Oluniyi Peters FCCA, Moses Peters & Company, 136 Southwyck House, Moorland Road, London, SW9 8UR

Charitable Object:

The charity is governed by a constitution adopted 20 July 2010 which states that our principal purpose is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world. The church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

Organisational Structure and Decision-Making Processes:

Members of the church are accepted in accordance with the constitution which requires them to be or to have been publicly baptised on the profession of faith in Jesus Christ, or following other modes of baptism to renew their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The church members meeting normally takes place six times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. Since the pandemic members have been able to participate in meetings via Zoom. In accordance with the constitution, the members appoint up to twelve deacons, who together with the minister and elders (who are also appointed by the members), are responsible for the day to day running of the church and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. The elders along with the minister also provide spiritual guidance for the church and its members. All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objectives.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the church meeting by the trustees for guidance, or may be raised by members at the church meeting for further consideration by the trustees. Though the constitution permits decisions to be made at church meetings by appropriate majorities, the church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities:

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the church provides a variety of activities which are available both to its membership and to the community generally. Central to the work and witness of the church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship which take place on Sundays at 10.45 am with online access via Facebook. Services also take place at Perry Green Baptist Chapel, our branch near Kimpton.

The church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of these services online or in person. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord. During 2023 our motto text was "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" from Hebrews 13:8.

There are various activities for children and young people, such as Sunday School, a mum's and tot's group, and Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association that serve a large number of families not otherwise connected with the church. Anybody working with children or vulnerable adults is appropriately vetted with regard to the Criminal Records Bureau.

The church is dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

Financial Review:

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements. This report is followed by the independent examiner's report, and then by the church accounts.

The church raises the funds necessary to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation; no wider public appeal for funds was made during the year. We normally contribute considerable sums to other charities, local, national and international, both through special collections and by setting aside money from our normal income for this purpose. Apart from the giving of the congregation, (and gift aid thereon) the only other source of income is rent from the flats we own in Caddington, and from others using our building or car park.

The most significant expense is related to the salaries of our staff, normally including a minister, a family worker, administrative assistant and cleaners. All but the first of these posts is part-time. At present the money that would have been used to pay a minister is now placed in a deposit account at Kingdom Bank and our financial situation seems stable.

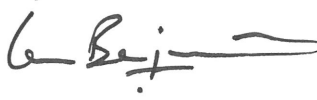
Approval:

Signed by two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

J EVANS,



I BENJAMIN



Date of approval: 04 OCT 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
(CHARITY NUMBER 1155929)
ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023
SET OUT ON PAGES ONE TO ELEVEN**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above named charity for the year ended 31st December 2023 set out on pages one to eleven.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the above named charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed:



Date: 4th October 2024

Examiner's Name: Mr Moses Oluniyi Peters

Relevant Professional Qualification: FCCA

Relevant Professional Body: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Address: Moses Peters & Company
Chartered Certified Accountants
136 Southwyck House
Moorland Road, London
SW9 8UR
England

**LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

INCOME	2023	2022	EXPENDITURE	2023	2022
General:	£	£	Pastoral & Evangelism:	£	£
Offerings	83,831	85,549	Minister	7,333	37,298
Gift Aid Tax Re- Claimed (Note 10)	20,951	15,301	Administrative Assistant	1,900	4,602
Various Donations	3,075	175	Family Worker	14,194	13,108
Caddington (Note 15)	12,542	9,806	Speakers	2,393	328
Miscellaneous	51	90	Youth Work Costs (Note 12)	3,076	2,159
Parking	1,215	1,400	Pastoral & Evangelism	1,068	534
Amazon Smile	29	32	Music Ministry	1,499	957
Church Hire	13,258	12,808	Total	31,463	58,986
Total	134,952	125,161	Premises (Church Building):		
			Lighting, Heating & Water	14,934	8,118
Specific Donations:			Maintenance	1,914	3,128
BMS	1,129	1,111	Gardening	3,270	2,125
Home Mission	130	120	Insurance	4,199	3,252
Total	1,259	1,231	Cleaning Costs	9,556	7,253
			Total	33,873	23,876
Special Collections:			Manse Expenses:		
Harvest	0	355	Energy & Water	819	273
Christmas	263	248	Insurance	779	660
Leaving Gift	885	0	Council Tax	195	1,998
Various	50	200	Maintenance	114	3,658
Communion Fund	1,071	1,827	New Manse Survey	0	2,229
Total	2,269	2,630	Total	1,907	8,818
			Administration:		
Investment Income:			Stationery, Print, Postage & IT	3,298	2,053
Green Pastures	1,600	1,600	Photocopier	2,683	2,627
			Telephone	883	640
			Miscellaneous (Note 13)	5,166	5,069
			Total	12,030	10,389
			Activities & Donations:		
			Special Collections	299	1,352
			Transfer To Communion Fund	1,071	1,827
			BMS	6,451	6,558
			Home Mission	5,445	5,312
			Leaving Gift	885	0
			Various Donations	5,468	0
			Total	19,619	15,049
Total C/Fwd	140,080	130,622	Total C/Fwd	98,892	117,118

INCOME	2023 £	2022 £	EXPENDITURE	2023 £	2022 £
Total B/Fwd	140,080	130,622	Total B/Fwd	98,892	117,118
Transfer From Repairs & Renewals Fund:			Transfer To Repairs & Renewals Fund:		
Replacement TV & Brackets	332	0	Caddington Income	12,542	9,806
			Transfer To Ministry Fund	27,936	0
			Surplus For The Year	1,042	3,698
Cumulative Total	140,412	130,622	Cumulative Total	140,412	130,622

**LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER**

		2023	2022
	Notes	£	£
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS:			
Properties & Other Fixed Assets (At Cost)	2	516,007	516,007
Caddington Flats (At Cost)	2	245,000	245,000
Total Tangible Fixed Assets		761,007	761,007
CURRENT ASSETS:			
B U Corporation Trust Fund TL076	3	55,365	53,767
Green Pastures Unsecured Loan Stock		40,000	40,000
Coventry Building Society Account: Balance Held		85,239	84,562
Lloyds Bank Current Account: Balance Held	16	58,644	24,701
Lloyds Bank Deposit Account: Balance Held		8,015	7,945
Baptist Union Deposit Account: Balance Held		52,958	50,793
Kingdom Bank Account: Balance Held		21,924	0
Total Current Assets		322,145	261,768
TOTAL ASSETS		1,083,152	1,022,775
REPRESENTED BY			
BUILDINGS FUND:			
Church Building		478,896	478,896
20 & 23 Collings Wells Close		245,000	245,000
New Church Improvements		9,011	9,011
Fixed Assets Purchased		28,100	28,100
Total Buildings Fund		761,007	761,007
B U CORPORATION TRUST FUND	3	55,365	53,767
OTHER FUNDS:			
General Fund	4	49,616	48,574
Communion Fund	5	5,101	5,380
Repairs & Renewals Fund	6	30,050	17,840
Projects Fund	7	137,851	134,939
Perry Fund	8	14,937	0
Ministry Fund	9	28,132	0
Thursday Afternoon Fellowship	14	1,093	1,268
Total Other Funds		266,780	208,001
TOTAL FUNDS		1,083,152	1,022,775

The Financial Statements were approved by the board of trustees on 1st October 2024, and were signed on its behalf by:

Trustee's Name:

JOHN EVANS

Signature:

[Signature]

Trustee's Name:

IAN BENJAMIN

Signature:

[Signature]

LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost, and receipts & payments basis. No provision has been made for depreciation in these accounts.

2 Tangible Fixed Assets

Values for the freehold land at 52A Park Street, and for the Manse at 59 Oakley Rd do not appear on the balance sheet, as the cost or valuation at the time of transfer to Central Baptist Church is unknown.

The land & the church building at Park Street, Luton is used for Christian Religious activities. The church building was constructed in 1986, and is currently insured for fire and other risks for £3,836,842 (2022: £3,707,054).

The chapel at Perry Green, near Luton, is built on land held on a deed of grant. It cost £18,813 to build in 1986. The chapel is used for Christian Religious activities, and is currently insured for fire & other risks for £200,669 (2022: £193,881). The cost was completely amortised at the time of building.

The Manse at 59 Oakley Road, Luton provides accommodation for the incumbent Minister employed by the Church. It was built in about 1937, and is currently insured for fire and other risks for £471,812 (2022: £464,839).

Two flats at numbers 20 & 23 Collings Wells Close, Caddington, were purchased in 2016, and are held on lease from Central Bedfordshire Council. At the time of purchase, 98 years remained on the lease. Each flat is insured by the council for a sum of £90,000. They are let to tenants through Town & Country Markyate Ltd.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Freehold Buildings @ Cost: Church at Park Street, Luton	439,658	439,658
Leasehold Properties @ Cost:		
20 Collings Wells Close, Caddington	122,500	122,500
23 Collings Wells Close, Caddington	122,500	122,500
Other Fixed Assets @ Cost:		
Organ & Piano	30,132	30,132
Fixture & Fittings	19,930	19,930
Other Equipment	5,774	5,774
Dishwasher	2,753	2,753
New Amplification Equipment	3,928	3,928
New Cooker	7,430	7,430
New Entrance Doors	6,402	6,402
Total Tangible Fixed Assets	761,007	761,007

LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		2023	2022
		£	£
3	B U Corporation Trust Account TL076		
	Opening Balance B/F	53,767	52,947
	Interest	1,598	820
	Closing Balance C/F	55,365	53,767
4	General Fund		
	Opening Balance B/F	48,574	44,876
	Surplus For The Year	1,042	3,698
	Closing Balance C/F	49,616	48,574
5	Communion Fund		
	Opening Balance B/F	5,380	4,383
	Offerings During The Year	1,071	1,827
	Interest (See Note 11)	0	50
	Payments Made	-1,350	-880
	Closing Balance C/F	5,101	5,380
6	Repairs & Renewals Fund		
	Opening Balance B/F	17,840	7,873
	Transfer From General Fund	12,542	9,806
	Interest (See Note 11)	0	161
	Replacement TV & Brackets	-332	0
	Closing Balance C/F	30,050	17,840
7	Projects Fund		
	Opening Balance B/F	134,939	133,694
	Interest (See Note 11)	2,912	1,245
	Closing Balance C/F	137,851	134,939

LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		2023	2022
		£	£
8	Perry Fund		
	Transfer From Branch	13,744	0
	Income	2,414	0
	Expenses	-1,221	0
	Balance Held by Central	14,937	0
	Cash Held at Branch	20	0
	Closing Balance C/F	14,957	0
9	Ministry Fund		
	Interest (See Note 11)	196	0
	Transfer to Ministry Fund	27,936	0
	Closing Balance C/F	28,132	0
10	Gift Aid Tax Reclaimed		
	Received during the year: Gift Aided Offerings	18,951	13,973
	Received during the year: Small Donations Scheme	2,000	1,328
	 Total gift aid tax reclaimed included in the Accounts	 20,951	 15,301
11	Interest Received		
	Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	70	4
	Baptist Union Deposit Account	2,165	793
	Kingdom Bank Account	196	0
	Coventry Building Society Account	677	671
	Total received during the year	3,108	1,468
	Apportioned to:		
	Communion Fund (See Note 5)	0	50
	Repairs & Renewals Fund (See Note 6)	0	161
	Project Fund (See Note 7)	2,912	1,245
	Ministry Fund (See Note 9)	196	0
	TAF (See Note 14)	0	12
	Total Apportioned	3,108	1,468

LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
12 Youth Work Costs		
Youth Activities	1,778	1,074
Family Work/Messy Church	0	184
Boys Brigade	1,298	901
Total payments included in the Accounts	3,076	2,159
13 Miscellaneous Expenditure		
Bank Charges	342	313
Subscriptions	803	773
Payroll Fees	727	801
Accounting & Independent Examination Fees	2,976	2,250
Training	0	40
Other Miscellaneous	318	892
Total payments included in the Accounts	5,166	5,069
14 Thursday Afternoon Fellowship		
Opening Balance B/F	1,268	1,426
Expenses	-175	-170
Interest (See Note 11)	0	12
Closing Balance C/F	1,093	1,268
15 Flats at 20&23 Collings Well Close, Caddington Rental Income		
Gross rental income	17,400	14,702
Management fees	-2,175	-2,337
Maintenance	-678	-1,017
Amount received from Managing Agent	14,547	11,348
Council Service Charge	-2,005	-1,408
Council Tax	0	-134
Net rental income included in the Accounts	12,542	9,806
Estimated return on total cost for a full year:	5.1%	3.7%

LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
16 Lloyds Bank Current Account: Balance Held		
Actual balance per bank statement on 1st January	24,701	62,670
Cheques not yet cleared from the account	0	-2,250
Opening balance held on the account	24,701	60,420
Actual balance per bank statement on 31st December	57,328	24,701
Pending deposit to the account	1,316	0
Closing balance held on the account	58,644	24,701

17 Going Concern

The charity's trustees have made appropriate enquiries, and reviewed that the charity has adequate resources and sufficient sources of funds available, and are therefore confident that the charity will continue in operation for the foreseeable future, and thus, the trustees considered that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 on a going concern basis.

LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Ministry Fund	General Fund	Restricted/ Designated Fund	Organi- sations Fund	Perry Fund	2023 Total	2022 Total
Incoming Resources	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings		104,782	1,071	0	2,220	108,073	104,732
Donations		3,075	0	10		3,085	337
Bank Interest	196	0	4,510	0	44	4,750	2,313
BMS & HMF		1,259	0	0		1,259	1,231
Special Collections		2,269	0	61	150	2,480	1,049
Subscriptions		0	0	835		835	807
Miscellaneous		28,695	0	0		28,695	25,804
Communion Fund		0	0	0		0	1,827
Sub-Totals	196	140,080	5,581	906	2,414	149,177	138,100
Transfers In	27,936	332	12,542			40,810	10,196
Totals	28,132	140,412	18,123	906	2,414	189,987	148,296
Resources Expended							
Pastoral		31,463	1,350	0	40	32,853	59,985
Premises		33,873	332	0	667	34,872	23,941
Manse Expenses		1,907	0	0		1,907	8,818
BMS & HMF		11,896	0	0		11,896	11,870
Donations		6,353	175	110	250	6,888	1,217
Special Collections		299	0	0		299	1,352
Other Activities		12,030	0	999	264	13,293	12,191
Sub-Totals		97,821	1,857	1,109	1,221	102,008	119,374
Transfer to Ministry Fund		27,936	0	0		27,936	0
Transfer to Repairs & Renewals		12,542	0	0	0	12,542	10,140
Transfer to GB		0	0	0	0	0	56
Trsf to Communion Fund		1,071	0	0	0	1,071	1,827
Totals	0	139,370	1,857	1,109	1,221	143,557	131,397
Net Movement in Funds	28,132	1,042	16,266	-203	1,193	46,430	16,899
Funds B/F 1st Jan	0	48,574	213,194	2,404	13,764	277,936	261,037
Funds C/F 31st Dec	28,132	49,616	229,460	2,201	14,957	324,366	277,936

LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Breakdown of Restricted & Designated Funds

	Communion Fund	Project Fund	Repairs & Renewals Fund	TAF Fund	BU Corp Fund	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources							
Offerings	1,071					1,071	1827
Donations						0	0
Bank Interest	0	2,912	0	0	1,598	4,510	2288
BMS & HMF						0	0
Special Collections						0	0
Subscriptions						0	0
Miscellaneous						0	0
Communion Fund						0	0
Sub-Totals	1,071	2,912	0	0	1,598	5,581	4,115
Transfers In			12,542			12,542	9806
Totals	1,071	2,912	12,542	0	1,598	18,123	13,921
Resources Expended							
Pastoral	1,350					1,350	880
Premises			332			332	0
Manse Expenses						0	0
BMS & HMF						0	0
Donations				175		175	170
Special Collections						0	0
Other Activities						0	0
Sub-Totals	1,350	0	332	175	0	1,857	1,050
Transfer to Central			0			0	0
Transfer to R & R						0	0
Transfer to GB						0	0
Trsf to Communion						0	0
Totals	1,350	0	332	175	0	1,857	1,050
Net Move in Funds	-279	2,912	12,210	-175	1,598	16,266	12,871
Funds B/F 1st Jan	5,380	134,939	17,840	1,268	53,767	213,194	200,323
Funds C/F 31st Dec	5,101	137,851	30,050	1,093	55,365	229,460	213,194

LUTON CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Church Organisations' Accounts

	BB	JUMP	LIFT	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Offerings				0	0
Donations		10		10	162
Bank Interest				0	0
BMS & HMF				0	0
Special Collections			61	61	81
Subscriptions	393	362	80	835	807
Miscellaneous				0	68
Communion Fund				0	0
Sub-Totals	393	372	141	906	1,118
Transfers In				0	390
Totals	393	372	141	906	1,508
Resources Expended					
Pastoral				0	0
Premises				0	0
Manse Expenses				0	0
BMS & HMF				0	0
Donations			110	110	102
Special Collections				0	0
Other Activities	484	455	60	999	826
Sub-Totals	484	455	170	1,109	928
Transfer to Central				0	0
Transfer to BB				0	334
Transfer to GB				0	56
Trsf to Communion				0	0
Totals	484	455	170	1,109	1,318
Net Move in Funds	-91	-83	-29	-203	190
Funds B/F 1st Jan	1330	838	236	2,404	2,214
Funds C/F 31st Dec	1,239	755	207	2,201	2,404