

Bethesda Cardiff

**Annual report and accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

Registered charity number: 1157230

Bethesda Cardiff

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Bethesda Cardiff

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2021

The trustees present the annual report and accounts of Bethesda Cardiff, an independent church which is a registered charity.

Reference and administration details

Address

The principal address of the charity is: Bethesda, Tyn-y-Parc Road, Rhiwbina, Cardiff, CF14 6BP.

Trustees

The following persons were trustees of the charity for the whole of the year ended 31 December 2020:

Andrew Baker
Sarah Baker
John Bodger (Chair)
Mark Bodger
Daniel Burford
Nathan Medland

The above trustees continue in office.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation, and was registered with the Charity Commission on 29 May 2014 (number: 1157230).

New trustees are appointed by the trustees from the Bethesda church membership. The trustees keep the composition of the trustee body under review so that it includes sufficient people with the time and expertise needed to manage the charity effectively, and to ensure that a balanced professional knowledge and competency base is maintained. All trustees are directly involved in the activities of the charity as volunteers, and consequently maintain a close knowledge of its work.

The trustees meet periodically during each year as required, in order to manage the charity. The spiritual and pastoral work, including the day to day running of the church, is overseen by a group of elders, who are a separate body. There is however sufficient overlap between the trustees' and the elders' groups to ensure a proper flow of information between these two groups.

The trustees identify the perceived major risks to the charity and keep these under regular review.

Objectives and activities

The object of the charity is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in such ways as the charity trustees may from time to time decide.

The mission of the charity is primarily to provide pastoral, evangelistic and social support to people in the area surrounding the church in Cardiff.

The leaders and members of Bethesda are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, and to become part of the church community in Rhiwbina and the surrounding districts. We seek to engage with many groups that live within the area by providing activities and opportunities for worship in different formats to meet various needs.

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When planning activities for the year, the leadership are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We encourage people to live out their faith as part of the local community through:

Demonstrating our love for God by seeking to understand and apply all of his Word to our lives, making his Word known in Cardiff and around the globe.

Showing our love for one another by caring for each other and teaching God's Word, encouraging each other to apply it and build one another up in the faith.

Serving our community by proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and demonstrating his love in action, so that others might own Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Bethesda church building. The building occupied by this charity is held on its behalf by a separate charitable trust with some common trustees. This charity enjoys unrestricted occupation and use of the building on an indefinite basis without the payment of any rent or other fee, on condition that we are responsible for insuring the building and paying all costs of occupation, upkeep, maintenance and any desired improvements.

Achievements and performance

Church activities and services

Up until the time that the covid pandemic hit in March 2020, the leadership of Bethesda continued to facilitate a range of services that our community found both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. These included a Ladies Hour meeting, and Ladies Evenings, a Coffee Morning to which all ages are invited, a weekly Toddler group for parents, carers and their young ones, activities for children and young people of various ages. A monthly luncheon was held for members of the community. These were in addition to the regular services held each Sunday that seek to address the spiritual needs of the community. A time of prayer and Bible teaching was held on Wednesday evenings.

Having moved the Sunday and Wednesday services online in March 2020, these continued weekly throughout 2021 until regulations allowed meeting in the building to recommence. Risk Assessments were drawn up, gradually allowing meetings and activities to recommence in the building. Sunday Services were first to recommence, followed by the Toddler Group and children's activities. Additionally, Bethesda was opened up on a Tuesday morning to allow the local community to drop in for a chat and a coffee. Invitations were delivered around the district, and we have had additional members of the local community attend activities organised in Bethesda and join the services that continued to be available to attend online.

Local schools

The planned visits by local schools to the building for educational purposes had to be postponed and we will recommence this in 2022 when appropriate to do so.

Wider support and encouragement

Members of Bethesda continued to collect food and medicines for any in the community that were not able or comfortable to leave their homes during periods of lockdown. A number of households in the area were helped in this way.

We have followed all Welsh Government guidelines and have seen more donations provided by members who wish to continue to support the work of Bethesda via online transactions.

Bethesda Church has continued to financially support mission and relief work in many countries throughout the world during the pandemic.

Administrative information

In normal circumstances the church is inspected annually by the Environmental Standards team to ensure hygiene compliance, and regularly receives the highest possible five-star rating. We will continue to comply with requirements but await contact from the authorities given the circumstances.

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All required workers have a Disclosure and Barring check, we have continued to have new members checked during the pandemic and provided update and refresher training for all involved in relevant activities. The safeguarding policy is reviewed annually.

Volunteers

We would like to thank the many volunteers who work so hard to keep Bethesda the lively and vibrant community it is. The church would not function without volunteers, and it would be wrong to single any one person out, from those who look after the gardens, to those who tirelessly undertake maintenance duties, to those who make coffee, lunches, arrange flowers, play musical instruments, act as treasurers, and all those who are responsible for various ministries and activities, without whom things simply wouldn't happen. The value of volunteering is significant, and greatly enhances the services that can be provided to the community.

Financial review

The trustees consider the financial position at the end of the year, as shown in the accounts on page 5, to be satisfactory. As a result of members being able to donate physically when the building was open, we saw the income for the year increase by 32% on the previous year when lockdown measures were in place. Despite giving continuing to mission and relief work in many countries throughout the world during the pandemic, expenditure was less as a result of the reduced activity in the building leading to a surplus in the year.

In terms of reserves, it is the policy of the charity to maintain (if possible) a balance on unrestricted funds to cover at least three months' anticipated expenditure. In addition, funding is set aside for the replacement of the church minibus; more significantly, the trustees are aware that upgrading of elements of the fabric of the building are necessary including roofing, heating and lighting. As a result, the Trustees are reviewing whether it may be an appropriate time to make other modifications to extend the useful life of the building. A significant element of the remaining balance may be required for this maintenance, repair and possible upgrade.

Approved by the trustees on 25th August 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



John Bodger, Trustee

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Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Receipts		
Offerings and gifts	44,154	35,782
Other income	-	-
Total receipts	<u>44,154</u>	<u>35,782</u>
Payments		
General property running expenses	4,656	3,353
Supported workers and gifts	15,576	19,072
Church outreach and activity costs	4,282	5,286
Total payments	<u>24,514</u>	<u>27,711</u>
Net receipts / (payments)	19,640	8,071
Cash funds at beginning of period	91,513	83,442
Cash funds at end of period	<u>111,153</u> =====	<u>91,513</u> =====

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31 December 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash funds: balance at bank	111,153	91,513
Net assets / total funds	<u>111,153</u> =====	<u>91,513</u> =====

Note: Assets held for the charity's own use are a minibus, and items of furniture and equipment where the resale value is not significant.

Approved by the trustees on 25th August 2022 and signed on their behalf by:


John Bodger, Trustee

Bethesda Cardiff

Report of the independent examiner to the trustees of Bethesda Cardiff (charity number 1157230) in respect of an examination carried out on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

I have examined the accounts on page 5, comprising the receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 December 2021 and the statement of assets and liabilities at that date.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

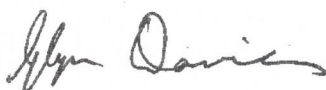
Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 the 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 in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Glyn J Davies BSc FCA CTA (Independent Examiner)
58 Bowham Avenue
Bridgend CF31 3PA

5th September 2022