

**Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

**Financial Statements for the**

**year ended 31 March 2023**

**Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

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**for the year to 31 March 2023**

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**Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

**CHARITY INFORMATION**

**Trustees**

Mrs Gloria Harriott  
Mr Jacob Harriott  
Mr Laswell Salmon  
Ms Nukline Jones  
Mr Patrick Morrison

**Charity Number**

**1157613**

**Charity Correspondence Address**

Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise  
3 Farrington Road  
Wolverhampton  
WV4 6QJ

**Independent Examiner**

Gary P Brookes FCA BSC FCIE  
130 Wombourne Park  
Wombourne  
South Staffs WV5 0LY

**Bankers**

Lloyds Bank  
Smethwick branch  
116 High Street  
Smethwick  
B66 1AE



**BETHEL APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF PRAISE (SMETHWICK)**  
Soho Close, Smethwick, West Midlands B66 2SS  
Telephone: 0121 565 0670 Email: Bacopsmethwick@gmail.com  
**Registered Charity No: 1157613**

## **REPORT APRIL 2022 – MARCH 2023**

The year 2022 to 2023 has been a challenging year for many of the members with personal losses having a great impact on the congregation. However, BACOP continues to thrive, with more visitors joining us on a Sunday morning for service. Some for whom it was the first time and others who had started revisiting after a long absence. This for us has been very encouraging, as we continue to serve the community and those around us.

Zoom meetings have continued online for those less able to congregate in the building on Sunday mornings, as well as Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon services in line with our usual weekly meetings for continuity. Sunday evening services continue to be held every second and fourth Sunday of the month in the church building.

### **Brotherhood Department**

The brotherhood department have been meeting regularly and have set up a dedicated WhatsApp group to support members/visitors who wish to join.

Regular prayer meetings are held on a local and district level to support and encourage the sick, elderly and vulnerable in the community/church.

A monthly initiative called "Breaking Bread" has commenced, where elderly men from the community get the opportunity to talk about their life experiences to a group of younger men. This is an informal gathering where the community can get a real insight into the lived experiences of these older men and have the opportunity to ask questions.

The number of attendees at the sessions have been growing month on month as the sessions track the lives of these men, from early childhood to present day.

The aim is to get the younger men/boys (in the same type of setting) to also talk to the older men about their lived experiences in order that both sides will get a better understanding of each other's perspective on life and lived experiences.

The final aim is that a joint activity will be undertaken at the end of 12 months, where the old and young will work together to achieve a specific task. It is hoped that with the trust built up over the previous 12 months, the experiences will be shared to make the outcome of the task successful.

Overall aims of the project are to:

- Reduce loneliness
- Provide a sense of worth
- Stimulate the mind
- Bridge the generation gap between the young and old
- Provide an opportunity for “mentoring” of the younger generation through discussion of lived experiences.
- Some children have not grown up with or had a constant father figure in their lives, this may help with gaining insight and trust in the older generation.
- Build/strengthen/appreciate relationships.

### **Women's Department**

The women have worked with the community to support and encourage them, having monthly online meetings. These meetings have included prayer meetings online and in person.

They have also consisted of mental health check ins, spiritual guidance, information sharing and planning of activities.

The women's department have hosted prayer and breakfast sessions on a Saturday morning to give the opportunity for the women to socialise with other women within the circuit. This meeting was also extended to the men to join us.

A Widow's High Tea was arranged for those attending the church, this again gave members the opportunity to socialise with others within the district.

Support teams were also set up in order for regular contact between the women.

Following on from the many losses over the past 12 months and those that are unable to attend in house services, fruit baskets and flowers were bought and distributed to the sick and bereaved.

Other events that have taken place within the department, were character studies of women in the bible, where the women were asked to pick a name out of the hat of a female bible character, study them and then do a presentation during our women's day service, which is held every second Sunday of the month, which was and is still being enjoyed by all involved.

The women have also continued to support local, district and national meetings in other assemblies, endeavouring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace and as an encouragement to others in their endeavours and will continue to do so.

### **Youth Department**

The youth department have continued to keep themselves busy by continuing to have their weekly youth meetings, which consist of bible quizzes, prayer meetings and bible discussions, which have been enjoyed by all ages.

They also participated in other local and district youth meetings throughout the year.

Despite the losses that have been suffered and felt these past few months, we are forever grateful to God, that we have also celebrated the addition of members to the congregation following the baptism of two more souls into the family of God. BACOP also continues to support those who have suffered loss by way of charitable donations towards funeral expenses etc.

The year 2022 to 2023 has in no way been an easy year for many of the BACOP assembly and those in our community, with the cost of living crisis, but we continue to do the work that we have been commissioned to do, which is to spread the gospel and be a support to those in and around our community. We also continue to support our chosen charity which is the Alzheimer's Society.

We are also pleased to report that BACOP bought and donated over 160 Christmas gifts to Barnardo's Children Centre in Smethwick and additional gifts for each member of the BACOP assembly included those that have visited and supported us throughout the year. It was very rewarding to see the smiles of those who received a gift, especially during these hard times.

We are so thankful to God for his continued blessings and guidance and look forward to an even better year ahead by His help.

*Approved on 9/6/2023  
by J. Harriett*

*Mr Jacob Harriett*





# Breaking Bread



Breaking bread is an open, informal space for different generations of men to converse and learn from each other.

In these monthly meetings the younger generation can hear about the life experiences and struggles of our treasured brothers, from childhood to now.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Contact Patrick Morrison on  
for more information.

Every month at  
BACOP

7pm-8:30pm

Starting 22nd of  
February 2023

BETHEL APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF PRAISE, SOHO CLOSE, SMETHWICH B66 2SS



## **Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

### **Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 March 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Receipts</b>				
Offerings	19,284	29,215	21,340	21,694
Gift Aid tax refund	6,246	8,838	5,307	5,657
	<u>25,530</u>	<u>38,053</u>	<u>26,647</u>	<u>27,351</u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Renovations	-	-	29,886	-
Equipment and repairs	750	1,720	1,655	40
Convention and social event costs	1,030	2,295	-	-
Utilities	3,426	2,354	1,471	2,371
Insurance	823	758	690	668
Telephone	401	540	560	469
Charity donations	2,655	145	540	120
Child protection	129	129	291	-
Governance	275	250	250	195
Musicians fee	-	230	-	-
IT and communications costs	-	520	-	-
Gifts to Childrens centre	774	-	-	-
Cleaning and hygiene	-	-	242	-
Security	-	-	216	174
Travel expenses	-	464	50	1,142
General maintenance	490	-	-	915
Stationery	-	-	-	65
	<u>10,753</u>	<u>9,405</u>	<u>35,851</u>	<u>6,159</u>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for Year</b>	<u>14,777</u>	<u>28,648</u>	<u>(9,204)</u>	<u>21,192</u>
<b>Funds Brought Forward</b>	128,416	99,768	108,972	87,780
<b>Funds Carried forward</b>	<u>£143,193</u>	<u>128,416</u>	<u>99,768</u>	<u>108,972</u>



## **Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

### **Statements of Assets and Liabilities at 31 March 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Current Bank Accounts	143,194	128,416	99,768	108,972
Total Bank Balances	<u>143,194</u>	<u>128,416</u>	<u>99,768</u>	<u>108,972</u>
<b>Other assets</b>				
Building	460,000	460,000	453,095	300,000
Chairs	2,150	2,400	2,400	2,500
Computer	1,300	1,500	2,305	710
Carpet and Linoleum	1,850	2,000	2,275	3,500
Pulpit	740	750	840	910
Stove	290	300	350	410
Mikes	265	275	325	350
Keyboard	285	300	300	340
Drum set	235	250	290	330
Amplifier	225	225	250	270
Table and Chairs	220	225	230	240
Fridge	35	40	55	95
Fitted Kitchen	1,430	-	-	1,800
Music Mixer	125	-	-	150
	<u>469,150</u>	<u>468,265</u>	<u>462,715</u>	<u>311,605</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts preparation and independent examination	275	275	250	250

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out for the year ended 31 March 2023 are as approved by the church trustees

Signed *J. Harriott*

Date *9/6/2023*

## **Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

I report to the trustees on the examination of the accounts of the Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise for the year ended 31 March 2023

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

### **Independent examiner's statement**

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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records

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

Signed : Gary Peter Brookes



Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and Association of Charity Independent Examiners

130, Wombourne Park, Wolverhampton WV5 0LY

Date: ...9/6/2023...