

# **Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

**Financial Statements for the**

**year ended 31 March 2025**

**Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

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**for the year to 31 March 2025**

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**Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

**CHARITY INFORMATION**

**Trustees**

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

**Charity Number**

**1157613**

**Charity Correspondence Address**

Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise  
91 Castle Road West  
Oldbury  
W Mids B68 0EL

**Independent Examiner**

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

**Bankers**

Lloyds Bank  
Smethwick branch  
116 High Street  
Smethwick  
B66 1AE

## **Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

### **Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2025**

#### **Governing Document**

The organisation is a charitable trust constituted by a Trust Deed adopted 18 March 2014 and registered with the charity commission 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014

#### **Trustees**

The trustees as named on page 1 have served throughout the period, except those who have been appointed or ceased to act as trustees during the current year, as indicated. New Trustees are chosen by invitation in order that the charity may have representation from a wide range of agencies. We match our skill requirements with knowledge and experience and where there are gaps we offer appropriate training.

#### **Trustee Induction and Training**

There are no specific policies and procedures for induction/training of trustees. However they are inducted according to individual requirements. A copy of the Charity's Trust Deed is supplied, along with the charity's policies and procedures and copies of recent board meeting minutes and accounts. Individual Trustees roles/responsibilities are negotiated with all the trustees so that their roles complement each other.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

To advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public particularly but not exclusively through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebration of religious festivals and producing and/or distributing literatures on the Christian faith to enlighten others about the faith.

Throughout the year the trustees have paid due regard to the Charities Commission's guidance on Public Benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance provided to charities for the advancement of religion.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

The year 2024 to 2025 began with a desire within BACOP, to continue to advance the Christian faith and also to develop a deeper engagement with our local community.

BACOP continues to hold weekly congregational meetings on Sundays, Tuesdays and afternoon prayer and fasting on Wednesday afternoons.

Additional prayer meetings and home visits are held within the community on request. 3 of the 4 Trustees were able to attend an in-person event run by the Charity

Commission on 6 June 2024 in Birmingham, relating to Trustee Roles and Responsibilities. This has helped us to continue to develop our knowledge and understanding of our roles.

Sandwell is one of the most deprived areas in the country and so BACOP arranged and funded a coach trip to Blackpool in August 2024. Half of the seats were reserved for the community who travelled free and we also provided free refreshments. We recognise that for some families, this may be the only time away that they get with their family. It has also allowed BACOP members to

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meet with community families in a very relaxed setting. This received a very positive response from the community.

BACOP also organised and paid for a Community Fun Day in our church car park, where again the community were invited to come along. We provided a bouncy castle, games, facepainting, competitions and food. This again provided BACOP members the opportunity to engage with our local community.

BACOP announced the launch of the **BACOP Academy**, which aims to help up to 10 children from within the local community with tuition in Maths and English.

This is for disadvantaged families within the community and is provided free of charge. BACOP pays for a qualified teacher who provides one hour of tuition per week to the group of children. The academy runs for 6 months and commenced in September 24 to March 25. We have received a very positive response from both children and parents and the children have reported an increase in confidence, especially in maths. Based on the positive response, we aim to continue the academy and at the time of writing, have already commenced the second year, which again commenced in September 2025 and will run until March 2026.

A MacMillian Coffee morning was held on 31 October 2024 where the total proceeds raised was £115.00.

BACOP continues to host the men's group Breaking Bread, which provides an informal and safe space for all men and boys to come together and talk. This group continues to grow and we have now conducted a skills audit of attendees, in order that targeted support can be provided from within the group.

At the beginning of March 2025, the Women of the church and within the community celebrated International Women's Day, where they came together to enjoy a day of relaxation, fun, music, food, pampering, socialising and some well-deserved 'me time'. This coming together proved to be such a success, that they will be looking to repeat this in the future. Everyone who attended left with their goodie bags, which was their parting highlight of the day.

We the Trustees have read and confirm the above to be an accurate account of the charity's activities from April 2024 to March 2025 and agree to support future ventures financially.

**.Future Plans**

To expand the work of BACOP, we aim to :-

- Further expand the evangelism of the faith
- Support the sick and those in need of support
- Increase of our knowledge and understanding of the gospel
- Continue with the BACOP Academy into the next financial year
- Provide and fully fund free day trip and fund for members of the community
- Provide and fully fund another free Fun Day in the carpark
- Continue to provide a safe place for men and boys to meet via monthly Breaking Bread Meetings

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**Financial Review**

The results of the Charity for the year are set out in the attached financial statements.

Once again a healthy surplus, this time of £20,698, has been achieved, which included the previous year's late gift aid tax refund plus approximately 6 months of the current year now reported.

The overall gift aid tax refund amounted to £8,281

A one off gift from Grace Church of £6,000 in addition to increased regular income i.e.. tithes and offerings, also boosted overall income from last years reported £16,093 to a very liberating and welcome £39,991 !

With this income increase a number of overdue repairs were carried out as well as some new initiatives, as reported above, were introduced as well as the meeting the inflation nudged regular costs e.g. increased utility costs such as heating etc. Consequently an overall expenditure at £19,293 was well up on previous year of £8,950

Total bank funds have increased once again and now stand at £171,035, up from £150,337 for the 2023-24 financial year.

Clearly this gave the trustees scope to advance some of its stated future plans with also the option to transfer some of these available funds into safe interest earning accounts .

**Reserves Policy**

The church is now at a stage to consider this, given that there are currently no paid clergy there is the opportunity to revisit and consider future or alternative building options ensuring that all building regulations and obligations are met in the meantime.

In the light of this a definitive reserves policy is not imperative at this stage of its existence.

**Risk Policy**

The Directors purpose to be aware of any major strategic, operational, and financial risks to the Charity. In the year ahead, all the major areas will be reviewed and kept up to date. The Church has a revised child protection policy and every adult who is involved in working with the children and young people in the Church is screened through independent body, 'ThirtyOne:eight' and undertakes to follow the guidelines provided for churches and utilise the resources offered. The Senior Leaders hold current enhanced DBS certificates as do other members of the Leadership Group and Trustees.

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**Trustees' Responsibilities**

Charity Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its financial activities for that year together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the year, adequately distinguishing any material, special trust or other restricted fund of the charity. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in its activities.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statements of Recommended Practice 2019 and the regulations made under section of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities. The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit.

Date of approval ..... 18/11/25 .....

Signature of Trustee .....  .....

NAME of TRUSTEE ..... Patrick Morrison .....

## **Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise**

### **Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>Total</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	31,710	16,093	19,284	29,215	21,340
Gift Aid tax refund	8,281	-	6,246	8,838	5,307
	<u>39,991</u>	<u>16,093</u>	<u>25,530</u>	<u>38,053</u>	<u>26,647</u>
<b>Payments</b>					
Renovations	-	-	-	-	29,886
Equipment and repairs	1,850	-	750	1,720	1,655
Convention and social event costs	1,180	1,306	1,030	2,295	-
Utilities	5,616	5,150	3,426	2,354	1,471
Insurance	915	901	823	758	690
Telephone	681	582	401	540	560
Charity donations	-	457	2,655	145	540
Child protection	329	145	129	129	291
Governance	295	295	275	250	250
Musicians fee	-	90	-	230	-
IT and communications costs	375	-	-	520	-
Gifts to Childrens centre	-	-	774	-	-
Cleaning and hygiene	-	-	-	-	242
Security	-	-	-	-	216
Travel expenses	-	-	-	464	50
General maintenance	1,599	24	490	-	-
Stationery	154	-	-	-	-
BACOP Academy	3,300	-	-	-	-
Social events	2,117	-	-	-	-
Community Mens Group (BB)	339	-	-	-	-
Sundries	543	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<u>19,293</u>	<u>8,950</u>	<u>10,753</u>	<u>9,405</u>	<u>35,851</u>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for Year</b>	<u>20,698</u>	<u>7,143</u>	<u>14,777</u>	<u>28,648</u>	<u>(9,204)</u>
<b>Funds Brought Forward</b>	150,337	143,193	128,416	99,768	108,972
<b>Funds Carried forward</b>	<u>£171,035</u>	<u>£150,336</u>	<u>£143,193</u>	<u>128,416</u>	<u>99,768</u>



## Bethel Apostolic Church of Praise

### Statements of Assets and Liabilities at 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £	2023 £	2022 £	2021 £
Current Bank Accounts	171,034	166,685	143,194	128,416	99,768
Total Bank Balances	<u>171,034</u>	<u>166,685</u>	<u>143,194</u>	<u>128,416</u>	<u>99,768</u>
<b>Other assets</b>					
Building	684,000	460,000	460,000	460,000	453,095
Chairs	1,650	1,900	2,150	2,400	2,400
Computer	900	1,100	1,300	1,500	2,305
Carpet and Linoleum	1,550	1,700	1,850	2,000	2,275
Pulpit	720	730	740	750	840
Stove	270	280	290	300	350
Mikes	245	255	265	275	325
Keyboard	255	270	285	300	300
Drum set	205	220	235	250	290
Amplifier	225	225	225	225	250
Table and Chairs	210	215	220	225	230
Fridge	25	30	35	40	55
Fitted Kitchen	1,060	1,245	1,430	-	-
Music Mixer	250	125	125	-	-
	<u>691,565</u>	<u>468,295</u>	<u>469,150</u>	<u>468,265</u>	<u>462,715</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Accounts preparation and independent examination	375	295	275	275	250

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out for the year ended 31 March 2025 are as approved by

Signed

*Patrick Morner*

Date

*18/11/25*

## **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 2025

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

The Charity's Trustees 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 trusts accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

### **Independent Examiners 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 in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act ;  
or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records ; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities ( Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination

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 

Name & Qualification Gary Peter Brookes FCA BSc  
FCA = Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants

Address 130 Wombourne Park , Wombourne, South Staffs , WV5 0LY

Date 12 / 11 /2025