

Life Community Baptist Church

Report and Accounts

year ended 30 September 2022

**LIFE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	10 Willow Road Horsham West Sussex RH12 4UN
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO registration December 2014
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1159548
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Rev. Peter Dibdin Sarah Hill (appointed Trustee 20/10/2021 and Secretary 26/11/2021) Julie Capas (appointed Treasurer 20/10/2021) John Coleman Maureen Coleman Patrick Hill (appointed Trustee 20/10/2021) Sarah Williams (appointed Trustee 20/10/2021) Anna Pisani (resigned as Trustee and Secretary 26/11/2021)
CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES	The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd
BANKERS	CAF Bank Lloyds Bank Baptists Together Deposit Account
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimée Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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**LIFE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2022.

**Objects of the charity**

The charity, which is a church, is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. The charity's principal objects, as set out in its governing document, are the advancement of the Christian faith and education at home and overseas.

**Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements**

In October 2021, we stood at a crossroads, asking God the way ahead. Following the Lord's leading, three new people joined the Trustees Team, and the church appointed new people into the roles of Church Secretary and Treasurer. Following a church wide envisioning process, we have re-evaluated our mission and ministry in terms of:

- Being intentionally relational as the family of God
- Nurturing one another for Whole Life Discipleship, and
- Releasing people into their Frontline Mission

As part of this, we put plans into place to introduce new ways of gathering on Sunday mornings. On the first Sunday of the month, we now offer a themed conversation in a town centre café or a walk, talk and prayer around the local area. From October 2022, a monthly meal on the third Sunday of the month will be introduced, featuring a home cooked meal, communion and a testimony style after dinner story. Services continue on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, with an intentional whole life focus expressed through sung worship, prayer and Biblical teaching. For these services, people are able to join together onsite at the Phoenix Club, live on zoom or catch up on demand via our website.

A key missional focus for the church is equipping and releasing people into Whole Life Discipleship, an approach that encourages our members to be mission engaged as they live out their faith through their everyday lives, at home, at work and socially.

Our three Life Groups have continued to offer support to their members, meeting either in person where possible or online via Zoom, or a combination of both. We also added a discipleship group that meets fortnightly.

Towards the end of the year, the church began working towards an Eco Church Bronze Award, to increase our environmental awareness and make a positive impact towards caring for God's creation.

The number of Church members at the beginning of the church year was 31 (with several non-members who regularly attend our Sunday gatherings and small groups). During the year, we had 4 resignations and 2 new members, reducing the overall membership to 29 by the end of September 2022.

The Church employed a part time Administrator for 10 hours per week until 26 November 2021.

During the year, we managed to simplify the way our church families give to the Moldovan and African projects, so that individuals now give directly to these charities rather than through the church accounts. The monies which we were holding have been transferred to the respective charities as well as the gift aid refund.

In June 2022, the church adopted a new safeguarding policy for children and vulnerable adults, based on the Baptist Union's model policy, safeguarding procedures and best practice guidelines.

In planning the activities the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

## **Financial review**

During the year, income decreased by £6,162 to £44,974 and expenditure increased by £711 to £54,431. As a result, the cash held by the charity decreased by £9,457 to £29,263. As an overspend during the year was expected, the trustees decided to make two transfers from our savings account totalling £12,000.

Good news was received when we were informed that the pension deficit liability the church would need to pay in the event of a cessation event (such as closure) had been reduced to administrative costs and, following the signing of the contract with the insurance company Just Group ('Just'), the scheme is now in surplus for the first time in around 20 years. The Deficit Repair Contributions were therefore reduced to a minimal level of £1 per month from August 2022 onwards.

We applied for a Home Mission Church Growth Grant from the South Eastern Baptist Association (SEBA), which was approved to the sum of £6,000. The monthly payment of £500 starts in January 2023. We are eligible to apply on an annual basis, with the expectation that SEBA's standard practice is to provide a minimum of three years funding, decreasing 5% per annum.

## **Reserves policy**

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £25,000 (which equates to about 6 months' of unrestricted expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and/or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted funds of £29,243 and is complying with its reserves policy.

## **Governance**

The Church is governed by a leadership team (all trustees) who currently meet once a month to set policy and review the activities of the Church. A resolution was passed at a Special Church Members Meeting, amending the constitution with clauses to allow participation in church members meetings through electronic means.

## **Responsibilities of trustees**

Charity law requires us as trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

## **Approval**

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Rev. Peter Dibdin  
Date: 23/04/2023

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
LIFE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Life Community Baptist Church ('the charity') for the year ended 30 September 2022 on pages 5 to 8 following.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

Jaimée Young

Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
LONDON  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 27th April 2023

**LIFE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income receipts</b>						
Donations		35,835	0	410	36,245	42,075
Gift aid receipts		7,906	0	188	8,094	8,944
Miscellaneous (HCT Refund)		405	0	0	405	0
Interest		230	0	0	230	117
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>44,376</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>44,974</b>	<b>51,136</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	49,471	0	0	49,471	51,318
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	3,415	0	1,545	4,960	2,402
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>52,886</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,545</b>	<b>54,431</b>	<b>53,720</b>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		-8,510	0	-948	-9,458	-2,584
Transfers between funds	5	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-8,510</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-948</b>	<b>-9,458</b>	<b>-2,584</b>
Cash funds as at last year end		37,753	0	968	38,721	41,305
<b>Cash funds at this year end</b>	A	<b>29,243</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>29,263</b>	<b>38,721</b>

The notes on pages 7-8 form part of these accounts.

**LIFE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>A Cash funds</b>					
Held at banks (CAF and Lloyds)	14,759	0	20	14,779	12,461
Notice deposits	14,484	0	0	14,484	26,260
	<b>29,243</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>29,263</b>	<b>38,721</b>
<b>B Other monetary assets</b>					
Gift aid due to charity	3,549	0	0	3,549	4,300
Tenancy deposit	1,792	0	0	1,792	1,792
	<b>5,341</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,341</b>	<b>6,092</b>
<b>C Liabilities</b>					
<b>Falling due within one year:</b>					
Pension scheme payments	0	0	0	0	2,636
Fee for Independent Examination	660	0	0	660	660
	660	0	0	660	3,296
<b>Falling due after one year:</b>					
Pension scheme deficit	Note 6	0	0	0	46,164
		0	0	0	46,164
<b>Total</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>49,460</b>

The Payments towards the pension scheme deficit in the course of this year are included in Note 6. The current arrangements only last as long as there is a Minister in post.

<b>D Assets retained for charity's own use</b>	2022 value	2021 value
	£	£
Equipment	10,000	14,486
	<b>10,000</b>	<b>14,486</b>

The trustees have used insurance values as the trustees are unable to reliably estimate current values; insurance values may differ materially from current values.

**E Guarantees and secured debts**

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by Rev. Peter Dibdin date 23/04/2023

The notes on pages 7-8 form part of these accounts.

**LIFE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**1 Accounting policies**

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted	Total	Total
	General	Designated	Funds	2022	2021
	funds	funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly</b>					
<i>Ministry:</i>					
Stipends	16,486	0	0	16,486	16,339
Employer Pension	4,833	0	0	4,833	4,888
Accommodation costs (Rent/Council Tax/Water)	21,237	0	0	21,237	20,314
Reimbursed expenses	787	0	0	787	725
Hire of hall	2,448	0	0	2,448	364
Telephone	379	0	0	379	431
Equipment	0	0	0	0	38
Training	185	0	0	185	0
Outreach, evangelism, other ministry activities	0	0	0	0	0
Catering	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Support and Administration:</i>					
Administrative Salaries	942	0	0	942	5,705
Office expenses	0	0	0	0	323
Insurance, licenses and other fees	1,024	0	0	1,024	1,124
Accounts preparation and examination	660	0	0	660	960
Other costs (gifts and bank charges)	490	0	0	490	107
	<u>49,471</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>49,471</u>	<u>51,319</u>

**3 Grants and gifts paid to others**

<i>Organisations:</i>					
African Orphanage Project (Home of Peace)	145	0	180	325	300
SEBA Home Mission Fund	2,625	0	0	2,625	0
Moldova Charity	0	0	1,365	1,365	0
Horsham Churches Together	120	0	0	120	453
Ashburnham Place Conference Centre	0	0	0	0	500
African Project (Rural Pastors)	300	0	0	300	300
Other organisations (less than £500)	225	0	0	225	722
<i>Individuals:</i>	0	0	0	0	128
	<u>3,415</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,545</u>	<u>4,960</u>	<u>2,402</u>



**LIFE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**4 Transactions with related parties**

Peter Dibdin served as a church leader and received net pay of £16,944 [2021: £16,339] for serving in that capacity, not for serving as a trustee. These payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £21,237 [2021: £20,745] in respect of the provision of accommodation (which is customary for ministers) for Peter Dibdin, a trustee, so that they could better perform their duties.

The trustee Anna Pisani received net pay £942 [2021: £5,704] in her capacity of part-time administrator, and not as a trustee, as permitted by the governing document. She resigned this post on 26/11/2021.

No other trustee received any payment of expenses other than reimbursement of expenditure incurred by them on behalf of the church.

**5 Movement of funds**

	Balance at 30Sep2021	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 30Sep2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	37,753	44,376	-52,886		29,243
	37,753	44,376	-52,886	0	29,243
Restricted funds					
Moldova Fund	968	418	-1,365	0	20
Africa Fund	0	180	-180	0	0
	968	598	-1,545	0	20
Total funds	38,721	44,974	-54,431	0	29,263

The Moldova Fund relates to donations given for the support of the Church in Malcoci, Moldova.

Africa Fund relates to funds donated for the purpose of supporting the work of the Home of Peace Orphanage in Kenya.

**6 The Baptist Pension Scheme**

Previously the Baptist Pension Scheme's now closed defined benefit scheme had been reporting a funding deficit and the charity had been making contributions to help make good the shortfall. The Baptist Pension Scheme provided estimates for the charity's share of the funding deficit and the estimate at the year end was included as a monetary liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

In July 2022 the Baptist Pension Scheme reached an agreement with an insurance company, called Just, to secure the benefits payable under the now closed defined benefit pension scheme ('DB Scheme'). The premium payable to Just was favourable and, after the transaction with Just, the DB Scheme no longer has a funding deficit. It will take some time to complete the process and, until it is complete, some risks remain. Based on current values the Baptist Pension Scheme believes it has sufficient assets to complete the process without requiring additional contributions from participating employers but, because some risks do remain, the charity has been asked to make a nominal monthly contribution of £1 to the DB Scheme from August 2022.