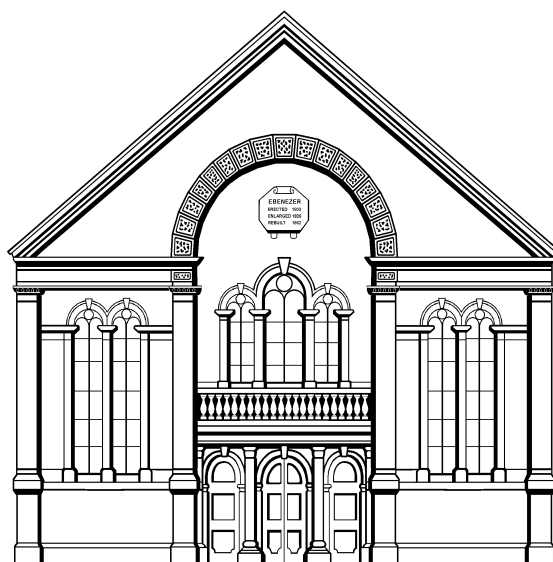


EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

(a Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation in England & Wales - Number: 1159628)



Ebenezer Street, Swansea

Website: www.ebenezer.org.uk

Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Financial Activities

(Annual Return and Accounts)

for the year ending

31st March 2022

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EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, SWANSEA

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the year ending 31st March 2022. The trustees believe that the financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the Charity's governing documents.

Charity Objectives

- (1) The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Swansea and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- (2) Such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the members of the Church in general meeting further the work of the Church.

It does this for the public benefit by means of its main activities which are as follows. Those denoted with a * have been partially held on-line due to the pandemic and in the building when permissible. Those with a (p) are paused until we can safely continue with them.

- Regular morning and evening Sunday public Services of worship *
- Visiting preachers, missionaries, and speakers
- Sunday School *
- Friday evening children's and Young People's meetings *
- Mother and Toddlers' Group on Monday morning (p)
- Ladies' Meetings on Tuesday afternoons *
- Bible Study & Prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings *
- English Classes on Thursday evenings (p)
- Monthly daytime Men's Meetings *
- Regular House Group Meetings (p)
- Visiting of and distribution of literature to the local community
- Support (financially, practically and in prayer) of other Christian workers/organizations in the UK and overseas.
- Other free-to-attend events such as Carol Services and special interest meetings
- Easter Cracked and Christmas Wrapped up (p) events for schools
- Hospitality to students (p)
- Monthly tutoring of a ministerial student*
- Attendance at AECW (Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales) conferences and events.

Charity Details

Address of The Charity:

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Ebenezer Street, Swansea, SA1 5BJ

Correspondence Address

Mr. Daniel Towers, 5 Clos-Yr-Allt, Townhill, Swansea SA1 6RD

Trustees of Ebenezer Baptist Church

At the time of this report:

Elders: Rev. Graham John (Pastor), Mr. David Evans, Mr. Alwyn Roberts, Mr David Tucker, Dr Emmanuel Owoso.

Mr David Evans stepped down as an Elder and Trustee November 2021. He has served the church faithfully as a trustee, Elder and Deacon for many years. We wholeheartedly thank him for his faithful service over many years.

Deacons: Mr. Jonathan Harvey, Mr. Daniel Towers (Secretary), Mr. David West (Treasurer), Mr. Paul Watkins, Dr Emmanuel Owoso, Mr John Matthews (Dr Owoso became an elder in March 2022)

Holding Trustees

There is no longer a holding trustee. Ebenezer Baptist Church (Swansea) became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (herein referred to as CIO)

Independent Examiner

The independent examiner for Ebenezer Baptist Church at the time of this report is: **Henry Lloyd Davies**

Bevan Buckland LLP, Langdon House, Langdon Road, Swansea Waterfront SA1 8QY

Bank Address

Lloyds Bank - 802 Oxford St, Swansea SA1 3AF

Organization

The CIO is administered by the trustees who are listed above. New trustees are appointed by resolution of the members of the charity in accordance with the constitution. They remain in office until their resignation, disqualification, or until their four-year term of office expires, in accordance with the church constitution.

Paid Trustees

Rev. Graham John (Pastor)

Wilfred (John) Matthews (Cleaner)

Activities

Despite the Covid 19 (Coronavirus) pandemic we have remained an active and vibrant church, providing charitable benefit locally, nationally, and internationally.

Regular Meetings

The regular meetings on a Sunday and during the week, have continued throughout the year.

The church went to great lengths to allow in-building meetings to continue safely. Socially distanced, allocated seating was provided, along with regular cleaning, sanitization gel, masks, and the like. All guidelines provided by the Welsh Assembly Government were carefully followed. We are thankful to God that very few in our congregation have been affected by Covid. We thank those who volunteered to arrange the allocated seating every week to ensure everyone was sat safely. The evening service moved back to the building on the 4th of July. Communion was held safely using special "covid" packs of individual cups of wine, incorporating a wafer into the lid.

Singing has been greatly affected by the pandemic. We have mimed along to congregational singing broadcast on our screens, and then sung quietly behind masks once we were permitted to do so. It was good to eventually be allowed to sing again.

It has been a year of transition for us as we have gradually moved out of covid and back to normality. We continue to offer socially distanced seating for those who want to use it.

Members who have no internet at home were provided with sim-card enabled Samsung tablets to be able to join in the Sunday services on YouTube and the Ladies' fellowship and prayer meeting & bible study via Zoom.

God has continued to bless us with ministry on a Sunday which has been a challenge, encouragement, and stimulus to our faith, as well as informative to those who are interested in knowing more and learning about the Christian faith. We are very thankful for our Pastor, Graham John, who faithfully studies and preaches God's word to us week by week. We have safely welcomed visitors from different parts of the country, as well as people from the local community, who now meet with us regularly. We also enjoy the regular company of students who are studying at Swansea's various universities and colleges. Sadly, we have been unable to extend hospitality to the students in the form of Sunday meals with church families due to the pandemic, but every effort has been made to stay in touch and offer help where required. We will resume student hospitality as soon as it is safe and permissible to do so.

Several meetings ran throughout the week during term time. Some were on Zoom and others in person, as we transitioned back to meeting face to face. These meetings were open to all and were offered free of charge. All were staffed by volunteers. The meetings included Sunday School, Men's daytime fellowship, Ladies' meeting, Bible study & prayer meeting, Gladiators (children's club), Footsteps (children's club), TAG (youth meeting) and the Apprentices group. Sadly, we were unable to restart the Busy Bees toddlers' group for various reasons, and we thank those who volunteered to run it over many years. We aim to restart this group when we can. The youth meetings we held outdoors whenever possible.

In January we held a week of prayer to commit the work of the church to God and pray for His blessing.

We ran a "passion for life" course to help us develop ourselves as individuals in sharing the good news about Jesus with others. The tract stand outreach resumed in November.

Visiting Speakers

It is a privilege to hear the word of God preached by Christians from all over the UK and the wider world, and to hear reports on how God's work is progressing in other places. This allows us to be aware of the physical and spiritual needs of those outside of our own fellowship, for encouragement and to promote generosity to the needy and our own prayerfulness. David Beddows (Neath) preached on the 2nd of May. Heledd Job (Ireland) spoke with us about her work amongst the students on the 5th of May. John Lutas from Asia Link joined us on Wednesday 15th Sept. July the 18th Rev Eifion Perkins (Noddfa) took our services. Adam Urban (Siedlce Poland) and Andrew Birch (director of the European Missionary Fellowship) joined us in November. On January 26th Ben and Esther Smith spoke to us about their work with Casa Mea in Moldova. On February 20th Sam Oldridge (Wrexham) took our services. On March 13th Ian Middlemist (Haverfordwest) took our services.

Easter Activities

We were unable to run Holiday Bible Club or Easter Cracked in 2021 due to the pandemic. However, during March 2022 we began planning for Easter Cracked (where schools visit the church to learn about the Easter story), and safely welcomed Waunwen, Gendros and Bryn-y-Mor schools to the church just before the end of the financial year.

Christmas Activities

Our regular Christmas activities were cancelled due to the pandemic. We held a Carol on Sun, 19 December and a Christmas morning service.

We distributed some 2,000 "Ask" magazines in the area, sharing the good news of Christmas with our neighbours.

We enjoyed a New Year's Eve get-together on Zoom, providing an opportunity for fellowship for families, individuals and those who otherwise would see the New Year in alone.

Births and Deaths

We congratulated David and Gaynor Bartlett on becoming grandparents again. We congratulated Dave and Ann Evans on becoming grandparents again. Sonya Jones was called home to be with her Saviour during the winter. We shall miss her. Her funeral took place on January 6th. We held a memorial service for John Rowlands in September (the first opportunity after the pandemic).

Fellowship

Is as much as the pandemic would allow us, we provided opportunities for fellowship. Loneliness has been one of the saddest features of the pandemic, and generally of today's society. Our church provides a warm welcome and friendship to all who seek it. We met as a church in Cwmdonkin park for our annual church outing during the summer. This covid-safe event was well attended and enjoyed by all. Several families joined us who do not usually attend the church.

Mission

We have continued to support Christian Organizations and individual Christian workers in prayer and through financial support. Some of this support has been in the form of one-off gifts while others are supported on a regular basis.

As is our practice, around 8 of our men regularly went out to preach in churches in South and West Wales offering support to churches without pastors, or simply as guest speakers.

Special collections & Grants

Around the 16th of May, following a special collection from the congregation, we sent a gif of £17,060 to Kachwa hospital in India where a missionary couple we support are based. The gift was for the purchase of oxygen generating equipment to provide them with and other local medical establishments with a reliable supply of oxygen for treating covid patients. We thank the congregation for their generosity in this matter.

On Sunday, July 25th we held a special collection to relieve the suffering of Christians in Moldova

Following what we heard from Asia Link in the prayer meeting, we held special collection on Sunday the 26th and 3rd of October to support the work. We raised a gift of £1,500 to purchase motorbikes to allow pastors to travel between churches and visit their congregations.

On Sundays 6th, 13th, and 20th of March 2022 we held special collections to raise money for the EMF 50,000 Euro campaign to help alleviate suffering caused by the war in Ukraine. As a church we are deeply saddened by what has happened in Ukraine. The EMF (European Missionary Fellowship) distributed the gifts to known and trusted pastors and missionaries in the areas around Ukraine as they try to provide food, shelter and comfort to those fleeing the war.

Resignation of trustees

David Evans resigned as a trustee during this period. We thank him for his valuable contribution to the church over many years as a Deacon, Elder and Trustee. Emmanuel Owoso was set aside as an Elder, changing his role from deacon during the year.

Buildings & Facilities

Various members of the congregation worked on the church buildings during the year to help keep them safe and in good decorative order. We thank all those involved in keeping the buildings safe, in good repair and fit for purpose, especially those who give of their time, skills and energy freely on a voluntary basis.

We continue to strive to make sure the buildings are safe, in good repair and fit for purpose so that we can use them to help carry out our charitable aims and objectives.

It is a very large building, and various jobs could be carried out safely, even during the pandemic. The buildings were regularly heated, cleaned, and maintained even when they were not in use. As owners of a Grade 2 star listed building, we make every effort to continue with a rolling programme of works to keep it in good order for the benefit of the charity and its work. Sadly, the mission hall and adjoining kitchen deteriorated to a point where they were no longer fit for purpose. We began the process of raising the £130,000 needed to begin a complete renovation of both in April 2022.

Funding

Our funds are received mainly from the members and those attending our services. The trustees consider the financial position of the Charity to be satisfactory, and that sufficient and appropriate reserves are held to safeguard the future operations of the Charity

Accounts 2020 / 2021

ACCOUNTS 2021 / 2022

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH SWANSEA (1159628)

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Swansea (1159628)

Unrestricted Funds For the financial year ended on 31st March 2022

Receipts	2021-2022	2020-2021	Notes
Gift Aid	£70,236	£72,137	
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid	£19,840	£16,244	
non-Gift Aid	£17,570	£14,337	
Funds Transfer	£0	£75	
Total Receipts	£107,646	£102,793	
Payments	2021-2022	2020-2021	Notes
MEC/EMW	£1,000	£1,000	
AsiaLink	£600	£0	
UFM (Mervyn Neal)	£4,200	£3,350	
EMF (Sandor Keleman)	£5,400	£5,400	
UFM (Alan Davey)	£3,000	£3,250	
PTI	£1,500	£1,500	
UCCF	£1,200	£1,200	
Union	£1,100	£1,100	
UFM (Heledd Job)	£2,750	£2,000	
STM	£0	£0	
CBW	£1000	£250	
Non-UK Support	£5,475	£1,300	1
PHM	£660	£50	
UK Support	£6,727	£1,685	2
Flowers / Catering	£244	£29	
Advertising	£136	£136	
Youth Work	£237	£206	
Salaries - Pastor	£27,515	£27,027	
Manse Charges	£9,237	£9,237	
Pension Scheme	£3,669	£3,566	
Pastor/ Elder Expenses	£585	£575	
Visiting Speakers	£790	£835	
Professional Fees	£85	£0	
Buildings - Maintenance	£2,897	£11,010	3
Salaries - Others	£5,806	£5,681	
Premises Insurance	£2,548	£2,409	
Organ Maintenance	£0	£337	
Library	£395	£200	
Utilities	£3,341	£3,614	
Office expenses	£2,571	£1,786	
Funds Transfer	£0	£75	
Total Payments	£94,668	£88,806	
Net of Receipts/ (Payments)	£12,978	£13,987	
Opening Cash Funds	£36,171	£22,184	
Closing Cash Funds	£49,149	£36,171	

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Swansea

Restricted Funds	2021-2022	2020-2021	
Receipts			
Gift Aid - Stewardship	£200	£0	Notes 4
Gift Aid – HMRC	£21,850	£16,860	
Tax recovered	£2,787	£4,565	
non Gift Aid	£6,306	£550	
Rent	£8,820	£485	
Total Receipts	£39,963	£22,460	
Payments			
	2021-2022	2020-2021	Notes
Non – UK Support	£15,243	£2,350	
Relief Agencies	£16,755	£0	
UK Support	£0	£0	
Compassion Ministry	£0	£0	
Pastor Expenses	£0	£0	
Buildings Maintenance	£182	£423	
Buildings Improvements	£0	£39,618	
Utilities	-£284	£860	
Council Tax (House)	£0	£393	
Office Expenses	£0	£40	
Total Payments	£31,896	£43,683	
Net of Receipts/ (Payments)	£8,067	-£21,223	
Opening Cash Funds	£21,252	£42,475	
Closing Cash Funds	£29,319	£21,252	

Notes to the Annual Accounts

- 1 A large grant to a hospital in India for Covid facilities was made this year from general funds
- 2 A grant to a local church for a new building was made from general funds.
- 3 The effects of Covid restrictions has prevented many essential building repairs from being carried out.
- 4 The income from the tenancy of chapel house started in the current year.

Page 3 Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Cash Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted
Current Account	£49,150	£29,319
Liabilities	None	None
Assets retained for the church		
Church Building	£2,539,000	(Insurance rebuild valuation 10/01/22)
Organ	£206,000	
Equipment & Fittings	£1,500	

Page 4 Treasurers' Report

These comments apply to the Unrestricted – General fund which is used for most of the regular church activities.

For the reported year (2021/22) the officers agreed an income budget of £103,800. The actual income of £107,645 represents an increase of 5% over the previous year.

Total income in recent years has been : (Rounded to the nearest £100)

2020-2021	£102,800
2019-2020	£100,400
2018-2019	£103,400
2017-2018	£91,700

The expenditure budget was £101,320 and the actual expenditure of £94,667 represents an increase of 7% over the previous year.

Total expenditure in recent years has been : (Rounded to the nearest £100)

2020-2021	£88,800
2019-2020	£107,100
2018-2019	£88,100
2017-2018	£95,000

The trustees (officers) monitor the church finances monthly and aim to achieve a balance of income and expenditure over the financial year.

For the current year (2022-2023) the Officers have agreed an income budget of £106,400 and an expenditure budget of £147,100 implying a deficit situation and a decrease in reserves by £40,700 to £8,500. The deficit is caused by the cost of extensive renovation to the church buildings currently being carried out.

In addition to our regular agreed support itemised in the summary we have made grants to :

South Asia Concern, India	£12060	Kachwa Hospital Covid Oxygen Equipment
UFM, South Africa	£3255	Musawenkosi Orphanage
Asialink, Myanmar	£1500	Pastor Motorcycle
EMF	£1000	??
EMF, Ukraine	£16755	Refugee Relief



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Ebenezer Baptist Church

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1159628

Set out on pages

1 and 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/22.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

Name: Henry Lloyd Davies

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

A.C.A

Address:

Bevan Buckland LLP

Langdon House, Langdon Road, Swansea SA1 8QY

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.