

### **Aims and purposes**

The aim of the church (as set out in its Constitution) is to bring glory to God and advance the Christian faith by strengthening the personal faith and witness of its members and by communicating the Gospel of Jesus Christ to other people in the locality and beyond.

In fulfilling this aim the Church, in prayerful submission to the authority of Scripture, endeavours to:

- pursue the worship of God, centred on the preaching and teaching of the Bible;
- cultivate a caring fellowship that encourages and builds up its members;
- share the good news of Jesus through local outreach and by supporting missionary work further afield; and
- demonstrate the love of God by meeting needs in the local community.

### **Objectives and activities**

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The church is committed to encouraging and enabling as many people as possible to worship with us and become part of the church family in order to grow in the Christian faith. The church is also committed to providing pastoral care and support for its members and others with whom it has connections. In addition the church seeks to undertake appropriate mission and outreach work in its locality and to support through prayer and finance mission and outreach work in other parts of the world.

The church operates from a building in Newhall Street, Princes End, Tipton. In order to facilitate the work of the church through its various activities, to create a welcoming environment and to honour God, the church seeks to maintain the fabric of the building to an appropriate standard.

## **Achievements and performance**

### *Worship, Bible study and Prayer*

Sunday morning services followed teaching series on the books of Judges, Matthew, Psalms and 1 Corinthians with separate short series around Easter and Christmas. Numbers remained relatively strong at this service and we were pleased to welcome many visitors, some for whom we have provided a place of sanctuary for a short period of time and others who have chosen to settle with us and have become regular attenders. The monthly evening service continued as did a prayer meeting on Zoom on two other Sunday evenings per month. Sunday morning services continued to be live streamed allowing access to services for those who are housebound, those who are unable to attend on a particular Sunday for whatever reason and those who might find the church via the internet.

We continued a monthly prayer day with morning and lunch time prayer sessions on Zoom and an evening session both in person and on Zoom. Generally speaking this worked well and provided an increased opportunity for participation.

Midweek meetings (Grace Groups) also continued across the year and saw an increase in those attending. Most of these were in person groups with one evening Zoom group for those less able to travel.

During 2023 one member transferred out to another church, one member was transferred to the Honorary Members list and four new members joined the church. At the end of 2023 membership stood at 51.

The church continued to employ a full-time Staff Elder (who worked alongside the other Elders in leading and developing the work of the church) and a part-time church worker whose role is focussed on ministry to the elderly, discipling women in the church and building contacts with families connected to the church.

### *Church building*

Only minor repair, maintenance and decoration works were undertaken across the year as required.

### *Children and Youth work*

The church Boys' Brigade company with Girls' Association (3<sup>rd</sup> West Bromwich) continued to be very active in 2023. Numbers remained strong with about 45 children and young people in the age range 5-18 years taking part in weekly activities. The Company played a full part in activities organised by the Wolverhampton Battalion of which it is a part.

### *Stay and Play*

Our stay and play group for pre-school children and their carers also functioned as normal across the whole year during term time with up to 23 children taking part each week.

### *Older people*

The ministry for retired people, Daybreak, became further embedded in the life of the church during 2023. Meeting twice each month the group aims to provide fellowship, support and spiritual input for older people. The group had between 15 and 25 people attending sessions across the year.

### *Community involvement*

A small team continued to provide monthly services at a local care home, Bloomfield Court which were appreciated by the residents who attended.

We were again able to undertake Christmas carol singing at our local Asda store giving out invitations to our Christmas services.

### **Financial Review**

Total income for the year amounted to £69,363. Expenditure totalled £66,751 giving a surplus for the year of £2,612.

Offerings amounted to £54,701 compared to £50,823 in 2022. The Gift Aid tax reclaim was £8,920, a reduction of around £500 over the previous year.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Elders seek to maintain reserves in the order of one year's expenditure to allow for the loss of offertory income for whatever reason, to provide for major repair or maintenance costs and to ensure sufficient funds to maintain and potentially expand pastoral ministry. At 31 December 2021 unrestricted reserves stood at £88,000.

### **Volunteers**

The church expresses its thanks to the many volunteers who assist with all aspects of the church's work and without whom many church activities simply would not take place.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The church is a charitable incorporated organisation (registered charity number 1162960) governed by a Constitution registered with the Charity Commission on 3 August 2015 as amended in 2021 and 2023.

Church members elect Elders who are responsible for the day to day management of the church and as such are charity trustees. Responsibility for certain key decisions such as calling a pastor or approving major work on the church building rests with the whole church membership in general meeting. The Elders who served during the year were:-

Mr T Ambrose

Mr P Watts (Secretary and Treasurer)

Mr B Turner

Mr D Hardway

**Administrative information**

The church is situated at Newhall Street, Princes End, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 9HL.

The correspondence address is 3 Waring Close, Princes End, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 9NW.

**P WATTS**  
**Secretary**



# Annual Accounts for the period

Period start date 01/01/23 To Period end date 31/12/23

Charity Name GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH Charity No (if any) 1162960

## Section A Statement of financial activities

Descriptions by natural category	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
<b>Incoming resources (Note 3)</b>						
OFFERINGS		54,701			54,701	50,823
DONATIONS		2,427	732		3,159	1,773
GIFT AID REFUNDS		8,920	180		9,100	9,407
INTEREST		1,793			1,793	2,261
OTHER INCOME		1,522	1,468		2,990	7,164
SUBSCRIPTIONS		0	1,698		1,698	1,476
<b>Total incoming resources</b> S01		69,363	4,078		73,441	72,904
<b>Resources expended (Notes 4-7)</b>						
SAALARIES/PENSION/EXPENSES		43,912			43,912	40,254
INSURANCES		1,687			1,687	1,351
LIGHT+HEAT+WATER		1,982			1,982	1,772
REPAIRS+RENEWALS		4,575			4,575	40,870
MISC. INC TELEPHONE+BROADBAND		1,454			1,454	1,998
EVANGELISM+YOUTH		2,042			2,042	1,210
DONATIONS-GIFTS-FEES		7,410	2,100		9,510	13,561
TRANSPORT		0			0	0
P/COPYING/PRINTING/ADMIN		2,480			2,480	2,774
EQUIPMENT		1,209	177		1,386	2,742
SPECIAL EVENTS		0	2,092		2,092	1,726
<b>Total resources expended</b> S02		66,751	4,369		71,120	108,228
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b> S03		2,612	(291)		2,321	(35,324)
<b>Gross transfers between funds</b> S04						
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)</b> S05		2,612	(291)		2,321	(35,324)
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use S06						
Gains and losses on investment assets S07						
<b>Net movement in funds</b> S08						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b> S09		234,488	4,250		238,738	274,062
<b>Total funds carried forward</b> S10		237,100	3,959		241,059	238,738

	Note	Total this year £ F01	Total last year £ F02
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	(Note 8) B01	137,461	137,461
	B02		
Investments	(Note 9) B03		
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	B04	137,461	137,461
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stock and work in progress	B05		
Debtors	(Note 10) B06	6,750	2,326
(Short term) investments	B07		
Cash at bank and in hand	B08	88,264	84,278
<b>Total current assets</b>	B09	88,264	84,278
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 11) B10	1,998	2,696
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>	B11	83,512	81,582
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	B12	220,973	219,043
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 11) B13		
Provisions for liabilities and charges	B14		
<b>Net assets</b>	B15		
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Unrestricted funds	B16	220,973	219,043
Designated funds	B17		
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>		220,973	219,043
Restricted income funds	(Note 12) B18		
Endowment funds	(Note 12) B19		
<b>Total funds</b>	B20	220,973	219,043

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Date of approval

P. Watts

14/5/24



# 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

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1162960

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD/MM/YYYY.

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:

20/04/24

Name:

DAVID TURNER

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

Address:

110 FARMER WAY, TIPTON

WEST MIDLANDS, DY4 0BL

**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.**