

# Dunstable Baptist Church

## 2024 Trustees' Annual Report

### Section A Reference and Administrative Details

#### Full Name and Principle Address

Dunstable Baptist Church, St Mary's Gate, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 3SW

#### Registered Charity Number

1164112

#### Financial Year

1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

#### Trustees

The managing trustees are the elders and deacons of Dunstable Baptist Church who are responsible for Church funds and the running of the Church.

The trustees who served during 2024 were:

Steve Burton	Pastor & Elder	Whole Year
Jeff Hewitt	Elder & Chairman	Whole Year
Nigel Browne	Deacon	Whole Year
Robert Davies	Deacon	Whole Year
Graham Starkey	Deacon	Whole Year
Matt Gudgeon	Deacon	Since April 2024

#### Professional Advisers

Grace Baptist Trust Corporation, 19 Croydon Road, Caterham, Surry, CR3 6PA

### Section B Structure, Governance and Management

#### Governing Document

Dunstable Baptist Church Constitution, Version 1 dated 28th January 2015

#### Appointments of Trustees/Church Leaders

The Trustees/Church Leaders were appointed by resolutions of the Church and every new appointment will be made in the same way and are recorded in the Church minutes.

### **Associated Charities**

Dunstable Baptist Chapel (Charity Commission registered no. 233323) which is in the trust of the Grace Baptist Trust Corporation.

Christian Books, Dunstable (Charity Commission registered no. 801449)

### **Section C Objectives and Activities**

#### **Objects of the Charity**

The principal object of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to Baptist principles and in accordance with the Basis of Faith as stated in Schedule 1 of the Constitution.

The charity may also carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

#### **Main Activities in Relation to Public Benefit**

The Trustees/Church Leaders are aware of, and have taken regard to, the Charity Commission's guidance to public benefit in "The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and believe that the Main Activities detailed in Section D below, that are an outworking of the Objects above, provide a benefit to the public by:

- providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual and moral development, both for our members and for members of the public who want to benefit;
- promoting Christian values (based on the Bible), and service by members of the Church to the local community, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

#### **Grant Making Policy**

Grants (donations) from the Church for Mission/Relief and pastoral gifts for individuals are decided by the Trustees/Church Leaders at the time that they are required and endorsed as necessary at the next Church members' meeting.

#### **Investment Selection Policy**

Current and future policies are decided by the Trustees/Church Leaders, with professional advice being sought when necessary.

#### **Section D Achievements and Performance**

The church employs one pastor, Steve Burton. He is responsible for the pastoral care of the members of the Church and any others who come to the Church for spiritual help. In addition, the pastor and elders are responsible for overseeing the teaching given at all meetings of the Church. All involved in the work of the Church are volunteers except for the pastor. Discretionary payments have been made to those inside and outside the church undertaking individual preaching engagements that have been required. The church has a Safeguarding Policy (Protection of Christian and Vulnerable Adults) and volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults are DBS checked and trained.

Regular services and meetings have continued through the year including: Sunday worship, mid-week Bible study and prayer meetings, Early Learning Time, DBC Kids, Tots and Co, Men's Prayer Meetings and Ladies' Bible Studies.

During the year donations were made to our four main missions: Grace Baptist Mission, European Missionary Fellowship, Grace Baptist Partnership, and Caring For Life.

#### **Section E Financial Review**

##### **Reserved Funds**

At the end of the year the money held in the Barclay's Business Premium Account for the Church was £21,940.

##### **Source of Funds**

The principle source of funds is the voluntary giving by the members of the church and congregation, making use of the Gift Aid Scheme and the Small Donations Scheme where appropriate.

#### **Section F Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

**Dunstable Baptist Church**  
**Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 The Financial Statements of the Church have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

Receipts	Note	Unrestricted Funds General Fund	Manse Fund	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
Voluntary Receipts:					
Planned Giving & collection at services		67,118	0	67,118	64,842
All other giving	2	14,035	0	14,035	11,514
Gift Aid recovered		18,352	0	18,352	10,832
		99,505	0	99,505	87,188
Activities for generating funds		0	0	0	0
Investment income		0	24	24	53
Church activities		0	0	0	0
Total Receipts		99,505	24	99,529	87,241
Payments					
Church activities	3	98,019	2,362	100,381	139,603
Governance costs		0	0	0	325
Cost of generating funds		0	0	0	0
Total Payments		98,019	2,362	100,381	139,928
Excess of Receipts over Payments		1,486	-2,338	-852	-52,687
Transfer between funds		0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		1,486	-2,338	-852	-52,687
Cash at bank and in hand 1 January		20,454	2,728	23,182	75,869
Cash at bank and in hand 31 December		21,940	390	22,330	23,182

2 All other giving

Donations

Legacy

14,035

0

11,514

0

3 Church activities

Pastoral Ministry

Mission Support

Ministry Expenses

Building Capital Expenditure

Building Repairs and Renewals

Utilities and Insurance

Manse Expenditure

Administration Expenses

Miscellaneous Expenses

Wimbledon Building Fund

57,879

22,043

3,025

0

3,599

2,073

3,983

1,610

6,169

0

65,989

16,950

12,170

17,371

1,083

5,969

1,686

1,937

7,998

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2 All other giving  
Donations 14,035 11,514  
Legacy 0 0

3 Church activities  
Pastoral Ministry 57,879 65,989  
Mission Support 22,043 16,950  
Ministry Expenses 3,025 12,170  
Building Capital Expenditure 0 17,371  
Building Repairs and Renewals 3,599 1,083  
Utilities and Insurance 2,073 5,969  
Manse Expenditure 3,983 1,686  
Administration Expenses 1,610 1,937  
Miscellaneous Expenses 6,169 7,998  
Wimbledon Building Fund 0 8,450

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	General Fund	Manse Fund
Cash Funds		
Bank Current Account	21,940	21,940
Deposit Account	390	390
	<b>21,940</b>	<b>22,330</b>
		<b>20,454</b>
		<b>2,728</b>
		<b>23,182</b>

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Dunstable Baptist Church  
Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

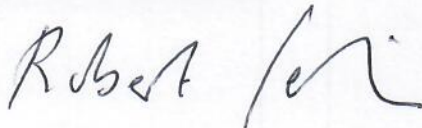
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. The financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Financial statements and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Robert Felix FCA  
33 Broomhill Road  
Woodford Green  
Essex IG8 9HD

Date : 9 September 2025



**Dunstable Baptist Church**  
**Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

Notes to the Financial Statements					
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<b>Receipts</b>					
Voluntary Receipts:					
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		Gift Aid recovered	0	18,352	10,832
			99,505	0	99,505
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>					
		0	0	0	0
		0	24	24	53
		0	0	0	0
<b>Total Receipts</b>					
		<b>99,505</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>99,529</b>	<b>87,241</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
	3	Church activities	2,362	100,381	139,603
		Governance costs	0	0	325
		Cost of generating funds	0	0	0
<b>Total Payments</b>					
		<b>98,019</b>	<b>2,362</b>	<b>100,381</b>	<b>139,928</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b>					
		1,486	-2,338	-852	-52,687
<b>Transfer between funds</b>					
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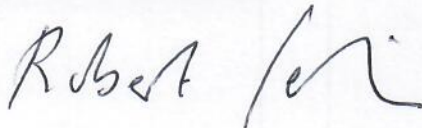
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