

## **Annual Report Grace Church Loughborough April 2023 – December 2023**

Grace Church serves a small community in the town of Loughborough. The church comprises of church members, church officers who are also the church's trustees. We do not have any paid staff nor office holders.

2023 had a steady start but began to increase in activity with the new year. The church has continued rental of the Loughborough Polish Club throughout the period since starting the long-term hire in August 2022.

The increased space and greater flexibility of hiring times available to us through the Loughborough Polish Club has allowed for a greater range of activities throughout the last 18 months and has allowed the church to host events on site instead of needing to utilize the garden space of members of the congregation. The church is currently looking to secure its place at the Polish club with a view to have some form of on-site storage for church equipment.

We have held various activities for the community over the past 18 months, Easter Sunday events, summer BBQs, a Fireworks party, a Christmas carol service and meal, a restarting of our young adult/student ministry event.

We have seen a fluctuation in numbers throughout the past year. Summer 2023 saw a greater number of students graduating and moving away years than we have seen in recent years, and we gained a smaller number of students at the start of the academic year in October 2023. This number did increase throughout the academic year. We have also seen growth in non-student numbers which is really encouraging. All of the new members have been very involved in the weekly activities within the church which has greatly bolstered teams where people had previously moved on.

Our young adults ministry has been able to restart again with a redoubling of efforts in the 2023 academic year including running our young adults "Rooted" event. Our young base at Grace Church continues to be a mixture of university students ranging from undergraduate to PhD students and a consistent basis of graduates that have stayed within the area and the church. We look forward to another year of working closely with CU and our student reps.

In October 2023, we saw the standing down of one of the deacons. The church now has 4 elders and 4 deacons.

We have a small and steady children's work and a thriving monthly men's ministry. We base our outreach around specific events during the calendar year as previously mentioned.

**Finance**

Giving has gradually increased, can we encourage those of you who already give and if you are a taxpayer plus you give via Stewardship, to tick the box that states claim gift aid. This increases your giving by an additional 20% to the church, so if you give £100 a month, the treasury uplift the giving to £120.62. Stewardship, also a charity takes a small percentage. Grace supports a family out in Eurasia on a monthly basis and we also give a 10<sup>th</sup> or more of our income to causes that are closely connected to the church family.

**Safeguarding**

The church has a policy which is due for an annual update and all our children's volunteers are DBS'd checked. We have no groups for adults with care and support needs.

# Grace Church Loughborough

## Financial Activities YTD Comparison

April - December, 2023

	TOTAL	
	APR - DEC, 2023	APR - DEC, 2023 (YTD)
Income		
bank interest	233.09	233.09
Tax refund	2,467.75	2,467.75
Tithes/regular giving	17,122.41	17,122.41
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£19,823.25</b>	<b>£19,823.25</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£19,823.25</b>	<b>£19,823.25</b>
Expenditures		
Advertising and Promotion		
Literature & Publicity	360.00	360.00
<b>Total Advertising and Promotion</b>	<b>360.00</b>	<b>360.00</b>
Bank Service Charges	45.00	45.00
Church Giving	1,800.00	1,800.00
Church Tithe	1,500.00	1,500.00
Gifts ( weddings/leaving etc)	87.15	87.15
<b>Total Church Giving</b>	<b>3,387.15</b>	<b>3,387.15</b>
Conferences and Meetings		
Conference Attendance Fees	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Conferences and Meetings</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Equipment	1,800.00	1,800.00
Small consumables & Equipment	371.75	371.75
<b>Total Equipment</b>	<b>2,171.75</b>	<b>2,171.75</b>
FIEC	675.00	675.00
Food & Drinks		
Hospitality	14.70	14.70
Refreshments	114.65	114.65
Whole Church Meals	410.94	410.94
<b>Total Food &amp; Drinks</b>	<b>540.29</b>	<b>540.29</b>
Licenses and Insurance		
Insurance Expense	320.19	320.19
<b>Total Licenses and Insurance</b>	<b>320.19</b>	<b>320.19</b>
Materials & Resources		
Study and Teaching Materials		
Small group Resources	75.48	75.48
Resources & Materials	44.62	44.62
<b>Total Small group Resources</b>	<b>120.10</b>	<b>120.10</b>
<b>Total Study and Teaching Materials</b>	<b>120.10</b>	<b>120.10</b>
<b>Total Materials &amp; Resources</b>	<b>120.10</b>	<b>120.10</b>
Professional Fees		
Accountant charges	276.00	276.00
DBS checks	34.00	34.00
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	<b>310.00</b>	<b>310.00</b>

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## Financial Activities YTD Comparison

April - December, 2023

	TOTAL	
	APR - DEC, 2023	APR - DEC, 2023 (YTD)
RENT	4,137.50	4,137.50
Garage Rental	450.00	450.00
<b>Total RENT</b>	<b>4,587.50</b>	<b>4,587.50</b>
Sunday school	12.00	12.00
Telephone	73.85	73.85
Travel	181.00	181.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>£12,783.83</b>	<b>£12,783.83</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	<b>£7,039.42</b>	<b>£7,039.42</b>
Other Expenditures		
Unrealised Gain or Loss	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Other Expenditures</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
NET OTHER INCOME	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	<b>£7,039.42</b>	<b>£7,039.42</b>