

**TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH TENTERDEN**  
Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees of Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

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### **1. Aims and purposes**

Our aim and purpose as a church is to see God's kingdom grow as families, friends and communities are transformed by Jesus Christ.

### **2. Objectives and activities**

The main objects of the charity are to promote the worship of God and the preaching of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ both locally and internationally.

When planning our activities for the year we have considered the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to show people how to come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and to live out their faith in the local community through:

- Worship, prayer and Bible study; learning about the gospel; developing people's knowledge of and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ;

- Supporting missionary endeavour and other outreach here and overseas;
- Providing pastoral support for Church members and others who are in need.

To facilitate the work it is essential we maintain the fabric of the Church building.

### **3. Achievements and performance**

It has always been the wish of the Trustees to hold services and a range of other activities during the week, and over the course of the year, that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. Our Sunday morning service is family-friendly and intended to facilitate worship in an accessible way, whereas our evening meeting is less formal and provides more opportunity for people to participate in the time together. There are mid-week meetings for Bible study and prayer, many of which are held in people's homes, which are useful means of spiritual growth.

With the lifting of the remaining restrictions as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic, we were pleased to be able to resume our Sunday services and mid-week meetings in our building and in homes during the year.

During 2022 we began an initiative to share the good news of the Gospel in the town of Tenterden: once a week we set up a book table in the High Street with a view to offering passers-by literature and information about the Church and to engage in conversation with them. More recently our Pastor, Matthew Clay, has started a daytime, mid-week meeting for those wishing to ask questions and discuss issues relating to the Christian life.

As part of our wish to offer pastoral care for our members and those connected to the Church, the Elders and other helpers visited many of the sick, elderly and needy folk on a more organised basis than in previous years.

Following the devastating floods in Pakistan in 2022 and the earthquakes in Turkey/Syria we made a special appeal for funds to support humanitarian efforts and were pleased to send a total of almost £5000 via Barnabas Aid. We also raised more than £1000 for Morning Star Children's Centre in South Africa by means of a cake and craft sale.

At the end of the year our membership stood at 33 (including 1 Associate Member).

### **4. Financial review**

Unrestricted donations were £45,214 which, together with the Gift Aid claim, meant that our income from regular donations amounted to £54,973. Incoming resources from charitable activities amounted to £2,490, including £1,125 raised from hiring the hall to outside organisations.

Costs associated with running the Church amounted to £71,141. This included grants for missionary work totalling £725 and international aid of £4,779. Much of the former was sent to missionary organisations working abroad.

The Trustees noted that expenditure exceeded income during the year, leading to a deficit of £12,045. This was expected on account of our decision to recruit and employ a new pastor, which was made in the knowledge that in the short-term there would be a call on our reserves until donation income increases through a growth in membership.

Please see the attached Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts for further details.

## **5 Reserves policy**

The Trustees aim to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds equivalent to 3 months expenditure, amounting to approximately £14 500 in 2021/22. This was achieved.

## **6. Volunteers**

The Church relies on the support of volunteers drawn from the membership and regular attendees to carry out many of the activities undertaken in the local area.

## **7. Safeguarding**

During the year the Church opened an account with Christian Safeguarding Services and reviewed its safeguarding policy in January 2023. A training session was held in March and DBS checks instigated where appropriate.

## **8. General Data Protection Regulations**

The Church has relevant policies in place in regard to GDPR. A copy of our Privacy Notice can be found on our Church Website. Our database is held within password protected software called "ChurchSuite", a cloud-hosted GDPR compliant system and personal data is only included with specific consent.

## **9. Structure, governance and management**

Trinity Baptist Church was founded in 1967. On 19 July 1976 an Assignment and Declaration of Trust was established in relation to the premises where the Church currently meets. The trustees were named officers of the Church and the Grace Baptist Trust Corporation.

At a formally constituted meeting of members on 25 October 2012, the Church adopted a constitution governing the charitable assets of the Church from a legal perspective in accordance with the requirements of charity law. The trustees of this charity were the minister of the Church, the other elders and the deacons.

New rules were adopted at the same time. In 2016/17 the Church adopted a new Constitution and Handbook for the purposes of obtaining registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The Charity Commission confirmed the new charitable status on 9 January 2017 (Registered charity number 1171047). The trustees of the charity were, again, the minister, the other elders and the deacons. Since as a CIO the Church was able to own property, the ownership of building and land were transferred to the CIO, thus ending the 1976 Trust deed.

Charity Trustees:	Matthew Clay	Matthew Hopkins
	John McDonald	Peter Smith (Chair)
	Jim Wiles	

#### **10. Administrative information**

Charity No:	1171047
Address:	Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6LR
Independent examiner	Paxton Independent Examiners, 61a High Street South, Rushden, NN10 0RA
Solicitors	Edward Connor Solicitors, 10 The Point, LE16 7QU

**Approved by the Trustees on 17/05/2023 and signed on their behalf by Peter Smith.**

#### **11. Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023**

- 11.1 Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts
- 11.2 Charity Commission SOFA Report
- 11.3 Charity Commission Balance Sheet
- 11.4 Charity Commission Movement of Funds Report

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Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 March 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1171047

Set out on pages

One to Eight

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts 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 accounts to be reached.

Signed: Darren Warren

Date: 10/05/2023

Name: Darren Warren – Paxton Independent Examiners

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

FMAAT

Address:

61a High Street South

Rushden

Northants, NN10 0RA

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.**

Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

March 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
B01 Intangible assets					
	0	0	0	0	0
B02 Tangible assets					
Building	681,490	0	0	681,490	681,490
	681,490	0	0	681,490	681,490
B03 Heritage assets					
	0	0	0	0	0
B04 Investments					
	0	0	0	0	0
B06 Stocks					
	0	0	0	0	0
B07 Debtors					
Recoverable Gift Aid	9,469	0	0	9,469	9,039
	9,469	0	0	9,469	9,039
B08 Investments					
	0	0	0	0	0
B09 Cash at bank and in hand					
Bank current account	12,579	0	0	12,579	16,687
Bank deposit account	88,143	0	0	88,143	96,510
	100,722	0	0	100,722	113,197
B11 Creditors (due within one year)					
	0	0	0	0	0
B14 Creditors (due after one year)					
	0	0	0	0	0
B15 Provisions for liabilities					



## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

March 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
	0	0	0	0	0
B17 Endowment funds					
	0	0	0	0	0
B18 Restricted income funds					
	0	0	0	0	0
B19 Unrestricted funds					
Retained surplus	791,681	0	0	791,681	803,726
	791,681	0	0	791,681	803,726
B20 Revaluation reserve					
	0	0	0	0	0

## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

March 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
S01 Donations and legacies					
Donations - regular	35,939	0	0	35,939	42,425
Donations - other	9,275	0	0	9,275	659
Gift aid tax claimed	9,759	0	0	9,759	9,270
	54,973	0	0	54,973	52,354
S02 Charitable activities (inc.)					
Room Hire	1,125	0	0	1,125	746
Book sales	263	0	0	263	418
Other income	1,102	0	0	1,102	200
	2,490	0	0	2,490	1,364
S03 Other trading activities					
	0	0	0	0	0
S04 Investments					
Interest received	1,633	0	0	1,633	43
	1,633	0	0	1,633	43
S05 Separate material item of income					
	0	0	0	0	0
S06 Other (inc.)					
	0	0	0	0	0
S08 Raising funds					
	0	0	0	0	0
S09 Charitable activities					
GBM	4,108	0	0	4,108	4,300
EMI Int UK	1,200	0	0	1,200	1,200
Asia Link	2,600	0	0	2,600	861
People International	500	0	0	500	1,000
Sat 7	0	0	0	0	100
Other missionary support	725	0	0	725	200
FIEC Training Fund	0	0	0	0	250
International support	4,779	0	0	4,779	5,750
TBC assistance	33	0	0	33	794
Salaries and wages	24,622	0	0	24,622	14,061
PAYE/Employer NI	5,634	0	0	5,634	2,800
Pastor Pension	2,931	0	0	2,931	1,659

## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

March 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Pastor expenses	394	0	0	394	396
Pastor travel/subsistence	80	0	0	80	126
Pastor starting costs	0	0	0	0	3,082
Rent for Church Manse	10,200	0	0	10,200	5,600
Conference expenses	0	0	0	0	100
Visiting speaker costs	550	0	0	550	1,337
Youth work costs	520	0	0	520	229
Evangelism - events	48	0	0	48	0
Evangelism - publicity	492	0	0	492	499
Evangelism - literature	221	0	0	221	12
Printing & stationery	100	0	0	100	195
Bookstall purchases	552	0	0	552	410
Home Group study guides	0	0	0	0	16
Flowers	120	0	0	120	137
Catering	588	0	0	588	502
Fire alarm maintenance	803	0	0	803	817
IT, audio visual	32	0	0	32	0
Music, licences	536	0	0	536	307
FIEC Subscription	1,002	0	0	1,002	972
Gas	914	0	0	914	799
Electricity	1,327	0	0	1,327	539
Water	63	0	0	63	32
Telephone, internet	321	0	0	321	439
Insurance	1,285	0	0	1,285	1,145
Other costs	701	0	0	701	411
Cleaning	1,161	0	0	1,161	695
Repairs & maintenance	23	0	0	23	3,361
Furniture & equipment	249	0	0	249	1,233
Audit & accountancy	180	0	0	180	180
Safeguarding	186	0	0	186	37
Paxton software support	568	0	0	568	528
Paxton Payroll	403	0	0	403	283
Church Suite admin	390	0	0	390	390
	71,141	0	0	71,141	57,784
S10 Separate material item of expense					
	0	0	0	0	0
S11 Other (exp.)					
	0	0	0	0	0
S14 Net gains/(losses) on investments					
	0	0	0	0	0
S16 Extraordinary items					
	0	0	0	0	0

## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

March 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
S17 Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0
S18 Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets	0	0	0	0	0
S19 Other gains/(losses)	0	0	0	0	0

## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

Month = March 2023

<u>Fund name</u>	<u>Fund balances brought forward</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Gains and losses</u>	<u>Fund balances carried forward</u>
General fund	803,726	59,095	-71,140	0	0	791,681
Totals	803,726	59,095	-71,140	0	0	791,681