



BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL CHURCH

YSGUTHAN ROAD, PORT TALBOT SA12 6NE

Trustees Report April 2020 – March 2021

[1] Purposes and Aims

The purposes of the church, as set out in the constitution are:

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

[2] Activities

From March 22nd 2020 until 7th November 2020 we ceased meeting in person and started to live stream our services to comply with the government lockdown due to Covid 19. The livestreamed services were watched on up to 150 devices each week, so we estimate that we reached at least 250 people. Comments we received showed that many of those were not regular attenders and some lived many miles away, even in different countries. This was an unexpected benefit of going online. We are also thankful to the Church Members who made this possible, especially our Deacon, Ben George.

From 15th November 2020 we resumed services in the church building observing Welsh Government Guidance regarding distancing, sanitizing, face coverings and a one-way system. We did not sing, once again due to the Guidance. The Managing Trustees (Elders and Deacons) met every two weeks to review the risk assessment. Our priorities were to maintain the worship meeting of the church and to keep the congregation as safe as possible in the pandemic.

We reluctantly took the decision to stop all weekly meetings: with teenage girls on a Monday evening, teens and twenties boys on a Friday evening, parents and toddlers on a Friday morning, and the Sunday School for children aged 3 and over on a Sunday morning. We tried to keep in contact with those who used to attend, sending books and activities to the Sunday School Children twice during the lockdown.

The church has sought to achieve its purposes by continuing to meet regularly for prayer via Zoom video calls on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We have continued to support one another through sickness, trial and bereavement. We generously supported several good causes such as: The Falconer Trust orphanage in Zambia, the Blytheswood Christmas Shoebox campaign for Central Europe, Romanian Ministries, Asia Link, and Slavic Gospel Association.

[3] Public Benefit

From November 15th until the end of this reporting period, the church has opened its doors to the local community in a number of ways: the worship services on Sundays are open to all; the Christmas Eve Community Carol Service was pre-recorded and broadcast on YouTube. The Pastor continues to serve as Chair of Governors in local Primary School, and our links with that school continue to be strong. We were approached by the Election Office asking if we would be willing for our Church Hall to be used as a Polling Station. We readily agreed to this, and the postponed local council by-election was held alongside the Senedd Elections in May 2021.

[4] Membership and Volunteers

None of this would have been possible without the willing service of a number of volunteers. Many are from our membership (which numbered 37 in March 2021), but others are not members of the church, yet still give their time and energy to helping. In adapting to the Pandemic, we discovered that we needed different gifts to those previously used in the church. We are particularly grateful to Aidan Fyans and Ben for their work in renewing the audio in the church and setting up the livestream. We now have broadband in the church which has been a great benefit.

[5] Building Maintenance

Taking advantage of the fact that, because of lockdown, we were not meeting in the building during Spring and Summer 2020, we were able to complete a major refurbishment of the main church. Using some of the Building Fund that had been held in the Deposit Account, we were able to employ a builder to strip the downstairs walls, plasterboard them, replaster and paint. New front doors have been fitted and a new carpet added throughout the downstairs. During the work a large hole was discovered in the roof; this has been repaired. As funds allow, we plan to refurbish upstairs to the same standard.

[6] Financial Review

During this accounting period (April 2020 – March 2021), income has been £48,112 and Expenditure has been £66,811

A Building Fund has been held in the BMM Account and this is used for Building Management and Maintenance. At March 31 2021 it stands at £13,864

It is our intention to build up reserves over time so that the church has a reasonable cushion against any unforeseen occurrences.

The accounts are set out at the end of this report in a balance sheet. The accounts have been duly checked by Patricia Layton, Independent Examiner, and the report is also attached.

[7] Holding Trustees and Managing Trustees

The Church's property holding trustees are
FIEC Practical Services
39 The Point
Market Harborough LE16 7QU

The Managing Trustees are the Church Officers, currently they are:
Rev Jeremy Bailey
Mr Ben George
Mr Jonathan Morris (Treasurer)
Mr Andrew Nicholas (Secretary)

The Managing Trustees meet 11 times a year and at other times as necessary. They receive a financial report from the treasurer, report and decide on matters relating to building maintenance and discuss upcoming meetings and needs of the church. The Elders meet to pray and discuss the spiritual oversight of the church twice a month.

Approved by the Managing Trustees, Signed by Rev Jeremy Bailey on 24th January 2022

**Bethlehem Evangelical Church.
Income & Expenditure
For The Year Ended 31 March 2021**

Notes	2020/21		2019/20	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Weekly Offerings:				
Gift Aid	25,470.00		29,330.88	
Tax Rebate	15,083.52		0.00	
Other Weekly Offerings	5,489.70		6,764.34	
Gifts	285.00		2,130.00	
		46,328.22		38,225.22
Missionary Collections:				
Missionary Gifts	1	0.00	0.00	
		0.00		0.00
Miscellaneous Income:				
Special Collections	2	0.00	668.80	
Miscellaneous Income	3	1,784.28	1,004.14	
		1,784.28		1,672.94
TOTAL INCOME:		48,112.50		39,898.16

EXPENDITURE:				
Pulpit & Pastoral Expenses	4	29,806.32	31,842.66	
Gas, Electric, Water & Telephone	5	1,955.88	4,841.61	
Repairs & Renovations	6	22,359.66	4,045.26	
Local Outreach	7	622.81	2,237.98	
Missionary Support	1	4,000.00	4,280.00	
Special Causes	2	0.00	145.00	
Gifts	8	1,000.00	2,085.00	
Miscellaneous	9	7065.93	7,655.48	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:		66,810.60	57,132.99	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR		-18,698.10	-17,234.83	
TRANSFERS IN FROM BCC:		-22,500.00		
ACTUAL DEFICIT		3,801.90		

ADDITIONAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR BCC ACCOUNT

Balance as at 1st April 2020	34,347.35		
	Income	Expenditure	
- Gifts	2,000.00		
- Interest	17.36		
- Returned from Current Acct	0.00		
- Transferred to Current Acct		-22,500.00	
	2,017.36	-22,500.00	
Balance as at 1st April 2021	13,864.71		

**Bethlehem Evangelical Church.
Notes To Income & Expenditure
For The Year Ended 31 March 2021**

Notes	2020/21	
	Income £	Expenditure £
1 Missionary Gifts		
EMF		400.00
Asia Link		1,000.00
OMF		0.00
Slavic Gospel		1,000.00
Romanian Ministries		1,600.00
Creation Ministries		0.00
		0.00
		0.00
Home Missions		
	0.00	4,000.00
2 Special Collections		
Asia Link	0.00	0.00
Romanian Ministries	0.00	0.00
Falcolner Homes	0.00	0.00
MERF	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00
3 Miscellaneous Income		
Other Offerings	60.00	
Bank Interest (Community A/C)	0.00	
Banking Error	107.65	
CVS Covid-19 Grant	1016.63	
Pension Contribution from Employee	600.00	
	1,784.28	
4 Pulpit & Pastoral Expenses		
Pastor		
Gross Salary	24,230.16	
Pension/Conf.Fees/Books/Life Assurance	890.76	
Fuel Allowance	279.60	25,400.52
Employers NIC		4,285.80
External Preachers		120.00
		29,806.32
5 Gas, Electric, Water & Telephone		
Internet		161.61
Electricity		756.00
Gas		753.59
Telephone		126.72
Water Rates		157.96
		1,955.88
6 Repairs & Renovations		
Miscellaneous		0.00
Kitchen Equipment Repairs		0.00
Organ & Piano Tuning		0.00
Alarm Repairs		0.00
Service of Fire Extinguishers		261.76
Alarms		1507.92
Builder		18050.00
Carpets		2400.00
Plumber		108.00
Reimbursements - Light Bulbs		31.98
		22,359.66
7 Local Outreach		
Girls Craft		0.00
Sunday School		203.15
Tiny Tots		0.00
Evangelism	419.66	
Tracts		57.60
Signs		80.40
Covid Expenses		0.00
Other		281.66
		622.81
8 Gifts		
Auditor		0.00
EMW camps fund		0.00
Sundry Gifts :		
Membership		1,000.00
		1000.00
9 Miscellaneous		
Stationery -Copy Charge	64.28	
-Toner	0.00	
-Other	0.00	
	64.28	
Refreshments		0.00
Safeguarding		129.00
Christian Copyright Licence		122.00
Cleaning Costs		3,088.81
Web Hosting		50.00
Holding Trust		240.00
Covid-19 Misc		831.37
Insurance		1976.67
End of Year Creditors		563.80
		0.00
		0.00
		7,065.93
	1784.28	66810.60



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

MARCH 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1171642

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(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 30/03/2021.

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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

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.

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

Signed:

P.A. Layton

Date:

20.1.2022

Name:

PATRICIA ANNE LAYTON

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

B.Sc (Hons) MANAGERIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES

(if any):

Address:

44 MAESY GWERNEN ROAD

MORRISTON, SWANSEA, SA6 6LL

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.