

BRIXHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity Number: 1175103

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2024

STATUTORY INFORMATION

Name of the Charity: BRIXHAM BAPTIST CHURCH Registered Address: Market St
Brixham Devon TQ5 8EU

Charity Registration Number: 1175103

Date of Registration: 11 October 2017

Trustees from 1st January 2024 to the date of this report

Julia Andrews (Secretary)
Barrie Chivers (until 20th April 2024)
Jim Collins
Rev Darrell Holmes
Bernard Lewis (Treasurer)
Rev Colin Opie (from 1st February 2024)

Minister: Rev. Darrell Holmes

Associate Minister: Rev Colin Opie (from 1st February 2024)

Property Trustees: The Baptist Union Corporation,
(Baptist House, PO Box 44, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 8RT).

Bankers: Lloyds TSB.

Independent Examiner: Ian Barrett FCA FCIE

BARRETT'S

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND CHARTERED TAX ADVISERS

22 Union Street, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 2JS

CHARITABLE OBJECT

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document since 11th October 2017 when the Charitable Incorporated Organisation was formed. The Approved Governing Document, the Constitution, affirms the principal purpose of the Charity as being the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world. The Church occupies premises which are held in trust for the Church by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Holding Trustee. The premises continue to be held on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above objectives. Included in the premises are four small flats let to tenants at a low rent. A Manse is provided for the Minister's use, however it is currently rented out.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES

Membership of the church is obtained in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Governing Document of the church. Whilst highly valuing and encouraging baptism by total immersion, the church practises open membership in that those who seek membership but have not been baptised according to the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle may, at the discretion of the church members' meeting, be accepted for full membership based on their profession of faith. Church members are expected to adhere to the beliefs of the church, to commit themselves to serving Christ within the church and beyond, and to abide by the decisions of the church meeting.

Church Members' meetings take place at regular intervals through the year with one of these meetings constituting the Annual General Meeting at which members receive the annual accounts and reports, and consider matters of relevance for the coming year. A minimum of four ordinary meetings are required annually. Ordinary Church Members' meetings took place during the year on 30th January, 23rd April (including AGM), 21st May, 23rd July, 24th September and 26th November.

The church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and all trustees are appointed by church members' meetings, observing the requirements of the governing document. The managing trustees are responsible for the day to day running of the church's work and witness and for the financial and legal aspects of the charity. Church members are encouraged to seek appropriate roles furthering the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective. The trustees take relevant matters to the church meeting for consideration, and similarly matters may be raised by church members for trustee discussion and deliberation. A consensus of opinion is sought whenever possible; however, the governing document permits decisions to be made by voting or secret ballot.

This was the third full year of the ministry of our Pastor Rev Darrell Holmes. Rev Colin Opie was appointed as part time non-stipendiary Pastor on 1st February 2024. He was ordained on 20th April 2024. Maria Orton continued to serve as part time Children Youth and Families Pastor. Adline Lewis continued to be employed as part-time cleaner.

Our Mission continued to be "***Shining for Jesus in the darkness***" which is focussed around:

Shining for Jesus and living lives glorifying to Him.

Sharing Jesus with the next generation and removing obstacles that prevent them coming to Him.

Shaping our community with love, showing compassion to the least, the last and the lost.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The church provides, and provided in 2024, a variety of activities available to its membership and to the community at large, to achieve its stated principal objective,

as set out above. The aim throughout is to show, through word and deed, the love of Jesus Christ to the community in which the church is set and to the wider world beyond, and to bring people into closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

WORSHIP

Regular public services of Christian worship continued throughout 2024 at 10.30am followed by a time of fellowship and refreshment. We were often joined by a few visitors from around the country and world, many of whom were on holiday or made us a destination church when they were in town.

Our services have been livestreamed and have had a strong following from online viewers, averaging around fifty devices each week. Brixham Baptist Church is therefore reaching far more than just the local community.

PRAYER

We acknowledge that prayer is a vital part of our corporate and individual lives. Regular midweek prayer meetings took place, and an on-line prayer network enabled prayer requests to be shared. We participated with others in the Torbay area in the Try Praying Initiative.

FELLOWSHIP

Several groups continued to gather, and some new groups started to meet regularly for friendship, study, prayer and encouragement.

EVANGELISM

As part of our vision to share Jesus and in keeping with the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle that it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and to take part in the evangelisation of the world, we have organised specific evangelistic events including the Easter Trail and promoting the Try Praying Initiative.

CHILDREN, YOUTH and FAMILIES WORK

In 2024, we continued to connect with around 50 families in the local community through our various church activities and community contacts. Our Children, Youth and Families Pastor worked with a team of twenty volunteers providing regular activities for children from toddlers to teenagers and their parents or carers. Several of these activities catered for children and families who did not regularly attend the church. In co-operation with local health visitors and social services we provided hampers for families in need within the local community.

OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Our café which opened two days a week and our coffee morning which opened once a week fulfilled the aim of the church to be engaged with its community and provide a space in which people felt welcomed and secure. These were used as a regular meeting place for individuals and groups in the town.

Meals were also provided several times during the year to which members of the community and congregation were invited.

We donated **Filled Backpacks** for distribution by a charity for the homeless in Torbay. We also donated **Shoebboxes** filled with items for children in need overseas distributed by Samaritan's Purse.

SAFEGUARDING

Our Safeguarding Policy and Procedures were reviewed, updated and brought to the attention of the congregation.

USE OF THE BUILDING

An increasing number of groups from the community used the premises during 2024. In addition to the four flats which are rented out, we have submitted plans for conversion of part of the building to two more flats.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The church measures its performance not simply in terms of numbers, including financial numbers, but also through the assessment of its success, or otherwise, in less tangible areas such as encouragement, discipleship and fellowship.

We welcomed eight new members in 2024. We were saddened to lose eleven church members who resigned or transferred membership and one church member who died during 2024. At the end of the year church membership stood at 67.

We are grateful to all the volunteers who gave their time and effort to the work of the church.

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2024

The church continued to raise the funds needed to carry on its activities from within its membership and wider congregation. This was supplemented by the net rental income received from the flats and manse, and income received from the 'Front Room' cafe together with income from hiring out both the church hall and the 'Front Room'.

The church played its part in the life of the wider Church through grants made to organisations, societies, and individuals, working nationally or internationally with Christian objectives compatible with the church's own objectives. Specific aid was given to the Baptist Union for its work in the UK and internationally, Brixham Girls Brigade, the Fishermen's Mission and Thimar-LSESD.

The church is heavily dependent on its fellowship working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, most of which ran without significant impact on the church's expenditure, but nonetheless contributed considerably to the achievement of the church's objectives.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

The trustees are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the year-end together with the ongoing income anticipated to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

The trustees have assessed the major risks facing the church and are satisfied that there are policies in place to minimise these risks.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity law requires the trustees (the church leadership) to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

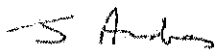
1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

3. State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
4. Prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The leadership are responsible as managing trustees for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with charity law. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

SIGNATURE AND DECLARATION

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that the trustees have approved the report on pages 2 to 7 and the accounts on pages 8-11 and have authorised me to sign on their behalf.

Signed: 

Julia Andrews
(trustee)

Brixham Baptist Church

Charity No 1175103

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2024

	2024			2023		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Income from:						
<i>Donations and legacies</i>						
Donations	163	0	163	42	0	42
Offerings	8210	0	8210	9242	0	9242
Standing orders	33049	0	33049	37157	0	37157
Gifts	4731	0	4731	225	0	225
Gift Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
BMS	0	0	0	0	917	917
Home Mission	0	0	0	0	201	201
Other	8428	2351	10779	3274	296	3570
Build fund	0	380	380	0	0	0
<i>Charitable activities</i>						
Front Room	6965	0	6965	8044	0	8044
Youth events	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coffee mornings	853	0	853	91	0	91
<i>Investments</i>						
Interest	614	0	614	546	0	546
Rent	36543	0	36543	36521	0	36521
TOTAL INCOME	99556	2731	102287	95142	1414	96556
Expenditure on:						
<i>Charitable activities</i>						
Front Room	3258	0	3258	3550	0	3550
Staff costs	54902	0	54902	48694	0	48694
Travel & other expenses	1195	0	1195	1476	0	1476
Youth worker expenses	1889	0	1889	2769	0	2769
Visiting ministry	50	0	50	145	0	145
<i>Church</i>						
Insurance	4719	0	4719	4855	0	4855
Light, heat & water	4489	0	4489	6754	0	6754
Repairs & maintenance	7952	380	8332	11389	11558	22947
Professional survey	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cleaning expenses	164	0	164	219	0	219
Equipment	147	0	147	107	0	107
<i>Ministerial Housing</i>						
Council tax	2042	0	2042	1909	0	1909
Housing	9240	0	9240	8820	0	8820
<i>Manse rental property</i>						
Insurance	334	0	334	314	0	294
Service charge & fees	2489	0	2489	1555	0	1555
Council tax	363	0	363			
Repairs & maintenance	0	0	0	394	0	394

Brixham Baptist Church

Charity No 1175103

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2024 (cont'd)

	2024			2023		
	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
<i>Other</i>						
Worship & outreach	1413	0	1413	886	0	886
Events	175	1178	1353	0	0	0
Training	545	0	545	65	0	65
Professional costs	540	0	540	720	0	720
BMS	2250	472	2722	2250	201	2451
Home Mission	2250		2250	2250	705	2955
Donations	300	686	986	800	464	1264
Telephone & web hosting	1166	0	1166	904	0	904
Copyright & TV Licence	350	0	350	327	0	327
Stationery & photocopier	350	0	350	604	0	604
Church refreshments	211	0	211	191	0	191
Other	1789	0	1789	586	0	586
Loan repayment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bank charges	280	0	280	219	0	219
Warm room	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Front Theatre	0		0	1033		1033
<i>Flats expenditure</i>						
Repairs & maintenance	107	0	107	255	0	255
Development	310		310	6692		6692
Other	4746	0	4746	3296	0	3296
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	110015	2716	112731	114028	12928	126956
Transfer						
Net Receipts/payments	-10459	15	-10444	-18886	-11514	-30400
Transfers	748	-748	0	-11171	11171	
Bank & Cash Balances						
At beginning of year	70015	2292	72307	100072	2635	102707
At end of year	60304	1559	61863	70015	2292	72307

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2024

	2024			2023		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL
Cash Funds						
Lloyds Current account	13547	0	13547	17595	0	17595
Lloyds Deposit account	46629	1559	48188	50283	2292	52575
Cash	128	0	128	2137	0	2137
	60304	1559	61863	70015	2292	72307
Debtors						
Gift aid	7800		7800			
Note						

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on the assets of the CIO.

Approved by the Trustees on 11th March 2025

and signed on their behalf by B. Lewis

Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Brixham Baptist Church CIO
Charity no. 1175103

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brixham Baptist Church (the Church) for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the church you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

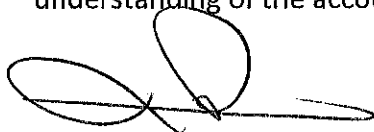
I report in respect of my examination of the church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Ian Barrett FCA FCIE
Barretts
22 Union Street
Newton Abbot TQ12 2JS

17th March 2025