

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

England & Wales - Charity number 1176598

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-01-10

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Liberty Church Offices
Siloh Chapel
Pentre Treharne Road
Landore
Swansea
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Website <http://libertyswansea.church/>

Activities

Objects: A) THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOCTRINE SET OUT IN THE UNDERWRITTEN FOURTH SCHEDULE AND THE WORSHIP OF GOD IN THE COUNTY OF SWANSEA AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AND ELSEWHERE BY ANY MEANS WHATSOEVER INCLUDING (BUT NOT BY WAY OF LIMITATION) THE PREACHING AND PROCLAMATION OF THE CHRISTIAN GOSPEL, THE TEACHING OF THE CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE AND PRINCIPLES, THE PASTORAL CARE OF CHRISTIAN PEOPLE AND THE PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE BIBLE AND CHRISTIAN LITERATURE INCLUDING VIDEO, AND AUDIO RECORDINGS AND BY ANY OTHER MEDIA WHICH IS, OR MAY BECOME, AVAILABLE;(B) THE RELIEF OF PERSONS WHO ARE IN CONDITIONS OF NEED, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS OR WHO ARE AGED OR SICK AND THE PROMOTION AND PRESERVATION OF GOOD HEALTH BY THE PROVISION OF FUNDS, GOODS OR SERVICES OF ANY KIND INCLUDING THROUGH THE PROVISION OF TRAINING, COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT IN THE COUNTY OF SWANSEA AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AND ELSEWHERE AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT ;

Activities: Liberty Church begins on Sunday and continues all week with ministries for children, toddlers, youth, men, women and the elderly. Operating out of Siloh Chapel in Landore, Swansea, Liberty Church provides opportunities for people to make new friends, grow in faith and serve. We love meeting the needs of

our local community in practical ways.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£86,722	£89,548	-	-
2023-12-31	£84,076	£83,789	-	-
2022-12-31	£119,430	£120,039	-	-
2021-12-31	£122,597	£129,308	-	-
2020-12-31	£90,316	£94,925	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ashelle Maricel Paras		2024-05-20
Benjamin Gillott		2023-12-04
Kenneth James Ross		2023-12-04
Mark Ritchie		2020-10-01

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

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Accounts

LIBERTY CHURCH REPORT 2024

Pastor Mark Ritchie AGM – Monday 9th June 2025

We had come through a very tough 2023 and entered into 2024 with much hope and excitement. We started 2024 with a wonderful Hogmanay Party followed by spending the first hours of 2024 in praise, worship and intercession. And this celebration continued into our first Sunday of the month – a joint Liberty United service at Bethel that would also be Pastor Mark's last service before his 3-month Sabbatical.

Liberty church would navigate the first few months of 2024 with a new Leadership structure where Pastors Lameck and Maud would be pastoring Liberty Bethel and Pastors JP and Jess would be pastoring Liberty Siloh. At the beginning of this report we want to publicly thank our Pastors for all they did - and all they are doing – for Liberty Church. all four have full time jobs and the way they have led and given their time and energy to growing Liberty Church Siloh and Bethel has been incredible. We are so thankful for every one of them – especially for what they did in 2024.

Praise God that both churches grew and developed whilst Pastor Mark was away. Teams were strengthened and people were added to both churches. We want to thank all our Pastors and their teams for the extra ministry and workload they took on whilst Pastor Mark was on Sabbatical.

When he came back, he was encouraged by the way that the churches had grown and during the rest of 2024 his role changed as he tried to support and encourage the Pastors at both churches to continue to go forward and grow. God had spoken to Pastor Mark about areas of ministry he should concentrate in – Young adults and Students and also starting Monday Night Church at some point. So, Liberty was changing and evolving and our burden to plant churches and raise leaders was developing in 2024.

Here are some updates from 2024:

PASTOR MARK SABBATICAL

After 12 years leading Liberty Church, and after a particularly testing season of covid and very challenging 2023 the Trustees and leaders realised that a Sabbatical would be very beneficial to Pastor Mark and in the long run, a blessing to the church.

So Pastor Mark had his last service on January 7th and returned to Liberty Church on Easter weekend on March 31st 2024. During these three months Pastor Mark visited Ghana for two weeks to reconnect with his friends and churches there. He visited many churches on the Sundays and was refreshed by friendships and ministry. He spent time with God and was refreshed and renewed as he came back to Liberty.

BAPTISMS

We were excited to baptise people in 2024 both at the church and Swansea beach. We had a Baptismal on 28th July at the beach where we baptised 8 people. And on November 3rd we baptised 12 people at Siloh Chapel. What tremendous testimonies we heard and we were blessed by seeing these 20 people make their faith public and follow Jesus through baptism.

PRAYER

Prayer and intercession was an integral part of what we did in 2024. Everything we did was undergirded with prayer. This took place in many forms and ways, and we cannot emphasise enough the importance of prayer and seeking God

We had a week of Prayer and Fasting at the end of January for the whole of Liberty Church. This ended with meetings at Bethel at the end of the month. We continued to meet every Tuesday and Friday 6:30-8am by zoom and Debs has been so faithful in this important ministry. We are joined by people from all over the UK at our early morning prayer.

On Friday nights we all used to meet at Bethel but the Pastors of Siloh felt that we needed to meet at Siloh for the people who couldn't travel and also they wanted to pray specifically for the area. So we have two prayer meetings on Friday nights 7pm -one at Siloh and one at Bethel. The attendance at both were growing.

At Bethel, we hosted all nights of prayer and also we started monthly prayer meetings on the third Saturday of every month led by Eminence and the Call to Prayer team. These are for everyone and there have been some incredibly powerful meetings with God.

In September we hosted a team from 'The Send' who were organising prayer for young people all across the UK. It was a very powerful night and some of our leaders at Liberty are leaders for 'The Send' in Wales.

So prayer is so important to everything we do.

KIDS CHURCH

Kids Church continued to grow in 2024 and new people joined our teams. Mary Ritchie was the leader of Kids Church and has developed the teachers and programme wonderfully. They have a teaching curriculum that they use and the children really learn about God and His word and a mix of songs, crafts, games and stories encourage the children to grow in their faith. Thank you to all our Kids Church team leaders and teams ... our children are growing and developing in their faith. Some of the older kids were baptised in 2024 and we were so delighted!

LIBERTY YOUTH

Our Liberty teenagers were led by Vanessa and Sunny during 2024 and they went through Youth Alpha together on Thursday nights. This was an incredible course for the young people and some of them made decisions to make Jesus their Lord and saviour. Some of them were baptised in our baptismal services. They also had an extra special meal together at the end of the year and plans were being made to continue the youth ministry as we went into 2025. A big thank you to Vanessa and Sunny for all their hard work and faithfulness to our teens at Liberty.

ELEVATE, YOUNG ADULTS & STUDENTS

We continued the amazing Elevate events for young adults and students. This was mainly reaching out to all young people from the churches around Swansea – from many denominations – and having a night of worship and impartation using our young people and friends from all over UK. These were amazing nights and we held Elevate on Feb 10th and June 9th. So many young people came and the presence of God was incredible.

We also started 'Ignite' on Sunday evenings 5:30pm at Siloh. We started these special nights on May 5th and it was great to see our young leaders oversee the Ignite evenings - leading worship and ministering to the young adults. We ended the evenings with a meal every Sunday.

ALPHA?

In 2024, we continued to run the Alpha course at Liberty Church. We recognised that this was an excellent way to reach individuals exploring the meaning of life and faith while teaching them the basic foundations of Christian belief and the gospel. In May, Ashelle, along with her Great Oaks' Be-Group, led the Alpha course, which had 15 attendees who made a commitment to give their lives to Christ. The Alpha course took place in Bethel, and we were blessed to witness some of the participants who completed Alpha get baptised in water and received the Holy Spirit during the Holy Spirit Weekend. Additionally, the Alpha course provided a valuable opportunity for the Great Oaks members to strengthen their skills and confidence in facilitating small group discussions, sharing the gospel, and engaging in worship and one-to-one prayer ministry.

WORSHIP & TECH TEAM

Our worship and tech teams had been depleted in 2023 with many key people leaving but in 2024 we thank God for many people who stepped in. Our worship team grew, and many young people and students joined Liberty who could minister in worship. There were also additions in our tech team and things began to improve and we are grateful for everyone who contributed week after week both on the platform and behind the sounddesk.

We added to our worship leaders at Siloh and we thank Lydia Ritchie for the way she led the worship team at this time. The team got stronger and stronger as the year went on and Elevate and Ignite also strengthened our young people. We were also blessed with some of the older musicians and worship leaders who stepped up and we have a great mix of young and old and nationalities in our worship team!

At Bethel, God blessed us with young people and students who loved God and had a passion to worship Him. We set up a basic PA system and used it on Sundays and other events. Caleb became leader of the worship team and he has built a great bunch of people who love to worship and enjoy the presence of God!

We were also blessed with Andy, Penny, Nic and Justin – 'His Nameless Birds!' They led worship once a month at 'The Well' and we at Liberty supported this fully. They also led worship at Bethel and at joint events and were such a blessing to us all.

We held Prayer and Presence Nights throughout the year – an evening with no other priority than to worship God and allow Him to touch our hearts. These were very powerful nights.

SOCIAL MEDIA & ONLINE

We continued to live streaming our morning services from Siloh. This was a challenge for our media team, but they did so well. I know that many of our people who cannot come to church really appreciate watching the service live. This is shown in Facebook and also on YouTube.

Pastor Mark continued my ‘Garden Messages’ throughout 2024 at 8am on a Sunday morning and pray that it was a blessing to many. There have been many testimonies of how God has touched lives through our online ministry. We want to develop our other Social Media platforms in 2025 – TikTok, Instagram etc.

COMINGS AND GOING

Like every church, we had people who said ‘goodbye’ and others who said ‘hello’ at Liberty! There were many who joined Liberty in 2024 and we are so grateful. God promised us he would send us people to ‘lift up our hands’ and who would build for His Kingdom with us. Pastor Mark was amazed at the many new people at Siloh after returning from his sabbatical.

In October, around 17 people who spoke Spanish arrived independently at Siloh. This was a sign for Pastors JP & Jess that there was a harvest of Spanish speaking people that need to be reached and discipled in Swansea.

In Bethel, God added so many new people from so many nations. We were depleted in 2023 but through faithfulness and passion God brought many to Bethel. The church has grown quickly and we are so blessed by the growth in both Siloh and Bethel.

LANTERN COMMUNITY

We continued to host the Lantern Community once a month at Liberty Church. Lantern was started by the amazing Jean Grainger almost 30 years ago and is a ministry for families of disabled young people. They are an amazing bunch of people and at Easter and Christmas they joined us at Siloh in our services where they sing and bring great joy to all of us.

Lantern met at Siloh throughout the year and some of our Liberty family became helpers in the group. We had a couple of trip with Lantern that were special – especially to Longleat in December. The relationship between Liberty and Lantern is beautiful and strong. Long may it continue!

LIBERTY SILOH

Siloh went through changes in 2024 as Pastor Mark went on Sabbatical but by that time the baton of leadership had been passed to Pastors JP and Jessica. They did a great work and have led the church honourably during 2024. It wasn’t easy for them with many work and health challenges. But they have been so faithful and passionate about the church and kingdom.

As mentioned, it has been a time for rebuilding at Siloh. A new leadership, new ministries, new team members for the various ministries and many new people. As we go into 2025 we go

with expectation. Siloh is growing and we believe we can build on the foundation of 2024 for a fruitful year of harvest in 2025.

LIBERTY BETHEL

Throughout 2024 Bethel continued to grow both in number and spiritual strength. Pastors Lameck and Maud gathered people and built a great leadership team at Bethel. Behind the scenes, Pastor Mark continued to try and get permission to take out the pews and see Bethel become a place where we can use in many ways.

In the meantime, we built a great commercial kitchen through donations from the council and the kitchen has been a blessing for us.

The most important aspect of 2024 for Bethel was on May 27th 2024 when the trustees of Bethel Chapel signed over the chapel and all assets to Liberty church. Most of the Bethel Trustees and our trustees were present and it was a wonderful evening – a historic moment when the baton was passed.

Bethel continued to grow and the emphasis on prayer, worship and revival has seen a great group of people get together at Bethel. The future is great. The harvest is coming.

MISSION 24

We continued to host the Mission 24 monthly training events once a month at Siloh. These were powerful days and many of our Liberty family were trained by Mission 24 and went on missions with them to Argentina and Spain. We sent some Liberty family to start the new course that started in September at Lifepoint Church so we have many people trained and ready to reach out.

We also ran Impact Training by Mission 24 on June 19-22 and we reached out to Uplands, the city centre and around Landore. These were wonderful days and many were led to the Lord at this time and many were trained how to share their faith.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

We help some Christmas events in both Siloh and Bethel that were very special. Both places had Carol Services and many local people came. We also held a Spanish themed party at New Year at Siloh followed by worship and Prayer. At Bethel they also saw in 2024 with a wonderful time together at Bethel.

JOINT EVENTS

We see the necessity to have events where our Church families at Siloh and Bethel can meet and catch up with each other. We had several 'Liberty United' services throughout the year, including Eater and Baptismal services at the church and beach. We also met many times for 'Prayer and Presence' evenings.

In September we had our 'Church at the Park' day at Primrose Park near Bethel Church. What a beautiful and wonderful day. We worshipped, ate together and played loads of games. A beautiful time. We continue to look at ways for us to meet and worship together.

BE-GROUPS

We continued to run various Be-groups at Liberty church but as new people came in there was a need to strengthen and start new Be-Groups. 'Living Well' and 'Great Oaks' still continued to minister throughout the year and on Thursday nights the worship group met. This is an area that we were actively trying to develop with new Be-Groups as we went into 2025.

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Missions is still one of our priorities at Liberty church and the first Sunday of every month an offering is taken for our missionaries across the world. We continue to support the Domingos in Philippines and we supported the work of Graham and Sandra Wade in Cambodia.

We also are heavily behind the persecuted church - particularly through Release International. We dedicate one or two Sundays per year to remind Liberty of the issues facing many Christians across the world today and to pastors and leaders we can pray for. Michelle Coe is our Release International Representative, and we are right behind this incredible ministry.

We sent a team to Romania and they were involved in working with the Smiles Foundation and they were involved in many aspects of mission and humanitarian ministry. One of our Liberty family - Emma - went to Romania for 3 months to help with the ministry in Romania.

We didn't do as many missions trips in 2024 but many of our people went on mission to Argentina and Spain through Mission 24. We want to continue to bring our people on Mission in 2025 as we see it as a time when many people's lives are changed. We will plan more Missions Trips in the future.

LOCAL MISSION

We were involved in some local missions that saw a lot of people come to church through various events.

In May, Carl and Sunny organised a Family Fun day at Siloh and it was an amazing success. We had bouncy castles, face painting, free teas and coffees, sports stuff and loads of things for the family. Some families started coming to Liberty through this amazing day.

In July we had a Curry Night and many people came. We had all sorts of curry and Kev Johns shared his testimony and a challenge from God's word. What a wonderful evening! We want to thank Carl and Sunny for their burden to reach out and their lives and vision has brought much fruit!

In November we decided to go through all our toys and have a 'Great Toy Giveaway' – many people came and chose lovely toys and baby items and enjoyed a cup of tea. Another wonderful day!

We are committed to reaching our community through these special events and want to continue some Community Ministries around Landore and LLansamlet in the future.

TRUSTEES

In 2024 we were blessed to add some new Trustees to Liberty Church. Jacqui Alexander stood down after agreeing to 'step in' so we could find new Trustees the others left. We thank Jacqui for all her hard work and wisdom as a Trustee. We are blessed!

We added Ben Gillott, Stevie Jenkin, Ashelle Paras and Kenny Ross to join Pastor Mark as Trustees. Ben and Ashelle worship at Siloh and Stevie is from Bethel. Kenny Ross is a friend of Pastor Mark from Fraserburgh and has had a burden for Liberty Church since it started and has supported us in many ways at many times. He works for Teen Challenge as well as running his own business. These Trustees have helped and strengthened us in many ways and we are looking to add to the team as we go ahead.

LEADERSHIP

In 2024 both Liberty Siloh & Liberty Bethel strengthened their leadership teams in preparation for the ministry and harvest ahead.

In Siloh, Pastors JP & Jess added Mary, Roxanna and Stuart to the team that already included Jacqui and Pete.

In Bethel, Pastors Lameck and Maud chose their new leaders for their first Leadership team – Lewy, Atif, Andrea, Eminence and Caleb

All these leaders are anointed and appointed by the Lord and served the Lord in both churches during 2024.

We ended 2024 with our Pastors and Leadership teams excited and ready for all God wanted for us in 2025.

So as we look back at 2024 we see that it was a year full of transition, blessing, new faces, challenges and change. It was also a year of grace. We thank God for all the people who gave their lives to Christ in 2024 and for all of our Liberty family who 'stepped up' and grew in their ministry and faith last year. We ALL have a part to play.

We enter into 2025 with great gratitude and expectancy and believe that God will continue to lead us and that we will continue the adventure He has started. As we said at the very first meeting we ever had at Liberty ... fasten your seatbelts!

Thank you Lord for all you have done in 2024!

As One!



LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
Year ended December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE				
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Offerings & donations	62,108	-	62,108	62,646
Gift Aid	10,242	-	10,242	10,038
Missions	2,108	3,976	6,083	5,620
Buildings Fund	5,000	-	5,000	19
Donations/Grants from Organisations	-	-	-	360
Other Income	3,289	-	3,289	5,393
	82,747	3,976	86,722	84,076
RESOURCES USED				
DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE				
Support costs				
Salaries & related costs	33,298	-	33,298	38,159
Training and conferences	733	-	733	188
Other Ministers costs	783	-	783	243
	34,814	-	34,814	38,591
Administration				
Building Running Costs	19,766	-	19,766	16,736
Building Maintenance	7,928	162	8,090	485
Office costs	3,612	-	3,612	3,163
Licences & software	2,575	-	2,575	2,776
Bank, Legal & Professional fees	1,127	-	1,127	1,052
Membership	2,266	-	2,266	2,490
	37,273	162	37,435	26,700
Ministry Costs				
Gifts & Guest Ministers	1,080	-	1,080	559
Missions UK	145	2,978	3,123	3,836
Missions Overseas	1,990	95	2,085	2,122
Kids & Youth Ministry	216	-	216	862
Young Adults Ministry	307	-	307	-
Liberty Seniors	-	-	-	-
Media & Worship	1,170	-	1,170	1,554
Outreach	2,217	-	2,217	1,703
Pastoral Ministry	695	-	695	428
Grants	-	226	226	274
	7,821	3,298	11,119	11,338
Other				
Depreciation	2,013	4,168	6,180	6,499
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of assets	-	-	-	661
	2,013	4,168	6,180	7,160
Total resources used	81,920	7,628	89,548	83,789
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	827	(3,653)	(2,826)	287
Transfer between funds	(3,685)	3,685		
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS	(2,858)	32	(2,826)	287
Balances B/forward at 1 January	3,657	3,718	7,375	7,088
Transfer in from Bethel Welsh Congregational Chapel	2,561,160		2,561,160	
Balances C/forward at 31 December	2,561,958	3,750	2,565,708	7,375



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Liberty Church Swansea

**On accounts for the year
ended**

December 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1176598
CE012884

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

**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: Pete Waterman (digitally signed)

Date: 5th June 2025

Name: Pete Waterman (Retired Accountant)

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

Address: 38 Cannisland Park, Parkmill, Swansea SA3 2ED

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to provide details of items for disclosure. The box is currently blank.

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

England & Wales - Charity number 1176598

Accounts

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA TRUSTEE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period covering all dates from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2022

We entered 2023 as a fairly young church that had just come through Covid and we were in the process of rebuilding. Around 30 people had left the church for various reasons since Covid began and we were moving from an online church back to face to face church. At the end of 2022 we had sent out around 25 people to Bethel Chapel in Llansamlet, Swansea and had started meeting on Sunday mornings from November 27th.

We had many great moments in 2023 and here is a quick resume:

KIDS CLUB

We had restarted the Friday Night Kids Club in September 2022 and it kept on going until March 2023 when our Youth Pastors moved on. We pray that the kids who came to FNKC will have seeds sown in their lives and that maybe we can get a team together to restart this incredible ministry.

KIDS CHURCH

Kids Church had been stopped at the end of 2022 and after our Kids Pastors left Mary Ritchie felt the burden to restart and she gathered a great group of leaders who had a great heart for our children. So we restarted Kids Church in April 2023. Mary found a great curriculum for Kids and they have been following this since then. We thank all the team members for their ministry and passion for our children.

BAPTISMS

We had two baptismal services in 2023 - both at the beach. We love seeing people being baptised and look forward to many more!

LIBERTY YOUTH

After our youth pastors moved on we felt that we should continue to minister to our teenagers. So I stepped into the gap and we were meeting on Wednesday's after school. I must say I was completely out of my depth and realised that young people talk a different language to me and function in a parallel universe! We moved to Friday nights but we had to stop for a while as we didn't have enough leaders.

ELEVATE, YOUNG ADULTS & STUDENTS

One of the best and most exciting things that started in 2023 was the creation of 'Elevate' young adults and students ministry. I challenged Lydia, Harry and Chris about the fact that 74% of Christian young people backslide at uni. They decided to put on a worship night for all freshers and young adults at Liberty Church. So in September we had our first one – and around 150 young people came. The worship was absolutely incredible and I felt that night God say 'This is the start of a movement.' They also did a Christmas 'Elevate' and continue to bring young people to a place where they can worship in an incredible way. The Elevate worship band consists of local young people as well as band members who travel from England to join us.

WORSHIP & TECH TEAM

Our worship and media team was down to bare bones when some people left in 2023 but as the year went on God added people to Liberty and to our worship and tech team. More and more people joined both teams and we ended the year with a full worship band. In Bethel Pastor Lameck led worship and he developed a great team there.. We are blessed at Liberty with people who have a heart not only to worship but to lead our people in worship. Our Prayer & Presence nights were a wonderful opportunity for all of us to get together to worship the Lord.

ALPHA

Alpha was run under the leadership of Ashelle with the help of her Be-Group 'Great Oaks.' Ashelle trained the group for running Alpha – amazing! It was a useful time to both empower our existing people to lead small groups as well as reach out to pre-believers and new-believers. We had about 23 people coming each week and around 9 'guests' including a table of young people.

SOCIAL MEDIA & ONLINE

We had switched from having pre-recorded morning services to live streaming from Siloh in 2022 so we continued live streaming throughout 2023. This was a challenge for our media team but they did so well. I know that many of our people who cannot come to church really appreciate watching the service live.

I continued my 'Garden Messages' all throughout 2023 at 8am on a Sunday morning and pray that it was a blessing to many. The Social Media side was only covering Facebook and we didn't have the people to develop things to, for example, TikTok, Instagram etc. but it is an area we want to develop in 2024.

PRAYER

Throughout 2023, we emphasised the vitality of prayer in Liberty Church. Everything comes from HIS presence. We continued with our joint Friday prayer meetings at Bethel and we had some wonderful and powerful nights. But when JP & Jess became the Pastors of Siloh at the end of the year, they really felt from God that we should also have a prayer meeting in Landore so we can pray for the area around the church and also because some people found Bethel a bit far to get to on winters nights. So by the end of 2023 we had Friday night prayer meetings in both churches!

On top of this we have early morning prayer meetings on Tuesdays and Fridays by zoom from 6:30-8am. Debs has been so faithful in leading these prayer meetings.

In January we also had two weeks of prayer and fasting where we help extra prayer meetings, prayer walks and prayer night together. Prayer is key!

BETHEL

Liberty Church at Bethel has continued to grow over in Llansamlet. Pastors Lameck and Maud have been incredibly consistent throughout 2023 and they have led Bethel to a place of unity and authority. They meet in Sunday mornings and every meeting I have been to has been wonderful with Gods presence tangible. We officially opened on July 12th 2023 to the glory of God! They are raising up leaders there and we must give a special thank you to Stevie and Jan who provided great food every Sunday but also in our special occasions.

We continued to meet in the back hall but plans are being made to take out the pews so we can move into the main hall. We put in a new kitchen as well as renovated the back hall and put in a new heating system. So spiritually and physically bethel is being changed!

MISSION 24

One of the biggest blessings we had in 2023 was linking up with Mission24 and Jonathan Conrathe their leaders. Through Paul & Julie Button we connected with them and agreed to be the place where they hosted their very first Mission24 training in Wales. One Saturday every month over 40 evangelists from around Wales have been trained – including many from Liberty. We thank God for Mission24 and thank God for the blessings in our partnership in 2023.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

During the Christmas period we did some great events in Siloh and Bethel. We hosted a wonderful Family Carol service at Siloh and at Bethel we had a Christmas meal where 50-60 people came.

We ended the year with our Hogmanay party and watching service. The food was good, the party was fun ... but Pastor Lameck led us in an incredible time of prayer and worship as we entered 2024!

LANTERN COMMUNITY

Throughout 2023 we had the privilege to host the Lantern Community once a month on a Sunday afternoon. Lantern was started by the amazing Jean Grainger 27 years ago and it is as strong as ever! We thank the Lord that some of our Liberty family became helpers at the Lantern Community and their meetings are filled with joy and laughter. Twice a year they come to our morning service and they usually sing and bring great joy to all of us.

JOINT EVENTS

Throughout 2023 we did a lot of joint events to make sure we kept unity between our churches. The main thing was that every first Sunday of the month we met for Liberty United. We alternated between Bethel and Siloh and it was always a great joy to meet, worship, hear God's word and fellowship afterwards!

We had church in the park in the summer and had joint baptismal services. We met together for prayer and fasting, prayer and presence and other events. Unity is key!

BE-GROUPS

We love our Liberty family to be in small groups and we call them 'Be-Groups' as we need to 'Be the Church' outside the walls of the church. In mid 2023 we only had three Be-Groups left – Living Well led by Mary & Debs, Great Oaks led by Ashelle and the worship Be-Group led by Lydia. Pastor Bassem was going to help rebuild our Be-Group ministry but had to leave to go back to Canada suddenly.

MISSIONS

Throughout 2023 we have supported our Missions partners in the Philippines and Cambodia. The Domingo family are doing a wonderful work in Manila in the most difficult situations and Sandra and Graham continue to lead an incredible work in the capital of Cambodia. We also get behind Rachel Curnock who is still very much part of the mission work in Eswatini. We often have table top stuff to sell at our services. Thank you for all your support.

Pastor Lameck led a Missions team to South Africa in March 2023 and they experienced an anointed trip as they ministered in churches and schools. They raised money for 500 pairs of shoes and socks for children over there and they came back with exciting stories to what God had done in them and through them. We also sent a team out to Romania to help with the 'Smiles Foundation.' They also came back with heart wrenching stories of what God had done in sometimes very difficult situations. We plan more missions trips in the future!

TRUSTEES

In 2023 we saw 4 Trustees step down for various reasons but we also added three new Trustees. We are thankful for every one of them - past and present – who have helped ensure Liberty Church is run well and all the ministries can go on because of great Trustees.

LEADERSHIP

We have a great Leadership team – seven people who have served the Lord and served the church faithfully throughout 2023. Pastors Lameck and Maud led Liberty Bethel and we felt like we needed to raise up and appoint Pastors in Siloh. Pastor Mark was going on sabbatical at the start of January 2024 so this was even more critical. We felt that we didn't want to bring in Pastors but that there were two incredible leaders in our team that were gifted and anointed to lead Siloh – Pastors JP & Jessica!

We entered 2024 in a much better condition than when we started 2023. So many great things have happened and so many people's lives have been touched by the ministry of Liberty Church in Swansea and beyond.

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
Year ended December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE				
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Offerings & donations	62,596	50	62,646	71,396
Gift Aid	10,038	-	10,038	9,726
Missions	-	5,620	5,620	7,780
Buildings Fund	-	19	19	3,870
Donations/Grants from Organisations	-	360	360	8,705
Other Income	5,393	-	5,393	17,953
	78,026	6,049	84,076	119,430
RESOURCES USED				
DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE				
Support costs				
Salaries & related costs	38,159	-	38,159	65,348
Training and conferences	188	-	188	404
Other Ministers costs	243	-	243	98
	38,591	-	38,591	65,850
Administration				
Building Running Costs	16,736	-	16,736	13,790
Building Maintenance	-	485	485	9,068
Office costs	3,163	-	3,163	3,632
Licences & software	2,776	-	2,776	2,883
Bank, Legal & Professional fees	1,052	-	1,052	1,293
Membership	2,490	-	2,490	2,820
	26,216	485	26,700	33,486
Ministry Costs				
Gifts & Guest Ministers	559	-	559	200
Missions UK	-	3,836	3,836	3,368
Missions Overseas	-	2,122	2,122	4,835
Kids & Youth Ministry	862	-	862	2,394
Liberty Seniors	-	-	-	30
Media & Worship	1,554	-	1,554	854
Outreach	1,703	-	1,703	1,403
Pastoral Ministry	428	-	428	624
Grants	-	274	274	-
	5,106	6,233	11,338	13,708
Other				
Depreciation	2,179	4,320	6,499	6,546
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of assets	661	-	661	450
	2,840	4,320	7,160	6,996
Total resources used	72,752	11,037	83,789	120,039
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	5,275	(4,988)	287	(609)
Transfer between funds	(3,585)	3,585		
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS	1,690	(1,403)	287	(609)
Balances B/forward at 1 January	1,967	5,120	7,088	7,697
Balances C/forward at 31 December	3,657	3,718	7,375	7,088



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Liberty Church Swansea

**On accounts for the year
ended**

December 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1176598
CE012884

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023

**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: Pete Waterman (digitally signed)

Date: 18th April 2024

Name: Pete Waterman (Retired Accountant)

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

Address: 38 Cannisland Park, Parkmill, Swansea SA3 2ED

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to provide details of items for disclosure. The box is currently blank.

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

England & Wales - Charity number 1176598

Accounts



2022

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

Charity Registration No. 1176598

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD UNTIL DEC 2022

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

TRUSTEE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period covering all dates from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2022

We went into 2022 with many of the restrictions of COVID-19 all around but the feeling of life coming back to a state of normal was definitely there. We came back from COVID with a blank sheet of paper as we had gone from a very busy church with many programmes to having a Sunday service and a few online meetings and events.

As it turned out, 2022 was a pivotal year for us as we came out of COVID and began to build again. We asked God to help us by showing us what He wanted us to develop, although many ministries could not be started straight away as the leaders had moved in the previous year. However, by the end of the year, there was a large number of ministries that we had managed to re-introduce to the church.

PRAYER

Every January we start our year with a week of prayer and fasting. In 2022 we decided to extend the time by a week and so we had a fortnight of prayer and fasting from January 17th – 30th. During this fortnight we met every morning by zoom, met at the church for prayer and also had various zoom prayer meetings at various times. We also had prayer walks as well as go to different places in the city to pray together. Prayer is an important part of Liberty Church and throughout 2022 we have had two early morning prayer meetings by zoom 6:30-8am, Revival Prayer on Fridays from 10am-12pm and we also meet at 7pm on Fridays for our church prayer meeting. We were meeting at Siloh Chapel for prayer but moved to Bethel when the Friday Night Kids Club started in September.

SUNDAY SERVICES

In January 2022 we decided that we had gone to level 0 and that we no longer needed online services in the mornings, something which had been our usual practice during the previous year, since COVID. So, we moved back to meeting in the morning at Siloh Chapel and livestreamed the service for those who couldn't make it or felt uncomfortable meeting in public. We also started Kids Church again at Montana Community Centre. Slowly but surely our congregation made their way back to church although, like most other churches, some people had left the church and moved on or simply did not return. While some had left, we were also blessed because so many new people had come. We continued meeting on Sunday mornings at Siloh Chapel until November 27th 2022 when some of our congregation started to meet over at Bethel Church in Llansamlet. So at the end of 2022 we had two congregations meeting at two churches every Sunday morning.

BE-GROUPS

One of the strengths of Liberty Church are our Be-Groups. These are small groups of people who meet weekly on various nights to worship, pray and support each other. We really made an effort to get our Liberty congregation into Be-Groups and many have gladly joined. During 2022 we had around 10 groups meeting by Zoom every week with between 5-12 people in each group. The groups included groups for Kids, Youth and adults. We also have a Worship Be-Group and in the autumn we started a Wednesday Be-Group in the church during daytime. We have a dedicated team

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

TRUSTEE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

of Be-Group leaders who pastor and look after the people in their group. This has been a wonderful blessing and strength to us – especially in COVID times.

FRIDAY NIGHT KIDS CLUB (FNKC)

We restarted our very popular FNKC in September – and around 120 kids came. We had gathered a new team over the summer and we were all so happy to see the children again. The nights were full of the great things that had previously made up FNKC – dances, cool rules, 60 seconds of fame, dramas, songs and a great message for the kids every week. There was always lovely prizes and the kids loved it. The numbers tapered off a bit as the weeks went on but there was an average of around 50-60 kids.

KIDS CHURCH

We restarted Kids Church again in February 2022 and the parents would sign in their children at Montana Community Centre before the service at Siloh started. The kids Church had their own programme that included games, crafts, songs and a kids' message. The children were happy to have their own church in their own place and the parents enjoyed having a bit of space too.

LIBERTY YOUTH

The teenage youth in our church started to meet on Wednesday afternoons at the home of our Youth Pastors Dave and Rachael McLeay. They always started with Hot Chocolate and biscuits and had an afternoon of playing games, watching a ministry videos and sharing together after a message from Dave or Rachael. It was good to re-gather the youth as a group and this has continued.

ALPHA

In May 2022 we started an Alpha group for those interested in the bigger questions in life. We held it at the local pub – the Plough and Harrow. At first we had many people come and it was great to see many deciding to follow Christ. Many of them would get baptised later on in the year. Alpha was led by Samuel Brown and had a great bunch of facilitators that turned up every week. Alpha has been a great tool in bringing people to church.

BAPTISMS

We had two baptismal services in 2022. The first was in church in April and the other was at the beach in September. At these services we heard people give their testimonies of how Jesus had changed their lives.

LANTERN COMMUNITY

During the pandemic a lady called Jean started to attend Liberty Church. For 26 years she has led a group of people who have learning difficulties. They had met in several locations over the years but Jean asked if they could use our church to meet. So we started to meet on the second Sunday

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

TRUSTEE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

afternoon of each month. These amazing people come with their parents or carers and they sing, share and have crafts. Some of our Liberty congregation have started to help the group too. They often go for a meal together and twice a year they come to church and take part in our service. This has been a special addition to our church in 2022.

'TRANSFORMERS' BUILDING TEAM

Siloh Chapel is a beautiful chapel but there was still work outstanding that the local council had stated needed to be dealt with. So a team from Scotland came down for 4 days in July and joined our team in Swansea. They fixed the back of the stage and installed a new pew there. They finished the platform and added a new wooden decoration around the stage. They built a beautiful sound area with the old balustrade which turned out so well. The work that teams did was incredible and the standard of their work was first class. Pastor Mark's brother, Paul, led the team and we are so grateful. They paid their own expenses and saw it as a ministry to the Lord.

THE HEAVENLY MAN

In October we had the joy of hosting a well-known international speaker called Brother Yun from China. He had been imprisoned for his faith for 7 years and his story was inspirational. The church was packed full as he shared his story and prayed for us. We hope he will return to Liberty Church again as his ministry made a great impact on us all.

YOUTH WITH EXPERIENCE

One of the ministries we started in 2022 was 'Youth with experience' which took over from our pre-COVID 'Liberty Seniors'. We started the group by having a day trip to the 'Purple Badger' centre in the Gower. We had around 25-30 of us attend and it was a fantastic day. From then we met twice every month on a Tuesday morning. Every week was different and special with tea, coffee and lovely cakes provided. Every week there was a craft and a take home gift. There were special events for the Queen's Jubilee and other occasions. People would share stories and poems and every week there was a little talk by one of the group. One Tuesday we held a MacMillan's coffee morning and raised a bit of money for this special cause.

SOCIAL EVENTS

We held a few Social Events in 2022 where we invited the local community into our church. We had a fantastic sale to raise money for our building fund and hundreds of people came in and had a bargain and a good chat. We also provided teas and coffees for everyone and an area for prayer. We had 'Church in the Park' one Sunday in July and we just enjoyed being together, having a service in the park followed by food and games. Many people came to speak to us and we made new friends. At Halloween we had a 'Light up the Night' party at church and so many families attended. We had games, food and competitions. Every leader dressed up and the whole night was a great success. At Christmas we held Carol Services in both Siloh and Bethel churches which the community attended well. At Siloh we had a 'Christmas Family Night' where we had our own choir and loads of fun – as well as Santa preaching for the first time ever. We ended the year with our Hogmanay and Watchnight Service where we had loads of food, games and fun before ending the year with worship, testimonies and prayer. Again, many people from the community came.

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

TRUSTEE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY

Liberty Church continues to reach out to our international community here in Swansea. In 2022 we restarted our Spanish Church once a month on a Sunday led by Pastors Jean Pierre and Jessica. They also run a Spanish speaking Be-Group for Spanish speakers not only in Swansea but over the world. We also helped many people from various nations who contacted us or who started coming to our church. We have helped Asylum seekers and refugees who have come to Swansea with finding accommodation and help furnishing their homes. We helped many from Nigeria, Iran, Ukraine, Honduras, El Salvador and other nationalities.

STUDENTS MINISTRY

We had the joy of having some students come to Liberty and some of them wanted us to start a Student Ministry. They met after church most Sundays and went for lunch together. They also had games nights and other events so they could meet and bind together. They also hosted some Friday Night worship nights throughout the year and many other students attended.

MISSIONS TRIPS

We had the privilege of taking some of our congregation on Mission in 2022. It has been impossible to go on Mission in 2020 and 2021 so it was great to start again. In October we had a team go to Romania to work with the 'Smiles Foundation.' They did so many things – from working in the gardens, taking church services, painting buildings and so much more. They came back with lots of photos, memories and, most importantly, new friends. We will plan many other Missions trips as the world opens up once again.

ONLINE MINISTRY

Pastor Mark has a one hour teaching ministry every Sunday morning on Facebook live and during the pandemic it was from 9-10am. When our church and other churches started to have morning services he changed his teaching to 8am thinking that very few would come an hour earlier – but they did. He continued this throughout 2022 and still to this day. Pastor Mark and Pastor Dave had live worship nights on Tuesdays and Fridays but due to the increase of church activity they had to lay it down. When we moved to Sunday morning service only we started live streaming the service on Facebook and YouTube and this has been a huge blessing to those who can't get out or who are far away. Our Media team have improved no end to include this important ministry.

WHATSAPP

We used WhatsApp for communicating with all of our Be-Group members. We also set up many WhatsApp groups between leaders and ministries so that it was easy to communicate with many people. One of the most effective ways we communicated was through a WhatsApp List where the Pastor could send out a message that was delivered to everyone in the church with WhatsApp. So 150 people could read that one message immediately. This was useful when things changed and meetings were cancelled in the COVID-19 times and we continued using this as a primary tool for communication in 2022.

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

TRUSTEE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

BETHEL

In 2019 we met with the Trustees of another Chapel over in Llansamlet - Bethel Chapel. Bethel church was an independent church of the same group of churches as Siloh Chapel. They had heard what happened at Siloh and came and saw Siloh during a Toddlers morning – they were amazed. They asked if we could help them and we decided to do a Christmas Carol service in December 2019 – which was a great success. Then COVID came and our plans were put on hold for two years.

In 2022 we met again with the Trustees of Bethel and planned ahead. They were overjoyed that we could continue the work that they had started and that Bethel had a future as a church. They wanted to release any of their funds to start up our new church. We added three of our Trustees to join the Bethel Trustees and when the original Trustees are happy to see a new church at Bethel they will step back and Bethel will come under Liberty Church (and charity) and we will take responsibility for the building and ministry.

In September 2022 we asked our congregation to pray and decide whether they wanted to stay at Siloh and continue the ministry there or go to Bethel to start a new church there. Around 25 people felt they wanted to start the new church and our first Sunday in two places was Sunday 27th November.

Originally we had hoped to open to the public on that date but we realised that this was unwise as we had no kitchen, the electrician said we needed new wiring, we had very few sockets and the lights in the back hall were not working. But, as we met as a team we decided we should still meet on Sunday mornings to get to know each other, worship together and pray for the area. So, since November around 25-30 of our Liberty family have been meeting at Bethel. We had 10 leaders and 3 would go to Bethel and 6 would stay at Siloh with Pastor Mark going between them both.

So on November 27th we started in Bethel and we have also been working on the physical building ever since. We are in the process of completely renovating the back hall, installing a commercial kitchen, getting new wiring for the electricity and applying for the pew removal. We will also put new radiators in the back hall to make it warmer. And for the first time in its history – Bethel will have Wi-Fi and a phone line.

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
Year ended December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE				
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Offerings & donations	71,396	-	71,396	79,785
Gift Aid	9,726	-	9,726	14,814
Projects	-	11,650	11,650	25,349
Donations from Organisations	8,565	140	8,705	833
Other Income	12,337	5,616	17,953	1,816
	102,024	17,406	119,430	122,597
RESOURCES USED				
DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE				
Support costs				
Salaries & related costs	65,348	-	65,348	66,241
Training and conferences	404	-	404	209
Other Ministers costs	98	-	98	891
	65,850	-	65,850	67,341
Administration				
Building Running Costs	13,790	-	13,790	12,734
Building Maintenance	211	8,857	9,068	6,981
Office costs	3,632	-	3,632	2,660
Licences & software	2,883	-	2,883	2,500
Bank, Legal & Professional fees	1,249	44	1,293	661
Membership	2,820	-	2,820	2,949
	24,585	8,901	33,486	28,485
Ministry Costs				
Gifts & Guest Ministers	200	-	200	2,316
Missions	-	2,603	2,603	3,730
Kids & Youth Ministry	2,394	-	2,394	648
Liberty Seniors	30	-	30	8
Media & Worship	854	-	854	2,597
Outreach	1,403	-	1,403	902
Pastoral Ministry	624	-	624	864
Projects	-	5,600	5,600	16,362
	5,505	8,203	13,708	27,426
Other				
Depreciation	2,226	4,320	6,546	6,056
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of assets	450	-	450	-
	2,676	4,320	6,996	6,056
Total resources used	98,616	21,424	120,039	129,308
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	3,409	(4,018)	(609)	(6,711)
Transfer between funds	(2,944)	2,944		
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS	465	(1,074)	(609)	(6,711)
Balances B/forward at 1 January	1,502	6,195	7,697	7,697
Balances C/forward at 31 December	1,967	5,120	7,088	986



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Liberty Church Swansea

**On accounts for the year
ended**

December 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1176598
CE012884

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022.

**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: Pete Waterman (digitally signed)

Date: 22nd April 2023

Name: Pete Waterman (Retired Accountant)

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

Address: 38 Cannisland Park, Parkmill, Swansea SA3 2ED

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Update for items raised in IER December 2020 and December 2021

Some internal process, around the generation of expenses, and recording need improvement, and the church payment card system helps with this, but control policies around this need some better understanding and systems for approval need a revision.

- ❖ Limited improvements on the card payment system however apart from the expenses guidelines, the control policies have still not been revised.

Overall oversight by Trustees is generally insufficient, with little engagement and support of those actually doing the processes and data entry.

- ❖ Trustees oversight has continued to be insufficient

Working practices that need to be reviewed over this next 12-month period are:

- *Use of budget and performance measures allowing oversight of the Leadership Team and ministries/operation of the charity by the Trustees.*

- ❖ No reporting against budget was made during the year

- *Development of new policies and procedures e.g. conflict and register of Interests, strategic risk register, acceptance of gifts/hospitality, whistle-blower policy, anti-bribery policy, trustee appointment, skill mix and evaluation policies, reserves investment and internal finance control policy/checklist, fixed asset register, Church policy register, payment and use of payment card policy.*

- ❖ Many of these have been completed or started, but not known if fully accepted. The following have not been done: -
strategic risk register, acceptance of gifts/hospitality, anti-bribery policy, internal finance control policy/checklist, fixed asset register, Church policy register, payment and use of payment card policy, expense policy

- *A RACI (Responsible, Accountable, Consulted and Informed) analysis, would be helpful to help understand limits, boundaries and improve best working practice in managing and use of finance, personal and resources in the charity as a whole.*

- ❖ The RACI document was created; however, as the compliance team ceased to exist in 2021 there is no evidence of this being used in the working practices of the Church

LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

England & Wales - Charity number 1176598

Accounts



LIBERTY CHURCH SWANSEA

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD FROM 6TH APRIL 2020 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2020

Charity Registration No. 1176598

Company Number CE012884
Charitable Incorporated Organisation

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Trustees report (The Covid Year)	Page 3 – 6
Leadership Review of the Covid Year	Page 7-15
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TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

Legal and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Liberty Church Swansea

Charity Registration Number: 1176598

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Companies House Number: CE012884

Address: Liberty Church Offices
Siloh Chapel
Pentre Treharne Road
Landore
Swansea
SA1 2PN

Trustees & Directors: Rev. M. Ritchie
Mrs J. Alexander (stepping down 31-12-2020)
Mr D.R. Hand (stepping down 31-12-2020)
Mr D Weale (appointed 01-05-2019 resigned 31-12-2020)

Independent Examiner: Rev. Mark Lees
Flat 2, 3 Station Road
Llanelli
SA15 1AF

Bankers: Lloyds Bank
Oxford Street
Swansea

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005.



TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

Trustees Report (The Covid Year)

Structure, governance and management

Liberty Church Swansea is a church in good standing with Assemblies of God Inc. UK and operates under their governing direction as a national body, as an independent charity. It has been operating under its governance structure since July 2017 and was accepted to be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) type charity since 10th January 2018. The church is led by a leadership team, who function with the support of a Trusteeship, where the Trustees are the voting members, and a church membership structure. The leadership team are primarily responsible for the vision and operation of the day-to-day ministry within the life of the church, and the Trustees are responsible primarily for the fiduciary arrangements as regards, compliance, finance and legal oversight and reporting.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

New Trustees may be recruited to the board at any time by the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as Trustees, the Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. The Trustees may, by and from their number and from time to time, elect such officers (chair, secretary, treasurer) as required and as appropriate. Each new Trustee receives, on or before his or her first appointment a copy of the current version of the constitution and governing documents; and a copy of the charity's latest Trustees' annual report and statement of accounts. Trustees receive regular updates from the Charity Commission's website.

Organisational Structure and decision-making process

Decision making takes place as a unit, and makes decisions based on collective research, discussion and agreement. Expenditure of more than £1,000 is referred to the board for approval unless included in a previously approved budget. All staff positions are authorised by the whole board, but recruitment of the person is delegated to the Senior Pastor who is also the Chairman of the Board.

Risk Management

As part of Liberty Church's risk management process, the Trustees have established a risk assessment schedule in collaboration with relevant key staff members. The Trustee members acknowledge their responsibility for the charity's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. The Trustees are satisfied that the systems in place are sufficient to mitigate exposure to the major associated risks. The Trustees, through the church leadership team have set policies on risk and internal controls, which cover:

- The responsibility of management to implement the Trustees' policies
- The responsibility of management to implement all Trustee-approved procedures/controls
- Identification and consideration of the types of risk that the charity faces

Safeguarding

In 2019-20 Liberty Church Swansea worked in compliance with the framework of our safeguarding policy. Rachael McLeay was the safeguarding officer. The charity subscribes to thirtyone:eight, to facilitate our DBS checks of all workers with children, youth and vulnerable adults, as well as for Trustees and Pastoral Staff.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of the CIO as laid down in the constitution are (a) the advancement of the Christian faith in Swansea, the UK and overseas, (b) the relief of persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress and (c) the advancement of education on the basis of Christian principles.

a) Advancing Christian faith in Swansea and the UK

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is responsible for Liberty Church Swansea, which is a missionary congregation reaching out to Swansea's Christian community and the community surrounding its location. The aim of this congregation is not only to teach the Christian faith and offer opportunities to worship, but also to demonstrate the gospel through serving the local community (further details and activities below). The church runs a Kid's Club and a separate Youth Group inside Siloh Chapel, Landore, where many children and youth from the local community come to have fun, play games and also receive encouragement through relevant Christian messages. The Church also runs a playgroup for families in the Landore area. The playgroup offers fun activities and social interaction for parents and Grandparents; as well as providing spiritual support and prayer as required. Liberty Church also hosts a Senior morning where the over 50's can fellowship and receive encouragement through prayer and Christian teaching.

Advancing Christian faith overseas

Through Liberty Church Swansea, people are encouraged to be involved with various overseas projects. Opportunities are provided each year for people to participate in such projects. Members of Liberty Church Swansea also contribute to supporting a number of missionaries working around the globe.

b) Relief of persons who are in conditions of need or hardship, or who are aged or sick.

The church regularly finds itself in a position to help local community members through prayer or by dispensing charity. The charity, although young, is very generous, and is keen to work with other charities and organisations as the opportunities arise and relationships develop. Examples are:

- Release International: The church frequently encourages prayer and tangible support for persecuted Christians throughout the world through teaching, testimonies and communication.
- Tesco: The church has been able to collect and distribute food and household items to families in need. These items were short dated or excess stock from Tesco that otherwise would have been wasted.
- The Church developed a neighbourhood support plan during the Covid crisis, in cooperation with the local council.

c) The advancement of education on the basis of Christian principles

Liberty Church Swansea has a strong relationship with Brynhyfryd Primary School and pre-Covid was regularly invited to be part of school assemblies.

Aims and Objectives for period

The aims and objectives of this period were to become firmly established as a Christian witness in the local community. As part of the charitable objective to advance the Christian faith, Liberty Church Swansea aims to create a church community in which people feel part of the family and feel at home.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

Liberty Church Swansea Leadership Team

The leadership team of Liberty Church Swansea was as follows:

Mark Ritchie – Senior Pastor

Dave McLeay – Children & Youth Pastor

Rachael McLeay – Children & Youth Pastor

David Weale - Executive Pastor (resigned 27th September 2020)

Deborah Harris - Church Administrator from 28th September 2020

Paul and Julie Button - Associate Leaders Liberty Church Colwinston
(Stepped down 18th September 2020)

- The Senior Pastor, Rev. Mark Ritchie oversaw the vision, strategy and direction of the charity
- Dave and Rachael McLeay oversaw the establishment and direction of the youth and children's ministries
- David Weale oversaw administration, finances, marketing and charity responsibilities.
- Deborah Harris oversaw administration and finances.

The complete pastoral team were responsible for the following areas:

- Evangelism and community outreach
- A community church plant in Colwinston
- Church services, communication, preaching and teaching
- Pastoral care and small groups coordination
- Ministry leadership training and development
- The translation of vision/mission into action
- Worship team training and development

During and despite of the Covid crisis, new safety and social distance policies were implemented, and the compliance team supported by others did a lot of serious work to establish new policies and practices for the new realities around the Covid infection and impacts locally. Many thanks to this small but dedicated team for working so hard to ensure all activities complied with latest guidance and in helping keep staff, volunteers and participants safe.

Public Benefit

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of religion for public benefit" and have regarded it in their administration of the charity. The Trustees believe that by promoting the Christian faith it provides a benefit to the public by providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual development both for existing church members and anyone wishing to benefit from the services offered by the charity, which are delivered with love, compassion, and a heart of service. Liberty Church Swansea commits to promoting Christian values and services both in the community and to the community for the benefit of individuals, families and society as a whole. Whilst many of the practices and opportunities usually presented to the church have been severely limited during this Covid period and especially in the strictest times of lockdown, curtailing most practical ministry and outreach. Liberty church developed a new on-line presence offering regular services and support of individuals through, Facebook, YouTube, Zoom and WhatsApp media methods. Developing "BE Groups" and an intercessors network in this period to help overcome isolation, and as a means of providing pastoral care to members and others. We are wholly thankful and grateful to all those in the Church community who give generously to the ministry of Liberty Church Swansea. These are new, strange and challenging days, but God is the same, His love is constant and His presence is ever with us in Jesus name.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

Financial review

Policy on reserves The Charity's policy aim is to work towards a minimum of general funds held in reserve to run the organisation for up to 3 months.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees are required to: - select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping 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 the Charities Act 2011.

Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

During 2020 the Trustees with support from the Compliance Team created and updated a number of our policies to make sure we were legally up to date with charity requirements.

Trustees met regularly to ensure that the church fulfilled all legal and Charity Commission responsibilities and that the finances were in order. We wanted to make sure that we made sure the church leadership were free to run with the vision of the church without being held back by making decisions that the trustees could make to ensure a great partnership to see the church grow.

We look forward to a greater 2021 and are excited to be part of the vision for Liberty Church.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

Rev. Mark Ritchie, Chair of Trustees

Dated 29th March 2021

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

LIBERTY CHURCH REPORTS APRIL-DECEMBER 2020

When we started 2020, little did we know what was ahead. We could not have envisaged that by March the whole church building would be closed and the whole world would grind to a halt. Within weeks, every programme we ran from Siloh Chapel was stopped and we had to find new ways of pastoring people as well as continuing to reach our community. We had to build the ship while we were at sea! There has never been a time like 2020 and yet amidst it all God has been totally faithful and we have learned so much.

Here are some reports from April – December 2020 – **we give God ALL the glory.**

COMMUNICATION

Much of our communication was shared in the announcements in our Sunday service so we had to find ways of reaching and informing the Liberty family. For the first few months the leaders would try and call everyone in the church personally to find out we were all ok. As our leaders went back to work this became impossible but we called people when we heard or felt they needed encouragement or help.

One great thing we did was to set up a Liberty Family Whatsapp list where Pastor Mark could send information or links to events with one message. There are 186 people on the list and this has proved to be a great tool for sharing information and encouragement.

We also started a 'Liberty Church Facebook Page – Closed' that was for our Liberty family and not a public page. This has also been a great place to share information and also for our Liberty family to share prayer requests and encouragements. Our Liberty Church Facebook page had been set up for a number of years and is a public page for all to see.

Around July we started a 'Liberty Zoom Cuppa' for anyone in Liberty to join us for a coffee, catch up and laugh. This has been great and yet only a few people seem to come. The invitation is there every Sunday – join us!

So we have used many ways to communicate – Whatsapp list, Facebook pages, Zoom, our Youtube channel, our worship nights, prayer times and one-off messages and videos sent by Pastor Mark. The children and youth have also had many communications from Dave and Rachael. We have tried to keep people connected using whatever ways we can.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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SURVEY

In June we wanted to know how our church family were and how you were feeling. We sent out an online survey where anyone could reply anonymously and share their thoughts. This was a real help to us in our planning. The general answers were:

- **We don't want to come back to church until we can worship, hug, sit together and have coffee! (80%)**
- **We are watching and enjoying the online service and other online programmes**
- **We found out how people connected with us and what social media platforms they use**
- **70-80% felt connected to Liberty Church**

The survey helped us plan well.

10:38 GROUP

At the start of the pandemic many vulnerable people and the elderly could not leave their homes. There was a call for key workers and charities to help. So we set up 'Liberty 10:38' because it says in **Acts 10:38 'how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.'**

Because we don't have a working kitchen it was hard for us but we gathered a number of people from Liberty who did shopping, went to the Pharmacy, made calls to the lonely etc. We had a few trips taking people to hospital; and whatever else was needed. We worked closely with the Local Area Co-ordinators and with our local councillor Mike White. Whenever they needed something, we provided help in any way we could.

We also encouraged our Liberty family to become 'Community Champions' and help our neighbours in any way possible. This was a great blessing for many.

FINANCIAL GIVING

You will find a record of our giving below but as you can imagine, 2020 was a great challenge for us! Usually, many people would give their tithes and offerings through cheque or cash during the Sunday service. But now we have no Sunday services!

We are so blessed by the many people who heard our hearts and who switched to giving by Standing order or into our bank account. We are so grateful. As a church we have commitments to our own Pastors, to pay bills and to support our missionaries. And we were able to do all of this because of your faithfulness to the Lord.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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WORSHIP NIGHTS

Without any planning or much thought two nights of worship started – Tuesday nights from pastor Dave McLeay’s home and Friday night from Pastor Mark’s home. They are slightly different in that Dave has worship with a word and Mark has worship with a prophetic and intercessory edge. Both nights have been a blessing not only to our Liberty family but people all over the world. They both continue on our Liberty Church Facebook page at 7:30pm on those evenings.

ONLINE SERVICE

One of the first things we had to do was to begin an online service every Sunday morning. The first two were from the church building but then we had to move to recording from our homes when the strict lockdown came in April. Due to the uncertainty of when we could go back to the church building we decided that we would keep the online service at 10:30am on a Sunday morning so that we could show a consistent service every week whatever the social conditions

The service has proved to be a blessing not only to our Liberty family but to many people from all over the world. We get regular watchers from the Philippines, USA, Australia, Singapore, Scotland, England and Ireland ... and many other places. Let your glory fall from this room ... let it go forth from here to the nations!

Our format is simple and is varied so everyone can enjoy something. We have worship, kids talk, a testimony or Big 5, prayer requests, Bible Reading, preaching and prayer. I know many have been blessed by our services and a HUGE thank you must go to Ben Gillot who was in charge of the media during this time and latterly to Jack McLeay who has taken over the mantle. We could not do what we have done without these guys. Thank you.

FROM THE GARDEN

In May, the Lord woke Pastor Mark up and asked him to go to his phone and do a Facebook Live. As he was doing this the Holy Spirit gave Mark the words and message to share. Since that day, every Sunday morning the Lord has woke Pastor Mark up with a question, song, message, challenge, thought ... and he has gone online and the Holy Spirit shows him what to say. It’s raw and it’s real!

This has become a huge blessing to so many people all over the world and is different to what you would get in an online service. If you haven’t listened join us on Liberty’s Facebook page 9am every Sunday until further notice!

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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SERVICES AT SILOH CHAPEL

By September the lockdown rules had changes and churches could meet again but with restrictions. Social distancing must be observed, seats had to be pre-booked for track and trace, the church had to go through thorough risk assessment and comply with regulations, we could not touch and we could not sing. Doesn't sound like church! A big thank you is needed here for our Compliance Team and Trustees as they waded through regulations to ensure we were all safe during our services.

We knew that most of our Liberty family had indicated they would not come back with these conditions and that was very fair and a choice we all had to make. We started on September 27th and we could seat up to 63 people if every seat was full.

It was great to see each other again, despite the restrictions. Our services were good and it took a number of weeks to get into the new ways and new restrictions. But we did. And what we found was that the people who wanted to come were mainly new people that had found Christ through the pandemic or people who wanted to start making Liberty their church.

We had to stop meeting again in November and we didn't start back again that year. At least we had made a start and were meeting again. We longed for the days where we could sit where we want, sing as loud as we want, hug whoever we want and drink coffee with people we love at the end of the service. We look forward to starting our Kids Church again. These days will come but we were just happy to see each other again. Our Liberty family will reunite when the time is right!

BE GROUPS

In March 2020 we had around 4-5 Be-Groups running. God had challenged us to have 'cell church' model where everyone was part of a small group where the leaders didn't only teach but would look after and 'Pastor' the people. We tried so hard when we started Liberty but for some reason this didn't seem to fit the Welsh culture!

But in August God really spoke to Pastor Mark about getting our Liberty family into Be-Groups where they could get support and encouragement and grow in God. So we set about asking people who would like to be in a Be-Group and we set up new ones. All our Be-Groups were by Zoom so no travel or parking was needed!

We are glad to inform you that by December we had 8 Be-Groups running with another 2 to start in January. These groups are for a range of ages from kids, youth, young adults and adults' groups. We feel that Be-groups will be a key for our church in the years ahead.

**TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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CHURCH HOUSE

From August 2017 we had rented the house next door to the church – 15 Pentre Treharne Road. We could not do what we have done without that brilliant house. It has been our offices, meeting room, Carl's home, a place to host missions' teams, kids church for toddlers ... everything! But we never used it at all from April to November and so it was a waste of our funds keeping the rent going. So in Dec 1st we handed back the keys and moved our office into the church. It's a temporary move until we get the side hall done.

PERSECUTED CHURCH

The church is intentional in its encouragement and support of the persecuted church with four B-Groups committing to pray and support named countries where Christians are persecuted.

The church actively welcomes representatives and speakers from Release International to share current news of the global needs of Christians who are being persecuted and the opportunities for the church to become involved. The church has actively supported persecuted Christians through targeted giving including online fundraising.

STAFF CHANGES

In September we were informed by David Weale that he was returning to his old job in London. This was a huge shock to us and we had to re-adjust everything we were doing in terms of administration, financial set ups and management plans. We must thank David for all he did for us and for putting together a plan for us to move forward. Davis was also our Chairman of Trustees and we thank him for all he has done as a Trustee and leader.

We were very grateful the Debs Harris took over the administration and financial responsibilities and is doing an incredible job. Thank you Debs. Also, Jack McLeay has taken over the media ministry which covers social media, website as well as the Audio and Visual ministry in the church building. We have a new PA and Media equipment and we are going to see a much better quality of media in the days ahead.

At the end of December Dave Hand and Jacqui Alexander also stepped down from their roles as Trustees for Liberty Church. They had served for over two years and along with David Weale and Pastor Mark have set up a good foundation to move forward. We appointed three new Trustees to join Pastor Mark as we move into a new season – Mark Lees, Andrew Tonks and Marion Morgan.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

MEMBERS UPDATE

It is usual in church life that people come and people go. There are many reasons why people come and many reasons why people go.

From April – December 2020 we had a number of our members decide to leave Liberty Church. Each one gave reasons why they were leaving and said they felt it was what God wanted. As leaders we do get upset when people leave as they are our family, and we have many memories. But the good thing is that we are still in good relationship with them all. There is no problems or issues with any of these people and they are still loved and prayed for by our leaders.

We had 12 members leave during this period. At the same time there are many new faces and people at Liberty who have started coming and made Liberty Church their home! There are between 30-40 people who we are praying will become Liberty Family Members in early 2021. This is church life! This is family ...

Liberty Kids

In April of 2020 the messages for Liberty Kids became integrated into our online Sunday Service. Some of the kids in our church families have been able to connect with this, for others it has been a struggle. Many of the adults (particularly new believers) have expressed appreciation for the simple teaching and others have been carefully implementing all the gardening lessons.

In June we started the Liberty Kids Hangout. This takes place via zoom every Sunday from 10-10:30, just before the service. It is a great way to connect with the kids and has picked up momentum as time has gone on. During the 30 minutes we check in to see how everyone is doing, share some thoughts about the memory verse or the teaching and play a game. At the end we pray for all the kids and then encourage everyone to watch the service. One lovely benefit of the hangout time is that our missionary families in eSwatini and the Philippines can also join us. This has been so lovely for all our kids to have the chance to get to know them better and we can't wait until they come and visit in person once Covid is all over.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Generations Youth

Liberty Church has a very young youth group, as most of our kids have come through Friday Night Kids club. Year 6 is our crossover year when kids can attend both kids club and youth, so most of our kids are from school years 6 & 7, and not yet old enough to be on social media. This has made staying connected with the kids from our local community during Covid very challenging/impossible. We pray that God will give us opportunity to reconnect with these kids soon, and that the seeds of the gospel that have been sown in their heart will continue to grow and bring fruit.

In April we started a weekly Be Group for our 11-14 year old girls via zoom. The girls have become very close to each other and have challenged each other as they have grown in their relationships with the Lord.

In May a boys Be group also started for the 11-14 age group via zoom. The group is called boys to men, and we are so proud of the way they are all growing in their relationships with each other and with the Lord.

Compliance Team

As a result of Covid the Welsh Government issued different laws and guidelines describing how and when the church could meet. At Liberty Church we are very blessed to have people of incredible skills and expertise in these areas, and with a heart to serve the church with excellence. Kieron Dunning and Alison Leggett, along with David Weale and the Trustee team, spent many hours strategizing, planning and training volunteers so that as a church we could meet in the building in a safe manner. As a result the Liberty Church Compliance Team begun and remain dedicated to bringing excellence in compliance in all areas.

Prayer Meetings

In October, Liberty Church responded to the call to focused prayer. Lead by Debs Harris, Judy Goodwin, Andrew & Jayne Tonks, Dave McLeay and Mark Ritchie, various times of prayer were set up via zoom. This has been found to be a wonderful platform for prayer, allowing people to join when they are able, even if for a short time, and from their home. People have responded well to this call and many have participated in the various meetings. The schedule has been:

Tuesday:	6:30-8:00am
Thursday:	10:00-11:00pm each week and then 7:30-9:30pm first Thursday of the month.
Friday:	6:30-8:00am 10:00am-12:00pm

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We are delighted to see that the attendance of our early morning prayer has trebled in this last year.

Alpha

In June 2020 we launched our first online Alpha Course, and it was a great success. Many of our church family volunteered, new believers attended to strengthen their faith, and unsaved friends were invited who were interested and ready to hear the gospel for the first time. The course was led by Paul & Julie Button with administration done by Ashelle Paras, they all did a fantastic job. The dynamic was incredible as people from all over the world could attend. There were 5 first time decisions for Jesus, and so much growth in many individuals that attended. Most of those who attended the Alpha course have become part of Be Groups and the Liberty church family.

Missions

During the months April to December Liberty Church has had the privilege to continue to partner with our missionaries on the field. Namely, Graham & Sandra Wade in Cambodia, The Smart Family in eSwatini and The Domingo Family in the Philippines. Each of these nations has had its own challenges as they have attempted to navigate this pandemic, and all of our missionaries have served so well during this time.

They have faced isolation, famine, fires, strict lockdowns, floods, lack of transport, no mail, just to name a few challenges; all with the strength of the Lord and have continued to serve their communities with passion and the love of the Father.

Amazingly, during this season, we have connected with our missionaries on an even deeper level. They have led us in worship, shared testimonies, attended Be Groups, Prayer meetings and been a big part of our Sunday online service and kid's ministry. As a church we are so grateful for the way the Lord has brought us closer together throughout this challenging season.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Worship

Worship remains one of the core elements of all we do at Liberty Church; we have such a strong value for experiencing God's presence as we worship Him. During this year we have undergone a huge learning curve as we have adapted to times of worship online and in the church building with covid restrictions. With our worship team juggling so many things personally: work, homeschooling, studying, family, lockdown, they have been amazing at continually recording and bringing the heart of worship to our Liberty Family. This has been further supported by our media team. Ben Gillott brought so much expertise and professionalism to the online service and volunteered so many hours to serve the church as he edited the service together. This has been taken up by Jack McLeay who has been able to take on the editing, and who with the media team are developing the media department of the church and serving at our 4pm service in Siloh Chapel.

This year we also launched our media & sound appeal. We are so grateful that God has used so many of us, as well as people that we are connected with throughout the world to provide everything that we have needed (for now). Our sound system has had a complete overhaul and the team is undergoing training and working towards livestreaming our services.

So as you can see ... Liberty Church may have left the building for a while but we have never been more open and never been more alive! We don't know what is ahead and we know that somehow we have to blend what we were doing before with what we are doing now. They are completely different in so many ways. But we look to Jesus and we are listening to the Holy Spirit. One step at a time.

Thank your standing with us in 2020. It was a year we all had to make adjustments, re-think how we do things and it was definitely a year where we realised that people are more important than things. We miss seeing you all but look forward to seeing us all together again – what a day that will be! Until then, let's keep praying for each other and supporting each other. Liberty Church cannot go back to what we were but we must move on to what HE wants us to be.

AS ONE!

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

Liberty Church Swansea – Summarised Financial Statement: Period of actual expense April-Dec 2020. 9-month operational report and full year prospective budget for 2021.

INCOME	Actual Apr-Dec	Budget 2021	EXPENDITURE	Actual Apr-Dec	Budget 2021
Voluntary Income:			Governance		
Offerings	£27,304	£37,000	Utilities	£4,510	£10,000
Taxable Offerings	£42,443	£56,600	Building/Repairs	£6,243	£9,000
Gift Aid Tax refunds	£3,111	£20,000	Insurance	£4,803	£5,000
Grant from others	£9,565	£12,000	AoG/memberships	£1,563	£4,000
Other Donations	£6,517	£9,000	Audit/Accounts/Legal	£3,046	£4,060
			Administration	£4,636	£7,000
			Training/Development	£90	£2,000
Sub Total	£88,940	£134,600	Sub Total	£24,891	£41,060
			Minister's Costs		
			Salaries/NI/Pensions	£60,142	£82,000
			Other Ministers costs	£869	£1,500
			Sub Total	£61,011	£83,500
Income from Charitable activities			Ministry Costs		
Missions Fund	£1,376	£2,000	Missions	£4,262	£6,000
Liberty Heroes	£0	£500	Liberty Heroes	£157	£500
Kids Club	£0	£500	Kids Club	£94	£500
Generations Youth	£0	£500	Generations Youth	£68	£500
Liberty Seniors	£0	£250	Liberty Seniors	£261	£250
Other Ministries	£0	£500	Other Ministries	£0	£500
Church/Ministry/Outreach	£0	£500	Church/Ministry/Outreach	£4,181	£6,000
Sub Total	£1,376	£4,750	Sub Total	£9,023	£14,250
Church Sub Total	£90,316	£139,350	Church Sub Total	£94,925	£138,810
Account Balances			31st December 2020		
Main bank account	£6,647		Creditors/Loans	£25,512	
Restricted funds Held	£2,348		Net value of Charity	-£21,213	

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020



CHARITY COMMISSION
 FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the
 accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Liberty Church Swansea

For the period

April 2020 through to December 2020

Charity no

1176598

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2020 (Part year April 2020 to Dec 2020 to bring the Charity Year end to coincide with the calendar year.

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 did not exceed £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being an independent person, of suitable experience of Church/Charity finances and accounting and as an accredited Minister of Assemblies of God.]

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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: Mark Lees (Digitally Signed)

Date: 23rd March 2020

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

Name (Qualifications):	Rev. Mark Lees, MA, PgCert.CEH, B.Sc.
Professional body	Minister with Assemblies of God Inc. UK of good standing for 29ys.
Address:	Flat 2, 3 Station Road Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, SA15 1AF

Section A	Comments and recommendations as per CC Internal Financial Checklist
Brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to make as comments or future recommendations for the Trustees of the charity.	<p>The software-based systems are used well and provide the basis for the whole financial process of recording and reporting within the church accounts. Invoices and receipts are stored externally in “the cloud” and bank reconciliations are semi-automatically confirmed with the charity banker’s online system, which is integrated well.</p> <p>Some internal process, around the generation of expenses, and recording need improvement, and the church payment card system helps with this, but control policies around this need some better understanding and systems for approval need a revision.</p> <p>Overall oversight by Trustees is generally insufficient, with little engagement and support of those actually doing the processes and data entry. Debs Harris, need commending for picking up responsibilities left to her. She has been able to pick up a deep working insight into the whole finance and accounting process, and in particular has placed the charity in a far better place in terms of being up to speed with gift aid, recording of income and expenses and being able to produce real time reports of the latest financial situation. We are now in a place to be up to date with regulated reporting to the Charity Commission. Pensions and HMRC provisions are outsourced which is a wise provision. The charities financial year end following this report will now coincide with the actual year end running from 1st January to 31st December in subsequent years.</p> <p>No real or working budgets have been produced or used in the past, and this is now possible due to the hard work and improvements in practice made in these last months. A rudimentary budget is now included in the summary of financial accounts submitted within this report. This is a big step forward and will help accountability and support of ministries in the life of the church as a whole.</p> <p>Working practices that need to be reviewed over this next 12-month period are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of budget and performance measures allowing oversight of the Leadership Team and ministries/operation of the charity by the Trustees. • Development of new policies and procedures e.g. conflict and register of Interests, strategic risk register, acceptance of gifts/hospitality, whistle-blower policy, anti-bribery policy, trustee appointment, skill mix and evaluation policies, reserves investment and internal finance control policy/checklist, fixed asset register, Church policy register, payment and use of payment card policy. • A RACI (Responsible, Accountable, Consulted and Informed) analysis, would be helpful. I will help the Trustee and Leadership Teams work through this and its implications over this next year. To help understand limits, boundaries and improve best working practice in managing and use of finance, personal and resources in the charity as a whole.

TRUSTEE REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Period from 6th April 2020 to 31st December 2020

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.

There were no issues of material note in my examination of the accounts and review of the processes within the charity.