

LIFE CHURCH LICHFIELD

England & Wales · Charity number 1182297

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-03-04

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

Contact

Address Life Church Lichfield
Netherstowe
Lichfield
WS13 6TS

Phone 01543254596

Email office@lifechurchlichfield.com

Website www.lifechurchlichfield.com

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CHURCH IS, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH.

Activities: We aim to grow a community showing God's grace and serving our world. Our activities include Sunday services, house groups, youth groups, children's work and much more.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Kenya
- Staffordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£177,919	£190,243	-	-
2023-12-31	£177,074	£232,998	-	-
2022-12-31	£200,977	£168,009	-	-
2021-12-31	£157,027	£138,446	-	-
2020-12-31	£166,023	£145,329	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Stephen Speight	Chair	2019-07-01
James Terry		2024-01-22
Juliet Smithson		2019-11-15
Leah Chilengwe		2024-01-22
Mark Andrews		2019-11-15
Wendy Georgia Williamson		2021-01-01

LIFE CHURCH LICHFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 1182297

Accounts

LIFE CHURCH LICHFIELD

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD:
1st January 2024 - 31st December 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Life Church Lichfield
Charity address: Netherstowe, Lichfield WS13 6TS
Charity registration number: 1182297

Names of the charity Trustees:

Trustee Name	Office	Comment
Steve Speight	Chair of Trustees	Trustee (since 2019)
Mark Andrews	Treasurer	Trustee (since 2019)
Juliet Smithson	Secretary	Trustee (since 2019)
Wendy Williamson	Trustee	Trustee (since 2021)
Leah Chilengwe	Trustee	Trustee (since 22 January 2024)
James Terry	Trustee	Trustee (since 22 January 2024)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document:

CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) Constitution adopted 1st July 2019.

How the charity is constituted:

The CIO members are the Senior Leadership Team.

Trustee Appointment:

New senior leaders are appointed by current senior leaders as per the constitution.

There is a safeguarding policy in place. DBS checks are carried out prior to commencement of employment, trusteeship or relevant volunteer work, renewed every three years. Life Church Lichfield is a member of Thirty One:Eight who provide support and guidance for safeguarding matters.

Life Church Lichfield is affiliated with The Pioneer Network of churches, who provide helpful advice, leadership, resources, training and accountability.

Life Church Lichfield has a leadership structure, which includes Senior Leaders, Core Team Leaders, Team Leaders and a Church Administrator to carry out the day-to-day requirements of the church.

Trustees of the charity give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits, with the exception of the Minister Steve Speight who is employed.

Bankers for the charity are The Cooperative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document:

The object of the Church is for the advancement of the Christian faith and for public benefit.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those are identified in the accounts:

The overall programme of worship and community activity is shown below:

- Worship, communion and family services for all continued during 2024 as we welcomed many new faces into the congregation.
- Programmes for children and young people continued to grow and empower the younger generation.
- Prayer, outreach and community activities make up part of the rotating programme.
- Life Groups continue to be the real connecting point of Life Church as people gathered in homes around the city during the week. We have grown the number of Life Groups to 15 where people meet to grow in friendship and faith.
- The Alpha course continues as our introduction to faith for new people from the community and beyond.
- Lunch Club reached out once again to those who would normally eat alone, in the pursuit of reducing isolation, regularly feeding more than 40 people.

In 2024 the below were initiated or developed:

- Our Life Group impact grew as new leaders were welcomed, and more homes were opened up around the city.
- We held two outreach Sundays to welcome new people.
- Saltmine Theatre Company came with their annual Christmas production, and we welcomed over 300 people to enjoy and celebrate.
- 10 of the leadership team attended the Pioneer annual leadership conference.
- Our youth and children's work continued to steadily grow during the year under the leadership of Connor Burns, our youth and children's worker.
- A gift of £31,000 was sent to further extend the school building in Kenya.
- Our Church Manager resigned from her position in May after many years of wonderful service. A member of the congregation took over administrative tasks on a temporary basis for the remainder of the year.
- Summer Coffee mornings were held on the car park to welcome the neighbourhood.
- Worship evenings called 'LIFTED' were run to invite people for a relaxed evening of Christian worship.
- Our 'care fund' granted a number of people financial support to help with the current cost of living climate.
- We received a grant from Love Lichfield to support our annual youth weekend away in January.
- Five teenagers were sponsored to join 'Amplify', a youth training programme.
- Our annual Leadership retreat was held welcoming 30 people for the day.
- We hosted a national Pioneer training event, 'Pioneer Core'.
- Steve Speight (minister) was invited to be a part of a Pioneer regional leadership team, specifically supporting three churches in the region.
- We ran Christmas events and handed out a number of Christmas hampers to local families.
- Two church members completed a Christian course titled 'DNA'.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit:

The church aims to continue to:

- Provide space for worship and connection.
- Contribute to the spiritual and moral education of children & young people.
- Contribute to a better society by the provision of a lunch club and toddler group to reduce social isolation and a toddler group to promote social cohesion.
- Weddings, funerals and child dedications took place.
- Provide support and comfort to the bereaved, damaged and those in varied areas of personal need.

Contribution made by volunteers: A great contribution is made by our partners and volunteers. We are very grateful for the many hours which volunteers spend week by week to enable the charity to fulfil its purpose with all the generations of our community. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not have been able to achieve so much.

Grant-making Policy: The Trustees, alongside the Finance Team, decide upon individuals and organisations that are to receive financial support out of the charity's assets.

FUTURE PLANS

We continue our focus on discipleship and mission over the next years. This will be achieved primarily through our gatherings, whether that be Sundays or the various groups during the week. Our plan is to be a church that is not simply 'Sunday centred' but developing personal faith and mission during the 168 hours of every week. We will continue to invest time and training to the Life Groups and all leaders to see this develop and fulfil the vision of Life Church.

We are considering making internal alterations to our current building to create a dedicated and permanent 'coffee area'; potential plans have been drawn up as we look to the costing and funding of this exciting development. We hope to progress this project in 2025.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy: This is the church's policy to hold a minimum equivalent to four month's expenditure and a maximum of eight month's expenditure, excluding any designated funds, to enable it to continue operating during a short-term downturn in its income, or to allow a period of restructuring should a longer-term downturn occur. However, this is an Unrestricted Fund and can be accessed if deemed necessary.

This amounts to a minimum of approximately £50,000 for the period of this report. Actual unrestricted cash reserves at 31st December 2024 were £104,295.

Investment Selection Policy: Life Church Lichfield currently only invests in cash deposits with UK banks.

The charity's principal source of funds continues to be partner donations; gift aid and hall hire contribute to the overall income.

Details of any funds materially in deficit: Not applicable

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:		
Name:	Steve Speight	Mark Andrews
Position:	Chair of Trustees	Treasurer
Date:	24/10/25	24/10/25

Life Church Lichfield

Receipts & Payments Account: Year to 31/12/24

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts:	Note	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
<u>Donations and similar receipts</u>							
Offerings		94,436	54,599	149,034	89,561	37,537	127,099
Gift aid scheme		11,622	385	12,007	30,995	3,433	34,428
<u>Operating activities to further charity's objects</u>							
Children/youth activities		3,039	0	3,039	2,771	0	2,771
Luncheon club income		3,148	0	3,148	3,100	0	3,100
Event income		988	0	988	750	0	750
<u>Operating activities to generate funds</u>							
Hire of hall		0	5,449	5,449	0	5,634	5,634
<u>Investment income receipts</u>							
Deposit interest		1,478	0	1,478	1,403	0	1,403
Sub-total		114,711	60,432	175,144	128,581	46,604	175,185
<u>Other receipts (not counting as 'gross income')</u>							
Other income		2,775	0	2,775	1,889	0	1,889
Total Receipts		117,487	60,432	177,919	130,470	46,604	177,074
Payments:							
<u>Charitable payments</u>							
<u>Grants paid</u>							
Mission expenditure		0	30,492	30,492	0	73,948	73,948
<u>Charitable activities</u>							
Salaries and national insurance	1	81,433	0	81,433	88,655	0	88,655
Ministry fees		1,561	0	1,561	3,950	0	3,950
Books & literature		76	0	76	60	0	60
Motor & travel expenses		449	0	449	891	0	891
Children/youth/group activities		11,890	0	11,890	11,049	0	11,049
Life Family		6,615	0	6,615	7,222	0	7,222
<u>Support costs</u>							
Administration expenses		8,100	0	8,100	10,337	0	10,337
Heating, lighting & water		10,291	0	10,291	11,043	0	11,043
Telephone		482	0	482	624	0	624
Insurance		2,803	0	2,803	2,450	0	2,450
Building maintenance		8,590	23,600	32,190	15,067	0	15,067
Miscellaneous	1	1,668	0	1,668	115	0	115
<u>Management & administration</u>							
Independent examination		0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total		133,957	54,092	188,049	151,462	73,948	225,411
<u>Other Payments (not counting as 'expenditure')</u>							
Capital expenditure		1,146	1,048	2,194	0	7,588	7,588
Reallocations (see "Restricted Funds")							
Total Payments		135,103	55,140	190,243	151,462	81,536	232,998
Net receipts for the year		-17,616	5,292	-12,324	-20,992	-34,932	-55,924
Cash & bank balances at 1st Jan		121,911	9,200	131,111	142,903	44,132	187,036
Transfers in (see note 2)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash & bank balances at 31st Dec		104,295	14,492	118,787	121,911	9,200	131,111

Life Church Lichfield

Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31/12/24

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£
Cash funds		
Petty cash	300	0
Current account	26,455	4,000
Deposit account	77,539	10,492
	<u>104,294</u>	<u>14,492</u>
Other monetary assets		
Gift aid claim	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Assets retained for the charity's own use		
	Fund	Cost
Church building	Unrestricted	386,245
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Unrestricted	54,091
		<u>440,336</u>
Liabilities		
	Fund	Amount due
Current liabilities - suppliers	Unrestricted	1,338
Taxation and social security	Unrestricted	1156
		<u>2,494</u>

Notes to the accounts

1. Trustee salaries and expenses

	£
Trustees salaries paid	45,196
Trustees expenses paid	3,595
	<u>48,792</u>

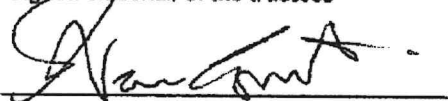
2. Trustee Ex Gratia Payment

	£
None	0

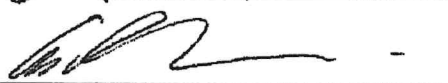
LCL Current Liabilities

Inv Date	Supplier	£
	True Potential	423.51
	Citron Hygene	170.52
	J Speight	12.18
	T Hayley	101.43
	A Barton	630.00
		<u>1337.64</u>

Signed on behalf of the trustees



S. Speight



M. Andrews

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Life Church Lichfield Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('the CIO')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  _____

Date 24th October 2025

Ian Barnes FCA
39 Smiths Way
Water Orton
Birmingham
B46 ITW

LIFE CHURCH LICHFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 1182297

Accounts

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD:
01.01.2023 TO: 31.12.2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Life Church Lichfield

Charity address: Netherstowe, Lichfield, WS13 6TS

Charity registration number: 1182297

Names of the charity Trustees:

Trustee Name	Office	Comment
Steve Speight	Chair	Trustee in 2023 and still today.
Wendy Williamson	Trustee	Trustee in 2023 and still today.
Mark Andrews	Finance	Trustee in 2023 and still today.
Juliet Smithson	Secretary	Trustee in 2023 and still today.
Leah Chilengwe		Trustees from 22 January 2024
James Terry		Trustee from 22 January 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Constitution adopted 01.07.2019.

How the charity is constituted: The CIO members are the Senior Leadership Team.

Trustee Appointment: New senior leaders are appointed by current senior leaders as per the constitution.

There is a safeguarding policy in place. DBS checks are carried out prior to commencement of employment, trusteeship or relevant volunteer work and renewed every three years. Life Church Lichfield is a member of Thirty One: Eight who provide support and guidance for safeguarding matters.

Life Church Lichfield is affiliated with The Pioneer Network of churches, who provide helpful advice, leadership and accountability.

Life Church Lichfield has a leadership structure, which includes Senior Leaders, Core Team Leaders, Team Leaders and a Church Manager to carry out the day to day requirements of the church.

Trustees of the charity give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits, with the exception of the Minister Steve Speight who is employed.

Bankers for the charity are The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document: The Object of the Church is for the advancement of the Christian faith and for public benefit.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those are identified in the accounts. The overall programme of worship and community activity is shown below:

- Worship, communion, and family services for all continued during 2023 as we welcomed many new faces into the congregation.
- Programmes for children and young people continued to grow and empower the younger generation.
- Life Groups continue to be the real connecting point of Life Church as people gathered in homes around the city during the week. Currently 12 groups meet.
- Alpha continues as our introduction to faith of new people from the community and beyond.
- Lunch Club reached out once again to those who would normally eat alone, in the pursuit of reducing isolation.

- Specifically in 2023 the below was initiated or developed.
 - We celebrated everyone who serves in Life Church with a Celebration meal in April with 70 people attending
 - We held 3 'Love Life' Sundays to welcome people in and develop friendship with the church
 - Saltmine theatre company visited 2 schools with their presentation 'rhyming bible'
 - Saltmine also presented their Christmas play 'Peter Pan' with over 300 non church people attending.
 - Schools work rapidly expanded during the year under the leadership of Connor our youth worker.
 - We extended the hours of our Y&K worker and Church Manager
 - In May we organised a BIG Lunch to celebrate the Coronation.
 - In June we ran a Missions evening – with Release International
 - £70,000 was sent to further extend school building in Kenya
 - We did a number of small alterations on the building including our Led lighting extended.
 - Summer Coffee-Mornings were held on the car park to welcome the neighbourhood to us.
 - New 'one off' Worship Evenings were introduced in July & October
 - Two teenagers were sponsored to join a youth training programme called Amplify
 - Our annual Leadership retreat was held welcoming 30 people for the day.

- We ran Christmas events and handed out a number of Christmas hampers to local families.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit:

The church aims to continue to:

- Provide space for worship and connection.
- Contribute to the spiritual and moral education of children & young people.
- Contribute to a better society by the provision of a lunch club to reduce social isolation and a toddler group to promote social cohesion.
- Provide comfort to the bereaved.

Contribution made by volunteers: A great contribution is made by our partners and volunteers. We are grateful for the many hours which volunteers have spent to enable the charity to fulfil its purpose with all generations of our community. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not have been able to achieve so much.

Grant-making Policy: The Trustees alongside the Finance Team decide upon individuals and organisations that are to receive financial support out of the charity's assets.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole:

- The Saltmine Theatre Company were in 2 schools with their presentation of the Rhyming bible.
- Alpha welcomed many new people to explore the Christian faith.
- Three Love Life Sundays held in January, June and September.
- Weekly Youth and Children's activities AND a weekend at Whitemoor Lakes.
- Lunch Club – weekly serving in excess of 40 local people.
- The building continues to be well utilised by outside organisations:
For example: The model railway club, NHS, Foodbank, keep fit, U3A

Approximately 100 people are listed as serving on Church rotas during 2023

FUTURE PLANS

We continue to aim our focus on discipleship and mission over the next years. This will be achieved primarily through our series of LIFE GROUPS. The plan is to be a church

that is not simply 'Sunday-centric' but develop faith and mission all week, through the Life Groups, which we are continuing to develop with more groups and greater connection. We will continue to invest time and training to the Life Groups and their hosts to see this develop and fulfil the vision of Life Church.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy: This is the church's policy to hold a minimum equivalent to four month's expenditure and a maximum of eight month's expenditure, excluding any designated funds, so as to enable it to continue operating during a short-term downturn in its income, or to allow a period of restructuring should a longer-term downturn occur. However this is an Unrestricted Fund and can be accessed if deemed necessary.

This amounts to a min of an estimated £50,000 for the period of this report. Actual Unrestricted cash reserves held on 31st December 2023 were £121,910.

Investment Selection Policy: The church currently only invests in cash deposits with UK banks.

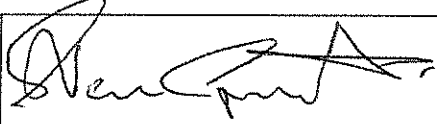

The charity's principal source of funds continues to be partner donations.

Details of any funds materially in deficit: Not applicable

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:		
Full Name:	Steve Speight	Mark Andrews
Position:	Chair of Trustees	Finance
Date:	12 th OCTOBER 2024	12 / 10 / 2024

Life Church Lichfield

Receipts & Payments Account: Year to 31/12/23

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts:	Note	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022
<u>Donations and similar receipts</u>						
Offerings		89,561	37,537	127,099	108,210	48,004
Gift aid scheme		30,995	3,433	34,428	25,040	1,473
<u>Operating activities to further charity's objects</u>						
Children/youth activities		2,771	0	2,771	1,940	0
Luncheon club income		3,100	0	3,100	2,578	0
Event income		750	0	750	594	0
<u>Operating activities to generate funds</u>						
Hire of hall		0	5,634	5,634	0	7,316
<u>Investment income receipts</u>						
Deposit interest		1,403	0	1,403	356	0
Sub-total		128,581	46,604	175,185	138,718	56,793
<u>Other receipts (not counting as 'gross income')</u>						
Other income		1,889	0	1,889	1,929	2,060
Total Receipts		130,470	46,604	177,074	140,647	58,853
Payments:						
<u>Charitable payments</u>						
<u>Grants paid</u>						
Mission expenditure		0	73,948	73,948	0	35,226
<u>Charitable activities</u>						
Salaries and national insurance	1	88,655	0	88,655	72,342	0
Ministry fees		3,950	0	3,950	3,304	0
Books & literature		60	0	60	129	0
Motor & travel expenses		891	0	891	346	0
Children/youth/group activities		11,049	0	11,049	9,798	0
Life Family		7,222	0	7,222	7,319	0
<u>Support costs</u>						
Administration expenses		10,337	0	10,337	10,209	0
Heating, lighting & water		11,043	0	11,043	5,110	0
Telephone		624	0	624	624	0
Insurance		2,450	0	2,450	1,989	0
Building maintenance		15,067	0	15,067	7,187	7,113
Miscellaneous	1	115	0	115	274	0
<u>Management & administration</u>						
Independent examination		0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total		151,462	73,948	225,410	118,631	42,339
<u>Other Payments (not counting as 'expenditure')</u>						
Capital expenditure		0	7,588	7,588	2,055	4,984
Reallocations (see "Restricted Funds")					6,029	-6,029
Total Payments		151,462	81,536	232,998	126,715	41,294
Net receipts for the year		-20,992	-34,932	-55,924	13,933	17,559
Cash & bank balances at 1st Jan		142,903	44,132	187,036	128,971	26,573
Transfers in (see note 2)		0	0	0	0	0
Cash & bank balances at 31st Dec		121,911	9,200	131,111	142,903	44,132

LCL Current Liabilities

Inv Date	Supplier	£
	J Bell	475.33
	Citron Hygiene	163.97
		<u>639.30</u>

LCL Restricted Funds Balance @ 31/12/23

	B/F	Movement	C/F
	£		
Mission Fund	41,787	-36,315	5,472
Building Fund	2,344	1,384	3,728
Youth & Kids	0	0	0
	<u>44,131</u>		<u>9,200</u>
General	139,488	-21,546	117,942
Events	3,416	554	3,970
	<u>142,904</u>		<u>121,911</u>
	187,035		131,111

Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31/12/23

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£
Cash funds		
Petty cash	82	0
Current account	40,476	4,000
Deposit account	<u>81,353</u>	<u>5,200</u>
	<u>121,910</u>	<u>9,200</u>
Other monetary assets		
Gift aid claim	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Assets retained for the charity's own use	Fund	Cost
Church building	Unrestricted	362,645
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Unrestricted	<u>51,897</u>
		<u>414,542</u>
Liabilities	Fund	Amount due
Current liabilities - suppliers	Unrestricted	639
Taxation and social security	Unrestricted	<u>1863</u>
		<u>2,502</u>

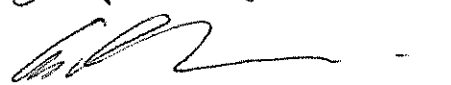
Notes to the accounts

1. Trustee salaries and expenses	£
Trustees salaries paid	43,644
Trustees expenses paid	<u>4,779</u>
	<u>48,424</u>
2. Trustee Ex Gratia Payment	£
None	0

Signed on behalf of the trustees



S. Speight



M. Andrews

Date of approval

12th OCTOBER 2024

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Life Church Lichfield
Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('the CIO')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Date

12th October 2024

Ian Barnes FCA

39 Smiths Way

Water Orton

Birmingham

B46 1TW

LIFE CHURCH LICHFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 1182297

Accounts

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD:
01.01.2022 TO: 31.12.2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Life Church Lichfield

Charity address: Netherstowe, Lichfield, WS13 6TS

Charity registration number: 1182297

Names of the charity Trustees:

Trustee Name	Office	Dates acted if not whole year
Steve Speight	Chair	
Wendy Williamson	Trustee	
Mark Andrews	Treasurer	
Juliet Smithson	Secretary	

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: CIO Constitution adopted 01.07.2019

How the charity is constituted: The CIO members are the Senior Leadership Team

Trustee Appointment: New senior leaders are appointed by current senior leaders as per the constitution

There is a safeguarding policy in place. DBS checks are carried out prior to commencement of employment, trusteeship or relevant volunteer work and renewed every three years. Life Church Lichfield is a member of Thirty One: Eight who provide support and guidance for safeguarding matters.

Life Church Lichfield is affiliated with The Pioneer Network of churches, who provide helpful advice, leadership and accountability.

Life Church Lichfield has a leadership structure, which includes Senior Leaders, Core Team Leaders, Team Leaders and a Church Manager to carry out the day to day requirements of the church.

Trustees of the charity give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits, with the exception of the Minister Steve Speight who is employed.

Bankers for the charity are The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document: The Object of the Church is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts: The overall programme of worship and community activity was maintained, although due to the Covid19 virus we continued to adapt and present differently this included:

- Worship, communion, and family services for all in our community to benefit from continued to be in person and online. This has resulted in many people outside of our known congregation watching our services weekly and new people joining us in person too.
- Programmes for children and young people from the community developed as we were able to gather more freely, returning to pre pandemic gatherings & activities.
- Life Groups continue to be the focus of our gatherings both on zoom and in locations around the city. They continue to be promoted as a place to believe and belong to the church community.
- Alpha was run twice in person. This continues as our introduction to faith of new people from the community and beyond.
- Lunch Club has grown significantly, as we reach around 35-40 people weekly, who would normally eat alone, in the pursuit of reducing isolation.
- The Parent & Toddler group ran for the first half of the year but sadly had to close in September due to lack of volunteers.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit:

The church aims to continue to:

- Provide space for worship and connection.
- Contribute to the spiritual and moral education of children & young people.
- Contribute to a better society by the provision of a lunch club to reduce social isolation and a toddler group to promote social cohesion.
- Provide comfort to the bereaved.

Contribution made by volunteers: A great contribution is made by our partners and volunteers. We are grateful for the many hours which around 80 volunteers have spent to enable the charity to fulfil its purpose with all generations of our community. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not have been able to achieve so much.

Grant-making Policy: The Trustees alongside the Finance Team decide upon individuals and organisations that are to receive financial support out of the charity's assets.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole:

- Following Covid and the restrictions that were in place we did a number of things to re-connect the congregation.
 - Easter Breakfast
 - Re-Connection lunch for all people.
 - Family fun afternoon.
 - Christmas event including screening the world cup final.
 - Saturday morning coffee on the car park during the summer.
- We delivered 9 Christmas hampers to families, working in partnership with two local schools to reach families locally.
- We set up a 'hardship fund' inviting people to apply for small grants to help with everyday costs.
- One of our Life Church people has started a table tennis club.
- We raised over £12,000 to support refugees, resulting from the Ukraine crisis.
- Our teenagers went on trips to Drayton manor, Whitemoor lakes and Ten Pin bowling.
- We funded Saltmine theatre company to perform their 'Rhyming Bible' in local schools.
- Alpha continued to welcome people with 2 courses completed.
- We committed a Sunday gathering to 'Safeguarding Sunday' reminding people of our commitment to provide safe spaces.
- Building work was undertaken to make our premises more energy efficient including a £500 grant from Staffordshire County Council.

FUTURE PLANS

We continue to pursue our vision of 'GROWING A COMMUNITY OF GOD'S GRACE, SERVING THE WORLD' which has both an internal focus of discipling people into the ways of Jesus, and an external focus of engaging in activities that support the well-being of others.

Every gathering of Life Church people, whether it be in small groups 'Life Groups' or larger gatherings 'Sunday Worship' have that twin focus in mind so that we might fully and truly express the mission that Jesus set us, and that we seek to continue both today and in the days that lay ahead.

We continually look at new and fresh opportunities that might better serve the reason we exist.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy: The church's policy on holding cash reserves as Unrestricted Funds, is to hold a minimum equivalent to four month's expenditure and a maximum of eight month's expenditure, excluding any designated funds, so as to enable it to continue operating during a short-term down-turn in its income, or to allow a period of restructuring should a longer-term down-turn occur. This amounts to a min of £56,003 for the period of this report. Actual cash reserves held on 31st December 2022 were £142,903. Reserves were higher than normal as during 2020 we carried over more from the previous year due to catching up on GA claims in 2019 and additionally we were unable to engage in the same way during 2020/21 with our community and Kenya due to the Pandemic. Additionally we built up funds in our Mission Fund over 2022 so that we could fund a larger project of £70,000 in 2023.

Investment Selection Policy: The church currently only invests in cash deposits with UK banks.

The charity's principal source of funds continues to be partner donations.

Details of any funds materially in deficit: Not applicable

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:		
Full Name:	Steve Speight	Mark Andrews
Position:	Chair of Trustees	Treasurer
Date:	22 nd SEPTEMBER 2023	24.9.23

Life Church Lichfield

Receipts & Payments Account: Year to 31/12/22

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Receipts:	Note	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021	
<u>Donations and similar receipts</u>							
Offerings		108,210	48,004	156,214	86,195	34,190	120,385
Gift aid scheme		25,040	1,473	26,513	24,744	1,953	26,697
<u>Operating activities to further charity's objects</u>							
Children/youth activities		1,940	0	1,940	1,016	0	1,016
Luncheon club income		2,578	0	2,578	1,771	0	1,771
Event income		594	0	594	152	0	152
<u>Operating activities to generate funds</u>							
Hire of hall		0	7,316	7,316	0	1,939	1,939
<u>Investment income receipts</u>							
Deposit interest		356	0	356	127	0	127
Sub-total		138,718	56,793	195,511	114,005	38,082	152,087
<u>Other receipts (not counting as 'gross income')</u>							
Other income		1,929	2,060	3,989	1,820	3,120	4,940
Total Receipts		140,647	58,853	199,500	115,825	41,202	157,027
Payments:							
<u>Charitable payments</u>							
<u>Grants paid</u>							
Mission expenditure		0	35,226	35,226	0	29,152	29,152
<u>Charitable activities</u>							
Salaries and national insurance	1	72,342	0	72,342	64,311	0	64,311
Ministry fees		3,304	0	3,304	630	0	630
Books & literature		129	0	129	295	0	295
Motor & travel expenses		346	0	346	238	0	238
Children/youth/group activities		9,798	0	9,798	4,963	0	4,963
Life Family		7,319	0	7,319	5,226	0	5,226
<u>Support costs</u>							
Administration expenses		10,209	0	10,209	9,457	0	9,457
Heating, lighting & water		5,110	0	5,110	2,979	0	2,979
Telephone		624	0	624	792	0	792
Insurance		1,989	0	1,989	2,110	0	2,110
Building maintenance		7,187	7,113	14,300	7,509	4,859	12,368
Miscellaneous	1	274	0	274	752	0	752
<u>Management & administration</u>							
Independent examination		0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total		118,631	42,339	160,970	99,264	34,011	133,275
<u>Other Payments (not counting as 'expenditure')</u>							
Capital expenditure		2,055	4,984	7,039	3,202	1,969	5,171
Reallocation (see "Restricted Funds")		6,029	-6,029	0	0	0	0
Total Payments		126,715	41,294	168,009	102,466	35,980	138,446
Net receipts for the year		13,932	17,559	31,491	13,359	5,223	18,582
Cash & bank balances at 1st Jan		128,971	26,573	155,544	115,612	21,350	136,962
Transfers in (see note 2)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash & bank balances at 31st Dec		142,903	44,132	187,035	128,971	26,573	155,544

Life Church Lichfield
Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31/12/22

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£
<u>Cash funds</u>		
Petty cash	64	0
Current account	97,822	4,000
Deposit account	45,017	40,132
	<u>142,903</u>	<u>44,132</u>
<u>Other monetary assets</u>		
Gift aid claim	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Assets retained for the charity's own use</u>		
	Fund	Cost
Church building	Unrestricted	362,645
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Unrestricted	44,309
		<u>406,954</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
	Fund	Amount due
Current liabilities - suppliers	Unrestricted	278
Taxation and social security	Unrestricted	2,721
		<u>2,999</u>

Notes to the accounts

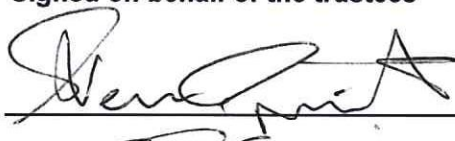
1. Trustee salaries and expenses

Trustees salaries paid	£ 41,186
Trustees expenses paid	6,491
	<u>47,677</u>

2. Trustee Ex Gratia Payment

None	£ 0
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Signed on behalf of the trustees



S. Speight



M. Andrews

Date of approval 24.9.23

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Life Church Lichfield Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('the CIO')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.


Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Date

24-9-23

Ian Barnes FCA
39 Smiths Way
Water Orton
Birmingham
B46 1TW

LCL Current Liabilities

<u>Inv Date</u>	<u>Supplier</u>	<u>£</u>
	ASL Copy charges	90.82
	Citron Hygene	155.87
	Talk Talk	31.00

277.69

LCL Restricted Funds Balance @ 31/12/22

	B/F	Reallocation	Revised B/F	Movement	C/F
	£		£		
Mission Fund	20,152	1	20,153	21,635	41,788
Building Fund	5,756	-690	5,066	-2,722	2,344
Youth & Kids	665	6,718	7,383	-7,383	0
	<u>26,573</u>		<u>32,602</u>		<u>44,132</u>
General	124,125	-6,029	118,096	21,392	139,488
Events	4,846		4,846	-1,431	3,415
	<u>128,971</u>		<u>122,942</u>		<u>142,903</u>
	<u>155,544</u>		<u>155,544</u>		<u>187,035</u>

LIFE CHURCH LICHFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 1182297

Accounts

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD:
01.01.2021 TO: 31.12.2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Life Church Lichfield

Charity address: Netherstowe, Lichfield, WS13 6TS

Charity registration number: 1182297

Names of the charity Trustees:

Trustee Name	Office	Dates acted if not whole year
Steve Speight	Chair	
Wendy Williamson	Trustee	01.01.2021 onwards
Mark Andrews	Treasurer	
Juliet Smithson	Secretary	

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: CIO Constitution adopted 01.07.2019

How the charity is constituted: The CIO members are the Senior Leadership Team

Trustee Appointment: New senior leaders are appointed by current senior leaders as per the constitution

There is a safeguarding policy in place. DBS checks are carried out prior to commencement of employment, trusteeship or relevant volunteer work and renewed every three years. Life Church Lichfield is a member of Thirty One: Eight who provide support and guidance for safeguarding matters.

Life Church Lichfield is affiliated with The Pioneer Network of churches, who provide helpful advice, leadership and accountability.

Life Church Lichfield has a leadership structure, which includes Senior Leaders, Core Team Leaders, Team Leaders and a Church Manager to carry out the day to day requirements of the church.

Trustees of the charity give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits, with the exception of the Minister Steve Speight who is employed.

Bankers for the charity are The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document: The Object of the Church is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts: The overall programme of worship and community activity was maintained, although due to the Covid19 virus we continued to adapt and present differently this included:

- Worship, communion, and family services for all in our community to benefit from was developed during 2021 to be both onsite and online in the second half of the year. The first half year we continued to pre-record and just stream services. This has resulted in many people outside of our known congregation watching our services weekly and new people joining us onsite as the year progressed.
- Programmes for children and young people from the community developed from online to onsite in the second half of the year too.
- Life Groups were re-launched in February and this became the focus of our gatherings both on zoom and in locations around the city. They continue to be promoted as a place to believe and belong to the church community.
- Alpha was run both online and later on site. This continues as our introduction to faith of new people from the community and beyond.
- Lunch Club began back on site during the summer as we reached once again to those who would normally eat alone, in the pursuit of reducing isolation. The Parent & Toddler group re-launched under new leadership and at a new time in November.
- Pastorally we aimed to increase our connection and support for people. The team made contact with everyone who is connected into Life Church via phone to develop community and care during the pandemic.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit:

The church aims to continue to:

- Provide space for worship and connection.
- Contribute to the spiritual and moral education of children & young people.
- Contribute to a better society by the provision of a lunch club to reduce social isolation and a toddler group to promote social cohesion.
- Provide comfort to the bereaved.

Contribution made by volunteers: A great contribution is made by our partners and volunteers. We are grateful for the many hours which volunteers have spent to enable the charity to fulfil its purpose with all generations of our community. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not have been able to achieve so much.

Grant-making Policy: The Trustees alongside the Finance Team decide upon individuals and organisations that are to receive financial support out of the charity's assets.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole:

Online Church developed over the year and has now become a platform for people to connect with the community on Sundays. We have invested considerably in new equipment to support this. We have also trained up volunteers to operate and direct the weekly output.

Drive in church – During Sept we held our second 'drive in church' on a farm owned by one of our church families. This was a great success with people appreciating the collective worship and time of connection.

Youth & Children – For some time now we have wanted to recruit an employed youth worker to progress the youth work. Children and teenagers have always had a large place in the vision and drive of Life Church. So this year we are thrilled to have employed a part time youth worker to invest further in this area.

Christmas activities –2021 Christmas activities were a mixture of onsite and online which included:

Welcome to advent, led by our youth group

A Carol service for everyone to gather, which was also streamed

A Saltmine Theatre Company production of Rapunzel in a local high school

Christmas carols in a local coffee shop

Christmas day was a live zoom celebration available to all.

Our finance team established a Care Gifts fund, which people could apply to for help in relation to hardship because of the pandemic

FUTURE PLANS

We continue to aim our focus on discipleship and mission over the next years. This is to be achieved primarily through the formation of a series of LIFE GROUPS which will replace the current home groups. The plan is to be a church that is not simply 'Sunday-centric' but develop faith and

mission all week, through the newly launched Life Groups, which we are continuing to develop with more groups and greater connection. We will continue to invest time and training to the Life Groups and their hosts to see this develop and fulfil the vision of Life Church.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy: The church’s policy on holding cash reserves as Unrestricted Funds, is to hold a minimum equivalent to four month’s expenditure and a maximum of eight month’s expenditure, excluding any designated funds, so as to enable it to continue operating during a short-term down-turn in its income, or to allow a period of restructuring should a longer-term down-turn occur. This amounts to a min of £46,149 for the period of this report. Actual cash reserves held on 31st December 2021 were £128,971. Reserves were higher than normal as during 2020 and the first half of 2021 due to the Pandemic, we were unable to engage in the same way with our community and Kenya. Additionally, we set a 2022 deficit budget, some of which is delayed spending that would normally have taken place during the Pandemic.

Investment Selection Policy: The church currently only invests in cash deposits with UK banks.

The charity’s principal source of funds continues to be partner donations.

Details of any funds materially in deficit: Not applicable

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature:		
Full Name:	Steve Speight	Mark Andrews
Position:	Chair of Trustees	Treasurer
Date:	19 th October 2022	4 th October 2022

Life Church Lichfield


Receipts & Payments Account: Year to 31/12/21


	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020
Receipts:						
<u>Donations and similar receipts</u>						
Offerings	86,195	34,190	120,385	97,347	41,656	139,003
Gift aid scheme	24,744	1,953	26,697	20,565	929	21,494
<u>Operating activities to further charity's objects</u>						
Children/youth activities	1,016	0	1,016	16	0	16
Luncheon club income	1,771	0	1,771	417	0	417
Event income	152	0	152	939	0	939
<u>Operating activities to generate funds</u>						
Hire of hall	0	1,939	1,939	0	2,252	2,252
<u>Investment income receipts</u>						
Deposit interest	127	0	127	212	0	212
Sub-total	114,005	38,082	152,087	119,496	44,837	164,333
<u>Other receipts (not counting as 'gross income')</u>						
Other income	1,820	3,120	4,940	1,690	0	1,690
Total Receipts	115,825	41,202	157,027	121,186	44,837	166,023
Payments:						
<u>Charitable payments</u>						
<u>Grants paid</u>						
Mission expenditure	0	29,152	29,152	0	45,520	45,520
<u>Charitable activities</u>						
Salaries and national insurance	1 64,311	0	64,311	63,794	0	63,794
Ministry fees	630	0	630	757	0	757
Books & literature	295	0	295	110	0	110
Motor & travel expenses	238	0	238	382	0	382
Children/youth/group activities	4,963	0	4,963	4,615	0	4,615
Life Family	5,226	0	5,226	5,624	0	5,624
<u>Support costs</u>						
Administration expenses	9,457	0	9,457	8,975	0	8,975
Heating, lighting & water	2,979	0	2,979	5,169	0	5,169
Telephone	792	0	792	540	0	540
Insurance	2,110	0	2,110	2,016	0	2,016
Building maintenance	7,509	4,859	12,368	3,948	1,854	5,802
Miscellaneous	1 752	0	752	520	0	520
<u>Management & administration</u>						
Independent examination	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total	99,264	34,011	133,275	96,450	47,374	143,824
<u>Other Payments (not counting as 'expenditure')</u>						
Capital expenditure	3,202	1,969	5,171	0	1,505	1,505
Total Payments	102,466	35,980	138,446	96,450	48,879	145,329
Net receipts for the year	13,359	5,223	18,582	24,736	-4,042	20,694
Cash & bank balances at 1st Jan	115,612	21,350	136,962	90,876	25,392	116,268
Transfers in (see note 2)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash & bank balances at 31st Dec	128,971	26,573	155,544	115,612	21,350	136,962

Life Church Lichfield
Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31/12/21

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£
<u>Cash funds</u>		
Petty cash	170	0
Current account	66,580	4,000
Deposit account	62,221	22,573
	<u>128,971</u>	<u>26,573</u>
<u>Other monetary assets</u>		
Gift aid claim	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Assets retained for the charity's own use</u>		
	Fund	Cost
Church building	Unrestricted	357,661
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Unrestricted	42,664
		<u>400,325</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
	Fund	Amount due
Current liabilities - suppliers	Unrestricted	367
Taxation and social security	Unrestricted	2838
		<u>3,205</u>
<u>Notes to the accounts</u>		
1. Trustee salaries and expenses		£
Trustees salaries paid		40,496
Trustees expenses paid		3,189
		<u>43,685</u>
2. Trustee Ex Gratia Payment		£
None		0

Signed on behalf of the trustees



 DocuSigned by:


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S. Speight

Date:

26-10-22

M. Andrews

Date:

26-10-22

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Life Church Lichfield Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('the CIO')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Date

26th October 2022

Ian Barnes FCA
39 Smiths Way
Water Orton
Birmingham
B46 1TW

LCL Current Liabilities

<u>Inv Date</u>	<u>Supplier</u>	<u>£</u>
	Citron Hygene	148.70
	Go cardless	25.00
	SOS Sparkle Dec	193.75

367.45

LCL Restricted Funds Balance @ 31/12/21

	B/F		Movement C/F
	£		
Mission Fund	13,902	6250	20,152
Building Fund	7,310	-1554	5,756
Youth & Kids	138	527	665
	<u>21,350</u>		<u>26,573</u>

LIFE CHURCH LICHFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 1182297

Accounts

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD:
01.01.2020 TO: 31.12.2020

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Life Church Lichfield

Charity address: Netherstowe, Lichfield, WS13 6TS

Charity registration number: 1182297

Names of the charity Trustees:

Trustee Name	Office	Dates acted if not whole year
Steve Speight	Chair	
Peter Bate	Vice chair	
Mark Andrews	Treasurer	
Juliet Smithson	Secretary	

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: CIO Constitution adopted 01.07.2019

How the charity is constituted: The CIO members are the Senior Leadership Team

Trustee Appointment: New senior leaders are appointed by current senior leaders as per the constitution

There is a safeguarding policy in place. DBS checks are carried out prior to commencement of employment, trusteeship or relevant volunteer work and renewed every three years. Life Church Lichfield is a member of Thirty One: Eight who provide support and guidance for safeguarding matters.

Life Church Lichfield is affiliated with The Pioneer Network of churches, who provide helpful advice, leadership and accountability.

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Bankers for the charity are The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document: The Object of the Church is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts: The overall programme of worship and community activity was maintained, although due to the Covid19 virus we had to adapt and present differently this included:

- Worship, communion, and family services for all in our community to benefit from had to be pre-recorded and accessed online due to outbreak of the covid virus. This has resulted in many people outside of our known congregation watching our services weekly.
- Programmes for children and young people from the community had to be also recorded and accessed online. Additionally, as part of this our children's team began a sending monthly 'activity packs' to all the children via royal mail to keep the contact and link them with the online Sunday Life Kids presentations.
- Home Groups also went online and most groups met through zoom. They continue to be promoted as a place to believe and belong to the church community.
- Alpha was adapted for online delivery which allowed people from anywhere to join. This continues as our introduction to faith of new people from the community and beyond.
- Weekly outreach activities into the community continued prior to COVID including a Parent & Toddler group and a Lunch Club for those who would normally eat alone. Alternative contact was maintained to prevent isolation during COVID. We have continued to maintain contact mainly through telephone and email conversations.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit:

The church aims to continue to:

- Provide space for worship and connection.
- Contribute to the spiritual and moral education of children & young people.
- Contribute to a better society by the provision of a lunch club to reduce social isolation and a toddler group to promote social cohesion.
- Provide comfort to the bereaved.

Contribution made by volunteers: A great contribution is made by our partners and volunteers. We are grateful for the many hours which volunteers have spent to enable the charity to fulfil its purpose with all generations of our community. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not have been able to achieve so much.

Grant-making Policy: The Trustees alongside the Finance Team decide upon individuals and organisations that are to receive financial support out of the charity's assets.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole:

One of the key and unexpected achievements was Online Church – with the pandemic altering the way church existed and carried out its charitable objectives. We saw more people 'attending' our gatherings online and worked with new ways to connect people together digitally.

Drive in church – During Sept to attempt to gather people we organised a 'drive in church' on a farm owned by one of our church families. This was a great success with people appreciating the collective worship.

Kids Presentation morning – Children and teenagers have always had a large place in the vision and drive of Life Church. We have introduced an annual event to inspire our pre-school and primary age children, building value and resilience into them, publicly presenting them with gifts, prayers and promises in show of that appreciation and investment from the whole church. This was of course done online with many of our children's team involved and we were able to achieve the same level of investment into the young people as in previous years

Christmas activities – all our 2020 Christmas activities were online which included:

A Christmas reflection and meditation which was live streamed from the building.

A Christmas eve children's special involving many of our children's team. The Saltmine theatre company Christmas production was watched by a great crowd and because it was digital, we were able to have many more join with us, as there was no seating restraints!

We also offered the Saltmine production to all local schools and 12 of them joined with us, with 2,500 local children hearing the message of love and hope at Christmas.

Our Carol service streamed on YouTube, which included choir contributions from two local schools.

Christmas day was a live zoom celebration available to all.

Our pastoral team lead changed, and a new team was formed. They have adapted during this time and have established a system of regular phone calls across the congregation to keep people connected and to pray with them.

Our administration was moved from the building to home which meant the bulk of our organisational system was done via zoom and telephone calls. We also took this opportunity to digitalise and centralise our records. People have responded and adapted well to the changing environment, with the community spirit still flourishing and people reaching out to their neighbours more than ever before.

FUTURE PLANS

During our vision morning in January 21, we delivered our plans, which had taken a number of months to establish. Our aim is to focus on discipleship and mission over the next years. This is to be achieved primarily through the formation of a series of LIFE GROUP which will replace the current home groups. We launched with 11 groups and encouraged all the congregation to join this momentum. The plan is to be a church that is not simply 'Sunday-centric' but develop faith and mission all week, through the newly launched Life Groups.

We aim to further pursue the part time employment of a youth leader in the next 12 months and are pressing forward with that.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy: The church's policy on holding cash reserves as Unrestricted Funds, is to hold a minimum equivalent to four month's expenditure and a maximum of eight month's expenditure, excluding any designated funds, so as to enable it to continue operating during a short-term down-turn in its income, or to allow a period of restructuring should a longer-term down-turn occur. This amounts to a min of £47,941 for the period of this report. Actual cash reserves held on 31st December 2020 were £115,612. Reserves were higher than normal as during 2020 we carried over more from the previous year due to catching up on GA claims in 2019 and additionally we were unable to engage in the same way during 2020 with our community and Kenya due to the Pandemic.

Investment Selection Policy: The church currently only invests in cash deposits with UK banks.

The charity's principal source of funds continues to be partner donations.

Details of any funds materially in deficit: Not applicable

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:		
Full Name:	Steve Speight	Mark Andrews
Position:	Chair of Trustees	Treasurer
Date:	29/9/21	29/9/21

Life Church Lichfield

Receipts & Payments Account: Year to 31/12/20

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts:	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019
<u>Donations and similar receipts</u>						
Offerings	97,347	41,656	139,003	63,243	3,135	66,378
Gift aid scheme	20,565	929	21,494	24,850	905	25,755
<u>Operating activities to further charity's objects</u>						
Children/youth activities	16	0	16	943	0	943
Luncheon club income	417	0	417	824	0	824
Event income	939	0	939	1,996	0	1,996
<u>Operating activities to generate funds</u>						
Hire of hall	0	2,252	2,252	0	4,661	4,661
<u>Investment income receipts</u>						
Deposit interest	212	0	212	121	0	121
Sub-total	119,496	44,837	164,333	91,977	8,701	100,678
<u>Other receipts (not counting as 'gross income')</u>						
Other income	1,690	0	1,690	850	0	850
Total Receipts	121,186	44,837	166,023	92,827	8,701	101,528
Payments:						
<u>Charitable payments</u>						
<u>Grants paid</u>						
Mission expenditure	0	45,520	45,520	1,349	10,892	12,241
<u>Charitable activities</u>						
Salaries and national insurance	1 63,794	0	63,794	30,147	0	30,147
Ministry fees	757	0	757	0	0	0
Books & literature	110	0	110	215	0	215
Motor & travel expenses	382	0	382	503	0	503
Children/youth/group activities	4,615	0	4,615	4,522	0	4,522
Life Family	5,624	0	5,624	0	0	0
<u>Support costs</u>						
Administration expenses	8,975	0	8,975	2,331	0	2,331
Heating, lighting & water	5,169	0	5,169	1,165	0	1,165
Telephone	540	0	540	490	0	490
Insurance	2,016	0	2,016	980	0	980
Building maintenance	3,948	1,854	5,802	3,572	0	3,572
Miscellaneous	1 520	0	520	7,340	0	7,340
<u>Management & administration</u>						
Independent examination	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total	96,450	47,374	143,824	52,614	10,892	63,506
<u>Other Payments (not counting as 'expenditure')</u>						
Capital expenditure	0	1,505	1,505	0	1,208	1,208
Total Payments	96,450	48,879	145,329	52,614	12,100	64,714
Net receipts for the year	24,736	-4,042	20,694	40,213	-3,399	36,814
Cash & bank balances at 1st Jan	90,876	25,392	116,268	0	0	0
Transfers in (see note 2)	0	0	0	50,663	28,791	79,454
Cash & bank balances at 31st Dec	115,612	21,350	136,962	90,876	25,392	116,268

Life Church Lichfield
Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31/12/20

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£
<u>Cash funds</u>		
Petty cash	306	0
Current account	81,990	4,000
Deposit account	33,316	17,350
	<u>115,612</u>	<u>21,350</u>
<u>Other monetary assets</u>		
Gift aid claim	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Assets retained for the charity's own use</u>		
Church building	Unrestricted	355,692
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Unrestricted	39,462
		<u>395,154</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current liabilities - suppliers	Unrestricted	81
Taxation and social security	Unrestricted	3,147
		<u>3,228</u>

Notes to the accounts

1. Trustee salaries and expenses

Trustees salaries paid (Incl Employers Pension Contributions)
Trustees expenses paid

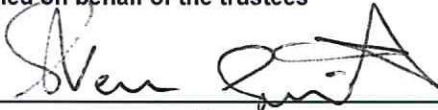
£
42,181
2,620
44,801

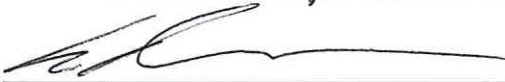
2. Trustee Ex Gratia Payment

Contribution to gift for long service

£
199

Signed on behalf of the trustees





S. Speight

M. Andrews

Date of approval 15/10/21

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Life Church Lichfield Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('the CIO')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  _____

Date 6th October 2021

Ian Barnes FCA
39 Smiths Way
Water Orton
Birmingham
B46 1TW

LCL Current Liabilities

<u>Inv Date</u>	<u>Supplier</u>	<u>£</u>
	Talk Talk	55.77
	Go cardless	25.00

80.77

LCL Restricted Funds Balance @ 31/12/20

	B/F		Movement C/F
	£		
Mission Fund	17,265	-3363	13,902
Building Fund	8,127	-817	7,310
Youth & Kids	0	138	138
	<u>25,392</u>		<u>21,350</u>