

Annual Report

Madeley Baptist Church (MBC), Telford.

Report on the Life and Mission of the Church

Over the past 12 months we have enjoyed a healthy, vibrant church, due in no small part to the foundations put in place by Paul Booth during his three-year stewardship, following the retirement of our previous minister.

It was in May that Simon Hollis accepted our call to lead, and in July with a very packed church of some 90 people, Simon was inducted as our part-time minister. The occasion was marked by the sharing of a fellowship buffet, and it was the start of a very busy time in the life of (MBC).

Since then, a new ministry team has emerged. Spurred on by a desire to build God's kingdom, the team is also building relationships with other Baptist churches which extends to preaching at Broseley Baptist Church, Bethany Church and The Green in Stafford, amongst others. This is alongside strengthening our association with HEBA and working in co-operation with local churches of other denominations. Our minister regularly meets with other Shropshire Ministers and attended the HEBA Ministers' Conference.

To aid our calling, two members of our fellowship have been studying with the Equipped to Minister programme.

MBC continues to offer a varied range of worship services with both traditional and contemporary worship music, and to welcome people of all ages and backgrounds – including the marginalised in society and our non-English speaking brothers and sisters from overseas. We are blessed to welcome each week, a satisfying number of families with children. This enables us to continue to maintain a young peoples' ministry focusing on biblical teachings and moral values.

We have maintained strong attendance numbers, with Membership now at 45, Non-members being 25, and 6 Associate Members. During the year we had four baptisms, with at least a further two expected shortly.

This year, we re-established several initiatives in order to better support each other, grow together, and take care of our spiritual and wellbeing needs. These included:

- A Bible Study House Group
- An on-line Bible Study Group
- A Pastoral Care Team
- Moving evening Communion to the first 7:14 prayer meeting of the month.

We are also working on improving communication amongst ourselves and have set up a GDPR compliant database to enable us to communicate by email.

Everything we have done has been underpinned by prayer, and there is now a Prayer Team that prays throughout the week to supplement our 7:14 weekly meeting.

We have also met on a number of social occasions, including: a family BBQ in the church garden; a Fire Works' Evening (organised by the Frantic Friday team), a 'Bring and Share' Lunch at 'In the Loop'; a Christmas Party (courtesy of Causeway). Representatives of MBC attended the BU

Assembly in Telford in May, and there was also an outing to Bethal Convention Centre for an evening of Praise and Worship.

As a church we have shared our concern for others and put our hands in our pockets to provide financial support to the BU Home Mission, BMS World Mission, Telford Christians Together, Christians Against Poverty, Fairtrade and Christian Aid.

Engaging with our local community remains a cornerstone of mission. Over the past year we have come together to organise and provide support through: Friendly Faces @ Woodside; The Food Share and Waste Reduction Project; In the Loop; Street Pastors; Causeway; the Frantic Friday Youth Club; Winter Warmers, and Friendly Faces @ Madeley.

During the five months of Winter Warmers this year, we estimate we have served over *five-and-a-half thousand meals* from our tiny kitchen, and almost as many beverages - all free of charge at the point of delivery.

We have certainly had to step out in faith – our weekly (and monthly) giving is needed to run the church. It is not sufficient to support mission as well. God surely must be with us, when we consider how richly supported and funded we are through the Baptist Union, grants and community good will. The National Lottery Community Fund has provided us just over £16K to enable us to run Winter Warmers and Friendly Faces @ Madeley for two years. This funding pays for ALL the food and beverages and gives a contribution towards electricity and heating the church.

MBC has become a well-respected hub of the community and known for opening its doors to allow access to a range of support services from organisations such as MIND, homeless charity Maninplace, Christians Against Poverty, Telford & Wrekin Housing Trust, Learn Telford & Job Box.

Behind the scenes, the deacons have placed a strong emphasis on administration and training to ensure we meet our legal and operational obligations; HEBA's assistance has been most appreciated. This has included:

- Implementing a Safeguarding Policy with associated training
- Carrying out DBS checks on volunteers fulfilling roles that require them
- Food Safety and Hygiene Training
- Emergency First Aid Training

With so much now in place, the next 12 months promises to be a time when we can focus on our spiritual needs and vision for the future – asking ourselves “Where does God want to take us?” Over the last year we have already recognised several exciting areas of focus. We have said we want to:

- Grow closer to God
- Support each other and grow together
- Engage with community outreach
- Engage with children and young people

All the time asking ourselves “What does it mean to be a Baptist?” and “How should this shape what we do?”

To facilitate our future Vision, over the coming months we are going to have to consider:

- How can we continue to grow and shape out developing ministry team?
- How can we plan to develop our premises for mission to the community? What facilities and space do we need? (e.g. at present we only have one room for activities and one toilet). To help us, a quinquennial survey has just been conducted which has identified significant matters of maintenance.
- The availability of grants – we are going to need financial help.
- Community Outreach - how do we support the broader community, sharing the message of faith and hope?
- Our proximity to Madeley Court hotel means that several of our regular worshippers are asylum seekers and refugees, many whose first language is not English. How do we best provide welcome and support?
- How can we best partner with other churches within the Baptist family in terms of offering preaching ministry?

The Deacons and Building Management Team are at the early stage of considering these points and before too long will start to engage with the wider membership to obtain their input and feedback; having recognised the need to develop a financially sound business plan that, amongst others responsibilities, addresses the need to carry out building maintenance at significant cost - for which HEBA's guidance is being sort.

Together, we have achieved remarkable things in this past year and have laid a strong foundation for future growth. We pray that we will continue to work together, guided by our faith, to make a positive impact in the lives of others and to glorify God in all that we do.

Administrative Information

Minister/Trustee: Revd Simon Hollis

Elected Members of the Diaconate/Trustees:

Paul Booth (Elder)

John Lee (Treasurer)

Jennifer Terry (Church Secretary)

Wendy Dodman

Meena Ledger

Rachael Mortimer

Adrian Mortimer

Ruth Shepherd

Drew Warburton

Signed: *J. Terry*

Name: Jennifer Terry

Position in the Church: Church Secretary



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Madeley Baptist Church CIO

No (if any)
1182300

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2024	To	Period end date 31/12/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Church offerings	34,842	-	-	34,842	16,476
Donations and other income	3,153	-	-	3,153	1,640
Petty Cash	-	-	-	-	132
Refunds/Transfer of funds	207	-	-	207	150
Income tax recovered on gifts	4,408	-	-	4,408	3,321
Rents and contributions	10,617	-	-	10,617	7,801
The Living Room	-	-	-	-	5,609
Lottery Grant	-	16,014	-	16,014	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	53,227	16,014	-	69,241	35,129
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	53,227	16,014	-	69,241	35,129
A3 Payments					
Minister's stipend and expenses	15,750	-	-	15,750	-
Service expenses	1,077	-	-	1,077	1,204
Mission	5,941	-	-	5,941	11,089
Light and Heat	12,931	-	-	12,931	9,168
Caretaking	1,690	-	-	1,690	1,612
Repairs, Maintenance and Insurance	4,980	-	-	4,980	3,672
Furniture, furnishings and IT Equip	1,353	-	-	1,353	4,261
Building Work	-	-	-	-	3,965
Training	1,203	-	-	1,203	-
Administration including telecomms	1,853	-	-	1,853	2,172
Lottery Grant spend	-	2,472	-	2,472	2,172
Sub total	46,778	2,472	-	49,250	39,315
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	46,778	2,472	-	49,250	39,315
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,449	13,542	-	19,991	- 4,186
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	17,574	14,993	-	32,567	34,581
Cash funds this year end	24,023	28,535	-	52,558	30,395

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Business Account	6,747	-	-
	Business Bank Instant	17,276	28,535	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	24,023	28,535	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Madeley Baptist Church CIO

On accounts for the year
ended

31/12/2024

Charity no
(if any)

1182300

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

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

Signed: *Tim Herriott*

Date: 28/03/2025

Name: Tim Herriott

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

ACA BA

Address:

15 Briarsleigh

Stafford

ST17 4QP

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.