

Bethesda Baptist Church Felixstowe Annual Church Report 2021

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Mission Statement

We live to bring glory to God by being and making disciples of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Values

Bethesda is a local church family that strives to be marked by the following characteristics...

...Worshipful

Marked by desire to know, love and glorify God.

We believe that people have no higher purpose than to glorify God and enjoy him forever. Our desire is that the Triune God is glorified and worshipped in all that we do and we long to grow in our knowledge, love and enjoyment of Him each day.

...Biblical

Marked by trust in the Bible as the living and active Word of God.

We believe that the Bible is the very voice of God and the instrument through which he changes us.

...Prayerful

Marked by faithfulness in public and private prayer.

In prayer, private and corporate, we commune with God and seek to know him as both personal and powerful.

...Dependent

Marked by dependence on the grace and power of God.

It is only by his grace given to us in the Lord Jesus and his power at work in us by the Holy Spirit that we are able to live godly lives. We therefore seek to walk in humble dependence on his grace and expectation of his power.

...Loving

Marked by genuine love and fellowship with one another.

Jesus died on the cross, not only to bring us to God but to bring us together as his church. Be- cause of this, we strive to grow in love and unity with one another as well as other gospel-centred churches.

...Missional

Marked by passion for making disciples of Jesus Christ.

We are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ by taking the good news of his life, death and resurrection to the world.

1. Pastoral Secretary report 2021

[...] make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:5-8

In the early part of the year we were encouraged to embrace these words from 2 Peter 1:5-8 and make every effort to add these qualities to our faith. But why? Simply put, growth in these would lead us to be effective and productive in our knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We may respond, why do this? The answer is found in verses 3&4: "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life **through our knowledge of him** who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, **so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.**" [emphasis mine]

Peter finishes this section of his epistle by saying, "Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." What a wonderful pair of blessings: never stumbling, and receiving a rich welcome in heaven. Let's remember to add these qualities to our faith so we may not only receive these wonderful blessings, but also glorify our wonderful, gracious and loving God.

As in previous years, so in this one, we thank the Lord for many things as we look back. In particular...

...things **practical**: we opened the church again on Easter Sunday (04/04/21) and maintained that throughout the remainder of the year. We continued with on-line links for much of the year as well, and therefore saw many participating in the fellowship both face-to-face *and* on-line.

...things **expositional**: we completed four series during the year. 1. A sermon on each of the church's values - Worshipful, Biblical, Prayerful, Dependent, Loving and Missional. 2. The end of John's Gospel (chapters

18-21). 3. The end of Romans (chapters 7-12). 4. December gave us an opportunity to study 'Christmas and Spiritual Warfare'. In addition to these, there were a number of stand-alone sermons.

For much of this we were grateful for the ongoing preaching of André, but also Tim Burnham, our Trainee Pastor. We had a couple of visiting speakers throughout the year: Martin Hull (London) and Marcus Mack (Christ Church, Felixstowe). Also in addition to André, four of the other Elders ministered to us in this period (Stuart Baker, John Bridge, Keith Doust and Scott Savage).

All-In Services added a different expression of worship to church life, as did the celebrations of Harvest, Easter (Tenebrae, Good Friday and Easter Sunday) and Christmas (Carol Service, Crib Service and Christmas Day).

There was a Church Weekend at Belsey Bridge Residential Centre in September, where many of us enjoyed a time away together and studied "The Importance of One Another", "Speaking the Truth in Love" and "Caring for One Another". We were grateful for André's ministry to us and to those who helped with logistics and extra-curricula activities. It was a blessed and enjoyable time.

Throughout the latter part of the year we had a series of meetings on Sunday evenings where we heard more about, studied and discussed "Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers", a book by Dane Ortlund, published by Crossways in 2020. It was a good opportunity to feed our souls together.

..things **numerical**: We began 2021 with 62 members. We had one resignation, Pauline Sfendilis, and added 4 new members in the period: Tim Burnham, Michael Fitch, Debbie Wargate and Michaela Williams. We therefore ended the year with a membership total of 65.

Again, despite the struggles of the year, new folk have continued to come and worship the Lord with us. Some are already talking to us about membership, others are happy to simply fellowship with us. We hope that over the coming months and years many will join us, and participate in the privileges and responsibilities of membership.

As you read through the reports you may wonder why one or other entry has disappeared this last year. Some things have stopped because they reached their natural end. Some stopped because of a lack of people

to maintain, re-start or develop them. On top of that some have paused due to Covid. Whether they recommence may be a conversation based around relevance, people and focus. Please pray with and for the Elders as they wrestle with these and many other issues in and facing the church family.

...and finally, I will finish with a paragraph, verbatim, from last year's reports on things **ministerial**: Besides those already mentioned, the church continues to be involved in many other things: mission, evangelism, discipleship, Bible study, supporting and caring for each other, prayer and worship. Thank you for *your* efforts and participation in the life of the church. Please continue to work faithfully and prayerfully in the coming year. Please remember to keep André, Liz and the children, as well as the other Elders and their families in your prayers. As we all walk and work together, may the Lord's name be glorified and may we see His Kingdom built amongst us and those with whom we have contact. Soli deo gloria.

Shalom,

Keith Doust

2. Missions report

Bethesda Felixstowe has continued to support a number of missionary societies through prayer and financial giving during 2021, but did not have much opportunity to have face to face contact due to the continuing coronavirus pandemic.

The one occasion came in March when it was lovely to see Ian and Brenda Darke, via Zoom, who represent Latin Link in Costa Rica, and hear of their experiences during the lockdown there.

Initially, the prayer meetings took place using Zoom and then were replaced by Fellowship Groups, which took place on a weekly basis and incorporated prayer for the work of the mission agencies supported by Bethesda – EMF, Hope Community Church, International Mission to Jewish People (formally CWI), Open Doors/the Persecuted Church, SIL, Latin Link and WEC International.

Bethesda is very blessed to have three of our own membership working for SIL - Keith and Lorraine Doust and Sue Bullard - and to hear first-hand of their ministry. It has also been good to hear of the charity 'Fihankra', setting up family homes for street children in Ghana. One of our members, Michael Fitch, is a Trustee of that charity.

Details of the missionary financial support can be found in the Accounts section at the end of the Annual Reports.

Sue Chapman

Supervisor Endorsements of Keith and Lorraine Doust



For supporting churches and other friends. Period: January–December 2021

Supervisor Endorsement of Keith Doust

Supervisor name: John Young
Supervisor role: SIL Eurasia Area Director
Location: Republic of Ireland

Keith has made an important contribution to SIL's engagement with the language communities of Eurasia over the past year in his role of Director for the Bolshoi group. He provides a mature, experienced perspective, informed by years of experience in language programme management, and he continues to serve on our Area Leadership Team. Keith has also taken on, with Lorraine, the added responsibility of our welcome orientation for new staff; this is vital for staff to feel part of the wider group. I am pleased at how Keith engages with partners even though it is much more difficult with COVID restrictions and lack of travel. I look forward to working with him in the years to come.

Supervisor Endorsement of Lorraine Doust

Supervisor name: Heather Ford Lark
Supervisor role: SIL Eurasia Area HR, Staff Care Specialist
Location: UK

Lorraine is a very valued member of the team, and her contributions are welcomed and appreciated by many.

Her conscientious care for people and their well-being positively impacts staff on the field, many of whom live in very challenging circumstances. She has particularly focused this year on the well-being and education of families, providing resources and support, and taking the initiative in setting up forums where parents can talk together about challenges they may face.

3. WoW (Women of the Word)

For the majority of 2021 we continued to meet weekly on Zoom for Bible study and prayer, drawing together a group of 8-12 women from various churches. We started the year by studying **Colossians** using the Good Book Guide, **Confident Christianity**, which dovetailed well with

the Sunday evening interactive studies at Bethesda during that same period. We continued to spread each study over two weeks, allowing more time for focussed prayer, as well as sharing a song or other media online.

During the summer term, we worked through season 2 of the video-based series ***Jesus the Game Changer: To the Ends of the Earth***, exploring the ways the gospel had spread and transformed lives across the centuries and around the world, and were challenged and inspired by the stories of vision, faith and sacrifice.

In the autumn, we chose another Good Book Guide, ***Church: Enjoying God's Masterpiece***, which felt very relevant at a time when churches were starting to open up again and welcome people back in-person. We really enjoyed reflecting on the different images used in Scripture to describe the church and the privilege we have to be a part of Christ's body. We also started meeting in-person again once a month and really appreciated those who were willing to open their homes.

The online format and WhatsApp group have continued to be a lifeline for fellowship and spiritual growth over the past year, and we're extremely thankful to Dee Balshaw of Christ Church, Felixstowe for hosting the weekly Zoom calls. We are looking forward to getting back to meeting face-to-face more often in 2022, though, so come and join us if you're free on Tuesday mornings! There's always room for more!

Lorraine Doust, on behalf of The WoW Group

4. Mini-Zone

We recommenced Mini-Zone in June. There were still some restrictions in place and some changes in the leadership team, but it was lovely to be back with the children again. All the leaders really appreciated how adaptable the children have been and we still had fun being able to teach God's word. We started using new materials called 'Mustard Seeds' and began with the topic of creation. From September to December we covered the topics of 'Abraham' and 'The King of Christmas'.

Once a term we ask one of the church family to come to Mini-Zone and give their testimony as well as join us for that session as a leader. This has been successful and we will continue to do this as it is a great way for the children to get to know people in the church and how they came to know Jesus.

Sarah Blundell for the Mini-Zone Team

5. Y-Zone

As with the other youth work groups, we started 6 months late due to Covid restrictions. We had 3 boys and 1 girl regularly attending.

We had a rota of 5 leaders, with 3 regular helpers, enabling us to get to know the Y-Zoners and build a good rapport with them. We hit the ground running by looking at some videos on the big questions asked in John's Gospel.

We said goodbye to Lorraine at the end of the summer, but wish to thank her for all her hard work over the years in teaching and preparing the lesson plans. We also lost Nathan at the end of the year when he and Sophie moved away. A big thanks goes to Tim who has taken over sourcing new teaching materials, and putting together the rota.

We have lost one of our young people, as they now only occasionally join us in Y-Zone, but we consider our job done, as they are happy to stay in and hear the sermon or help out with Mini-zone. This is our goal: to be able to take children from Mini-zone and hand them back to the congregation as young adults hungry for the Word and ready to do their bit to serve in the church.

We gained one from Mini-zone after the summer break, and we started looking at some of the big doctrines, such as "The Trinity", "What is God like?", "What is Sin?" and the most important question of all: "Who is Jesus"? Discussions continue to be lively, animated and engaging, and a bond had grown between the Y-Zoners themselves and us as leaders.

A number of chill-out activities have happened: a picnic at the Grove, and Sunday lunchtime meals at Stuart & Joy's and Keith & Lorraine's, giving a chance to unwind and build relationships.

It is a privilege to be able to try to reveal the treasury of God's word to them. Thank you for your prayers

Scott Savage for the Y-Zone Team

6. Bulletin Report

The Weekly Bulletin was put on hold when Covid 19 caused the UK to go into lockdown. It was restarted when Bethesda reopened on a regular basis. As the church programme was pared down so was the Bulletin initially. It acts as a welcome sheet and continues to give details about the morning service, the evening gathering and midweek fellowship groups. Other activities are brought to people's attention as and when they occur, and people are welcome to pass on information or notices for future editions.

There is a Pastoral Prayer section based on the prayer email and Scripture verses are always included in the Bulletin. Occasionally appropriate Christian cartoons or articles about Christian ministries like Armenian Ministries, European Mission Fellowship or Open Doors are published. Every month the Bethesda Prayer Diary is printed with the Bulletin and when necessary an extra A5 sheet with information can be inserted.

The Bulletin requires regular weekly input for producing and printing and it would be helpful if someone could be found or would volunteer to stand in when I am not able to do it because of holidays, etc. It would also be beneficial to have someone with a fresh perspective on how to design the leaflet.

Cathy O'Neill

7. Flower Report

Another year without a lot to report on flowers.

There was a display of daffodils to welcome Easter. For Harvest, instead of anything floral we concentrated on contributions of food to forward on to the local food bank, which were very much appreciated. The Christmas display was a combination of festive greenery and several poinsettia plants at the front of the church, with a welcoming arrangement of flowers in the entrance hall. The weeks between saw some longer lasting plants or in some cases no display at all.

In closing let me thank those involved in any of the above efforts.

Betty Croft

8. Treasurer's Report (Year Ended 31 December 2021)

BACKGROUND

The way the church manages, accounts for, and holds itself accountable for its money has not changed in 2021. Since 2015 I have been Treasurer and I am accountable for all aspects of financial control and management. I have been supported in this time by David Forshaw and Neil Serjeant. David takes responsibility for the Sunday offerings and banking and holds the cheque book. Neil keeps the books, prepares internal and external financial reports, manages the payroll and claims Gift Aid. I'm pleased to report that Greg Weston, who has acted as Independent Examiner for many years, has done so again for the 2021 accounts.

Neil Serjeant advised during 2021 that he wished to stand down as bookkeeper during Spring 2022. Discussions followed and I'm pleased to report that Sue Bullard has agreed to take on the responsibility for bookkeeping, and Stuart Baker has agreed to replace me as Treasurer. We are actively investigating further options to relieve David Forshaw of his responsibilities. The exact date for the handover of responsibilities has yet to be agreed, but we're grateful for the prospect of a smooth transition.

The closure of the HSBC branch in Felixstowe has made banking cash and cheques more difficult. It was our practice to bank offerings weekly, but this is now impractical. Instead, we are retaining the offerings each week and banking them monthly, which is less desirable from the perspective of protecting those who take on this responsibility. Whilst we will continue to explore options, we encourage members to give by standing order or internet banking.

SUMMARY

2021 saw a continuation of the recovery in the church's finances which began in 2020. We began 2021 with total funds in hand of £52,601 of which £29,297 was in the General Fund. By the end of the year we had funds in hand of £72,594, and the General Fund had recovered to £47,241.

The financial story for the year can be summarised as follows:

Bethesda Baptist Church, Felixstowe										
Funds Summary										
31 December 2021										
		General	Missionary		Bookstall	Training Fund	Ministry Apprentice		Total	Bank
			Unrestricted	Restricted			Restricted	Unrestricted		
Balances Brought Forward at 1 January 2021		(29,296.68)	0.00	(3,223.78)	453.80	(3,400.00)	0.00	(17,134.11)	(52,600.77)	52,600.77
Income		(127,726.31)	(48,144.24)	(1,432.82)	(705.52)	(3,008.40)	(10,000.00)	0.00	(191,017.29)	
Expenditure		109,781.73	38,388.24	3,853.78	251.72	0.00	10,000.00	8,748.14	171,023.61	
Closing Balances at	31 December 2021	(47,241.26)	(9,756.00)	(802.82)	0.00	(6,408.40)	0.00	(8,385.97)	(72,594.45)	72,594.45

Fuller details of income and expenditure, including a comparison with 2020, are provided in the extended accounts made available to CIO members. These have been independently examined and have been approved by the Trustees.

The key points that I'd like to draw your attention to are:

GENERAL FUND

Income from regular giving and Sunday offerings rose by 24% year on year from £75,000 to £93,000. This is in part the full-year effect of those of you who increased their giving part way through 2020, and also

reflects new people who have settled at the church and who are giving regularly. We are grateful to God for the generosity of his people.

You may recall that the 2020 accounts – the first accounts prepared for us as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation – included more than a year's worth of numbers. Consequently, in those accounts we recorded two years' worth of Gift Aid – a total of just over £30,000. In 2021 only one year's claim is included – just over £17,000.

Manse income was £16,000 compared to £14,000 in 2020. The Manse was let for the full year, but the tenant had difficulty making rent payments on time each month, partly, at least, due to the pandemic. All rent arrears have now been collected.

MISSIONARY FUND

Because the church's financial position has recovered, the trustees allocated 40% of Offerings received to the Missionary Fund. The amount allocated in the year was just over £44,000.

We continued our support for Keith & Lorraine Doust. In 2021 the church received designated gifts for the support of Keith & Lorraine Doust totalling £2,955 on which £660 of Gift Aid was recovered. Support costs for Keith & Lorraine totalled £26,388. The net cost to the church was £22,773. The balance on the Missionary Fund at the end of the year was £9,756. In part this provides a buffer to meet our commitment to Keith & Lorraine; £6,000 was donated in January 2022 to the agencies regularly supported by the church.

COVID-19

The global pandemic continued in 2021, with the church unable to meet for several weeks, and then able to resume meetings but only under restrictions. Offerings have continued lower because of this, though we're grateful that a number of you who normally gave at services have found ways to give directly. If anyone needs help with this, please do contact me. Activities such as children's work, youth work and coffee mornings have been curtailed by restrictions, with a corresponding reduction in expenditure in these areas.

TRAINEE PASTOR

Tim Burnham continued as Trainee Pastor in 2021. The church received a grant of £10,000 towards support of this from the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC), all of which was used in the year to support Tim. Other costs were met from the Ministry Apprentice Fund, the balance on which at the end of the year was £8,386. Whilst it is hoped that the church will be successful in applying for further grant funding from the FIEC to

support Tim in 2022, the Trustees started to designate money from General Funds to a Training Fund, which could be used to support Tim if the grant application is unsuccessful. The balance on this fund was £6,408 at the end of 2021. This money is unrestricted and can be returned to General Funds if not needed for the designated purpose.

I'm always happy to discuss any questions from members.

Clifford Lewis



Bethesda Baptist Church, Felixstowe <i>Draft Subject to Independent Examination</i>		No (if any)	CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts			
For the period from	01-Jan-21	To 31-Dec-21	

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					
General Fund (Unrestricted)			0	0	0
Offerings	93,451			93,451	75,294
Tax Recovered on Gift Aided Donations	17,211			17,211	30,569
Manse Rent Received	16,135			16,135	14,291
Gifts & Bequests	890			890	2,425
Interest	6			6	41
Church Awayday	1,644			1,644	0
Transfer to Missionary Fund	(44,078)			(44,078)	(20,567) A
Transfer to Training Fund	(3,008)			(3,008)	(3,400) B
Transfer to Bookstall Fund	(383)			(383)	(55) C
				0	0
Missionary Funds (Designated Unrestricted; Restricted)				0	0
40% tithe of Offerings & Gift Aid	44,078			44,078	0 A
Gift Aid Tax Recovered	660			660	1,305 F
Transfer from General Fund				0	20,567 F
Gifts and Donations	2,955	1,433		4,388	5,029 F
				0	0
Bookstall Sales (Unrestricted)				0	0
Sales	323			323	74 C
Transfer from General Fund	383			383	0
				0	0
Building Fund (Restricted)				0	0
Gifts and donations				0	25,340 D
Tax Recovered on Gift Aided Donations				0	8,638
				0	0
Training Fund (Designated Unrestricted)				0	0
Gifts				0	0
From General Fund	3,008			3,008	3,400 B
				0	0
Ministry Apprentice Fund (Restricted)				0	0
Grant Income		10,000		10,000	0
Tax Recovered on Gift Aided Donations		0		0	0
				0	0
Ministry Apprentice Fund (Designated, Unrestricted)				0	0
Gifts and Donations				0	0
Tax Recovered on Gift Aided Donations				0	5,000
				0	0
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	133,275	11,433	0	144,708	167,951
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Total receipts	133,275	11,433	0	144,708	167,951

A3 Payments					
General Fund (Unrestricted)			0	0	0
Ministry	47,602		0	47,602	41,599
Outreach			0	0	(79)
Youth & Children's Work	357		0	357	262
Church Utilities	2,724		0	2,724	3,517
Church Cleaning	334		0	334	1,127
Church repairs & Maintenance	2,163		0	2,163	1,007
Church Fabric & Fittings	0		0	0	54
Insurance	2,188		0	2,188	2,141
Manse Repairs	1,963		0	1,963	1,122
Manse Council Tax	0		0	0	0
Manse Utilities	0		0	0	416
Manse Insurance	548		0	548	950
Online and Print	202		0	202	853
Refreshments	28		0	28	21
Gifts and Donations	146		0	146	50
Professional Fees	3,627		0	3,627	7,836
Church AwayDay	1,611		0	1,611	0
Miscellaneous	430		0	430	212
Transfers to/from Other Unrestricted Funds:				0	0
				0	0
Missionary Funds (Designated Unrestricted; Restricted)			0	0	0
International Mission to Jewish People	2,000		0	2,000	500
K & L Doust	26,388		0	26,388	26,288 F
European Missionary Fellowship	2,000		0	2,000	500
Hope Community Church	2,000		0	2,000	500
Latin Link	2,000		0	2,000	500
WEC International	1,000		0	1,000	500



Receipts and payments accounts

	For the period from	01-Jan-21	To	31-Dec-21	
Open Doors	2,000		0	2,000	1,500
Samaritan's Purse	0	1,441	0	1,441	544
Other	1,000	1,520	0	2,520	685
Pastor Training International (Myanmar)	0	442	0	442	0
				0	0
Bookstall Purchases (Unrestricted)	252		0	252	78
				0	0
Building Fund (Restricted)			0	0	0
Payments to Contractor			0	0	0
Loan interest and repayment			0	0	35,063
Fees			0	0	0
				0	0
Training Fund (Unrestricted)				0	0
Expenditure	0			0	0
				0	0
Ministry Apprentice Fund (Restricted)				0	0
Expenditure		10,000		10,000	0
				0	0
Ministry Apprentice Fund (designated, Unrestricted)				0	0
Expenditure	8,748			8,748	8,616
				0	0
			0	0	0
Sub total	111,311	13,403	0	124,714	136,363
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Total payments	111,311	13,403	0	124,714	136,363
Net of receipts/(payments)	21,964	(1,970)	0	19,994	31,588
A5 Transfers between funds	451	(451)	0	0	0
Cash Funds Transferred from CUA					21,012
A6 Cash funds last year end	49,377	3,224	0	52,601	0
Cash funds this year end	71,792	803	0	72,595	52,600

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	CAF Current Account	100		-
	CAF Gold Account	71,692	803	-
				-
	Total cash funds	71,792	803	-



Bethesda Baptist Church, Felixstowe <i>Draft Subject to Independent Examination</i>	No (if any)
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01-Jan-21	To	31-Dec-21
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(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

Unrestricted
to nearest £

Restricted funds
to nearest £

Endowment
to nearest £

Details

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B2 Other monetary assets

Details

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Manse at 8 Mill Lane, Felixstowe	General	-	350,000
Church furniture	General	-	9,000
Church building, Cavendish Road, Felixstowe	General	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details

	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

B5 Liabilities

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

NOTES

- A** During 2020 the church paused its 40% tithe of Offerings to Mission. Towards the end of 2021 this was resumed with effect for the whole of 2021.
- B** The church put money aside in a designated unrestricted Training Fund. In the event of a shortfall in restricted funding for a trainee Pastor, these funds will be used to fund a second year of the Trainee Pastor. Otherwise they will be used for other training or turned to the General Fund.
- C** In the absence of a stock valuation, a transfer was made from the General Fund to bring the balance on the bookstall account to zero.
- D** The Building Fund was closed in 2020 and there have been no transactions in 2021.
- E** The balance on the Restricted Mission Account was analysed during 2021. Where the amounts paid to Mission Societies appeared to differ from the amounts received, the balance was paid out. In this regard gifts were made to PTI Myanmar, Samaritan's Purse and SASRA. The balance of £451, the majority of which related to gifts received at a Missionary Weekend and balances brought forward in 2014, was transferred to the Unrestricted Missionary Fund.
- F** In 2021 the church received designated gifts for the support of Keith & Lorraine Doust totalling £2,955. £660 of Gift Aid was recovered on these donations. Support costs for Keith & Lorraine totalled £26,388. The net cost to the church was £22,773.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Bethesda Baptist Church, Felixstowe

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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:

Date: 25/4/22

Name:

G Weston

IER

1

May 2018

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

Address:

5 Berners Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 7LF

Section B

Disclosure