

Overview 2023 for The Bridge Baptist Church

The Bridge Baptist Church continues to grow, whilst we have only 13 people in formal membership, we welcome a Sunday Morning congregation of around 25 to 40 people.

In Spring 2023 we launched 'The Welcome Course' a six-session course aimed at welcoming people who have moved to the UK from Hong Kong. This course was advertised locally and attended by Hong Kongers and native Brits. The consensus was that we all learnt a great deal from each other and about British culture.

Last year we also gave a major focus to our Children and young people. In preparation for a new Sunday Club many from our congregation trained in Level 2 Safeguarding and several went on to have their DBS checks completed. We registered 10 children and in summer we started a regular Sunday Club called Mosaic which now meets weekly during the sermon slot. The children enjoy stories, games, activities, and songs as they get to know Jesus better.

-Regarding the ministry of the Church:

- We are now talking with several people in church about them joining us more formally and committing to membership.
- We have run a Baptist class and next year plan to baptise two of our young people which is an occasion we look forward to.
- We continue to run prayer events. (24-hour event in May, Reflective prayer evening for Maundy Thursday and a Prayer afternoon in Advent.)

-We have connected with our local community in a number of ways:

- A new group - Singing for the Brain, an Alzheimer's Society initiative, started meeting in our Church. This group welcomes all and is particularly suitable for those living with Dementia and their carer's.
The group hosted a Christmas Fundraising event which we supported, and we managed to direct the Group leader to funding support.
- In Summer we ran an Afternoon Tea to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society which raised £300, **and** the church also donated £200.
- We also ran our usual Christmas Stall raising funds for the NSPCC which raised £770.
- We also collect food for a Local Food Bank and donate, probably two carrier bags of food as well as cash donations which we deliver to their distribution centre every two weeks,

-We continue in good relationship with other local Churches - joining together for an event to mark the week of prayer for Christian Unity, and meeting together outdoors in our town centre for a Good Friday Service.

-We are now very much a multinational congregation - welcoming people from people Hong Kong, Ghana, Sri-Lanka, The Philippines, India, and South America,
We have been keen to encourage inclusivity and access to all.

- We arranged a Cantonese speaking interpreter to enable one of our friends from Hong Kong to preach in Cantonese during a Morning service.
- We have some Bible Readings in Cantonese followed by the reading in English or displayed on our projector screen.
- We have compiled a folder with songs in large print for those who are unable to read words on the projector screen.
- We have a men's group on Wednesday morning, mainly small repairs, cleaning, and a few games of Pool (I am not at liberty as to the actual time sharing of these three activities!)
- We hold a Bi-Weekly Tuesday group meeting in our Upper room for a time of fellowship, Prayers, discussions and are currently watching the Video "The Chosen".

-In terms of the fabric of the building

- We have installed a new Lazer projector to provide a clearer picture for song words and videos we use, this did entail a rather copious amount of wiring etc.
- We have also installed a new wrought iron gate at the front of the building to compliment the wrought Iron railings to the frontage also replanted the garden area.
- We have lowered two large old brick pillars to the church frontage as well as repainted the access ramp into church.

-We are a giving church, as below.

- The Bridge Baptist Church continues to be a generous churchand donated out of church funds to: Tearfund, Samaritans Purse, The Russell Trust, Community Food Bank, BMS World Mission, Shoe Box Appeal, Baptist Home Mission Fund, Alzheimer's Society and to the NSPCC.
- It is always our intent to donate 10% of our Income to good causes or recognised Charitable Institutions.

THE BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Note	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Receipts			
Weekly offerings		4,318	3,196
Donations and other income	2	13,052	77,633
Income tax recovered on gifts		3,266	3,239
Investment income	3	743	179
Total Receipts		<u>21,379</u>	<u>84,247</u>
Payments			
Mission	4	2,951	5,648
Upkeep of Church Premises	5	25,376	54,794
Administration	6	8,812	8,975
Total Payments		<u>37,139</u>	<u>69,417</u>
Net (Expenditure)/ Income for the Year		(15,760)	14,830
Add Balance as at 31st December 2022		54,450	39,620
Balance as at 31st December 2023	7	<u><u>38,690</u></u>	<u><u>54,450</u></u>

THE BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 Basis of accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a "receipts and payments" basis and in accordance with Section 133 Charities Act 2011.
The Bridge Baptist Church registered as a charity effective as from 10th October 2019. It's activities commenced on 1st January 2020.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
2 Donations and other income		
Gift aid donations	12,152	11,379
Other donations	75	415
Entitlement on closure of Stanton Hill Baptist Church	0	65,499
Room hire	825	340
	<u>13,052</u>	<u>77,633</u>
3 Investment income		
Baptist Trust interest	404	454
Baptist Union Corporation Ltd interest	5	0
COIF Charities dividends	81	81
COIF Charities - increase (decrease) in value of investment	253	(356)
	<u>743</u>	<u>179</u>
4 Mission		
Baptist Missionary Society	500	600
Water Aid	0	600
Sightsavers	0	600
Shoebox Appeal	0	650
Baptist Union fees	67	78
Baptist Union donation	0	600
Community Food Bank	200	800
Russell Trust	262	0
Tear Fund	250	900
Samaritans Purse	500	0
NSPCC	205	0
Ukraine Appeal	0	300
Alzheimers Society	200	0
Portland Training College	0	100
Rough sleepers	0	20
Operation Smile UK	0	400
Easter and Christmas expenses	637	0
Safeguarding course	130	0
	<u>2,951</u>	<u>5,648</u>
5 Upkeep of Church Premises		
Light and heat	1,406	1,444
Water rates	184	105
Cleaning	840	0
New Projector	7,219	0
Roof repairs	5,724	47,000
New Front Gate and Railings	5,000	0
Repairs and maintenance	2,163	3,514
Gardening	708	590
Insurance	2,132	2,141
	<u>25,376</u>	<u>54,794</u>

THE BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS continued

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
6 Administration		
Telephone	523	535
Pastoral Leader and support wages	4,200	3,800
Speakers	2,270	2,220
Licences	162	405
Postage and stationery	695	665
Accountancy	310	300
Gifts and hosting	385	967
Sundry expenses	30	83
Website expenses	237	0
	<u>8,812</u>	<u>8,975</u>
 7 Balance as at 31st December 2023		
Barclays Bank Current Account	9,800	37,551
Baptist Union Corporation Ltd	25,006	0
Cash-in-hand	926	756
East Midlands' Baptist Trust Co. Ltd.	0	13,437
COIF Charities Investment Fund (Market Value)	2,958	2,706
	<u>38,690</u>	<u>54,450</u>
 8 Assets held for the Church's own use		
The Church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the Church's custodian trustee (the East Midlands Baptist Trust Co. Ltd.).		
a)	Church premises at Mansfield Road, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts. NG17 4FN Valued for insurance purposes at £2,202,626.	
b)	The Church also owns fixtures, furniture and equipment with an insured value of £177,435.	
 9 Liabilities		
There are no liabilities at 31st December 2023.		

THE BRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Note	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances	7	38,690	54,450
Assets held for Church's own use	8	<u>2,380,061</u>	<u>2,271,054</u>
Total Assets		<u>2,418,751</u>	<u>2,325,504</u>
Liabilities	9	<u>NIL</u>	<u>3,000</u>

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out on pages 1 to 4 relating to the year ended 31st December 2023 are as approved by the trustees.

Signed
Mr. B. Tomlinson - Treasurer