

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bentley Baptist Church.**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 2 to 3.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act..

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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 a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Mark David Kidney

Qualifications: BA (Hons), ACMA

Address: 6 Akeferry Road, Westwoodside, DONCASTER, DN9 2DX

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Bentley Baptist Church Accounts - Year Ending 31st Dec 2022**

Summary

Income £89,706.20

Expenditure (£88,968.06)

<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<b>£738.14</b>
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Bank Account

Brought Forward £41,304.72

Transfer from/(to) Saving Account £12,907.34

Movement in Year (Net Income & Expenditure) £738.14

<b>Sub Total as per Dec 22 Statement</b>	<b>£54,950.20</b>
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Business Reserve Account / Longer Term Savings

Opening Balance £49,872.76

Transfer from/(to) Current Accounts (£12,907.34)

Bank Interest £77.43

<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£37,042.85</b>
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<b>Net Funds</b>	<b>£91,993.05</b>
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### **Summary of Income & Expenditure**

Income: Offering / Donations	£63,044.79
Income: Grants/Loans	£6,041.28
Income: Gift Aid refund	£12,064.42
Income: Other	£8,555.71
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	<b>£89,706.20</b>

Expense: Staff Costs	(£37,794.35)
Expense: Building	(£25,048.96)
Expense: Gifts	(£2,658.26)
Expense: Repairs	(£7,068.94)
Expense: Loan Repayment / Loan Given	£0.00
Expense: Other	(£16,397.55)
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	<b>(£88,968.06)</b>

<b>Net Inflow</b>	<hr/> <hr/> £738.14
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## **Minister's report for 2023 AGM**

### **Looking back on 2022**

Our focus for 2022 was given to us by God from Ephesians 6:10 and the key word was **'BE'**:

**'BE strong in the Lord and in His mighty power'**

In line with our vision to **Make Disciples who Make Disciples** and informed by our **Discipleship Journey Strategy**, my four key strategic goals to achieve as the Minister in 2022 are listed below (alongside the outcomes):

<b>Strategic Goals for 2022</b>	<b>What did we achieve?</b>
Discern with the wider church the next step in being a healthy hub with spiritual outposts.	We discerned that the next step in being a healthy hub with Spiritual outposts was to plant the first Outpost. We discerned this would be at Renew and worked from October 2022 to develop the concept and assemble a team which met together through January and February 2023 and launched the first mid-week service at 10.30am on Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2023.
Develop Alpha team, run the Alpha course and implement follow-up strategy.	We ran two Alpha courses through 2022, welcomed new team members and have run follow-up discipleship courses for those who completed the course and wanted to continue to explore faith. Many of those who went on Alpha courses are now part of the church family and some have been (or are soon to be) baptised.
Explore, discern and implement a youth ministry strategy.	We welcomed a Youth Work intern (Isabel) through Youth For Christ Doncaster in September, who is working in schools and youth projects during the week and with our young people on Sundays. The most recent developments for youth in Bentley BC have been a Youth Life Group (that is currently running the Youth Alpha course) and some mid-week one-to-one mentoring/discipleship.
Run 'Know yourself to lead yourself' course(s) to help everyone understand who God has made them	This 3-week course ran in October 2022 with around 12 regular participants exploring our Spiritual Gifts, the ways we each connect with God effectively (Spiritual Pathways) and our Mission Styles – the ways God has gifted us to share about Jesus in different ways.

to BE and where He might be calling them to serve.

The feedback from the course was positive and participants reported an increased understanding of their character, gifting and preferred style of mission.

### **Sunday Teaching**

During 2022 we ran teaching series on 'Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power', 'The Kingdom of God', 'Leaders of Integrity', 'A healthy Spiritual diet', 'Encounters with Jesus', 'Counter-culture' and also explored God's vision for our church as we explored the Biblical basis for being 'A healthy hub with Spiritual outposts'.

### **Church Growth**

On Sundays during 2021 average numbers in Sunday services were 51 adults and 20 children (total of 71).

On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022 the Sunday service was attended by 64 adults and 18 children (total of 82).

On the equivalent Sunday in 2023 the Sunday service was attended by 77 adults and 20 children (total of 97\*)

\*18% increase over the year and a 36% increase over two years.

### **Looking Up – what is God saying?**

During our church away day and as we've prayed and sought to discern the will of God in our meetings and through prayer and fasting, we believe that He is telling us to discern the next opportunities to plant Spiritual Outposts – expressions of church in the wider community – during the coming year.

In spite of the growth we are seeing on Sundays, we do not believe that God is calling us away from our current premises at this time, but He is asking us to look for opportunities to 'enlarge the place of our tent' by planting tent pegs further afield such as the 'Church Outpost' at Renew 127.

We believe God is calling us to lead people on a Discipleship Journey, to Make disciples who make disciples, in expressions of church that include both the Hub of the Sunday service *and* Spiritual Outposts of Church planted and growing in the community – whatever they may look like.

### **Looking Forward - Minister's Strategic Objectives for 2023**

1. Enable Bentley BC to explore and understand the vision to plant Church Outposts.
2. Train and develop leaders to lead in the Church Hub and to plant and lead Church Outposts.
3. Discern what and where the next two Church Outposts should be.



## Secretary's Report

Well, what a difference a year makes. We have been able to meet though 2022 without a break, even though Covid remains with us.

Our services are attracting more people on a Sunday, with average attendances of over 70 adults and 20 children.

We are called to 'Make disciples who make disciples' and have been blessed with new people and new Christians coming to church. This has resulted in 8 baptisms and 14 new members.

Once again, the leadership started the year with some of their number attending the Fresh Streams Conference.

We had our first AGM as a CIO, and the entire leadership team were up for election. We were joined by Lorraine Jackson being elected as an Elder, increasing the leadership team to eight persons.

At Easter we had a breakfast before the main morning service, something, which due to its success will be repeated in 2023.

In September we all came together to remember John Daniels who had died during covid. We had not been able to gather at the time and this was a fitting tribute to his life.

In October the wider leadership had an away day on the outskirts of Sheffield. This was a chance to discern what God was saying to us, looking forwards to how God was calling us to make spiritual outposts

Thank you to everyone who gives their time for God's work here in Bentley. There are too many of you to mention individually. There are however, never enough people, so if you want to be involved, then just speak with me or someone else on the leadership

My prayer for us all remains the same as last year, and seems even more relevant than it was last year. As church outposts are developed, we need to bind together and not feel divided. It says in Colossians 3: 'Above all, clothe yourselves with Love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony'.

Thank you and Bless you all.

Andrew

Church Secretary