



**Uckfield  
Baptist  
Church**

*Celebrates, Communicates and Cares,  
in the love of Christ.*

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements**

### **Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

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## Trustees' Annual Report

Period start date: 01/04/23

Period end date: 31/03/24

### Legal and Administrative Information

Charitable status: Uckfield Baptist Church is a CIO. Charity no: 1191028

Church Address  
Uckfield Baptist Church  
18 Calvert Close  
Uckfield  
East Sussex  
TN22 2BZ

Managing Trustees  
Steve Jenkins (Minister from February 2018)  
Lorraine Kirkwood (Church Treasurer)  
Jill Moar (Church Secretary)  
Bryan Green  
Peter Roe

Bankers  
Nat West Bank  
1 Muster Green  
Haywards Heath  
RH16 4AP

Independent Examiner  
Simon Goacher  
Cosi  
Old Road  
Magham Down  
Hailsham  
BN27 1PR



## **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Legal and administrative information set out on the previous page forms part of this report.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The principal objective of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The Church is a member church of Baptists Together and the South East Baptist Association (SEBA) and as such has access to advice and support.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted with regard to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Church has read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and is satisfied that the activities outlined below clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

### **Achievements and Performance**

In order to achieve the principal objectives set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. The aim is to live out our motto to "celebrate, communicate and care in the love of Christ".

Central to this is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship, which take place on a Sunday at 10.30 am. We do not own our own building, but rent a local school hall in which to hold the services. There is a Sunday Club for children during the church service. We seek to be a friendly and welcoming community and anyone is free to attend the services.

The Church has several home groups which run midweek for church attendees to study God's word, enjoy fellowship and a time of sharing and prayer. We also hold monthly prayer meetings which are held in The Source, a building in the centre of the town, which we lease from the Town Council. This building also is the venue for our weekly Toddler Group, our music group practices and our monthly prayer meeting. It is also the distribution centre for Uckfield Foodbank which we support as a church, having two members who are trustees and another who is the Project Manager as well as a number of volunteers from our membership.

Every year we support the Late Night Shopping event at the beginning of December, taking the opportunity to share our faith through a Walk through Nativity which attracts upwards of 1000 visitors. This year we were also able to send a team into a local Primary School in the week running up to Easter and work with two year 4 classes, the theme "The Great Big Hot Cross Bun Hunt" enabling us to teach the story of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Over the year, the church has sub-let its premises in town for regular community use including the Foodbank, U3A groups and private band practices.



Although the 'Churches in Uckfield' interdenominational group no longer exists formally, we still work alongside other churches in the town, notably for the Good Friday Walk of Witness and the Walk through Nativity with Kings Church.

As a church we have always supported missions both in this country and overseas, both with financial and prayer support. During this year, we were able to give to the following missions: Baptist World Mission (in particular supporting a couple working in Bangladesh), Missionary Aviation Fellowship, GLIA in Romania (including collecting for Christmas Goodie Bags), Open Doors, Tearfund, Great Lakes Outreach in Burundi and Off the Fence in Brighton (including collecting Boxers and Socks for their work with the homeless).

We have one paid member of staff. Steve Jenkins, our minister has been with us since February 2018, and we rely on volunteers in all aspects of the church's life. Church membership at the end of March 2024 was 33.

During the year, the majority of our Sunday services have been led by our minister, Steve Jenkins, assisted by other church members who have sometimes led the service, introduced the worship or preached the message. We have also been blessed to have some visiting preachers, in particular from the missions we support. The Sunday messages this year have focused on 1 Peter and Titus, key passages in Mark's Gospel and 1 Samuel.

Despite the diversity of these biblical books and their themes, there is a thread that runs throughout - our relationship with God will flourish, whatever our circumstances, if we stay focused on serving Jesus our Lord. Furthermore, in an age when absolute truth has no meaning anymore, all our teaching during this past year has shown us that truth is important and gives us a foundation on which to live out our lives effectively and fully for God.

Although during the Covid lockdowns our services were recorded in their entirety and available to watch on our YouTube channel, since meeting back together in the school, we have only recorded and uploaded the sermon each Sunday.

We have been blessed by having a number of new people join the congregation on a Sunday and now have members and attendees from a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

On 18 June 2020 the Church approved a new Constitution, based on a template for a "Charitable Incorporated Organisation" (CIO) produced by the Baptist Union, working in conjunction with the Charity Commission. Application was made to the Charity Commission to register a new charity and this was completed on 26 August 2020. From then until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, we continued to operate as a "Charitable Unincorporated Association" as we had no assets and activities as a CIO. On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, all our assets and activities were transferred across and since then we have been operating as a "Charitable Incorporated Organisation".

The Trustees who have served during the year are set out on page 2. Trustees are elected by members of Uckfield Baptist Church and usually serve for a period of three years after which time they may, if willing, be nominated again and stand for re-election for another term of office. A break of at least one year must then be taken before they can stand for re-election again. However, in



accordance with the new CIO Constitution, the Trustees were elected to serve for one, two or three years initially in order to vary the re-election dates. The minister remains a Trustee until the end of his ministry with this church. Trustees meet monthly and members' meetings are held 4 times a year with the Annual General Meeting being held at one of them.

### Financial Review

Review of financial position at end of the period (see attached accounts)

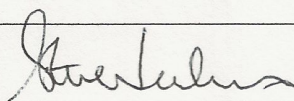
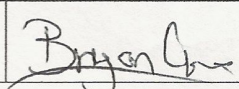
Reserves policy: The trustees consider that the level of free reserves held in the General Fund at the end of the financial year 2023/24 should cover three months' maximum expenditure in order to enable the church to fulfil its legal obligations with respect of employees and creditors in the event the church ceases to exist.

### Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signatures(s)

	
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Full name(s)

REV-STEVE JENKINS	Bryan Green
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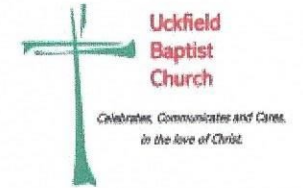
Position

Minister	Trustee
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Date

17/11/24
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# UCKFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH



**1st.April 2023 to 31st.March 2024**

## **Receipts and Payments Account.**

### **Receipts**

Receipts				2023/2024	2022/2023.
				£	£
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted		
Pledged Gifts by Standing Order	£ 29,232.50			£ 29,232.50	£ 26,440.00
Weekly General Offering	£ 4,772.00			£ 4,772.00	£ 5,387.62
Gift Aid Receipts	£ 6,694.41			£ 6,694.41	£ 10,059.20
Specific donations		£ 970.34		£970	£982
Non Specific single donations	£ 701.00			£ 701.00	
Other receipts	£ 250.00			£ 250.00	£ 848.01
Source	£ 2,498.00			£ 2,498.00	£ 3,075.00
Chippers	£ 200.60			£ 200.60	£ 406.59
Gift Days		£ 1,946.14		£ 1,946.14	£ 2,057.00
Pick me up		£ 562.00		£ 562.00	
Electric Car charge rebate	£ 479.37			£ 479.37	
Sub Total		£ 3,478.48	£ -		49,255.66
Investment Drawdown	£ 45,000.00			£ 45,000.00	
Interest inc BU a/c	£ 1,036.05			£ 1,036.05	552.84
Total Receipts	£ 90,863.93	£ 3,478.48	£ -	£ 94,342.41	49,808.50



# UCKFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH



## Payments

Administration  
Bank Charges  
Church Services  
Manse  
Ministry  
Mission/Outreach/Subscriptions  
Missions - Gift Day Distributions  
Mission in the Community  
Subscriptions  
The Source (Buildings)  
Youth Work

### Sub Total

Transfer to Investment Portfolio

### Total Payments

### Surplus ( *deficit* ) for year

#### Debtors

Ascentric(CASH)

20159.32

Total

**£ 20,159.32**

<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	
£ 1,549.80			£
£ 111.77			£
£ 619.97			£
£ 42,284.24			£
£ 35,681.69			£
£ 3,643.86	£ 1,946.14		£
£ 2,270.43			£
£ 531.46			£
£ 7,707.19			£
£ 514.00			£
<b>£ 94,914.41</b>	<b>£ 1,946.14</b>	<b>£ -</b>	
		<b>£ -</b>	

## 2023/2024

£

1,549.80  
111.77  
619.97  
42,284.24  
35,681.69  
5,590.00  
2,270.43  
531.46  
7,707.19  
514.00

**96,860.55**

**2518.41**

## 2022/2023

£

2,388.22  
1,418.46  
5,258.48  
35,305.39  
4,441.13  
2,057.00  
14,281.98  
128.37

**65,279.03**

£

-

**15470.53**

-96003.57



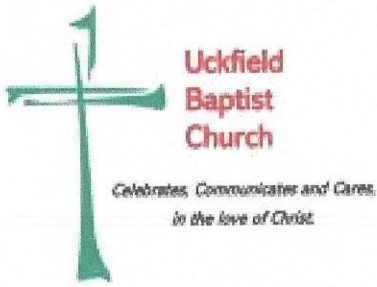
# STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

at the close of business on the 31st March 2023

				<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
				<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>		
Manse at cost 18, Calvert Close (See Note 1)		515,000.00		515,000.00	515,000.00
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Investments C.O.B. 31st. March (See Note 1)		984,924.42	161,378.87	1,146,303.29	1,112,950.52
Baptist Union -Uckfield 1 a/c (See Note 1)		5,314.84		5,314.84	5,167.88
Baptist Union - 1 Year Fixed to 30/11/2023		25,000.00		25,000.00	25,000.00
NatWest Current Account (See Note 1)		-309.35		-309.35	1,197.95
NatWest Business Reserve a/c. (See Note 1)		2,003.12		2,003.12	3,110.92
Petty Cash (See Note 1)		0.00		0.00	50.00
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>1,531,933.03</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,693,311.90</b>	<b>1,662,477.27</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>					<b>£</b>
Assets as at 1st. April 2023.				<b>1,662,477.27</b>	1,773,951.37
Less Surplus/Deficit for year				-2518.14	-15470.53
Plus Variation in Investments valuation				33,352.77	-96,003.57
				<b>1,693,311.90</b>	<b>1,662,477.27</b>
<b>Long-term Liabilities</b>					
Baptist Union Pension Scheme (See Note 2)				27.00	39.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>				<b>27.00</b>	<b>39.00</b>
NatWest Current Account Bank Statement Balance				1,909.28	1,183.95
<b>Less</b> Insurance £ 407.02 Uck Town Council £ 738.36					
Tearfund Quiz £ 286.00 Uck Town Council £ 875.00				-£ 2,306.38	
<b>Plus</b> Chippers 000045 £ 22.75				87.75	14.00
weekly collection 31.3.24 £ 65.00				<b>-£ 309.35</b>	<b>1,197.95</b>



# UCKFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH



Note 1. The total assets are made up of:-	
Investments	£161,378.87 Restricted for the purchase of Church buildings only.
18, Calvert Close.	£515,000.00 Unrestricted subject to BU confirmation.
Balance of Investments	984,924.42 Unrestricted liquid funds.
Balance of Bank Accounts and Cash	£32,008.61 Unrestricted liquid funds.
Total	<u>£1,693,311.90</u>

Note 2. **Pension Scheme Liabilities.**

The Church is a participating employer of the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is a separate legal entity administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Minister's Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31st. December 2011. Prior to this date the main benefit provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was a pension of one eightieth of final pensionable income for each year of pensionable service together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. Since 1st January 2012 benefits have been provided through a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan.

A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31st December 2019 was completed by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. At the valuation date the market value of the DB Plan assets was £298 million, whilst the level of assets needed to pay benefits was £316m, giving a deficit of £18m (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other participating employers in the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit. The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme is due to take place not later than 31st December 2022.

Under the Schedule of Contributions, the church makes a monthly payment in respect of the DB scheme deficit, currently £328.62, which will increase in line with increases in the Minimum Pensionable Income. The Schedule of Contributions foresees these contributions continuing until June 2026. The pension scheme liability shown in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities is calculated as the current rate per month multiplied by the number of months remaining in the current Schedule of Contributions, which amounted to £16,759.62 as at 31st March 2022.

A further formal review took place in July 2022 and the Church was advised that payments would be reduced to £1.00 per month from August 2022 until June 2026. There is currently no plan to reintroduce the costs outlined above but the new agreement with Just ir

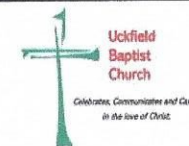


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## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

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I report to the Trustees on the accounts of Uckfield Baptist Church for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 1-4 above.



### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the trustees of the Church, 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 accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act, and in carrying out the 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act: or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view', which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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:

Simon Goacher.

Member of the Chartered Institute of Payroll Professionals (MCIPP)

"Cosi", Old Road, Magham Down, Hailsham, East Sussex. BN17 1PR.

Date:

14 May 2024