

Our motto text for the year was:

"For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21)

We reflect that amidst the massive political and economic changes in the nation, we have also seen much spiritual and ethical decline. Also, both as individuals and as a church we have seen finances being stretched.

Towards the end of the year our Pastor began a series of sermons from the book of Revelation, where we are confronted with realities beyond what our usual five senses can perceive.

Membership and leadership

We give God thanks for the addition of a new member and for the ways that they contribute to the life of the church. However, the church effectively lost ten other members, mainly through relocation. Some of these fulfilled important roles in the life of the church and will be greatly missed. In particular the church does not currently have a musician to accompany hymn singing.

The church also lost the services of its deacon for part of the year. He stepped down after many years of faithful service because he found the responsibility tiring. The church is very grateful for his past service, and equally grateful that after prayerful consideration, he was willing to take on the responsibility again some months later.

The role of treasurer was taken on by another church member, under the mentorship and guidance of the former treasurer.

As noted in previous years, the Trustees note that the age profile of the church's membership continues to increase and the church needs to see conversions and additions to membership for the future. It is the conviction both of the Trustees and of church members that these needs are beyond our control, and we need to seek God to intervene for the needs to be met.

However, attendance at Sunday services continues to be encouraging, and we are thankful that the Sunday evening service continues to be supported at a time when many churches find it non-viable to hold one.

Attendance at prayer meetings continues to be good. The Trustees are thankful for the provision of Zoom, that makes it possible for members unable to attend Sunday services and midweek prayer meetings in person still to benefit.

The Trustees and church members are grateful to God for his financial provision despite the loss of members alluded to above.

A number of non-members have attended Sunday services regularly.

The church's mission to the community

One of the main aims of the church is to make known to the community (both immediately surrounding the church and in the city as a whole) the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ. The Trustees and members are convinced that God alone is able to convert people to faith in his Son, Jesus Christ; however, we are equally convinced that it is our duty to proclaim to others the message of God's love, in whatever ways and through whatever means we can.

Two discussion evenings about how to achieve this were held, and a strategy decided upon. The weekly children's club is not viable because of a shortage of helpers, but a monthly family night is being organised to take its place, open both to children and adult family members.

A "Warm Hub" was set up, aiming to provide anyone in the community to come into the building on Wednesday mornings to avoid having to heat their own homes and to enjoy free refreshments and a chat. A number of people from the community attended, and church members who attended also found it helpful to get to know each other better.

A Week of Evangelism was held in the autumn, assisted by a visiting church pastor. Open-air meetings were profitable, with a number of passers-by listening and being willing to engage in conversation about what was being explained. A training session about sharing our faith was also held.

The church held regular open-air meetings in the city centre, again with profitable conversations being had about the message that was being declared, and with gospel tracts being distributed.

The church's website continues to be well used, and some people have begun to attend services as a result of visiting the website.

In conclusion, the Trustees and members are very thankful to God for preserving the church and for providing for its needs. The spiritual nature of our aims means that we cannot achieve them by our own efforts and skill, but we continue to look to God to lead us forward.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

GBC Lancaster

1191182

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2022

To

31/12/2022

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					
Gift aid & offerings	56,896	-	-	56,896	56,794
Use of premises	2,480	-	-	2,480	660
Donations	1,329	-	-	1,329	12,240
Investment income	272	-	-	272	100
Other	325	-	-	325	75
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	61,302	-	-	61,302	69,869
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	61,302	-	-	61,302	69,869
A3 Payments					
Premises costs	2,372	-	-	2,372	3,858
Employment expenses	37,969	-	-	37,969	40,582
Pensions	1,961	-	-	1,961	1,735
Ministry expenses	4,010	-	-	4,010	5,275
Activities	1,413	-	-	1,413	1,353
Subscriptions	1,145	-	-	1,145	-
Gifts to missions	4,465	-	-	4,465	14,015
Equipment & renewals	3,748	-	-	3,748	4,705
Other	1,503	-	-	1,503	2,248
Sub total	58,586	-	-	58,586	73,771
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	58,586	-	-	58,586	73,771
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,716	-	-	2,716	- 3,902
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	2,716	-	-	2,716	- 3,902

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	Current account	7,892	-	-
	Reserve account	66,380	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	74,272	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

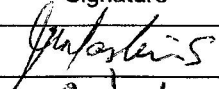
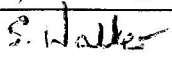
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	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)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Office equipment	Unrestricted	-	-
	Fixtures & fittings	Unrestricted	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Jeffrey Haskins	14/05/2023
	Steven Walker	14/05/2023



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

GBC LANCASTER

On accounts for the year
ended

31st DECEMBER 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1191182

Set out on pages

1

(if more than one page, state the number of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**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:

Wilcock

Date:

28/3/23

Name:

Janet Wilcock

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

Institute of Internal Auditors.

Address:

40 Milking Stile Lane.

Lancaster

LA1 5RD