



Hinckley Baptist Church

Annual Report 2023

Minister: Position Vacant

Secretary: Jackie Hurst

Contents

Statutory Details	3
Trustees 'Annual Report for 2023	4
Elders' Report	5
Secretary's Report	6
Boys' Brigade	8
BMS	9
BMS Birthday Scheme	9
Pathways Computer Club	9
Churches Together	10
Drama Group - "Inside Out"	10
Families	11
1 st Hinckley Annual Report 2023	12
Messy Church	19
Pastoral Stream Report	21
Pathways Report	21
Safeguarding Report	31
Safeguarding - Policy Statement	31
S.A.L.T. - Sharing and Learning Together	34
Web Team Report	34
XYZ (Extra Years of Zest)	35
Financial Review	36



Church Office:
Baptist Walk
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1PR

Tel: (01455) 890026

e-mail: admin@hinckleybaptist.com

Website: www.hinckleybaptist.com

Statutory Details

Registered Address

Baptist Walk
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1PR

Charity Registration Number - 1191586

Trustees

Mrs Jackie Hurst (Secretary)
Mr Huw Davies (Treasurer)
Mrs Sadie Allot (Families Deacon)
Mrs Helen Marriott (Pastoral Deacon)
Mrs Jeanette Reeves (Pastoral Deacon)
Mrs Jane Clarke (Reach out Deacon)
Mr Martyn Maltby (Deacon without Portfolio)

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited
Baptist House
129 Broadway
Didcot
Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank Plc.

Independent Examiner/Internal Transaction Examiner

Mr P Dexter

Trustees 'Annual Report for 2023

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2023 .
Charitable Object

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

Organisational Structure and Decision making processes

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution which requires them to be or to have been publicly baptised on the profession of faith in Jesus Christ, or following other modes of baptism to renew their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The members 'Meeting normally takes place at least four times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint up to 10 Trustees, who together with the Ministers, Church Secretary and Treasurer (who are also appointed by the Members), and collectively known as the Diaconate, are responsible for the day to day running of the church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church meeting by the Trustees for guidance, or may be raised by members in Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. These services usually take place each Sunday at 10.45am. There are also occasional services at other times which are advertised in the church notices and the website at www.hinckleybaptist.com. There is a children's programme during some morning services with the exception of a regular parade service which includes all children over the age of 4. The church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of these services.

The Church runs a series of house groups (called Lifegroups) for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members, and further details of these can be obtained from the Trustees on request, or at the Sunday services of worship.

From time to time the Church runs courses for people interested in discovering more about Christianity.

The Church runs various events and activities for the whole age spectrum.

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

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, including financial numbers, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. Our services are recorded each week and are available most weeks on our Church website. We are confident that the church is in a position to be able to pursue it's mission purposes in 2024 with renewed enthusiasm.

At the end of 2023 the membership stood at 75

~~~~~

## **Individual Reports**

### **Elders' Report**

The year began with a celebration of believers' baptism service of a young man, Toby Wright, hallelujah, and we are still thanking God for the opportunity to be witnesses to his testimony.

At the AGM in February we thanked Joy Gilliver for her five years of valued ministry and service as an Elder and prayed for God's blessing on all the opportunities that would open up for her.

We as a Church, were already at an advanced stage in our search for a new Minister, but by the end of the year and following highs and lows, the search was still ongoing. The search for a new Church Secretary and Pathways Manager also became a requirement as the year progressed. Our thanks to Ruth And Jackie.

In the continuing absence of a full-time minister we endeavoured to facilitate HBC's Worship and Discipleship through service/sermon planning, speakers, themes and Life Groups. Special Thanks to Trevor and Carol Bray for their direct help and support and to all others who support these activities. Trevor needed to step back from his direct involvement and we thank him and continue to recognise his support to Carol.

As part of the summer services we trialled two 'Sanctuary Sundays' when the service had no formal structure but rather a spirit of freedom to 'be', to sit in silence, to take a fresh look at a passage, to have communion together and to open our hearts in prayer. Both were well attended and will be repeated.

During the year, the Baptist Union asked their congregations to engage in 'Gracious Conversations' on same sex relationships in Ministry.

Our Leadership facilitated study material and a number of events to enable us to seek Gods leading on this contentious issue. We grew during this time into a deeper understanding of the importance of the unity of the body of Christ and His example to us to 'save' not to 'judge' the world.

Karl was on Sabbatical from July for six months and has expressed his thanks to the Leadership and Church for their love, support and encouragement during this period.

A bible verse was given that summed up the year that has passed and the challenges it presents. May we leave you with this:

#### Revelation 21:5

"And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also, he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

As Christians, we can trust that our God will keep His promises. In the book of Revelation, we see God's promise to restore peace and righteousness for all eternity. Imagine total peace. We understand that we cannot perceive that type of peace and rightness in the world as it is today. But it is what we all desire. We desire for everything to be right, but when selfish desires overlap, it becomes challenging. We cannot do this ourselves. We have to rely on our perfect, holy, and righteous Saviour to do that for us. He has and He will.

Where in your life do you see God making all things new? Where in your life do you need Jesus to intervene?

Many Blessings and love In Christ,  
Karl Woodward & Kevin Muggleton.

## **Secretary's Report**

### **Ministerial Search**

Annual report time means looking back over last years report. This time last year we looked like we were on the brink of appointing a Minister. However, despite the church meeting approval and invitation the offer wasn't taken up because of concerns over the impact the move could have on his family. So despite our disappointment we have chosen to trust God's promises: *Isaiah 55:8-9 My plans aren't your plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.*<sup>9</sup> Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my plans than your plans.

Our search continues, with a change in the team members. In December Ruth Wright gave her notice in as our Pathways manager. Ruth and her husband Gareth planned to move further south to be nearer to her parents and their son Toby had moved away to college. Chris Wright informed us of his intention to retire to Cornwall in 2024 so also stepped down in December.

**Membership** currently stands at 75. Toby Wright was baptised in January of this year. We welcomed Rachel Fortscue into membership.

**Leadership Team** At our AGM in February. Helen & Jeanette were re-elected for 2 years and Martyn Maltby joined the team for 3 years. The team currently stands as

**Deacons:** Huw Davies-Finances, Jeanette Reeves & Helen Marriott-Pastoral, Sadie Allott- Families, Martyn Maltby- Deacon without Portfolio

Joy Gilliver had reached the end of her 5 year term as an elder and retired from post.

**Elders:** Karl & Kevin also overseeing Preaching organising/Discipleship/Prayer in the absence of a Minister.

I am thankful for all of you who serve in the teams headed up by these people and to Ron who continues with the Facilities responsibilities. If you feel called to serve on the leadership or God is laying someone else on your heart, we can elect Deacons at any church meeting during the year. It's not just AGM's

### **Gracious Conversations**

The fellowship took time to look at the Baptist union question around should Ministers retain their accreditation with the BU if they were to be in a same sex relationship.

### **HBC Fellowship**

2023 saw Norma Battersby from our congregation promoted to glory in July. We hosted the funeral of Nigel Bacons daughter, Rachel, following the tragic and unexpected loss at the beginning of 2023. We continue to see new people coming along most weeks. An Alpha course started in September with people from both inside and outside the church attending. Church Parades continue to begin with breakfast up in Pathways at 10am and are very well attended by our families.

### **Personal Note**

This is my last report I will write as my term of office comes to a close as Church Secretary. I can't possibly sum up in a few sentences my time. I have learnt a lot about myself, how others work, being part of a team, handling criticism, wishing we were all better at acknowledging and encouraging each other more. But overall despite the ups and downs of life, God is enough and working at unity as a body of believers is paramount if we want to avoid the devil getting a foothold. I feel my future lies in serving the purposes of God not only as part of the Girls Brigade Team but to be more conscious of the responsibility our leadership team carries. They do so much work unseen by the rest

of the church and I will continue to be as supportive as possible to help the next Church Secretary transition into their role.

**Thank youssss**

I am so incredibly grateful to all those who 'do' to support the secretary's role, Lucy, our minute takers, agenda setters, report gatherers, the leadership as a whole. I am also so overwhelmed at how God has sustained me and our church over the last 6 years.

Jackie Hurst

~~~~~

Boys' Brigade



The last twelve months have seen the usual mix of highs and lows at BB, as well as some fluctuations in numbers of boys: it's a sad fact that several Leicestershire companies have closed during or since the pandemic, but overall there's a strong sense that we at 1st Hinckley are well-placed to ride out the storm.

Our Anchor Boys section (5-7 year olds) recruited particularly strongly in the new session (September onwards) and we've recently seen mother and son combo Ruth and Caleb Kinderman, as well as Ben Steer, all complete their officer training which allows them to take on greater responsibility within the company.

Although a planned Company Section camp to the Wye Valley in September had to be cancelled due to our old friend Covid, we have nevertheless held a number of splendid camps and expeditions this past year and we're poised to run an even more ambitious programme in the coming season. One of the regular highlights was our participation in the annual Remembrance Sunday parade in town, which saw a strong turnout despite the poor weather, and which drew many positive comments from onlookers. Both the anchors and juniors have enjoyed regular trips and parties, and all three sections have switched to a new BB badge scheme this year which offers greater flexibility to companies in how they plan and structure their activities. Finally, we were sorry to lose all of our 16+ lads in pretty short order, variously off to college and university courses, or to take on jobs, as well as Ian Arnold, who stepped down as Officer in Charge of the Junior Section - it's a huge loss as all played their part, but we wish each of them well in their future endeavours and thank them for their contributions to the life of the company.

In fact we are quite low in terms of staff cover, given the large numbers of boys we welcome to the premises each week. While we recognise that not everyone can commit to a weekly commitment, we desperately need some more adults to volunteer to go on a rota to come down from time to time, or even to be 'on call' in a week when regular staff are ill or away. Volunteering for the Brigades - "advancing Christ's Kingdom amongst Boys" as our founder put it - is an enormously rewarding activity. Please consider prayerfully whether this might be something you could offer to do, and get in touch with me if you'd like to have a chat.

Ian Roberts
BB captain

~~~~~



## **BMS**

Dave and Michele Mahon write from Peru that their new home in the city of Trujillo has meant a big adjustment. Trujillo is a more affluent city than Iquitos and is full of stark contrasts with a big divide between rich and poor. We are asked to pray that the gap will be reduced, both in Peru and in the UK.

Please pray too for the Mahon children - Jonathan, Ruth and Phoebe - as they settle into school after three years home schooling. The Mahon family appreciate our prayers and encouragement. Their prayer for us is that we may stay full of hope and confidence in Jesus and rejoice in God's goodness always.

Please have a chat with me if you would like to know more, or if you would like to read a copy of the Mahons' newsletter.

Marian Payne

~~~~~

BMS Birthday Scheme

I am hoping that things have settled into place and I am not missing any birthdays but please give me a nudge if I have missed you.

As you are aware, any money given by the members of the BMS Birthday Scheme goes to help people across the world who are less fortunate than us.

These are just 2 of the good causes that the money goes towards - upgrading Solar panels in Chad to help with the air conditioning in pharmacy's and hospitals and supporting the Shining Hospital INF Surkheth with funding for specialised therapy.

If you are not already a member of the BMS birthday scheme and would like to join to help out these wonderful causes then please drop me an email at admin@hinckleybaptist.com

Thank you.

Lucy Lowe

~~~~~

## **Pathways Computer Club**

Drafting the annual report always focuses one's mind on the year in question, and in this case, it's 2023. Often, however, it is helpful and interesting to look back at previous reports to see how things have changed and what has remained constant. One constant is the support and dedication of our tutors, some who have been with us since the beginning way back in 2009 (thank you Tony!) and all the others. Ron, Alistair, and David have been helping for more years than I care to remember. Thank you all for your loyal support - the club could not exist without you.

Things that have changed over the years are the way we teach our students. Originally the whole class did the same thing, now everyone is doing something different, which is better for the students but more difficult for our tutors.

Whilst looking back over the last 15 years an interesting statistic came to light which I thought you may like. I can hardly believe it, but the club has had a grand total of 342 students pass through the books since we started. Where have all these people gone? What did we do in the early days? Well, in the beginning we taught lots of office type programs because that is what the students wanted to learn then. These were the days before smartphones and tablets became so popular. Today this is what lots of students want to learn, so now many students bring them along to learn how to use them and get the most out of them.

We started the spring term teaching 23 students over 11 weeks, in 3 one-hour lessons. A similar number of students attended the summer term, and we ended the year with our autumn term and the same number of students.

One other little thing that is new this year is the way we take student payments; these are used to pay for the hire of the room and other items such as software etc. Along with many other places and organisations we have gone cashless and now accept payments by card. This is so much more efficient and is used by most of our students.

Overall, this has been another very busy year, and we still have a waiting list of people wanting to join. If you would like to know more about us have a look at our website [www.pathwayscomputerclub.uk](http://www.pathwayscomputerclub.uk) or speak to myself or one of our tutors.

Johnnie Lamsdon

## Churches Together

Well, the good thing about having 3 of us as reps is that, hopefully, at least one of us can make every meeting. This year this has worked really well and we have been able to represent Hinckley Baptist Church at every meeting.

Churches Together has organised the Easter Walk of Witness, the Remembrance Service and Alternativity, which Zaynor and I attended and did our usual stint in the kitchen serving drinks and cakes. They have also organised the Carols Around the Tree in the market place. The carol sheet given out at this service had been updated to include details of the Christmas services at the local churches.

Other ideas that have been discussed have been a Songs of Praise event, potentially in Hollycroft Park in September. Also, a Churches Together choir has been suggested.

Watch this space for further information about these, and other events.

At the last meeting, we looked at Churches Together in the future. The committee would like to see if churches who are not currently represented, would come on board. They also want to encourage member churches to send their representative to every meeting.

From Jenny, Zaynor and Sandra.

## Drama Group - "Inside Out"

The Drama Team Currently consists of: Zaynor smith, Jenny Roberts, Kate Phillips, Huw Davies, Carolyn and Saxon Sidwell

I'm sorry to say again we haven't performed any sketches in 2023, So my report is extremely short!

I am not sure what our plans are for the coming year...let's see what God has in store for us for 2024....will that be some sketches..will we have more budding actors/ actresses to join us and encourage us to do some sketches again. I Pray God would guide us with his plans for this ministry

Carolyn.

~~~~~

Families

Hello HBC Family

I cant believe that this is my 3rd Report since I became a Deacon four years ago. You will read what has been happening in GB/BB/SALT and MESSY CHURCH in their individual Reports.

I am so thankful and grateful for the Teams that run our children and families groups across HBC - we are really blessed to have contact and relationships with so many families in Hinckley and the surrounding area. Over this last year we have tried to build stronger and closer relationships and friendships with the families that we meet regularly.

Ian and I (with the help of Claire Minor) have continued to make breakfast for our Brigade families before the Parade service - our first one was on 11th February and we made 84 cobs which actually went very quickly. We will be upping this number to at least 100 (with other food like fruit and biscuits) so that more people and children can come and enjoy breakfast together from April, and then hopefully stay for the Parade service. This is open to our HBC family too, so please come along and get to know some of our families while enjoying breakfast and a drink before the Parade service.

Numbers in all our groups are encouraging :-

BB - 41 boys and 9 leaders GB - 53 girls and 13 leaders

Messy Church - we are averaging 14 families each month which is made up of 18 adults and 22 children on average, with 12-17 helpers. At our December MC ,which we have in the morning,the numbers nearly doubled - amazing and thank you Lord. We have developed smaller teams within our MC group

SALT numbers remain small but recently we had 6 children come along..... again exciting and an answer to prayer. I would like to welcome Rachel Fortesque onto the SALT team. Rachel brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from her teaching career. Rachel is also taking up the role of SALT Co-ordinator - if you would like to join this team of 4 leaders and 2 helpers then please speak to Rachel. A big **THANK YOU to Helen Drewery and Chris Wright** who both stood down at Christmas as Leaders, for their commitment to leading SALT over a long period. May God bless you both as you move on to different things in the future.

We have a new FAMILIES TEAM made up of me, Carolyn, Jane Clarke and Rachel Fortesque. We had all felt God "nudging" us to do something that would include and encourage all the ages across both HBC and the other family things taking place from HBC. We ran an All Age Service in November and again in January, both of which were very well attended by both young and older, regular HBC attendees and families from Brigades and Messy Church. We are planning our next one in March This Ministry is aimed to encourage everyone to come along and worship God in perhaps a less traditional way - with fun songs, talks, prayers, crafts, quizzes, games, and doughnuts!!! Please pray for us that we are led by God's Holy Spirit through our ideas and that we lead these services in a clear way that shows and tells about the love of Jesus Christ and His power to change lives.

Lots going on and lots to say thank you to God for as He is clearly answering our prayers for more families to be a part of HBC. Thank you all for your prayer support and encouragement.

Love and Blessings from Sadie X

1st Hinckley Annual Report 2022

Oh, give thanks to the LORD: call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!"

1 chronicles 16:8



This is what we leaders enjoy doing on a weekly basis. The LORD helps us by continually sending us girls every week. we are very blessed to still have 52 girls attending regularly.

This year has been a busy one again. In January, N'vestigate (5-8-year-olds) had a visit from baby Darcy to investigate what toys she would play with. They also had a teddy bears picnic and brought in their favourite Teddies, and we had a donation of teddies, so every girl got one to take home.

February saw them learning how we can talk to God in many different ways, and so they blew prayers into bubbles and sent them to the Lord.

"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving." Colossians 4:2

March brought us Mothering Sunday. All sections created gifts for their mothers/carers.

N'spire (14-18 years) created flower broaches and learnt that they needed more patience and N'vestigate planted up mini violas in pots.

N'gage (8-11 years) participated in team building games learning to put their trust in one another. Their badgework this year has been Hope, Sharing faith, Caring, Generosity and forgiveness.

N'spire made plaster casts of their faces to reflect their badgework "the real you". They can look back at themselves and see Gods work and beauty in all their features. This is especially important in today's society as teenagers are subjected to all these images of how they "should look". Their badge work has included Our emotions, looking good and communication.

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well" Psalm 139:14

N'vestigate had a mini holiday for the night. They visited a caravan, made calendars to mark down their holidays, ate ice-creams and learnt how Jesus had a BBQ of fish on the beach with the disciples. Their badgework has included Out and about, Our planet, Other countries, Our food.

In May, we managed to take away sections N'gage, N'counter (11-14 years) and N'spire to camp at Blackwell Court, Bromsgrove

It is so rewarding to see the girls out in Gods awesome creation enjoying the simple pleasures such as blowing a piece of grass between your fingers or rolling down a big hill and interacting with each other, forming new friendships. The only mobile phones around are the ones held by the leaders recording all the fun.

Other activities they participated in were caving, abseiling, Lazer tag in the woods, parachute games, tree top scramble, hair Brading, evening crafts and devotions based on King Charles 3rd and Jesus the true king .



In June N'gaga went out to the park at Argents mead for fresh air and games. They made "stone" soup, shared a flour pie (a team game) and baked scones which were delicious.

N'counter have also been learning to work as a team and designed outfits for each other and delighted in dressing up.

N'spire took the opportunity to visit the Knife angel when it was displayed in Nuneaton. They found it equally sad and beautiful and stood in silence wondering on the capacity of human beings ability to hurt another with a knife.



July brought us our annual awards night. Much fun was had by all sections who each took it in turn to perform a small routine (including the leaders) and they all delighted in receiving their badges and awards. A number of girls were awarded an outing in September to reward them for their attendance of parade and church.

The evening was finished off with a visit from the local ice-cream van.



The leaders got a well-earned rest for the summer holidays before coming back early to plan for the next years badgework.

"I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the Lord sustains me." Psalm 3:5

September brought us a surprise fire alarm. it was in fact a fire drill but, the girls had not been told this. they acted very maturely and bravely and filed out and lined up outside on the carpark, listening for their names and waiting for all clear.

N'spire continued to learn how to be "domestic Goddesses" cooking shepherd's pie from scratch.

N'counter dealt with their Emotions badge by displaying them creatively on biscuits.

N'gage had a visit from a baby as part of their caring badge and learnt how to get her ready for bed.

September was also the month that we went on our reward trip to Trentham Monkey Forest.

The girls really enjoyed seeing the monkeys in their natural habitat, swinging from tree to tree above our heads and being fed by the keepers. of course, we had to end the day with an ice cream.





N'vestigate travelled the world through their food badge. They dressed up in national costumes, made guacamole and had a special visit from one of the girls' fathers who told them what it was like to live in Hong Kong.



October was a busy month again. N'vestigate made money boxes and collected their pocket money for Ukrainian refugees as part of their other countries badge. They also had a party with a Ukrainian theme, wearing yellow and blue and eating traditional Ukrainian food. We then had a visit from Myrosia and Larissa who brought us Babushka dolls to paint, authentic clothing to dress up in and were very grateful for the donations that the girls managed to save from their pocket money for the refugees.

"And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased". Luke 6:30

N'gage were visited by a paramedic and practiced first aid on each other. A very valuable skill to learn.

N'counter got fit and played just dance in the hall and then rewarded themselves with doughnuts.

N'spire continued to expand their cooking skills with lasagne this time. the smell was amazing!



November soon arrived and it was that time of year again for Remembrance. We had the privilege again of attending the Remembrance Service in Argents Mead and being part of the Parade through town. As always, the girls behaviour was exemplary even though they had to stand and walk in the rain.

The Monday after the girls were rewarded with a trip to the Concordia theatre to see a production of Elf. they took up most of the front section of the theatre and the cast members and staff were delighted to see all the girls joining in with the actions. They also said their behaviour was exemplary and they would be happy to have them in their audience again. Those that couldn't stay up late enough for Elf stayed behind and celebrated National Kindness Day with crafts, games and snacks.

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32,

During the rest of the month N'gage continued with their Generous badge and made cakes to share.

They gave some to the N'spire group, some to the Cornerstone Group and the few that were left they shared with N'vestigate who were making fruit kebabs and were delighted with them. They were so pleased that they made up extra fruit kebabs with the leftovers and shared them with N'gage to say thank you for their kindness. N'spire was starting to get into the Christmas spirit and made Nutella and pastry Christmas trees which were delicious !.



December started with some fundraising . N'spire assembled earrings and we had donations of knitted items from leaders and Holy Trinity craft group. We managed to secure a stall at the Kings Lodge for their Winter Wonderland and the girls earrings flew off the stall. We also went to Hinckley House Care home for their winter fair . They were so impressed with the efforts the girls put in and many of the residents remembered being in Boys and Girls Brigade, that they donated half of the money they raised to us which was a great and welcome surprise.

More Christmas fun was had for the rest of the month. N'gage made clay decorations, Christmas cards and had devotions in their pyjamas round the Christmas tree. N'vestigate decided to do a Christmas shop for the foodbank to help everybody have food on their table for Christmas . All sections dressed down /up for the last night and celebrated that Jesus was the reason for the season.

"For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father , Prince of Peace" Isiah 9:6



And so another fun filled year ends and we have begun again. The new year has started with a bang as lots of exciting and surprising things have already happened . God has definitely had a hand in it making his presence felt at Girls Brigade . I cant tell you yet as I will have nothing to write in next years report !! but here's a taster of things to come .A visit from the Leicestershire Wombles reveals an amazing coincidence for our Team Leader !!!.

So now I will leave you with

Matthew 22:36-40."he calls us to a life that puts aside self to seek God and serve others"

~~~~~



## Messy Church

Messy Church at HBC in 2023, We have been really blessed with lots of lovely families joining us each month for Messy Church, some of these have been attending for years, we have also been seeing new families join us and some of these are starting to become regular attenders too, which is really encouraging, as put in last year's report we never know who is going to turn up and how many, but we are never left disappointed, it is still the same now. The atmosphere each month, is amazing the place is buzzing with creativity, friendship, fun, and families, at the same time we are getting to Share Gods Love to each and every person that joins us.

We know that God is at work in this ministry and as a team we are so blessed to be part of this.

As I did last year I thought it may be useful to see the figures for how many children/ adults joined us each month, I have also added a column that show how many families these figures make up (this doesn't include the helper's families.) Hoping this all makes sense -Adults and Children are the families that have come along. the helpers are our MC team. Total- no of people at each MC. As you can see Our December attendance was amazing and the highest amount of people we have had so far. Hope you find this encouraging

| Month         | Adults Attending | Children Attending | Helpers (MC Team) | Total People Inc Team | Amount of families attending within these figures (exc team) |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jan 2023      | 26               | 20                 | 12                | 58                    | 18 families                                                  |
| Feb 2023      | 23               | 27                 | 8                 | 58                    | 17 families                                                  |
| March 2023    | 14               | 16                 | 9                 | 39                    | 12 families                                                  |
| April 2023    | 10               | 11                 | 8                 | 29                    | 9 families                                                   |
| May 2023      | 9                | 18                 | 10                | 37                    | 10 families                                                  |
| June 2023     | 13               | 18                 | 6                 | 37                    | 11 families                                                  |
| July 2023     | 14               | 18                 | 10                | 42                    | 11 families                                                  |
| Sept 2023     | 18               | 27                 | 13                | 58                    | 17 families                                                  |
| Oct 2023      | 21               | 25                 | 16                | 62                    | 16 families                                                  |
| Nov 2023      | 14               | 16                 | 15                | 45                    | 10 families                                                  |
| Dec 2023 (am) | 32               | 42                 | 15                | 89                    | 18 families                                                  |

These are the Themes we have been doing during the year

Jan- we looked at Luke 5 v12-16, and Thankfulness was our theme. Malcolm Shared the Message

Feb- we looked at Luke 14v 1-23, and Everyone is welcome at this Party. Malcolm Shared the Message

March- we looked at Matthew 5 1-12 The Beatitude's. Sadie shared the message

April- it was Easter so we looked at Matthew 27 45-56. Easter, Chris Wright shared the message

May- we looked at Acts 2: 1-12; 38-39. Chris Wright shared the message

June - Our theme was God Provides. Malcolm Shared the Message

July- Our theme was: We are all part of God's Creation, Rachel shared the message.



August- we have a break for Summer

September- Our theme was: Psalm 24v 1-2 & Psalm 65 v 6-13 Caring for our World-Jane shared the Message

October - We change to the last Sunday in October, to miss half term and to coincide with Halloween, and run our Messy Church as a Messy Church lights up October, our theme was: Jesus says I am the light of the world. Sadie shared the message

November -our theme was Pets and Peace- Isaiah 11 1-3, 6-9. Jane and Rachel shared the message together.

December -Our Christmas Messy Church ran in the morning, we started with breakfast, followed by various crafts. Based around the nativity, Chris Wright shared the message.

To give you an idea of what Messy Church looks like each month we generally run to the same format;

We meet 3-5pm on the third Sunday of the Month, for the 1<sup>st</sup> hour we have various crafts and activities, relating to our theme. These are set up on different groups of tables, around the room, sometimes we have also have an activity/game in the holliers room too. It's up to each family which order they do each activity.

At 4pm we head down into the Sanctuary, where we have our celebration service this is made up of a short message, based on our theme, a few actions songs, a chance to share what everyone has made and how this relates to the message and theme. A prayer time, usually we use the model of TSP prayers (Thank you, Sorry, Please). We also celebrate birthdays and sing to these whose birthday fall in that particular month.

By 4.30 we head back upstairs into pathways and share a meal together before we finish at 5pm. Then we clear up!

We have a fantastic small team who are amazing, and the various roles they take, each role is important and valid, and we couldn't run it without you, so thank you! This can be anything from washing up pots, catering, creating a craft, talking to the families, working the projector, hoovering, etc... If you fancy joining us, to help in any way we won't say NO! we would love to welcome you, and it doesn't have to be every month. Come and have a chat with me

Here are a few of pics to give you an image of what Messy Church looks like, these are taken at various Messy church sessions this year. Why not come and join us and see what it's all about, bring your friends and family too.

Blessings Carolyn x



~~~~~

Pastoral Stream Report

Pastoral Report Hinckley Baptist Church has been part of the Hinckley community since 1766 you will be surprised to know Jeanette and Helen were not around then. If you look into the history of HBC you will find that the church is a multi-complex building with the sanctuary and lots of rooms behind it built in 1807. However, it's the people that are the heart of the Church and Pathways Centre. It is a wonderful mix up of ordinary people who believe this is where God has called them to meet and worship him, we are a family. Are we always surprised when God ask's us to support one another? Surely it should be someone better suited or appropriate.... But God has other plans! Jesus called as his first disciples ordinary unschooled men just going about their usual lives. We are all disciples and want the best for one another in our fellowship and community as we seek his will. We have enjoyed celebrating a total of 8 special birthdays and 3 special wedding anniversaries, Mothering Sunday, and Father's Day during 2023 and have arranged gifts and cards. At Christmas there was a prayer tree in the Pathways Centre whilst in the Sanctuary you could place a prayer candle in the windows which we had decorated. However, there have also been some sad times too when some members of our fellowship and Pathways have been unwell or passed away. We would like to thank everyone who share God's love to each other; from all the prayer warriors, who support the prayer requests that we receive, to being on the flower rota which allows the fellowship of HBC to show love and support. The greeting team for the warm and friendly "hello" as people come into church. For all the volunteers in all the groups in Pathways, XYZ group and the Events team. We are endeavouring to support anyone who is in need pastorally. If you would like to join our team, find out more, volunteer in any of the groups, or you or someone you know needs support, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Blessings from Jeanette and Helen Pastoral Deacons

~~~~~

## Pathways Report



Pathways has continued to be an extremely busy community hub. We haven't seen the huge growth that we had coming out of the pandemic in 2022 but the pace of what grew out of that time has certainly remained.



### Journey Well with ...

"Journey Well" is an umbrella name for different groups that have been developed or are proposed for future development by the Pathways team, aimed at supporting people in their journeys in many different situations. "Journey Well with..." can have different words attached and initially we only

had our dementia groups, Take-A-Break and Singing Café so "Journey Well with Dementia" was the strap line.

At the beginning of the year the Pathways team saw that as we had grown so much over 2022, we needed to define better the term and add in our new groups that had developed. So, our Journey Well project grew from two groups to six and was better defined as groups run by HBC Pathways itself aimed at caring for and supporting people within our community.

The following groups are part of our "Journey Well".

### Journey Well with Dementia:



The **Take-A-Break** respite group has dipped and peaked at various times throughout this year. The nature of those we support means that there are times where our clients are no longer suitable because of other illness or because their dementia has caused a decline where we are unable to support them well enough and they need to move into a care home.

We've had times where we've been completely full on both days and have had to start a waiting list. There hasn't been a waiting list since 2016 when we started the extra Tuesday group to combat that. I'm not sure whether that can happen again as a solution as there isn't the space to accommodate another group at present.



At Christmas we again had our usual entertainer, Rob Wilson, come in

to perform for our clients. They always enjoy listening and singing along and Father Christmas made his annual visit to give out some gifts.



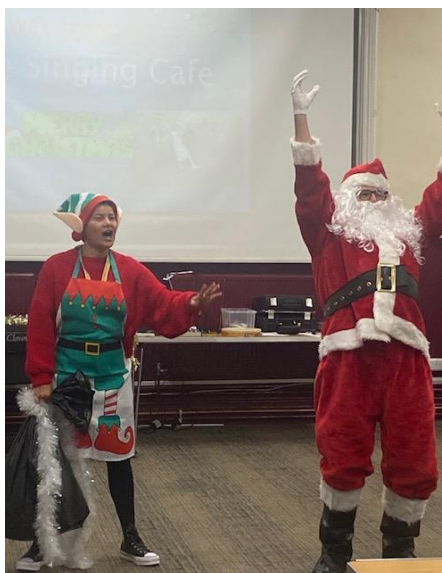
The **Singing Café** still keeps going with new people joining us as well as some sadly leaving. Moat House Care Home continue to come most weeks and it's really great having them with us as the care workers join in and get their clients engaging with the music and dancing.





This year, they brought an Abba morning to us with costumes for their team and our Gill. She wasn't completely impressed by that, but it was a really fun morning. Everyone loves a bit of Abba!!

Of course, we also had a visit from Father Christmas at our party which is always very loud, but lots of fun.



## Expressive Moments

Creativity for those with dementia



The **Expressive Moments** group has been running for over 18 months now and has now come to the end of its funding. It means we have to start charging people to come from January 2024. We've had a small group of

regulars attending each week, but they find it such a support. There are a couple of people who can only access this group because the person they care for won't settle anywhere on their own. One carer said that he doesn't know what he'd do without this group. They enjoy simple craft activities that help stimulate the brain and it's really interesting to see how their lives influence their preferred activity. There is one lady who used to work in the hosiery factories and she really loves the sewing. For one gent, he used to be a draughtsman and so prefers drawing and painting. They engage really well with the activities within this group that otherwise, at home, would not want to or have the resources to.

For the carer, it gives them such an important time to be able to chat with others. The beauty of this group in comparison to the Singing Café is that it's quiet and they really get the opportunity to simply just talk about their past week and the things that they've struggled with.



### Journey Well with Mental Health;



**The Friendship Café** continues to meet every Monday morning to chat and support each other over a drink and cake. They have had some new members join them throughout this year. Once a month a support worker from Mental Health Matters comes now as an extra support if anyone from the group wishes to seek some further support. They applied for their own funding this year and were awarded a grant to help support their group activities and those who are struggling to afford attending the sessions.

### Journey Well with Bereavement;



**Steps2Hope** is our support group for those struggling with the loss of a loved one. It was intended that the attendees would be in the group and run it themselves, but it's much better having myself or one of the Church volunteers in

there with them. It means that when there is opportunity, we can bring in to the conversation the hope we have.

We've met some new people this year alongside those who have been with us from the beginning of the group. All come with their own personal experiences of loss and it's tough to hear sometimes. But we listen, people share and we signpost on to professional services if necessary.



## Journey well with Friendship;

# CORNERSTONE

Our **Cornerstone Lunch Club** is still welcoming about 35-40 guests each week. We have welcomed some new faces this year but sadly also seen some go. Each week our guests enjoy a home-cooked 2-course dinner followed by an activity of some sort. Over this year we have been glad to welcome outside entertainment from The Accord Choir, Rob Wilson and The Princes Trust team, who always run a quiz that creates more competitiveness within our guests than they expect!



**HUGS**, (Hinckley Ukrainian Group Support), continues to meet weekly, on a Friday morning, in the Red Room, as part of Pathways Ministry.

Friendships have been forged, English has been taught, and learned, and various problems have been solved through these meetings, which are of great benefit to all. Thank you to Marion McMillan who teaches English in HUGS as so many of our refugees are dependent upon a good grasp of our language for employment, and for interaction with `the world` in which they now live. Our numbers fluctuate as some find work, which in turn helps enormously with paying the bills. But the core group is both of language `hi-flyers` (now!) and at the other extreme, of those who come to speak to others in their native tongue. It is easy to understand that need. The children (whom largely we don't see because they're at school) are often the best in their household at speaking in English.

Thank you to HBC for the use of the room; and to Malcolm and Jane for convening the group.



This year we were invited to contribute to Alternativity which was a great pleasure. Our representatives gave a first-class account of themselves, and of their country, and of HUGS too. We were very proud of them.





With the money so raised we celebrated Christmas with a party, and presents, and switched off for a while from the world context in which our wonderful families are living their lives.

If you have Ukrainian contacts invite them to join us from 8.30 on a Friday; or to ring Pathways for more details.

Our **Community Groups** still continue throughout the year....



**START  
SOMETHING**

The **Princes' Trust** team have been operating out of here again for the majority of this year. Their winter session hasn't run due to the team leader appointed here at the beginning of the year moving on to another job. They have been recruiting and are due to return in January 2024.

It's always great to have them here and we partner well together with us being able to offer further support groups and information to some of their students, but they have lots of contacts with local businesses and services so are able to promote Pathways about a bit.



The **Creative Arts** group continues to operate on Thursday afternoons during term-time, run by Beatrice and providing art therapy for those struggling with poor mental health.



**Turning Point** continue here to run a Crisis Café for people struggling with mental health conditions. Traditionally, Turning Point have been a charity that supports people dealing with alcohol and substance abuse. However, they have extended their services and have been commissioned to provide, amongst other things, crisis cafes around

Leicestershire. We are the café for Hinckley, it is a safe space for people to get some 1 to 1 support where they can also learn practical coping strategies. The cafes have arisen through an NHS 10-year plan that indicated a need to provide a "more suitable alternative to A&E for many people experiencing mental health crisis, usually for people whose needs are escalating to crisis point."

The Crisis Café is designed to support people who identify themselves as being in a mental health crisis, yet are deemed not to require immediate medical assessment. The group is staffed by Turning Point's experienced Recovery and Peer Support Workers, runs weekly and is a drop-in group, free of charge and no referral needed.

It works well having them here as we're able to signpost people to them and them to us.



**Love to Move** is a British Gymnastics Foundation initiative, being funded by the Leicester Tigers. The group is a gentle seated exercise programme for people with dementia or cognitive impairment and their carer. As the group is funded it is free for people to attend. The group has proven to be well attended throughout the year so the funding has been provided for it to continue.

The “**Cost of Living**” Crisis has continued to be a burden for many people as we have gone through the year. Prices of food and fuel and interest rates have risen so high that there are many nationally who are really struggling.

We continued with our “warm space” that started in October 2022 and kept it going until the end of March 2023. The idea was to provide somewhere warm for people to come in case they were struggling to heat their home and give them some free hot soup to help those who were struggling to buy food.

The warm space ran on two days but one day barely saw anyone come in. The other day was better attended but no way near as busy as we had thought it would be. At the end of February, we asked people to complete a questionnaire

We learnt 3 things from the warm space:

- 1) “Warm Space” was not a good name to be calling it as it made people feel embarrassed that they needed it.
- 2) Providing soup, although something warm at lunch, made it a bit like a soup kitchen and again the stigma attached to that prevented people from coming in.
- 3) Those who came really just wanted some company but enjoyed eating whilst they were doing that. They wanted to be able to continue to meet here in some way.

In response to this we wanted to continue providing company and food, but we still needed to support those struggling with rises in food costs. We certainly didn't want to be providing soup throughout the summer or call it a warm space.

The Pathways Development Team (PDT) met and decided we would offer a Brunch once a week that would be donation only so those that are finding it tough can eat for free but also able to pop in a small amount if they could. This gives people a bit more dignity. It's open to everyone though, so others who are more able have opportunity to donate a little more. We had some grant and donations remaining from our warm space as we were not as busy as anticipated. This was used to get the Brunch going, covering its costs. We applied for and were awarded funding in October from Leicestershire and Rutland Community Foundation to support the cost of Sian's wages and a little extra for other costs that enables us to run it until September 2024.



We've called it the “**Friendly Brunch**” and it operates every Wednesday from 11am-1pm. The original intention was that Sian would run this on her own as the soup had been manageable on the one person.

After the first day we knew that this was going to be very different and soon had to find a volunteer to help. It has grown and grown and we are now needing more volunteers to help as the word is out and people are telling their friends. We're seeing some regulars but have also welcomed some new faces to Pathways. It works so well being on a Wednesday as people can come in to Foodbank and have some food as an extra. There are others that come in for the Brunch and then can go into the Turning Point Crisis Café so the 3 groups all partner together brilliantly.



**Kintsugi Hope** is a 12-week well-being course that is borne from the idea of our lives being like broken pots. Instead of hiding the breaks or discarding the object, gold powder is mixed into glue and the gold is used to repair the brokenness in a way that makes the object more beautiful and even more unique than it was prior to being broken. Instead of hiding the scars, it makes a feature of them.

We haven't run another course this year but some of those who attended last year come to a group for on-going support. This is called Kintsugi People and meets once a month. From January 2024 it's planned to continue but to become more of a life-group style.



Things have been quite heavily focused on finances this year and with a budgeted deficit for 2023 a lot of prayer and work has gone into seeking funding to support our costs. We've had the added problems of kitchen equipment breaking down causing further financial concerns. However, many positive things have happened, grants received and donations made and God has graciously supplied.

*Pathways General* funds has received:

- Two personal donations totalling £250, some of this money has been used to purchase some prayer cards from CPO for people to help themselves to.
- One of our volunteers did a fundraising activity and raised £1,000 for us
- Hinckley District Past & Present donated £300 to us as part of their Good Causes Fund.

In total, £1,550.00 received for Pathways General

*Expressive Moments* received funding in May 2022 to cover costs until October 2023. There is some funding remaining to keep it going until February 2024.

- A donation from HBC Skittles evening in October has been put into this fund to help support costs for a little longer. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Funds raised for Expressive moments is £170.00

*Take-A-Break* group has received:

- £800 from Alternativity to support the cost of our Free Taster days.
- The Hinckley Ambion Rotary Club donated £550.
- DS Smith, a local Hinckley company, donated over £200 worth of games, craft and jigsaws.
- In June we were awarded a grant of £1,000 from McCarthy Stone Foundation to support core costs for the group
- We were given £500 from the Tesco Community Token scheme

In total, £3,050.00 given just for this group alone.

The *Pathways Kitchen* has been blessed as well. Having been open for 15 years this year, we realised that it was quite likely that our large pieces of equipment, all put in at similar times and not brand new when we had them, could start to wear out.

- The water heater broke but amazingly one of our volunteers donated a new one for us, worth about £500.
- One of our electric ovens broke but that same day an email was waiting for me to say we'd been successful in a grant from Lidl for £555. With this and the Church Thanksgiving offering we were able to purchase two new electric ovens, as the other one was also wearing out.
- Every time the dishwasher engineer came to service our machine, he took big intakes of breath and shook his head. So, we knew we were on a limited time with it.

Leicestershire County Council Shires Grant awarded us £1,500 towards the cost of a new dishwasher. We still had a large amount missing, but a local company offered to donate the remaining amount of about £2,500 meaning we were then able to purchase a new machine. Had we not had this donation we could have lost the grant as well and had to start from scratch. So, we were incredibly thankful to them for such a generous gift.

Approximately £6,555.00 has been received for Pathways Kitchen to support costs of equipment.

The *Friendly Brunch* received funding from Leicestershire and Rutland Community Foundation to support the costs for a year, taking it to September 2024.

The amount received was £3,000

**Donations and grants received for Pathways over 2023 amounts to approx. £14,325.00**



At Christmas we used one of our Christmas trees as a prayer tree again for anyone to write on a bauble a prayer or remember a loved one and hang it on the tree. It's been great to see people respond to this from the families and various Pathways groups alike.



The *Pathways Development Team (PDT)* met five times throughout 2023 to discuss matters and to pray.

The team are Ruth Wright (manager), David Eves, Jane Clarke, Ian Allott and Huw Davies (treasurer).

We have reviewed our Journey Well projects and updated our advertising of this and our Steps2Hope group.

The Friendly Brunch was the new project developed as further support by the PDT this year from the Warm Space project.

Over the year we have discussed the need for a chaplaincy-type role within Pathways as there are so many people who come in who need to talk and share their problems, ask for help, support and a listening ear.

The centre has grown so busy, really since COVID, that there is too much for one manager to do and ideally a pastoral worker would be a huge asset.

Of course, this was all suspended in September when I informed the Leadership Team and PDT that my family and I will be relocating due to needing to be closer to ageing parents. Finding new jobs for myself and Gareth and a new home happened so quickly that it meant I would be resigning from my position as Pathways Centre Manager on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

The last few months of the year became a busy time of discussions, meetings and prayers to work out what would happen next for Pathways. A team was put together, consisting of Martyn Maltby, Maria Clews and Jane Clarke to create a job description and an interim plan until a new manager could be appointed. Along with Sadie and Ian Allott, they would each take a day of the week that I worked and shadow me for my last few weeks to learn the day to day running. In the New Year each would then carry on coming in on their allotted day to ensure someone was overseeing/managing and a point of contact for people to go to.

So, 2024 will be a new season for Pathways but I know that the focus will be to keep Christ at the centre of it all. As I feel God has had a hand on our move and a plan and purpose for my family, I know He too has a plan for HBC Pathways.

Pathways reaches into our community, finding ways of speaking to people in their language to try to meet their needs. That may mean inviting them to a lunch club to chat, supporting them with the struggles of being a carer, or listening to the battles that they encounter with their mental health. We build relationships with people and opportunities arise to talk about our faith. Jesus didn't expect people to just come and find Him in the synagogue on the Sabbath. He sat with them to talk, to listen and to share food. When Jesus met with people, he dealt with their emotional and physical state first, then their spiritual state. The Pathways strap line is "Join the Journey". That doesn't just mean that we should expect them to come and join our journey, but that we should join with them on theirs too.

It's been a real privilege to serve God and to work alongside a faithful team of staff and volunteers. They're such an amazing group of people and everyone who comes through the Pathways doors are made to feel so welcome, supported and loved and the team are all part of creating that. I give my heartfelt thanks to them all for their unfailing commitment and support to those who come in and to me and my staff team. People always comment on how smiley everyone is here and how they feel a sense of something different. That's because God is present here and this is expressed in everything we are and do.

I thank God for all His amazing goodness to us throughout this year for the provision of finances, and for the growing number of people being welcomed into the centre. I'm thankful for the times when we have been able to listen, talk, share our faith and pray with people.

"With Christ at the centre we seek to provide sanctuary for Hinckley by being a loving community of God's people and offering a place where all are welcome to find security and wholeness in God's Holy presence."

Thank you to you all for your love, guidance, prayers and support in so many ways over the years.  
You've been an amazing blessing to our family and we will miss you all.

I pray that God will lead and guide you as a Church through this coming year in the next steps that are taken and that Christ will be seen in everything that you do.

With love and blessings.  
Ruth Wright xx



## Safeguarding Report

The safeguarding team continue to support all aspects of our work with people both within the church and for all those who use the buildings as part of our Pathways outreach. This includes maintaining a register of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for our staff and volunteers.

The Church facilitates training in Safe Guarding for all its volunteers to Level 2 and to Level 3 for its Trustees and Safe Guarding Team. HBC hosted Level 2 training for the majority of its staff and volunteers in March 2023.

The Safeguarding policy statement is ratified at the AGM each year.

Please do take a moment to remind yourself of the safeguarding reporting process which is displayed in several places around the buildings and also if you do volunteer, please familiarise yourself with the relevant policies.

They will help keep you and the people we work with safe.

Church Secretary is the Trustee responsible for Safeguarding.  
Jackie Hurst is the Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS)  
Lesley Muggleton the Deputy DPS

~~~~~

Safeguarding - Policy Statement

Hinckley Baptist Church Safeguarding Policy 2023
Ref :HBC030
Objective : To ensure that Hinckley Baptist Church recognises and fulfils its responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and adults at risk, regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability.
Description of Policy : With Christ at the centre we seek to provide sanctuary for Hinckley by being a loving community of God's People and offering a place where all are welcome to find security

and wholeness in God's holy presence. As members of this church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all associated with the church and will pray for them regularly. In pursuit of this, we commit ourselves to this policy and to the development of sound procedures to ensure we implement our policy well.

- **Prevention and reporting of abuse**

It is the duty of each church member to help prevent the abuse of children and adults at risk, and the duty of each church member to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and adults at risk. Any abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected will be reported in accordance with our procedures. The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

- **Safer recruitment, support and supervision of workers**

The church will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safekeeping of children young people and adults at risk.

- **Respecting children and vulnerable adults**

The church will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and adults at risk so that all children and adults are shown the respect that is due to them.

- **Safer working practices**

The church is committed to providing an environment that is as safe as possible for children young people and adults at risk and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being.

- **A safer community**

The church is committed to the prevention of bullying. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any individuals who may pose a risk to children, young people and adults at risk in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

Use :

The policy will apply to all activities run by, or on behalf of HBC including Pathways and will include the activities of the Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade companies affiliated to HBC.

All other groups and organisations that use the church facilities will be required to operate their own safeguarding policy and procedures that will be subject to review by the Pathways Manager, will be required to ensure that their policies adhere to the HBC Safeguarding policy and that the policy and procedures are managed by their organisations management team.

Users :

All church Employees and volunteers who work with children and/or adults at risk will be required to work in accordance with this policy and procedures and in addition will be required to attend the BUGB Level 2 Excellence in Safeguarding training and also have a completed DBS check. They must also have a DBS check before working unsupervised. The Baptist Union of Great Britain publication an 'Introduction to Safeguarding' guide for new workers will also be made available to new workers.

Further Reference

When implementing this policy and procedures, further guidance can be sought from the model BU Safeguarding Policy and Procedure document.

Putting our Policy into Practice :

- A copy of the safeguarding policy statement will be available from the church office, and is available on our church website.
- Each worker with children and/or adults at risk will be given a full copy of the safeguarding policy and procedures and will be required to sign to confirm that they will follow them.
- A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of, or other person associated with the church.
- The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed annually, and any necessary revisions adopted into the policy and implemented through our procedures.
- The policy statement will be read annually at the church AGM, together with a report on the outcome of the annual safeguarding review.

Safeguarding contact points within HBC

The church has appointed the following individuals to form part of the church safeguarding team:

Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS)

He/She will advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk and take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Designated Person Jackie Hurst
Phone number : 07985705319
Email address: Jackie.pd.hurst@btinternet.com

Deputy Designated Person Lesley Muggleton
Phone number : 07904285815
Email address: Lesley.muggleton@gmail.com

Safeguarding Trustee

The Safeguarding Trustee will highlight the importance of safeguarding within the church and oversee and monitor the implementation of the safeguarding policy and procedures on behalf of the church trustees. The Church trustee for HBC is the Church Secretary.

Our church minister is also an important part of the Church Safeguarding Team. Where possible, the Church Safeguarding Team will work together if and when issues arise. However, each person has a responsibility to report allegations of abuse as soon as they are raised.

Document Control

Ref no: HBC030	Date issued : Sept 2023	Review date: Sept 2023
Owner : DPS-Designated-Under Church Secretary		Next Review March 2024-AGM

~~~~~

## **S.A.L.T. - Sharing and Learning Together**

We continue to run SALT sessions for our youngsters on the first and fourth Sundays of the month. We have age related teaching and crafts which help the children to learn bible truths and stories and show them how to apply this in their day to day living. The children are encouraged to interact by asking questions, praying and doing something visual that helps them remember what they have learnt in that session. Our Leaders are Paul Hurst and Rachel Fortesque in the younger section, and Angie Gilbert and Jane Clarke in the teenage section. They are helped and supported by Jenny Roberts and Carolyn Sidwell.

Rachel Fortesque has taken on the role of SALT Co-Ordinator and I am very grateful to her for accepting this role. Rachel produces the rota and also sources material for the younger ones.

I would like to say a big "thank you" to Helen Drewery and Chris Wright who have recently stepped down from SALT leadership, but who both worked in SALT for several years. Bless you both for the time and effort you put into teaching our youngsters.

Although we are small in numbers, I felt it right to continue to provide age appropriate and fun sessions for any children who come along to HBC. Please pray for these children and our leaders and helpers that what they learn in SALT stays with them as they grow up and that they one day decide to follow Jesus for themselves.

Sadie - Families Deacon

~~~~~

Web Team Report

The new website has now been running for two and a half years and is still getting positive feedback and enquiries for people looking to join groups mainly from people outside of our church family. Pathways is getting a lot of interest but also Brigades have been getting new people. Other areas that receive interest is the message from each week with the exception of Brigade and all age services which we do not publish

One of the features that is under used is the app for your phone where you can easily listen to the message and see what is happening very easily. Below you will find instructions to install it on Apple devices or Android phones. If you have any difficulty with this please ask. In the last twelve months sadly no new people have installed the app on the phone, I pad etc

The website is now in need of refreshing and I would ask the all areas and groups within the church look at the area on the website with a view to updating the wording and any new pictures that you have that would be appropriate please forward them so we can look to bring it up to date ensuring it stays within GDPR.

The next stage will now to be co-ordinate the Website, App and Facebook together with other social media to help maximise our presence in the local community. To this end I think it would be a good idea to put together a small team of people with experience of social media. Please let us know if you feel you have something to offer in this area.

There are many more things that can be done within the website and extra functions we can use in it which we can take advantage of when the time is right.

I would particularly like to thank Lucy for all the hard work she has done on the website particularly in updating the Pathways section.

It is also worth noting that the ongoing support from Hubb Digital who run the site has been second to none.
The Web Team would also like to thank our sponsors Shadewell Blinds who are continuing to sponsor us through their new owners.
If anyone has any articles or ideas, please email the web team at webteam@hinckleybaptist.com or speak to myself .

Installing the app on your mobile device

The app can be installed on a phone by going to this page www.hinckleybaptist.com and then clicking on the green "our app" button, when it appears, which is on the front page just below Hinckley Baptist Church and on the right our values

On an Apple iphone, you have to do this in Safari, and follow the instructions given on the screen.

Ian Allott

~~~~~  
**XYZ (Extra Years of Zest)**

I am happy to report that the XYZ is averaging 35-40 members each time we meet. During the year, in April, we enjoyed a trip to Wollaton Hall and Deer Park. At the back of Wollaton Hall is lovely gardens and a Camellia House, with spectacular views over the lake and deer park.

Again, our Strawberry Cream Tea was a success, enjoyed by all. Our second outing was to Worcester, a beautiful cathedral and university city with a fascinating history located in the heart of the West Midlands on the banks of the river Severn.

We again had a marvellous Christmas lunch at Ullesthorpe Court Hotel. The committee entertained the guests with quizzes, games and singing. All had a wonderful time.

We now meet in the sanctuary, so there is room for you. A very warm welcome awaits you there.

Our programme for 2024

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| March 7th                  | Afternoon Tea              |
| May 15th                   | Outing to Trentham Gardens |
| July 4 <sup>th</sup>       | Strawberry Tea             |
| September 18 <sup>th</sup> | Outing to Shrewsbury       |
| October 3 <sup>rd</sup>    | Afternoon Tea              |
| December 6 <sup>th</sup>   | Christmas Lunch            |

All afternoon teas start at 2.15pm in the Sanctuary.

Yours in the Masters Service  
Anne Gee

**Financial Review**



For the attention of:  
Mrs Jackie Hurst (Secretary)  
Mr Huw Davies (Treasurer)  
Diaconate of Hinckley Baptist Church  
Members of Hinckley Baptist Church

HBC Audit 2023  
Report from the Independent Examiner

I have used the headings and wording from previous years reporting in order for consistency:

**Banking:** The Co-Op Bank statements and general everyday running of the account manually and on-line is clearly running well and I have been given no indication from the paperwork and spreadsheets that this should not remain so.  
As in previous years, a percentage of funds have been moved to Baptist Union fund management and thereby earning interest. (This equated to circa 50% of funds held by the Church at the end of 2023). I thoroughly endorse this action in order to protect Church funds.

**Recommendations:** 1. Both Huw and I recognised the above as possible exposure to a problem and we are in agreement that the level of funds within the Co-Op Bank is reviewed; perhaps bi-annually, transferring into the BU Scheme(s) when appropriate, this may become even more prevalent should we be welcoming a new Minister in the near future as this would considerably increase funds entering into the accounts.  
My recommendation is that this initiative continues and will thus ensure that this will, not only earn interest, but also, going forward, keep the level of funds in the Co-Operative bank within the FSCS threshold for compensation should there ever be a problem.

2. Whilst there may still be constraints in switching Energy accounts I feel that, as soon as practical, measures are taken to switch the Gas supplier from "British Gas Business Account". This company is well known as an expensive supplier in the domestic market and alternative business suppliers should be available following appropriate research?

**Paperwork:** As anticipated from the accounts paperwork seen last year, this would be well documented, filed and clear in its presentation; I was not disappointed and could follow through the threads of coding to lead to the confirmation required.

**Recommendations:** None observed.

**Salary / Deductions:** This too is clear both on paperwork and spreadsheets, the information, if required, by an authorised third party is, in my opinion, both transparent and accurate.

**Recommendations:** None observed.

**Reserves & Accruals:** Both reserves and accruals held mandatory and on behalf of the church are, in my opinion, sufficient and accountable.

Recommendations: As per my recommendations in 2022, the public accounts published for and behalf of the church, show the valuations of the Manse and Church Building were up for review from the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2022.  
In my opinion I would recommend that this task is undertaken as soon as possible, this is particularly relevant to the Manse as the value from 2019 appears to be approximately 33% undervalued based on the current market values?

Conclusion: Again and for a number of reasons 2023 has been no ordinary year. Huw would be the first to agree that it has been a challenge to ensure that the accounts are accurate and up to date, it cannot be stressed too much how Huw has excelled in this matter, whilst also continuing with his own work and home life.

Clearly, upon the advent of a new Minister; there will be a necessary step change in the dynamics of the Church affairs and none more so, perhaps, than in the field of accounting and Huw, as "The Treasurer", will bare the brunt of these demands and, whilst not mentioned by Huw, I feel that extra support by the Deacons may be prevalent and would suggest a suitable "Buddy" or an extra line of communication is considered to give him any help and / or support he may need?

In respect of support, I must also praise the efforts of David Eves, not only in his considerable accounts experience, but also his hard work in ensuring that the accounts file is as "User Friendly" as possible to help Huw in maintaining the accounts.

As in previous years, I have found the attention to detail both impressive and thorough. The accounts, whilst necessarily complex, are clear and easily followed through the trail of paperwork to the conclusion of spreadsheet checks and balances.

Therefore, Madam secretary, I have no hesitation in commending the Church accounts to the membership as accurate, concise and with confidence in forwarding to the Charities commission within the H.B.C.'s annual report.

Sincere regards,

.....

Paul Dexter



## FINANCIAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR TO 31st DECEMBER 2023

The following pages contain copies of the Financial Statements and the related Independent Examiner's Terms of Engagement and Report. The notes below give further explanation and insight into the results reported.

### General Summary

Total receipts during the year amounted to £196,497.89, including income of £68,211.29 achieved from the Pathways operation in Room Lettings, Dementia and Welfare Care (under the Journey Well ... umbrella) and Café sales. Pathways income was higher than in 2022 by £8,082.07.

General offerings income, the planned giving and collections that are the Church's primary source of funds, amounted to £65,361.76, a further decrease over last year of around £4,660. The majority of all offerings received were Gift Aided, enabling refunds of tax amounting to £2,066.68.

The Thank Offering weekend is an annual occasion, normally held as part of the Church's anniversary, when the Church celebrates its history and gives thanks for the work currently taking place. Donations are usually given for a specific purpose as part of this occasion. This year's receipt of £3,898 - being a decrease of £3,603 on last year - together with tax refunds from Gift-Aided donations was used to replace equipment in the Pathways kitchen.

With expenses incurred in running the Pathways operations amounting in total to £68,835, the Pathways operation ended the year with a net deficit of £624, although this was a much lower deficit than we had budgeted for.

During 2023 we did not employ the services of a full-time Minister, but instead called upon a number of visiting Ministers and Laity to carry out the leading of services and preaching of the Word, with the church's pastoral care headed up by our Elders.

Other expenses incurred during the year represented the cost of supporting the Church's various ministries and activities and ensuring our premises were maintained in good order.

Included in those expenses was the cost of employing the Church Administrator and cleaners (at £14,790), the sum of £11,308 paid for gas, electricity and water supplies and £10,645 for comprehensive insurance cover.

Energy costs increased sharply towards the end of the year when our previous fixed rate tariff with British Gas for our electricity came to an end. We have switched supplier to EDF Energy going forward.



Our work amongst children and young people associated with the church continued through S.A.L.T., messy Church and the brigades.

Hinckley Baptist Church expressed its part in the life of the wider Church by making donations to BMS World Mission (£6,660) and the Baptist Union's Home Mission Fund of £7,452. Additional amounts were also donated by individuals, with the intention that they be passed on to specific charities as defined by their donors. All such donations were held in designated funds until passed on and are listed in the detailed accounts.

In our current account - those general funds not restricted for specific use - payments for the year were balanced by receipts and transfers from other funds. When added to the balance brought forward from 2022, we had a surplus of £878.77. This was against a budgeted deficit figure of £16,202.

The Church has an established Reserves Policy in order to set aside a balance of funds (General Reserve and Costs Incurred Awaiting Suppliers' Invoices) sufficient to provide for payment of known costs incurred in 2024 but not paid as at the 31<sup>st</sup> December and a contingency for unforeseen events, to ensure that the Church is able to function effectively in the coming year.

The policy and the amount of the reserve itself are reviewed annually by the Trustees (Diaconate). At the end of 2022, the reserve was £30,026. The Diaconate reviewed this reserve at the end of 2023 and, making an assessment of any major risks facing the Church, agreed an increase in the reserve to £30,904. The Diaconate is satisfied that, as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, the Reserve Policy and the amended reserve amount are sufficient for the Church's needs in 2024.

### Designated funds

The Communion Fund is set up to assist those within the Church and local community in times of need. Donations from members and friends into this fund totalled £7,532 in the year. After gifts were made from the fund totalling £6,782 during the year, there is a balance of £4,526 carried forward into 2024.

The Families Ministry fund holds gifts donated specifically to support costs incurred in the work amongst children and young people within the Church. A balance of £495 was held at the end of the year.

The Church's other designated funds include:

- The Christian Education fund, set up to provide Christian education and training for the benefit of young people within the Church.
- The Braille fund, holding gifts donated specifically for the purchase of equipment to produce service sheets and information for visually impaired

members and associates. There was no movement in this fund during the year.

- 3rd Party Donations are monies received by the Church and held in its bank account on behalf of third parties.

### Restricted Funds

Church Organisations' funds, held within the Church's bank account on behalf of XYZ, our group for older people within the Church, are for the exclusive use of that group. The two remaining restricted funds held at the end of the year reflect monies given for very specific purposes, one for completion of the new church organ and the other for specific use in mission and outreach.

### Bank accounts.

The Church continues to use the Co-operative Bank Plc to hold its funds, as this bank continues to operate with an openly stated ethical policy that is close to that of our own. In addition to monies held by the Co-operative Bank Plc, we also hold two deposit accounts with the Baptist Union of Great Britain, £31,510 in a 12-month fixed term deposit until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024 and a further £42,958 available at 3 months' notice. As a result of the sharp increase in the Bank of England's Base Rate in 2023, we earned £2,373 in interest on these funds in 2023, a large increase from the £913 received in 2022.

### The Future

Although we do not currently employ a Minister, we have been actively seeking a new minister during 2023.

We received a number of pledges towards the cost of a new minister – some of which are being received on an ongoing basis – which continues to build up as a reserve. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, this reserve totalled £32,047.68.

The economic environment in 2023 was challenging with inflation at its highest level in a generation, which had an effect on the churches expenses as well as on individuals who have seen large increases in staple costs such as food and energy.

With this in mind I am grateful for the generosity shown in terms of the donations received both specifically for the continue with in Pathways but also to HBC in general which have helped us to finish the year with a small surplus in the current account against a budgeted deficit.

These challenges are set to continue during 2024.



### Acknowledgments

I am grateful for the continued support of David Eves who's continued development of the accounts file has helped to make my role easier and continues to provide invaluable support from his own experience as previous church treasurer.

I would also like to thank Paul Dexter for once again auditing our accounts diligently and meticulously as always and for Ron Raine who always ensures payments from the church bank account are authorised in a speedy manner.

Huw Davies  
Treasurer

# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Financial Statements for year ended 31 December 2023

| Note | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Designated Funds | Current Year Total | Previous Year Total |
|------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
|      | £                  | £                | £                | £                  | £                   |

## RECEIPTS

|                                   |   |                   |                 |                  |                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Offertory                         | 1 | 65,361.76         |                 |                  | 65,361.76         | 70,021.84         |
| Income Tax Refunds                | 2 | 17,583.04         | 75.00           | 2,560.25         | 20,218.29         | 21,719.07         |
| Donations                         | 3 | 15,454.94         | 2,806.66        | 15,703.31        | 33,964.91         | 24,174.55         |
| Legacies & Grants                 |   |                   |                 |                  |                   | 1,599.00          |
| Pathways Income                   | 4 | 68,211.29         |                 |                  | 68,211.29         | 60,129.22         |
| Fundraising                       |   |                   |                 |                  |                   | 136.92            |
| Bank Interest                     |   | 2,373.97          |                 |                  | 2,373.97          | 913.43            |
| Other Mission / Gifting Donations | 5 |                   | 4,070.29        |                  | 4,070.29          | 4,150.56          |
| HM Government Employers' Rebates  |   | 2,066.68          |                 |                  | 2,066.68          | 1,731.28          |
| Miscellaneous Income              |   | 230.50            |                 |                  | 230.50            |                   |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>             |   | <b>171,282.18</b> | <b>6,951.95</b> | <b>18,263.56</b> | <b>196,497.69</b> | <b>184,575.87</b> |

## PAYMENTS

|                           |    |                   |                 |                 |                   |                   |
|---------------------------|----|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cost of Ministry          | 6  | 10,131.58         |                 |                 | 10,131.58         | 11,188.99         |
| General Staff Costs       | 7  | 14,790.23         |                 |                 | 14,790.23         | 15,080.12         |
| Upkeep of Church Premises | 8  | 47,953.65         | 686.00          |                 | 48,639.65         | 34,054.40         |
| New Equipment             | 9  | 11,147.32         |                 |                 | 11,147.32         | 8,825.04          |
| Youth Work                | 10 | 3,539.84          |                 |                 | 3,539.84          | 5,106.30          |
| Administration Costs      | 11 | 8,248.19          |                 |                 | 8,248.19          | 8,856.68          |
| Miscellaneous Expenses    | 12 | 2,960.49          |                 |                 | 2,960.49          | 5,295.86          |
| Mission & Gifting         | 13 | 16,571.40         | 2,898.96        | 6,782.00        | 26,252.36         | 26,805.16         |
| Pathways Trading Expenses | 4  | 68,173.53         | 662.32          |                 | 68,835.85         | 62,785.49         |
| <b>TOTAL ACCDATA</b>      |    | <b>183,516.23</b> | <b>4,247.28</b> | <b>6,782.00</b> | <b>194,545.51</b> | <b>177,998.04</b> |

|                                |                   |                 |                  |                 |                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>NET RECEIPTS / PAYMENTS</b> | <b>-12,234.05</b> | <b>2,704.67</b> | <b>11,481.56</b> | <b>1,952.18</b> | <b>6,577.83</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|

|                                |                  |                   |               |  |  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|--|--|
| <b>TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS</b> | <b>13,112.82</b> | <b>-13,017.36</b> | <b>-95.46</b> |  |  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|--|--|

|                                   |                  |                   |                  |                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>NET AFTER TRANSFERS</b>        | <b>878.77</b>    | <b>-10,312.69</b> | <b>11,386.11</b> | <b>1,952.18</b>   | <b>6,577.83</b>   |
| <b>B/Fwd balances 1st January</b> | <b>30,025.76</b> | <b>40,334.03</b>  | <b>76,479.50</b> | <b>146,839.29</b> | <b>140,261.46</b> |
| <b>C/FWD 31st DECEMBER</b>        | <b>30,904.53</b> | <b>30,021.34</b>  | <b>87,865.61</b> | <b>148,791.47</b> | <b>146,839.29</b> |

## CASH FUNDS

|                                                         |  |  |  |                   |                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cash balances                                           |  |  |  | 210.64            | 325.97            |
| Bank current accounts                                   |  |  |  | 74,112.52         | 74,418.98         |
| Deposit Account with the Baptist Union of Great Britain |  |  |  | 74,468.31         | 72,094.34         |
| <b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS</b>                                 |  |  |  | <b>148,791.47</b> | <b>146,839.29</b> |



# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

| Note | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Designated Funds | Current Year Total | Previous Year Total |
|------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
|      | £                  | £                | £                | £                  | £                   |

### FUNDS HELD:

|                                       |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| General Funds                         | 30,904.53        |                  |                  | 30,904.53         | 30,025.76         |
| Car Park Resurfacing                  |                  | 6,382.50         |                  | 6,382.50          | 6,382.50          |
| HUGS (Malcolm & Jane)                 |                  |                  |                  |                   | 815.15            |
| Pathways Café - Special Groups        |                  | 645.11           |                  | 645.11            | 1,249.98          |
| Kitchen Renovation                    |                  | 87.68            |                  | 87.68             | 10,000.00         |
| Organ Fund                            |                  | 5,364.64         |                  | 5,364.64          | 5,364.64          |
| Mission Projects                      |                  | 7,171.50         |                  | 7,171.50          | 7,171.50          |
| King's School, Burundi                |                  | 201.41           |                  | 201.41            | 201.41            |
| General Reserve                       |                  |                  | 27,064.00        | 27,064.00         | 27,064.00         |
| Costs incurred but not yet paid       |                  |                  | 4,327.72         | 4,327.72          | 3,296.78          |
| Church IT Systems                     |                  |                  |                  |                   | 199.10            |
| 2021 Thank Offering                   |                  |                  |                  |                   | 2,259.40          |
| Premises Refurbishment                |                  |                  | 1,269.20         | 1,269.20          | 5,635.00          |
| Communion / Benevolent Fund           |                  |                  | 4,525.50         | 4,525.50          | 3,775.19          |
| Christian Education                   |                  |                  | 3,205.16         | 3,205.16          | 3,266.72          |
| Families Ministry                     |                  |                  | 495.09           | 495.09            | 560.28            |
| Braille Machine (Inner Wheel)         |                  |                  | 400.00           | 400.00            | 400.00            |
| 2023 Thank Offering                   |                  |                  | 3,898.00         | 3,898.00          |                   |
| Support for cost of Minister          |                  |                  | 32,047.68        | 32,047.68         | 16,322.27         |
| Replacement Sound PC (Sanctuary)      |                  |                  | 600.00           | 600.00            | 600.00            |
| Future Ministry Worker                |                  |                  |                  |                   | 4,370.00          |
| Replacement Sound Desk                |                  |                  | 2,600.00         | 2,600.00          | 2,600.00          |
| General Youth Work                    |                  |                  | 760.00           | 760.00            | 760.00            |
| Future Youth Worker                   |                  |                  |                  |                   | 879.16            |
| PW Room Hire - Client Overpayments    |                  |                  | 356.00           | 356.00            | 356.00            |
| Pathways Cafe Equipment Costs         |                  |                  | 3,525.28         | 3,525.28          | 1,343.62          |
| Church organisations' funds held      |                  | 6,432.12         |                  | 6,432.12          | 426.69            |
| 3rd Party Donations not yet paid over |                  | 1,533.20         |                  | 1,533.20          | 3,485.64          |
| Miscellaneous funds                   |                  |                  | 2,591.98         | 2,591.98          | 2,591.98          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>30,904.53</b> | <b>30,021.34</b> | <b>87,865.61</b> | <b>148,791.47</b> | <b>146,839.29</b> |

### OWNED ASSETS HELD:

|              |    |  |            |            |
|--------------|----|--|------------|------------|
| <b>TOTAL</b> | 15 |  | 195,809.00 | 195,809.00 |
|--------------|----|--|------------|------------|

### LIABILITIES:

|                     |     |  |                 |  |
|---------------------|-----|--|-----------------|--|
| Current liabilities | 16a |  | 4,327.72        |  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>        |     |  | <b>4,327.72</b> |  |

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements.

# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### ACCOUNTING POLICY

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 on the Receipts and Payments basis.

### ANALYSIS OF FUNDS MOVEMENTS

|                                          | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Designated<br>Fuunds | Current Year<br>Total | Previous Year<br>Total |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
|                                          | £                     | £                   | £                    | £                     | £                      |
| <b>1. Offering received:</b>             |                       |                     |                      |                       |                        |
| General offerings                        | 62,151.76             |                     |                      | 62,151.76             | 63,976.84              |
| Thank Offerings                          | 3,210.00              |                     |                      | 3,210.00              | 6,045.00               |
| Total Offerings received                 | 65,361.76             |                     |                      | 65,361.76             | 70,021.84              |
| <b>2. Income Tax Refunds received:</b>   |                       |                     |                      |                       |                        |
| Receipts from Gift Aid claims            | 17,583.04             | 75.00               | 2,560.25             | 20,218.29             | 21,719.07              |
| <b>3. Donations received:</b>            |                       |                     |                      |                       |                        |
| Cooker Fund                              |                       |                     |                      |                       | 201.41                 |
| For Newsletters & Directories            |                       |                     |                      |                       | 18.90                  |
| For Funerals & Weddings                  |                       |                     |                      |                       | 185.00                 |
| For Rebuilding / Refurbishment funds     |                       |                     |                      |                       | 2,220.00               |
| For Messy Church                         | 240.00                |                     |                      | 240.00                | 220.00                 |
| For Communion fund                       |                       |                     | 7,103.31             | 7,103.31              | 2,676.43               |
| For SALT & Youth Work                    | 100.00                |                     |                      | 100.00                | 50.00                  |
| For Ministry Cost Support                |                       |                     | 8,350.00             | 8,350.00              | 835.00                 |
|                                          |                       |                     | 250.00               | 250.00                |                        |
| From "Little Battlers" School            |                       |                     |                      |                       | 100.37                 |
| For Photocopiuer use                     | 23.32                 |                     |                      | 23.32                 | 32.14                  |
| Other (non-specified) donations received | 15,091.62             |                     |                      | 15,091.62             | 17,240.30              |
| Singing Café (Dementia Care)             |                       | 2,500.00            |                      | 2,500.00              |                        |
| XYZ                                      |                       | 286.66              |                      | 286.66                | 415.00                 |
| Total Donations received                 | 15,454.94             | 2,806.66            | 15,703.31            | 33,964.91             | 24,174.55              |



# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

| Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Designated<br>Fuunds | Current Year<br>Total | Previous Year<br>Total |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| £                     | £                   | £                    | £                     | £                      |

### 4. Community Outreach and Support:

#### Receipts:

|                                 |           |  |           |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| Pathways Room hire              | 23,527.07 |  | 23,527.07 | 20,779.30 |
| Pathways Journey Well ...       | 16,119.95 |  | 16,119.95 | 16,243.80 |
| Cornerstone Drop-In             | 11,575.00 |  | 11,575.00 | 7,165.50  |
| Pathways Café                   | 3,660.95  |  | 3,660.95  | 4,892.03  |
| Friendship Café                 | 1,220.00  |  | 1,220.00  | 810.00    |
| Donations towards running costs | 6,399.35  |  | 6,399.35  | 5,009.01  |
| Grants received                 | 5,560.00  |  | 5,560.00  | 5,000.00  |
| Gift Aid income tax refunds     | 148.97    |  | 148.97    | 209.58    |

|                |           |  |           |           |
|----------------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| Total receipts | 68,211.29 |  | 68,211.29 | 60,129.22 |
|----------------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|

|                                  |           |  |           |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| General Staff costs              | 31,581.51 |  | 31,581.51 | 29,710.30 |
| Pathways Journey Well ...        | 14,910.60 |  | 14,910.60 | 15,325.00 |
| Cornerstone Drop-In              | 280.84    |  | 280.84    | 455.42    |
| General Social Concern & Care    |           |  |           | 318.85    |
| Pathways Café                    | 15,638.77 |  | 15,638.77 | 12,429.02 |
| Equipment costs                  | 1,531.19  |  | 1,531.19  | 250.69    |
| Buildings cleaning & maintenance | 3,352.45  |  | 3,352.45  | 2,648.02  |
| Stationery & printing            | 135.45    |  | 135.45    | 137.08    |
| Telephones and postage           | 5.40      |  | 5.40      | 7.65      |
| Advertising & publications       | 28.62     |  | 28.62     | 459.32    |
| Fees, Subscriptions & Licences   | 352.28    |  | 352.28    | 241.17    |
| Training & Conference costs      |           |  |           | 181.31    |

|                        |  |        |        |  |
|------------------------|--|--------|--------|--|
| Special Projects Costs |  | 662.32 | 662.32 |  |
|------------------------|--|--------|--------|--|

|                        |        |  |        |        |
|------------------------|--------|--|--------|--------|
| Miscellaneous expenses | 356.42 |  | 356.42 | 621.66 |
|------------------------|--------|--|--------|--------|

|                |           |        |           |           |
|----------------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Total payments | 68,173.53 | 662.32 | 68,835.85 | 62,785.49 |
|----------------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|

|                                                |  |  |         |           |
|------------------------------------------------|--|--|---------|-----------|
| Net deficit before internal and sundry charges |  |  | -624.56 | -2,656.27 |
|------------------------------------------------|--|--|---------|-----------|

#### Memorandum:

|                                                         |  |  |           |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--|--|-----------|-----------|
| Reserved fund net transfers for Journey Well programmes |  |  | -1,781.83 | -4,778.63 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--|--|-----------|-----------|

|                                    |  |  |          |          |
|------------------------------------|--|--|----------|----------|
| HM Government Employers' NI Rebate |  |  | 2,066.68 | 1,731.28 |
|------------------------------------|--|--|----------|----------|

|                                                             |  |  |           |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|-----------|---------|
| Contribution to premises costs - internal management charge |  |  | -5,700.00 | -475.00 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|-----------|---------|

|             |  |  |           |           |
|-------------|--|--|-----------|-----------|
| Net deficit |  |  | -6,039.70 | -6,178.62 |
|-------------|--|--|-----------|-----------|

### 5. Mission gifts received:

|                                |  |        |        |        |
|--------------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|
| For BU Home Mission Fund       |  |        |        | 424.67 |
| For Baptist Missionary Society |  | 352.29 | 352.29 | 269.45 |
| For Spurgeons Homes            |  | 203.00 | 203.00 |        |
| For Christian Aid              |  |        |        | 20.00  |
| For Hinckley Foodbank Project  |  | 15.00  | 15.00  |        |

|  |  |  |  |          |
|--|--|--|--|----------|
|  |  |  |  | 3,233.19 |
|--|--|--|--|----------|

|                      |  |          |          |  |
|----------------------|--|----------|----------|--|
| Other gifts received |  | 3,500.00 | 3,500.00 |  |
|----------------------|--|----------|----------|--|

|                              |  |          |          |          |
|------------------------------|--|----------|----------|----------|
| Total mission gifts received |  | 4,070.29 | 4,070.29 | 3,947.31 |
|------------------------------|--|----------|----------|----------|



# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

| Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Designated<br>Fuunds | Current Year<br>Total | Previous Year<br>Total |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| £                     | £                   | £                    | £                     | £                      |

### 6. Cost of ministry:

|                                         |                  |  |                  |                  |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Pension Deficit Contributions           | 12.00            |  | 12.00            | 2,823.13         |
| Manse cost                              | 4,602.46         |  | 4,602.46         | 3,088.18         |
| Pulpit supplies - Fees & expenses       | 3,790.00         |  | 3,790.00         | 3,290.00         |
| Pulpit supplies - Payments as donations | 604.50           |  | 604.50           | 720.00           |
| Puppet ministry                         | 98.97            |  | 98.97            | 57.73            |
| Music and worship ministry              | 571.00           |  | 571.00           | 555.00           |
| Other ministry costs                    | 452.65           |  | 452.65           | 654.95           |
| <b>Total ministry cost</b>              | <b>10,131.58</b> |  | <b>10,131.58</b> | <b>11,188.99</b> |

\* Note: The Minister acts as one of the church's Trustees and receives remuneration and other benefits in respect of his/her services as Minister, including the provision of manse accommodation owned by the church. However, as at 31st December 2023, there is no Minister in post.

### 7. Paid employees:

|                                       |                  |                  |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Number of employees                   |                  | 8                | 9                |
| Pathways Management (incl. in sect.4) | 25,469.56        | 25,469.56        | 22,024.23        |
| General:                              |                  |                  |                  |
| Admin. and maintenance - Wages        | 14,790.23        | 14,790.23        | 15,080.12        |
| <b>Total general staff costs</b>      | <b>14,790.23</b> | <b>14,790.23</b> | <b>15,080.12</b> |

### 8. Upkeep of church premises & equipment:

|                                  |                  |               |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Repairs & Maintenance:           |                  |               |                  |
| Property general maintenance     | 22,450.69        | 22,450.69     | 9,894.32         |
| Music & Sound Equipment          |                  |               | 76.00            |
| Other Equipment                  | 883.90           | 883.90        | 53.12            |
| Fire extinguishers & alarms      |                  |               | 8.00             |
| Burglar alarm                    | 23.55            | 23.55         |                  |
| Disabled lift                    | 980.77           | 980.77        | 518.80           |
| Cleaning materials and services  | 39.00            | 39.00         | 509.34           |
| Hygiene & Waste removal          | 1,621.94         | 1,621.94      | 1,007.99         |
| Light, heat, power and water     | 11,308.80        | 11,308.80     | 10,197.64        |
| Insurances                       | 10,645.00        | 10,645.00     | 10,570.34        |
| Other premises & equipment costs |                  | 686.00        | 1,218.85         |
| <b>Total premises costs</b>      | <b>47,953.65</b> | <b>686.00</b> | <b>34,054.40</b> |

# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

| Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Designated<br>Fuunds | Current Year<br>Total | Previous Year<br>Total |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| £                     | £                   | £                    | £                     | £                      |

### 9. New equipment:

|                                |           |  |           |          |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|----------|
| Music - instuments & equipment | 418.77    |  | 418.77    |          |
| Hisense TV x 2 - for Sanctuary | 635.92    |  | 635.92    |          |
| Dymo Printer - Asset           | 30.99     |  | 30.99     |          |
| New ovens for Kitchen          | 2,399.98  |  | 2,399.98  |          |
| Dishwasher Pathways Kitchen    | 3,955.55  |  | 3,955.55  |          |
| Dishwasher New Coffee Lounge   | 2,462.76  |  | 2,462.76  |          |
| Pathways Café - New Toaster    | 40.00     |  | 40.00     |          |
| GBC Fusion Laminator           | 70.68     |  | 70.68     |          |
| Replacement PC - PW Manager    | 786.00    |  | 786.00    |          |
| Thermometer Batteries          | 67.98     |  | 67.98     |          |
| Thermostatic Mixing Valve      | 31.98     |  | 31.98     |          |
| 2 port zone head               | 79.50     |  | 79.50     |          |
| Manrose silent fan             | 47.99     |  | 47.99     |          |
| Foam Fire Extinguisher         | 119.22    |  | 119.22    |          |
| Total new equipment            | 11,147.32 |  | 11,147.32 | 8,825.04 |

### 10. Children, Youth & Young Families:

|                                  |          |  |          |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|--|----------|----------|
| Messy Church                     | 738.05   |  | 738.05   | 418.35   |
| SALT                             | 136.88   |  | 136.88   | 88.35    |
| Boys' Brigade                    |          |  |          | 2,307.00 |
| Girls' Brigade                   | 2,100.00 |  | 2,100.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Parents & Toddlers               | 564.91   |  | 564.91   | 292.60   |
| Total Children, Youth & Families | 3,539.84 |  | 3,539.84 | 5,106.30 |

### 11. Administration costs:

|                              |          |  |          |          |
|------------------------------|----------|--|----------|----------|
| Stationery and printing      | 1,484.28 |  | 1,484.28 | 1,177.20 |
| Telephones and postage       | 3,127.06 |  | 3,127.06 | 7,308.22 |
| Advertising and publications |          |  |          | 13.38    |
| Safety & Safeguarding        | 772.71   |  | 772.71   | 160.75   |
| Other administrative costs   | 2,864.14 |  | 2,864.14 | 197.13   |
| Total administration cost    | 8,248.19 |  | 8,248.19 | 8,856.68 |

# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

| Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Designated<br>Fuunds | Current Year<br>Total | Previous Year<br>Total |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| £                     | £                   | £                    | £                     | £                      |

### 12. Miscellaneous expenses:

#### Fees and subscriptions:

|                       |        |  |        |        |
|-----------------------|--------|--|--------|--------|
| Baptist Union         | 421.20 |  | 421.20 | 392.00 |
| Evangelical Alliance  | 90.00  |  | 90.00  | 90.00  |
| Payroll licence       | 175.20 |  | 175.20 | 158.40 |
| DBS check fees        | 40.00  |  | 40.00  | 40.00  |
| Other                 | 600.00 |  | 600.00 |        |
| Training course costs | 24.00  |  | 24.00  |        |

#### Grants given:

|                              |        |  |        |        |
|------------------------------|--------|--|--------|--------|
| From Personnel Training fund |        |  |        | 244.08 |
| Hospitality                  | 378.52 |  | 378.52 | 491.65 |

#### Festive flowers and decorations

150.00

#### Sundry:

|                                    |        |  |        |          |
|------------------------------------|--------|--|--------|----------|
| Conference costs                   | 64.25  |  | 64.25  |          |
| Gifts and presentations to members | 405.63 |  | 405.63 | 597.99   |
| First aid supplies                 | 96.69  |  | 96.69  | 33.03    |
| Bank charges                       |        |  |        | 74.46    |
| Other                              | 665.00 |  | 665.00 | 3,024.25 |

#### Total miscellaneous expenses

|          |  |  |          |          |
|----------|--|--|----------|----------|
| 2,960.49 |  |  | 2,960.49 | 5,295.86 |
|----------|--|--|----------|----------|

### 13. Mission and gifting:

#### B.U. Home Mission fund:

|                              |          |  |          |          |
|------------------------------|----------|--|----------|----------|
| HBC gifts                    | 7,452.00 |  | 7,452.00 | 7,028.00 |
| 3rd party receipts paid over |          |  |          | 795.25   |

#### Baptist Missionary Society:

|                              |          |        |          |          |
|------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| HBC gifts - General          | 6,660.00 |        | 6,660.00 | 6,528.00 |
| 3rd party receipts paid over |          | 597.73 | 597.73   | 423.80   |

#### Spurgeons Homes:

|                              |        |  |        |        |
|------------------------------|--------|--|--------|--------|
| 3rd party receipts paid over |        |  |        | 341.97 |
| Hinckley Working Men's Club  | 200.00 |  | 200.00 | 200.00 |

#### Street Pastors:

|                            |  |  |  |          |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|
| The King's School, Burundi |  |  |  | 300.00   |
| Support Gifts to Members   |  |  |  | 1,500.00 |

|     |  |        |        |        |
|-----|--|--------|--------|--------|
| XYZ |  | 301.23 | 301.23 | 348.14 |
|-----|--|--------|--------|--------|

|                 |          |  |          |          |
|-----------------|----------|--|----------|----------|
| Other HBC Gifts | 2,259.40 |  | 2,259.40 | 2,358.00 |
|-----------------|----------|--|----------|----------|

|                                    |  |          |          |          |
|------------------------------------|--|----------|----------|----------|
| Other 3rd Party receipts paid over |  | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 5,250.00 |
|------------------------------------|--|----------|----------|----------|

|           |          |          |           |           |
|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 16,571.40 | 2,898.96 | 6,782.00 | 26,252.36 | 26,805.16 |
|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|



# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

### 14. Affiliated Church Organisations:

The following organisations are affiliated to Hinckley Baptist Church. Their funds, as listed below, are held in the names of each organisation and their accounts are independently audited.

|                             | <u>Prior Year Bal.</u> | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Payments</u> | <u>Net this year</u> | <u>Year End Bal.</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1st Hinckley Boys' Brigade  | 1,502.36               |                 |                 |                      | 1,502.36             |
| 1st Hinckley Girls' Brigade | 3,935.66               |                 |                 |                      | 3,935.66             |
|                             | 5,438.02               |                 |                 |                      | 5,438.02             |

## ASSETS & LIABILITIES

### 15. Assets available for church's own use:

The church is the beneficial tenant (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following properties, the legal titles to which are held by the church's custodian trustee (The Baptist Union Corporation Limited).

Church Premises (revalued in 2019)

Church Manse (revalued in 2019)

#### TOTAL PREMISES USED BY THE CHURCH

| Current Year | Previous Year |
|--------------|---------------|
| Total        | Total         |
| £            | £             |

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 3,436,000.00 | 3,436,000.00 |
| 262,300.00   | 262,300.00   |
| 3,698,300.00 | 3,698,300.00 |

The following assets held are the property of the church. Values shown are written down values as at 31/12/2023:

Church fixtures & fittings and equipment

Church organ

#### TOTAL ASSETS OWNED BY THE CHURCH

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 185,809.00 | 185,809.00 |
| 10,000.00  | 10,000.00  |
| 195,809.00 | 195,809.00 |

### 16. Liabilities:

#### a) Current year charges awaiting payment:

Church Property Expenses

Utilities Expenses

Telephone Expenses

All other expenses

#### TOTAL

|          |
|----------|
| 1,600.00 |
| 2,133.30 |
| 464.42   |
| 130.00   |
| 4,327.72 |

#### b) Long-term loans:

The church currently has no long term loans.

#### c) Pension fund deficit:

The church currently has no pension deficit.



# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

### 17. Pensions:

Hinckley Baptist Church ("The Church") is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("The Scheme"), which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme is a separate legal entity and the assets of The Scheme are held separately from those of the employer and other employers in The Scheme.

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within The Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit pension of one eightieth of Final Minimum 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. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011.

A formal valuation of the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was performed as at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. The market value of the DB Plan assets at the valuation date was £298 million. The valuation of the DB Plan revealed a deficit of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £18 million (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other employers supporting 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 31 December 2022. The results of this valuation are expected to be available in 2023.

However, the church has now been advised that at 31st December 2023 there is no longer any deficit to support

# HINCKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## CERTIFICATIONS

### Audit Examination

The transactions and supporting documentation that have been used to prepare the accounts and statements of assets and liabilities set out on the foregoing pages and relating to the year ended Financial Statements for year er have been audited by the undersigned and found to be a fair and true record of the receipts, payments and funds held by Hinckley Baptist Church. A formal report has been presented to the Trustees.

Signature

Paul Dexter (Independent Examiner)

Dated

### Trustee Approval

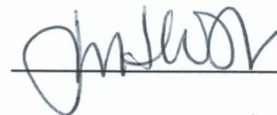

The accounts and statements of assets and liabilities set out on the foregoing pages and relating to the year ended Financial Statements for year ended 31 December 2023 have been presented to and approved by the Trustees o

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Jackie Hurst, Secretary

Huw Davies, Treasurer

Dated

7th March 2024