

Abbey Road Baptist Church

Annual report for Charities Commission 2024

As well as providing space for church services, children's Sunday club and activities, the church has been involved in the following:-

1. Foodbank.
The church continues to support Barrow Foodbank and the satellites in Millom and Ulverston by providing the entire lower ground floor space for a warehouse, offices and client drop in space. In addition, the church hall is used for training and extra Christmas work.
2. Toddler Groups.
Our parent/carer and toddler groups meet twice weekly in term time and weekly in holidays providing play facilities for 60+ babies and children plus their responsible adults each week. As well as action song time these groups provide snacks which always include fruit and toast.
The church also held a free children's Christmas party for over 70 children aged 0-11, open to anyone from the community on a first come first served basis.
3. Brunch clubs.
Our free "brunch club" meets once a month on a Saturday and usually weekly during school holidays providing toddler activities, games and activities area for older children and a lunch for about 20-30 families. We include a bible story and action songs together.
4. Community soup lunch.
Our long-established free community soup lunch provides a weekly healthy, home-made soup for anyone who wishes to attend. Currently, approximately 25-40 people of all ages attend- some are people with health or financial issues, others live alone or just enjoy a social time with others.
5. Meeting Place
We have continued to offer a weekly free Meeting Place, run throughout the year and offering a free cooked lunch, refreshments, and activities for 20-30 people from the Barrow community. Easy access supports people with mental health and learning disabilities to attend and be welcomed.
6. Later Lunches
This monthly service aimed at older adults was run initially with Age UK and has been continued by us. We provide craft and games activities, a two-course hot lunch, and beverages for 40-70 people.
7. Christmas Lunch.
We provide Christmas Day Lunch for anyone who would otherwise be alone or struggle on Christmas Day. 30-40 people attend, some of whom are able to donate towards the cost, although others are not- no charge is made. People have been directed to us for this and our other services by the Foodbank, GP surgery, social services and mental health services and on the day by other churches.
8. "After School Drop in".
Run in conjunction with Network Youth Church, our weekly "drop in" -aimed mainly at children from Furness Academy-, provides light refreshments, a "safe space", activities and listening ear for up to 200 children each week. Members of the church also assist with NYC activities twice a week at St Aiden's in Newbern's, providing a safe space for children and young people who live on that estate.
9. Hall Space for community groups and support groups.
Community support groups use our hall and worship spaces on many occasions during the week. Alcoholics Anonymous use our premises for several group support meetings a week. Narcotics anonymous also hold a weekly meeting here. New this year we have welcomed Overeaters Anonymous support group each week. Casualty Union hold their training sessions here, and a long-established Games group also meet weekly with occasional all-day groups. These all pay a nominal charge only.
We have Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units meeting in our halls.
In addition, our hall is hired by several other community groups including weekly Line Dancing group, Exercise group, Voce rehearsals and amateur dramatics groups use our premises for rehearsals.

10. Children's Parties.

Our hall and kitchen are hired by local families to hold children's parties in our large spacious hall.

11. Garden Gang

This project has turned an area of shrubs into a garden to grow vegetables, supporting and being supported by our local community. Volunteers from our other community outreach such as lunches as well as church members now also provide gardening services for our front and side gardens- many of these folk are without gardens of their own and enjoy being part of ours. This work includes maintaining our small memorial garden area which has been used by our church community and also people from the wider community to scatter loved one's ashes.

12. The church continues to host the former Trinity Church Centre congregation who are able to continue to hold their services in our building and also their monthly coffee mornings.

13. The church benevolent fund has also provided support by means of small grants to people in need, including people who have been made homeless. We have also supported people from the community practically, such as assisting with house moves, helping them access benefit and other support and co-ordinating items needed to furnish a new home.

14. Through donations from Aldi, we have been able to use surplus and close to expiry food both in the meals we provide but also through distributing these to people who can use them, thereby helping where money may be tight and reducing food waste.

Within all our activities, we offer support and a listening ear to anyone who comes. All are welcome with no exceptions, as all are welcomed by our Lord Jesus and His message to love one another is at the heart of everything we do. Prayer is always available with and for anyone who asks.

Abbey Road Baptist Church
Statement of Assets 2024

Current Account	£3,563.52
Stipend Account	<u>£4,238.18</u>
Total in Bank	£7,801.70
 Baptist Union Corp	 <u>£11,186.74</u>
Total Assets	£18,988.44

Prepared by M.J. Bourne
Examined by Mrs M Hall
02.03.2025

MJ Bourne

Mrs M Hall

ARBC Current and Stipend Accounts 2024

1. Income

Plate	£2,187.03	
Gift Aid Plate	£7,770.00	
HMRC refund	£2,028.00	
Offering	<u>£3,900.00</u>	
	£15,885.03	£15,885.03

2. Use of Premises

Parties	£50.00	
Food Bank	£4,576.08	
Election	£400.00	
Road to recovery	£780.00	
Trinity Church	£3,000.00	
BODS	£3,600.00	
Astronomical Society	£100.00	
Hire of premises	£16,920.00	
Age UK	<u>£440.00</u>	
	£29,866.08	£45,751.11

3. Donations

Misc individuals	£1,748.00	
For car park	£2,402.00	
For St Luke's Gospel	£113.00	
From W&F council	£500.00	
Stewardship	<u>£11,200.00</u>	
	£15,963.00	£61,714.11

4. HMF Grant

BMS Giving	£4,608.00	
	<u>£5.00</u>	
	£4,613.00	£66,327.11

Evangelisation

Benevolent Fund	£2,210.19	£68,537.30
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Income 2024
ARBC Current and Stipend Accounts

TRANSFERS

From Stipend to Current	£2,000.00	£70,537.30
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Misc transfers

Credit Funeral Directors	£200.00
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Refund Water	£135.29
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Refund Baptist Pension	<u>£1.00</u>
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£336.29	£70,873.59
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TOTAL INCOME	£70,873.59
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PLUS OPENING BALANCE	<u>£4,730.13</u>
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£75,603.72

LESS EXPENDITURE	<u>-£67,802.02</u>
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CLOSING BALANCE	£7,801.70
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ARBC Current and stipend Accounts 2024

EXPENDITURE

1. Ministry

Stipend	14284.76	
Tax/NI	676.66	
Baptist pension	<u>3921.92</u>	
	18883.34	18883.34

2.Ministers expenses

Council Tax	£2,238.11	21121.45
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Administration Expenses

Paper	£32.58	
Ink	£254.50	
Msc	<u>£156.76</u>	
	£443.84	21565.29

3.Subscriptions

Baptist Union	£172.50	
CCLI	£333.72	
Churches Together	<u>£30.00</u>	
	£536.22	22101.51

4.Church Utilities

Electric	£5,670.67	
Gas	£3,030.48	
Water	<u>£2,153.28</u>	
	<u>£10,854.43</u>	32955.94

Church Maintainance

DSL	£665.82	
Zoom	£155.88	
W&F Council Bins	£150.00	
Bunzi	£284.69	
A.D. Nixon	£45.80	
Keys	£20.00	
Various	<u>£509.11</u>	
	£1,831.30	34787.24

ARBC Current and stipend Accounts 2024

Church Buildings

Baywind	£742.64	
Hindle Electrics	£2,000.00	
D4	£6,350.00	
Michael Thompson	<u>£500.00</u>	
	£9,592.64	44379.88

Manse Utilities

Electric	£696.98	
Gas	£678.59	
Water	<u>£646.51</u>	
	£2,022.08	46401.96

Insurance

Church	£3,315.16	
Manse	<u>£644.93</u>	
	£3,960.09	50362.05
Good News	£339.00	50701.05

Evangelisation

Barrow Deanery	£180.00	
Pulpit supplies	£475.77	
African Palms	£18.60	
Outreach	£317.96	
Hospitality - food	£3,040.96	
Misc - books, posters etc	<u>£1,159.20</u>	
	£5,192.49	55893.54
Benevolent Fund	£1,808.48	57702.02

ARBC Current and stipend Accounts 2024

TRANSFERS

To current account	£2,000.00	
Baptist Union	<u>£5,000.00</u>	
	£7,000.00	64702.02
To HMF	£2,100.00	
TO BMS	<u>£900.00</u>	
	£3,000.00	67702.02
Misc		
Auditor	£100.00	67802.02
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		67802.02