



57 West & Clarence Road Baptist Church
Charity number 1192598
Annual Report January – December 2023

Purpose & Vision

Our purpose is to nurture an emerging missional church among adults who are experiencing homelessness or are vulnerably housed in Southend. In partnership with God, each other and the wider family of God, we seek to express church through sharing the unchanging Gospel of Jesus in new ways through:

- Being a welcoming, loving and inclusive community
- Being whole-life oriented, where God's invitation is received to live 'life in fullness'
- Being a community intent on realising God's purposes and God's plans for Southend-on-Sea

Church Trustees

Trustees: Pamela Davies (Minister), Chris Warner (Treasurer), Juliet Kilpin (Designated Person for Safeguarding), Stuart Elliot (Secretary), Paul Coleman (GDPR Lead), Ray Larkin and Jaimes Higginson.

Volunteer & Premises Co-ordinator: Julie McEvoy's role continued to include a shared responsibility for Community Development this year.

Supported Housing Manager: Hayley Alexander joined the team in Autumn 2023 in a new, externally funded role managing the new supported housing initiative.

Volunteering

Trustees: 7

Daytime Drop in: 14

Evening Drop in: 12

Course Leaders: 6

Community Volunteers: 6

The key change in our volunteer team this year was the move towards volunteer-led courses, which have created new opportunities for our community to build transferable life skills through cooking, wellbeing and budgeting, among other things.



Activities

This year we have provided:

Sleeping bags: 45
Takeaway coffees: c95
Snack bags: 90
Winter packs (hats, scarf and gloves): 20
Food Parcels: 25
Foodbank Vouchers: 32
Winter coats, trousers and jumpers: 38
Supported housing: 4

Partnership Working

Our community café continues to run four sessions per week, with additional, volunteer-led courses taking place around this. We continue to be registered on Your Say Southend and have re-registered as a Warm Space provider for the winter of 2023-24. Some of the places we have referred community members to include:

Signposted to other organisations (general): 45
Referred to complex needs access panel: 6
Referred to hope 316: 4
Referred to One Love for dental treatment: 4
Referred to Paramedic: 15
Paramedic health checks: 6
Accompanied to hospital: 3
Supported through PIP process: 1
Referral to Harp: 10
Referred to Storehouse: 15
Referred to Streetlink: 6

We continue to be part of the Southend Homeless Action Network, the Faith & Belief Network, the Southend Area Baptist Network, and are active members of both the Eastern Baptist Association and Baptist Union of Great Britain.

Plans for 2023

We have successfully launched our new supported housing initiative, with 4 residents having been housed during the calendar year. At the close of the year we had 1 available space with a housing offer having been made, pending acceptance.



Finance and Governance

The merge process between 57 West and Clarence Road Baptist Church was finalised in summer 2023, with final paperwork submitted to the charity commission by the Baptist Union solicitors. We had minimal trustee turnover and a restructuring process saw each trustee in a dedicated role by the end of the calendar year, building capacity for the upcoming year and highlighting possible areas for growth (specifically in relation to the potential for youth work provision in the future and development of the church building).

In a community-led process, the merged church discerned and agreed that the new entity should be called Southend City Baptist Church and adopted a new logo, which will be actioned by way of a name change to the existing 57 West CIO. A launch event to mark this transition is scheduled for 13th January 2024.

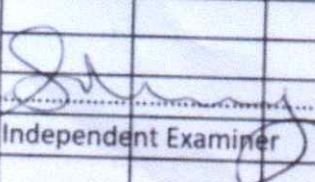
Fundraising plan for 2024

We made significant progress with our fundraising plan in 2023 and appointed Gemma Cartwright to our dedicated fundraising team on a consultancy basis. We actioned all of the items from the 2023 fundraising plan and began to generate income from rental of space and car parking in addition to grant income. We will continue to develop this in the year ahead with a fundraising schedule which will map our bid writing, as well as exploring the possibility of renovating the currently unused space within the church building.

Accounts for the year January-December 2023 are attached to this report. We would especially like to thank our key funders for their continued support of our work and ministry:

- The Baptist Union of Great Britain
- SAVS Community Investment Board
- Sainburys & Neighbourly
- Acorn & Essex Community Fund
- Lottery Awards for All
- Magic Little Grants
- Fowler, Smith & Jones
- Warm Welcome

Thank you on behalf of the Southend City Baptist Church community.

Balance Sheet 2023					
Op Bal @ 01.01.23		28437.54			
Income					
other					
churches	600.00	* includes 2 x 5000.00 loans			
EBA	13250.00				
other	13356.62 *				
Trust	3000.00				
Individs	3922.08				
Prem user	16017.14				
Carpark	3652.25				
Grants	26854.00				
Manse	Rental	8246.43			
roof grants		23250.00			
		112148.52	112148.52		
			140586.06		
Expenditure					
Payroll	45675.56	ABC Loan 5,000.00			
Min Rent	10800.00	paid -556.00			
utilities/insurance	5549.14	O/S 4,444.00			
telephone	457.78	S&TB loan 5,000.00 repayments to start 2024			
Admin	296.91	Balance			
Manse	12737.82	Due 9,444.00 see repayment schedule			
manse running costs	6145.94				
F/raising	575.75				
pettycash	1600.00				
Building repairs	30074.20				
loan repayments	556.00	Restricted balance			
other	4871.26	Night shelter 558.25			
	119340.36	-119,340.36	Sainsburys (food)	965.07	
			Manse Manager	12,620.00	
			Shared space	300.00	
				14443.32	
			Unrestricted balance	6802.38	
Bal @ 31.12.23		21,245.70	Total	21,245.70	
Confirmed to be an accurate record of the Balance Sheet relating to 57 West 1 st January 2023 to 31 st December 2023					
					
Independent Examiner					

Template for Independent Examiners report (where independent examiner does not wish to highlight any issues)

Report of the Independent Examiner(s) to the Trustees of 57 West Clarence Rd B

On the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Church's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of [insert named of applicable listed body], which is one of the listed bodies. (Delete if income is less than £250,000)

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination. (if accounts prepared on accruals basis*)

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply*

Signed by or on behalf of the Examiner

Name Susan Murray

Date 3/5/24

Relevant Professional Qualification(s) or body (if any)

Address 32 EMMERLE GARDEN, SOUTHEND ON SEA SS25RB