

earlsfield baptist church

Magdalen Road SW18 3NZ

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 December 2023

BLESSED ACCOUNTANTS

328 London Road

Mitcham

Surrey CR4 3ND

Tel: 020 8544 1551

Email: accountants@blessedltd.com

Web: www.blessedaccountants.com



FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

COMPANY INFORMATION

Registered Office	Magdalen Road Earlsfield London SW18 3NZ
Charity Registration Number	1193754
Trustees	Rev K Parr (Minister) Mrs J Davis (Secretary) Mr A Adesuyan (Treasurer) Ms D Dorman Mrs B Lee Mrs L Perez Bernaldez Mr B Williams
Church Secretary	Mrs J Davis
Property Trustees	The London Baptist Property Board (L.B.P.B) 235 Shaftesbury Avenue London WC2H 8EP
Paid Staff	Rev K Parr (Minister) Ms Y Biney (Cleaner)
Governing Document	CIO For Earlsfield Baptist Church
Independent Examiner	Mrs M Adriaans ACMA CGMA
Bankers	Barclays Bank Leicester LE87 2BB

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023.

Objects of the charity

The principal aims and objectives of the Church are:

- a) the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination;
- b) the advancement of education in the Christian faith; and
- c) to carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The Church is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at its services and to become part of the local congregation. Church services continue to be held on Sunday mornings both in the Church building and via Zoom for those unable to come to the Church.

Governance

Earlsfield Baptist Church is a charity registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales. Charity Registration number 1193754.

The policy and operating decisions of the Church rest with the Trustees who met eight times during the year.

Key decisions were brought to Church Members by emailed correspondence (hard copies were sent by post to those without access to the internet) and also communicated at Church Members' meetings.

Review of Activities

Congregation and Members

The Church celebrated its 126th Anniversary in 2023 as did the Sunday School. Weekly worship services continued to be held on Sunday mornings at 11 am. The Church continued to use the Hybrid Model for worship (online and offline community) throughout the period covered by this report.

Throughout 2023, contact was maintained with all members of the congregation by monthly newsletters. Contact was also maintained with telephone calls, emails and, when possible, home visits. In the period covered by this report, one person was baptized, three people were received into membership, four members received their home call and one child was dedicated. A number of weddings, funerals and a Marriage Blessing from the local community were held at the Church during the year. Current membership stands at 35.

Our Minister, Rev Keith Parr, led Lent studies and special services at Easter, Pentecost, Harvest Thanksgiving, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas. The congregation was also encouraged to 'Pray Through May'.

During the year, Rev Parr continued weekly Bible Study meetings: 'Coffee and a Chat' in a local coffee shop, meetings in a local public house and a Bible Study house group via Zoom. The weekly Alpha course on Tuesday evenings was completed at the end of February and was replaced by a Bible Study house group held at the Manse. The Church provided a Warm Space on Sunday afternoons in January and February serving soup to those struggling with energy costs. Cafe Church and a lunch time Alpha course were also started early in 2023 but did not continue due to lack of interest. Sadly the Craft and Scrabble Club closed but 'Rendezvous', a new club for adults opened at the beginning of May 2023 and its meetings on the first Thursday of each month continue to be well attended. A Reunion of past members of the 14th London Boys' Brigade Company and the 38th London Girls' Brigade Company was held at the Church in October and attendees also joined the Church's 126th Anniversary Service.

The Church opened its doors for individual prayer as often as possible on weekdays during the year and a daily Prayer Texting continued to be circulated to those wishing to take part with encouraging Bible texts and suggested subjects for prayer for individuals, the local community and wider world events.



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Mission:

The Church continued to stay active in the community.

- The Church continued support of the Earlsfield Food Bank by the provision of food and other necessities. Volunteers from the Church also manage and help at the Food Bank on Thursday mornings.
- 'Pray Through May' was a prayer initiative providing simple guidelines to help the congregation day by day and week by week to draw closer to God and ask Him for His blessings for our Church Family.
- The Church opened whenever possible around lunchtimes and at other times for individual prayer.
- A new adult club, 'Rendezvous', opened in May and continued to meet on the first Thursday of each month.
- The Prayer Texting Service continued whereby members were able to request prayer. These requests and other matters for prayer are circulated on a daily basis. A new adult club, 'Rendezvous', opened in May and continued to meet on the first Thursday of each month.
- Throughout the year, the Church continued to support various charities through its monthly Communion offerings - Mission Aviation Fellowship, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Earlsfield Food Bank, Christian Aid, Global Care, BMS World Mission, Bible Society, Leprosy Mission, Operation Agri and Home Mission.
- Children and young people continued to be encouraged to attend morning services and the monthly Communion Services were for all ages.
- A Christmas Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale were held in November 2023.
- The Church continued to use various social media sites to promote events and encourage contact from the general public. Notice boards outside the Church also advertised various events.
- The Church website continued to be improved to be more user-friendly and informative.

Premises:

General maintenance of the premises continued throughout the year where needed.

The Manse provided accommodation for Rev Parr throughout the year and maintenance carried out when needed.

The Colour Box Montessori School continued to rent The Rock on weekday mornings during term time. A Dance School and a Stage School hired The Rock on weekday afternoons and evenings and on Saturdays respectively. The 6th Earlsfield Guiding Group used the premises on Wednesday evenings and Alcoholics Anonymous also held their weekly meetings at the Church on Thursday evenings. The Wandsworth branch of U3A held their monthly meetings at the Church on the third Monday of each month and the local Allotments Society held their Annual Show and AGM at the Church in September and November respectively.

The Church received a Home Office grant which enabled CCTV and an alarm system to be installed in all buildings.

General Data Protection Regulation 2018:

Members of the congregation continued to be contacted by email from the official church email addresses. The Church remained compliant with GDPR but work is needed to ensure it follows UK guidelines with regard to retaining members' personal information.

Safeguarding:

The church's safeguarding statements and policies are reviewed annually and copies are displayed throughout the premises. The statements are read to the church members annually and all leaders of clubs and activities held at the church have been made aware of the statements and must adhere to the policies and procedures.

Plans for Future Periods:

Mission: The Trustees remains committed to the mission focus of the Church and endeavours to strengthen the outreach programme whenever possible. There is a mission focus each month when a specific charity or organisation is highlighted and supported through the communion offering.



REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Church will continue with the Hybrid Model for Sunday services to give the congregation and members the choice of where to worship. Hybrid worship offers more inclusivity; it includes the housebound, those who are unwell, those who may have COVID or other health concerns, those who live far from the Church Building and those who are busy with work and family commitments. Hybrid Church offers new opportunities to include more of our community in the body of Christ.

The Church continues to look at different ways to reach out to the Community such as meeting and holding events in pubs and coffee shops.

Financial Activities and Affairs

Church offering, congregational giving, has been on decline since 2018, weekly offering that year was £37.2k (2017: £38.7k). In 2022 Church offering was flat, 2022 vs 2021. (£25.7k vs £25.7k). This year of 2023, Church offering has grown year on year for the first time since 2017. Offering increased by £2.3k, 9.0% higher than 2022 (£27.9k vs. £25.7k).

The Church continued to make all payments and expenses via online bank transfer or Direct Debits. Payments were processed by the Treasurer and then approved online by either the Church Secretary or another Trustee. A small team of Church members met monthly to count and bank cash/cheque offerings. Our lead counter and banker has retired after many years of voluntary service. Warm thanks from all at EBC and may God bless her with restful peace and good health.

Please see the attached detailed accounts.

Total Income has increased by £4.9k to £90.3k (2022: £85.4k), £4.2k and £0.7k higher income from General and Restricted Funds respectively.

Total Expenditure has increased by £4.4k to £89.8k (2022: £84.4k). General expenses were £2.9k higher (£84.1k vs £81.2k) driven by annual stipend inflation (7.1%) and maintenance work on premises.

General Fund Income increased by £4.2k to £84.3k (2022: £80.2k) driven by higher Church offering (£2.3k) and higher interest (£2.8k) on deposits funds held with London Baptist Property Board. Gift Aid income of £4.6k was £0.9k lower than 2022 (£5.6k).

General Fund Expenditure increased by £2.9k to £84.1k (2022: £81.2k). Cost of ministry grew by £2k, 5.3% (£38.4k vs. £36.5k) driven by Minister annual stipend increase and cost of maintaining our premises was £2k, 6.4% higher driven by utilities bills.

Restricted Fund Income of £5.9k increased by £0.6k (2022: £5.3k) due to increased Denomination fund (£1.8k) offset by no donations to Building fund (stopped) and lower Communion giving to Supported Charities.

Restricted expenditure was £1.5k higher (£5.7k vs. £4.2k) driven by increased donation to Home Mission (£3.5k vs £1.5k).

The total Income of £90.3k was offset by total expenditure of £89.8k.

Net assets increased by £617k to £7,693k (2022: £7,076k), due to increased property valuation based on insurance rebuild values. Total Cash Balance at end of the year was £9.5k (2022: £13.0k).

Funding:

The Church continued to raise necessary funds from within its own membership, congregation and by hiring out its halls. The Church is committed to making donations to other charitable organisations and causes.

In this period, £3.5k (2022: £1.5k) was donated Home Mission and £1.2k (2022: £1.2k) given to BMS World Mission (Denomination fund). The Church donated to six supported charities including Christian Aid, Leprosy Mission, Earlsfield Foodbank and Global Care, where our own Minister, Rev. Keith Parr is Chair of Trustees (charity no. 07560813).

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial Review

The Church continued to spend within its means. This year's General Expense ratio was at 99% (2022: 101%). The Church aims to maintain an expense ratio of circa 95% (for £1 income, 95p on expense). 99% expense ratio is higher than target due to below inflationary increases in Hall Hire Income. Future expenses will have to reduce in line with lower income as well as a review of Hall Hire rates.

The Church is heavily dependent on its members and the remainder of its congregation working as volunteers in all aspects of the Church's activities, many of which have little impact on the Church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute to the achievement of the Church's objectives.

Policy on Reserves

It is the policy of the Church to maintain unrestricted bank cash balance equivalent to two months' expenditure (currently £14k). If the balance is higher than this at the end of the year, the delta to be transferred to our Deposit savings account held with L.B.P.B. to benefit from the higher interest rates.

At the end of 2023, total bank cash balance was £9,542 (2022: £12,979).

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity and of its income and expenditure for the year.

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
3. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts.
4. Prepare the financial statements on an going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and ensures that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

Trustees also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees and Church Members on 29th September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Mrs J Davis (Church Secretary)



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
Earlsfield Baptist Church

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1193754

Set out on pages

8 - 11

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2023**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

27.02.2025

Name:

Meagan Adriaans

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

ACMA CGMA

Address:

23 Moorfield Road

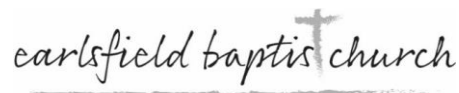
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Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
Summary Income and Expenditure Account

		Unrestricted			
		General	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		2023	2023	2023	2022
Note		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>					
Voluntary income	2a	35,982	5,852	41,834	38,960
Transfer from General Fund		-	-	-	
Investment income		4,157	116	4,273	1,432
Gift aid recovered		4,638	-	4,638	5,579
<i>Incoming resources from community activities</i>					
Hire of Premises	2b	39,564	-	39,564	39,460
Total Incoming Resources	2,7c	84,341	5,967	90,308	85,431
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Direct Church activities	3a,b	79,337	300	79,637	78,795
Charitable Donations	3c	-	5,436	5,436	3,759
Transfer from General fund	3c	4,744	-	4,744	2,857
Transfer from Restricted fund	3c	-	-	-	-
Total Resources Expended		84,081	5,736	89,818	85,411
Net Movement in Funds		259	231	491	20
Revaluation of assets		621,851	-	621,851	676,116
Transfers between funds		(5,000)	-	(5,000)	(3,240)
Accrual		-	-	-	-
Fund balances at 1 Jan 2023		7,052,090	23,448	7,075,539	6,402,642
Fund balances at 31 Dec 2023		7,669,201	23,680	7,692,880	7,075,539

Movements on reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above.

The notes on pages 8-9 form part of these accounts.



BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	4,5b	7,575,111	6,953,260
		7,575,111	6,953,260
CURRENT ASSETS			
London Baptist Property Board	5a	108,227	108,976
National Savings Income Bond	5a	-	-
Cash and bank	5a	9,542	12,979
		117,769	121,955
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Liabilities falling due within one year	5c	-	(323)
Net Current Assets		117,769	122,279
NET ASSETS		7,692,880	7,075,539
FUND BALANCES			
Unrestricted funds			
General Funds		94,090	98,831
Designated funds		-	-
Restricted Funds	7c	23,680	23,448
Capital		7,575,111	6,953,260
		7,692,880	7,075,539

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the company was entitled to the exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Responsibilities of directors/trustees:

- a. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act - however, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner whose report forms part of this document.*
- b. The directors/trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.*

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 29th September 2024 by:

A Adesuyan ACMA

Charity number: 1193754

The notes on pages 8-9 form part of these accounts.

**Notes to the Accounts
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

1 Accounting Policies

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 on a Receipts and Payments basis.

a) Donated and grant income:

Donated income and grants receivable are taken into account when received by the charity. Income received in circumstances where a claim for repayment of tax has been or will be made to HM Revenue & Customs is grossed up for the tax recoverable. Any amount of tax reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs but not yet received is shown within the charity's debtors.

b) Other income and expenditure:

Investment income is taken into account when receivable and expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, when incurred by the charity, regardless of when payment is made. Donations/Grants payable are taken into account at the earlier of when they are paid or become constructive obligations. Donations/Grants for the support of mission are accounted for on the basis of support that relates to the financial year.

c) Funds:

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the objects of the charity without specified purpose and are available for purposes as directed by the trustees. Restricted funds are amounts received where the donor has specified the purpose for which it should be used.

d) Fixed assets and depreciation:

Fixed assets acquired for use by the charity are capitalised and depreciated over their estimated useful life unless they cost less than £5,000 when they are written off on purchase.

Depreciation periods are as follows:

Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance
Furniture and office equipment	25% straight line

e) Pension costs:

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for certain of its employees. Pension premiums are charged as they are paid.

f) Taxation:

The Church is a charity but 'excepted from registration' under The Charities (Exception from Registration) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 and is exempt from taxation under the Income & Corporation Taxes Acts.

g) Cashflow statement:

The Church has taken advantage of the exemption provided by the Financial Reporting Standard 1 and has not prepared a Cash Flow Statement for the year.

2a Voluntary income

	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
General donations	30,982	1,107	32,090	32,863
Transfer from Restricted Funds	-	-	-	3,240
Transfer from London Baptist Property Board	5,000	-	5,000	-
Transfer from General Funds	-	4,744	4,744	2,857
	35,982	5,852	41,834	38,960

2b Incoming Resources from Activities for Generating Funds

Hall Hire	39,564	-	39,564	39,460
Investment Income	4,157	116	4,273	1,432
Gift Aid recovered	4,638	-	4,638	5,579
	48,359	116	48,474	46,471
Total income	84,341	5,967	90,308	85,431

3 Charitable activities

	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
a Direct Charitable Costs				
Minister's Stipend, Pension and NIC	34,900	-	34,900	32,824
Pastoral Assistance and Visiting Preachers	125	-	125	391
Ministry Expenses	-	-	-	-
Church Mission activities	487	100	587	3,677
	35,513	100	35,613	36,893

b Support and Administration

	£	£	£	£
Church Premises Costs	33,008	-	33,008	31,388
Manse costs	3,373	-	3,373	3,247
Admin/Other	7,443	200	7,643	7,267
	43,825	200	44,025	41,902
Combined charitable activity cost	79,337	300	79,637	78,795

c Donations

	£	£	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Transfer from General Funds			-	-
To Building Fund			-	-
To Church Denominational	4,744	-	4,744	2,857
Transfer From Restricted Funds	-		-	-
To L.B.P.B Youth Account	-		-	-
Donations to supported charities and causes	-	5,436	5,436	3,759
	4,744	5,436	10,180	6,616
Total expense	84,081	5,736	89,818	85,411

4 Assets for Church Purposes

The freehold land and buildings (Church's premises and a manse) are owned by the Church but held in a trust by the London Baptist Property Board. Insurance rebuild value as at May 2023 is used as valuation for these assets, is considered the most appropriated basis.

**Notes to the Accounts
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

5 Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
a)			
Cash Funds	Bank Current Accounts	7,230	10,688
	Bank Deposit Accounts	2,312	2,291
	Total Cash at bank	9,542	12,979
National Income Bond	Held by London Baptist Property Board	-	-
Other Monetary Assets	London Baptist Property Board - Main Deposit Account (DE16270)	105,159	106,023
	London Baptist Property Board - Youth Deposit Account (DE16560)	3,069	2,953
		117,769	121,955
	London Baptist Property Board - transfer from main deposit to bank current account	(5,000)	-
b)			
Assets Retained for Church Use		May 2023	May 2022
	Church Building (Place of worship & praise) - Magdalen Road SW18 3NZ	4,748,677	4,380,699
	Church Halls - Magdalen Road SW18 3NZ	2,362,100	2,179,059
	Manse (Minister and family residence) 27 Ellerton Road SW18 3NG	464,334	393,502
	Church Property Valuation as at May 2023, based Church's insurer, 'Baptist Insurance' reb	7,575,111	6,953,260
c)			
Liabilities			
			-
	Offering		(570)
	Expenses		247
	Net total	-	(323)

6 Staff and Trustees

At 31 December 2023, the charity employed 2 staff. Its activities are generally carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

During the year the Minister was reimbursed for expenses totalling £1,316.82 and Church Secretary reimbursed for expenses totalling £237.55

The Minister, Rev. Keith Parr is Chair of Trustees at Global Care (charity no. 07560813). In 2022, the Church via Communion offering collected and donated £100 for Global Care

7 Funds

Analysis of Fund Movements for the Year

a) **Unrestricted Funds** may be used by the Church for any of its ordinary purposes. The movements in the fund are shown in the Receipts and Payments Account.

b) **Designated Funds** represent sums set aside, out of ordinary unrestricted funds, for specific designated purposes, but they can be transferred back into general funds at any time.

Fund Name	Fund Purpose	Balance 1 January £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance 31 December £
Totals (per Receipts and Payments Account)		-	-	-	-	-

Notes:

c) **Restricted Funds** represent either income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, or donations or grants received or invited for a specific purpose. The funds may only be spent on the specific purpose for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent must be carried forward as a balance on that fund and cannot be absorbed into general funds.

Fund Name	Fund Purpose	Balance 1 January £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance 31 December £
Church Denominational		0	4,977	(4,977)		-
London Baptist Property Board - Youth Deposit Account		2,953	116			3,069
Supported Charities		1	759	(759)		1
Building Fund		14,282				14,282
Parents & Toddler Group		1,341				1,341
Benevolent Fund		306				306
Over 60s Club		4,566				4,566
Totals (per Receipts and Payments Account)		23,448	5,852	(5,736)	-	23,564