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Charities Commission Report:

From 6th April 2023 to 5th April 2024

This is the annual report from 6th April 2023 to 5th April 2024 for Grace Christian Fellowship.

Activities over the last year and assessment

1. Administration & Governance

1. Administration and Governance remains manageable because:
 1. GCF remains a small congregation (around 10 adults)
 2. We meet only once a week at Cullingworth Village Hall
2. Alicia Chapman stepped off Trustees in December 2023 due to her moving to Scotland to undertake a chaplaincy course
3. We need to look at finding a replacement. This is likely to be difficult due to the small number of people attending, availability, and the necessary skills required

2. Biblical Foundations

1. We continue to operate within the biblical foundations as set in our constitution

3. Teaching

1. Last year we moved from relatively informal meetings to more planned and structured delivery. This has continued and been developed.
2. Teaching has been delivered on:
 1. Three Prayers: Elijah, Ahab and the Widow of Nain
 2. Communion: The Crowded Climax of Christ's Ministry
 3. Communion: The Covenants
 4. The Adamic Covenant
 5. The Noahic Covenant
 6. The Abrahamic Covenant
 7. The Mosaic Covenant
 8. The Davidic Covenant
 9. The New Covenant
 10. The Passover and The Lord's Supper
 11. Communion: From Meal to Meal
 12. The Prayers: From the Shema to the Lord's Prayer
 13. Colossians 1
 14. The Spirit of the Lord Cries Abba
 15. Jesus the Way
 16. The Threefold Word: Creation, Scriptures and Christ¹

¹ This series was a long and in-depth series, starting in April and finishing in September 2024

This teaching programme is valued by everyone: adults and young people alike.

4. Prayer for the community

1. We now pray every week for each other as part of our Sunday service; this is a significant move forward

5. Developing core spiritual practices: meditative re-alignment

1. Last year we noted the importance of prayer and daily meditative reading: which we called meditative realignment
2. We have moved forward into this by moving from meeting twice a month to once every week, for two and a half hours, where worship, prayer, scripture reading, and teaching are part of every service.
3. This is a big step forward, has required a much greater investment of time from Dr Gareth Jones, and is something we wish to continue with

6. Sundays together

1. Our meeting together has increased from the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month to every Sunday. We continue to start our time of fellowship with a meal followed by prayer, praise, scripture reading and teaching; everyone is included and there is time for all to input and discuss

2. This increase in investment is appreciated by everyone

7. Nurturing Young People

1. We continue to include young people in the heart of all we do
2. Young people are involved in prayer and praise every Sunday; and every teaching topic delivered to adults is delivered to young children in age appropriate terms; occasionally we have all age services, which have been enjoyed by everyone

8. Meeting one-to-one for spiritual direction

1. Attendees continue to meet organically and as part of their friendship groups
2. The business of modern life makes it difficult for many to find the time to 'Sabbath': i.e. to switch off from the practical business of life, and to focus on simply 'being' and 'enjoying' others and God's creation. We will continue to encourage and model this practice

9. Providing spiritual direction for everyone

1. Spiritual direction has now been offered to anyone should they need it
2. Gareth Jones and Lindon have now done this on numerous occasion as people have need

10. Developing life shaping practices and liturgies

1. Previous attention was invested to the way Sunday gatherings (teaching and liturgy) and daily spiritual practices (meditative realignment) can be enriched
2. These practices have been developed through our meeting every week, and weekly scriptures for reflection and meditation are sent out via WhatsApp to every adult in the fellowship

11. Numbers Attending & Location

1. We originally started with 5 adults and 4 children, which increased to 8 adults and 7 young people
2. We now stand at 10 adults and 9 young people regularly attending
3. Given the increase in numbers we have moved out of homes and now rent Cullingworth Village Hall every Sunday from 5.00-7.30pm
4. This move has gone very well and is big step forward from last year

12. Finances

1. As can be seen from our accounts

1. Whilst our income is relatively low, we have shown sound financial management and prudence, not once running into a financial deficit or running the charity beyond our means².

2. Summary

1. Income £6,430
2. Expenditure £7,576.64
3. Closing balance £1,065.68

13. Paid Services & Employment

3. We are more than happy to continue to pay Dr Gareth Jones for 2 days services a month, knowing that he works far more hours than we pay him for.

² Gift aid for this year will be claimed in 2024

Signed

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G.O. Jones." with a horizontal line underneath.

Gareth
Jones

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "H Jones".

Heather
Jones

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Lindon Craven" with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lindon
Craven

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "S Craven".

Samantha
Craven

From 06/4/23-05/4/24	
Starting balance	£ 2,212.32
Income	
Donations	£ 6,430.00
Total income	£ 6,430.00
Expenditure	
Hospitality	£ 160.86
Consultant Services	£ 4,800.00
Rent	£ 1,998.50
Other	£ 617.28
Total Expenditure	£ 7,576.64
Final balance	£ 1,065.68