

Living Word Church

(Charity Number: 1013584)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended

5th April 2022

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**Charity Accounts Preparation &
Independent Examination Services**

Living Word Church

(Charity Number: 1013584)

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Living Word Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 6 April 2021 – 5 April 2022

Charity's Full Name – **Living Word Church**

Registered Company Number – **None**

Registered Charity Number – **1013584**

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document:

Proclamation and furtherance of the Gospel of God by every means possible concerning his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and the preaching and teaching of the Christian faith throughout the city of York and its environs.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts:

The Church continues to be inspired and motivated to use the gifts that God has given them to bless people and make their lives better. This includes the material demonstrations of unconditional love through acts of service. The Church gives to the poor and needy, both to people within the Church and those outside the Church. Many of the details in this report are similar to the previous year's report, but that is how faithfulness works, continuing to work with people and in an area to see hope and life.

The Church's main goal is to enable as many people as possible to hear the Gospel and discover the joy and freedom that Jesus Christ has made available for all. The Riverside Centre is used as a Place of Worship; built initially as a public house, the building provides great spaces for the Church to worship and fellowship together and spaces for the wider community to meet and find friendship. The finances pay for the pastoral leader, hub manager and community worker, media creator and an administrator. These paid roles support the large number of volunteers that make the community of faith and the charitable work possible.

During the financial year April 2021 to April 2022 Living Word Church used the Riverside Centre to support people in the York area. The Centre remained a place of worship, prayer and fellowship for the church community and a base for the Christian outreach and charitable works particularly the increased requirement for the Foodbank services. A large proportion of the lockdown period saw the church predominantly meet online, it was great to get back together during this reporting period and restarting the work in the community.

The Centre has had to stop the weekly community café during the pandemic, the reopening of the community café followed a refurbishment. This was funded through donations and gifts from generous friends. This community resource welcomes many people from the surrounding area, providing homemade food at 'not for profit' prices. This has also started the building of friendships with café customers, helping to reduce the isolation lots of people felt during the lockdowns.

It is estimated that we have spoken to and given emergency food to over 600 families through running one of the Trussell Trust foodbanks in connection with York Foodbank. We work with volunteers from St Andrews and York Community Church in this project. This is a significant number of households being supported in the city from our centre and we praise our volunteer team for the additional work put in to support these families.

The Riverside Centre remained a base for outreach into the community around Huntington Road and into the Bell Farm Estate. The Little Stars toddler and baby group was paused for the pandemic period and reopened in the garden area in the summer and then fully open in the Autumn. There are usually 20 to 30 families coming every week.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Additional details of objectives and activities:

The vast majority of the Church's income is from gifts from members. These gifts are split between incomes related to tithes, general offerings and earmarked gifts (for specific purposes). Where Gift Aid is applicable this is added to any earmarked gifts before these are passed on. The rest of the Gift Aid is used for projects and outreach. We encourage all members who can work to find work and we support them in that aim. Specific gifts were earmarked by the givers to support those who are poor or needy in the local area and abroad.

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole:
Details of the performance and achievements are included in the sections above.

We continue to work with the York based Christian charity Bundles of Joy to store their baby equipment, clothing and consumables in the second floor rooms of the Riverside Centre. They distribute a bundle of baby items to families in the York area who are having a baby and are in need. During this financial year the Besom Charity also continued using space in the Centre to supply furniture and white goods to households in need, as well as preparing many Christmas hampers for those in need.

In the autumn of 2021 we were privileged to be able to make the Riverside Centre available to the international congregation of the York Elim Church. We continue to work with other churches across York to combine resources where it is beneficial.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period:

The trustees have used some of the reserves to continue to employ a hub manager and community outreach worker to further develop the outreach programmes. The reserve has helped manage the cash flow during this period.

Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held:

The reserve funds are held in the Seed Fund which is 10% of the tithe income put aside to support the employment of the paid employees, for gift for ministries to the Church and a fund to support those in need. Reserves are also kept ensuring liabilities can be met by easing the cashflow.

Amount of reserves held:

We ended the year with combined reserves of £3,700 in the Reserve Fund and Seed Fund.

Reasons for holding zero reserves:

N/A

Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets – **None**

Names and addresses of advisers – **None**

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members:

James Topliss (Lead Elder/Pastor – Employed by the Charity)

Peter White (Elder – Volunteer)

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature



Full Name – **Matthew Staples**
Position – **Lead Trustee**
Date – **22nd January 2023**

Signature



Full Name – **Amy Ellis**
Position – **Trustee**
Date – **22nd January 2023**

I report on the accounts of: **Living Word Church**
for the year ended: **05 April 2022** which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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.




Jeff Todd (FCA)

Outsource independent examination services

The Hiscox Building

Peasholme Green

York YO1 7PR



Date:

Living Word Church
(Charity Number: 1013584)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:			5th April 2022	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	funds	funds	Total	Total
	£	£	funds	funds
Receipts			£	£
Tithes & offerings	108,921	-	108,921	110,984
Earmarked gifts & offerings	17,176	-	17,176	15,668
Contributions to events	12,008	-	12,008	50
Gift aid & other income	23,221	-	23,221	22,641
Interest	1	-	1	4
Other income	971	-	971	235
Total receipts	162,298	-	162,298	149,582
Payments				
Tithe of income	11,056	-	11,056	14,269
Salaries and expenses	79,349	-	79,349	74,344
Conferences, training and travel	327	-	327	360
Seed fund spend	2,833	-	2,833	8,025
Building costs & refurbishment	2,353	-	2,353	1,208
Hospitality	107	-	107	-
Visiting ministry	1,991	-	1,991	1,475
Earmarked gifts	18,125	-	18,125	14,904
Sponsorship	360	-	360	360
Children & youth work	-	-	-	245
Meeting costs	2,900	-	2,900	1,560
Outreach events & evangelism	704	-	704	224
Administration (inc utility costs)	19,204	-	19,204	20,460
Mortgage repayments	20,304	-	20,304	10,182
Total payments	159,613	-	159,613	147,616
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,685	-	2,685	1,966
Balance brought forward	23,108	-	23,108	21,142
Balance carried forward	25,792	-	25,792	23,108

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:	5th April 2022
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	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total funds	2021 Total funds
Assets	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	10,456	-	10,456	9,569
Savings bank account	15,336	-	15,336	13,539
Tracker account	-	-	-	-
	<u>25,792</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,792</u>	<u>23,108</u>

	2022	2021
Assets retained for Charity's own use	£	£
Building	<u>325,000</u>	<u>325,000</u>

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total funds	2021 Total funds
Liabilities	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination fee	380	-	380	360
Mortgage for building	203,271	-	203,271	222,834
	<u>203,651</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>203,651</u>	<u>223,194</u>

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:	5th April 2022
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The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.


Approval of Accounts for the year ended:	5th April 2022
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The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

25/1/2023

Date

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:



Signature

MATTHEW PAUL STAPLES


Name

LEAD TRUSTEE

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

31/1/2023

Date



Signature

AMY CHARLOTTE ELLIS

Name

TRUSTEE

Position (e.g. Chair etc)

02/02/2023

Date

