

**BETHANY CITY CHURCH
SUNDERLAND**

Report and Accounts

31 August 2020

Registered Charity Number 1112606

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND
Report and accounts
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BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND

Trustees and officers

TRUSTEES	D Burke J Wood C Seadon R Martin R McNaughton A Blackhall A R Chadwick P Smithson M Brydon P Waugh P W Errington F Forster	Chairman - appointed 29 October 2020 Chairman - resigned 29 October 2020 Treasurer resigned 11 May 2021 resigned 1 November 2020 resigned 8 November 2020 appointed 11 May 2021 appointed 11 May 2021 appointed 11 May 2021
STAFF TEAM	S Burin D Alcock D Miller Andrew Headley	Senior Pastor Assistant to the Pastor Centre Manager Cleaner
LEADERSHIP TEAM	D Alcock D Miller C Seadon A Laws G Foster D Johnson B Jones P Smithson	Assistant to the Pastor Centre Manager Treasurer
CHARITY NUMBER	1112606	
REGISTERED ADDRESS	Bede Tower Burdon Road Sunderland SR2 7EA	
EXAMINERS	Kinnair & Company Chartered Accountants Aston House Redburn Road Newcastle Upon Tyne NE5 1NB	
BANKERS	Barclays Bank PLC Newcastle City Office Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 4QL	
SOLICITORS	Lewis & Co 37 Brassey Avenue Hampden Park Eastbourne East Sussex BN22 9QD	

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND

Trustees' Report

Introduction

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2020. These are prepared in accordance with the governing document and the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, and comply with the applicable law.

Objectives and activities

The aims and objectives of the charity, and the strategies and activities undertaken to achieve them are:

To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statements of Beliefs appearing in the Trust Deed in Sunderland and in other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and are connected to the charitable work of the trust.

To relieve persons who are in conditions of need and hardship or who are sick and to relieve the distress caused thereby in the said location and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees may from time to time think fit.

The charity seeks to make an impact in Sunderland and the North East region through the demonstration of Christian love in action.

Public Benefit

When planning the charity's activities for the year, the trustees considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on the advancement of religion. The trustees also considered how the charity had succeeded in delivering its aims, including public benefit, when reviewing the achievements for the year which are summarised below:

- The continued development of a distinctive Christian lifestyle throughout the Fellowship;
- Ongoing care for the sick, elderly and needy;
- The operation of a Food Bank five days per week, to feed the needy;
- The provision of meals on a weekly basis to the homeless and needy;
- Generously support relief and development work overseas;
- Encouraging acts of kindness
- Offering hospitality to overseas students, Support and hospitality for asylum seekers and visitors to Sunderland;
- Supporting children and families by providing ongoing support and training;
- The continued development of outreach to the community through sports,
- The provision of pre-marriage counselling for couples.

We, as trustees, have fulfilled our duty to disclose information regarding public benefit in accordance with Section 17 of the 2011 Charities Act.

Achievements and performance

The church continues to grow in its fifteenth year as an independent charity and sixteenth since its inception.

The church continues to operate from Bede Tower, a former school with a city centre location. The premises are owned by the Vardy Foundation with Bethany City Church as the sole tenant. The facilities allow the continuation of Sunday morning services and the addition of Sunday evening services, with regular attendance in excess of 250 adults and children every Sunday morning.

As well as the provision of a home for the church, Bede Tower has the space and capacity to operate as a Christian Centre and is open seven days per week. In addition to the Theatre which is used for a wide range of activities including Sunday worship, the premises have a refectory, sports hall, soft play area, a number of meeting rooms and offices. Thus enabling all of the church activities to be conducted 'in house'. Subsequently we are continuing to extending the range of youth and adult activities on offer.

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance (continued)

Benefits of this new building include:

- Permanent base for church activities;
- Room to expand and develop the work of the church;
- A place to build relationship and friendship with people;
- Close working with local communities;
- City centre location allowing a higher profile for the church;
- Premises resource which can be shared with other local groups and organisations;
- Central location for the food bank;
- Central location to feed the homeless and needy,
- Potential revenue from renting rooms or business carried out on site.

The church fellowship continues to seek to make significant impact on the City of Sunderland through work amongst children, young people, international students as well as adults from both the local area and those who are seeking or have gained asylum. It runs a number of programmes designed to meet the needs of the community including the Ark Toddler Group, Youth Groups for ages 7-11 12-16 and 16+, as well as the Globe International Café for international asylum seekers, Soul Kitchen for the homeless and lonely, Fresh Start woodworking classes and Art classes for the unemployed, Alpha Courses, Marriage Preparation and Outreach into Sunderland Community.

In addition, this year following discussions with the Local Authority we have organised the fourth Summer Holiday event for children and their families from the local area to provide them with a safe environment to enjoy themselves, and receive a free meal. All helpers engaging with youth work and vulnerable adults work have been through Safeguarding training, DBS check and the charity is compliant with good practice guidelines.

Bethany City Church continues to work with other church groups seeking to reach out with tangible support in Sunderland and the North East region. A number of church members are involved in the external ministries which provide practical help for people of all ages who get into difficulties on the streets mainly through drugs and excessive alcohol. Support is also provided through the Food Bank which has continued to grow again over the past 12 months and is operated five days a week from the Centre. We are currently averaging 150 food parcels, supporting approximately 225 individuals which amounts to 525 meal days per month. We expect this to increase during 2020/2021

From March 2020 most of our activities were impacted by COVID-19 restrictions. Meetings were moved online with reasonable success. Community support activities - such as foodbank, and community meals - continued using social distancing and track and trace methodologies.

Financial review

Incoming resources for the year amounted to £249,953 and resources expended were £240,100. The charity held balances at 31st Aug 2020 of £159,832 comprising £124,737 unrestricted funds and £35,095 restricted funds. Fund balances are to be carried forward for the future fulfilment of the charity's objectives. The premises fund was originally set up as a designated fund (part of unrestricted funds) but after reviewing the nature of the donations to this fund the trustees have decided it should be reclassified as restricted fund.

The trustees have reviewed the level of reserves held by the charity and aim to maintain reserves above the level of 12 weeks typical expenditure.

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods

The premises not only provide a stable base for our current activities but allow the development of new work which will further the charitable objectives of the church. We do see the city centre site of Bede Tower which borders one relatively deprived community and another more prosperous resulting not only in more community based work but also partnership working with other like-minded organisations. The church activities are fully managed as a charitable organisation but we recognised that to undertake certain activities within Bede Tower we needed to consider the formation of a separate business model to help deliver our objectives. Subsequently, Bede Tower Ltd was set up to undertake any trading activity that have developed within the premises. Bede Tower Ltd is a company limited by shares, with one share holder Bethany City Church. It has its own Board of Directors that oversee its strategic operations. Any profits derived from Bede Tower Ltd are gifted to Bethany City Church to forward its charitable objectives. Benefits of this approach include:

- To allow the church to focus on its primary work and not to be distracted by business management
- To develop appropriate business opportunities which will support the charitable work of Bethany City Church Sunderland
- To ensure the charity is protected from liability or risk
- To allow effective partnership working with other organisations

The primary focus of the Leadership Team is on the growing of the congregation, deepening the spiritual lives of those who are part of the church as well as reaching out to the community in Sunderland with the good news message of Jesus as well as in practical ways. Our overarching objective remains to 'build a community whose aim is to live and love like Jesus and get the people of Sunderland into heaven'.

Structure, governance and administration

Bethany City Church Sunderland was formed and is governed by its Trust Deed dated 14th November 2005.

The charity has an induction programme in place as directed by the Charities Commission with input from legal advisors for the appointment and training of new trustees.

The trustees have full financial and legal responsibility for the activities of the charity. Day to day management of the charity has been delegated to the leadership team who work within approved guidelines and budgets.

The charity is not affiliated under a wider network and is a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

The charity is not a subsidiary to any other charity or organisation. The trustees are not aware of any related party to which disclosure is considered to be made.

The trustees are mindful of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and have a system of continuous monitoring and reviewing all potential risks to which the charity may be subject to.

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND Trustees' Report

Reference and administrative details

Bethany City Church Sunderland is a registered charity (registration number 1112606).

The governing body of the charity is the board of trustees, which currently comprises eight members.

The trustees who acted during the year and up to this report are shown on page 1.

The trustees have delegated the day to day management of the charity to the full time pastoral staff and leadership team (as shown in page 1), who are jointly responsible for the work of the church and the objectives of the charity.

The registered office of the charity and details of the principle advisers are given on page 2.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees on 11/05/2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr David Burke
Chairman of Trustees



BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND
Independent Examiners report

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bethany City Church Sunderland

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bethany City Church (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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 accounts carried out under s145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I can 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records
- 3 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.

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.



Mal Mak FCA
Chartered Accountant

Kinnair & Company
Aston House
Redburn Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE5 1NB

14th May 2021

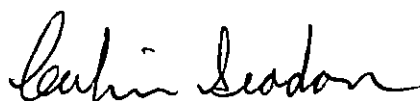
BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Incoming Resources					
Donations					
- General collections		111,282	-	111,282	130,928
- Premises collections		-	4,329	4,329	321
- Gift aid tax refunds		20,263	-	20,263	25,262
- Grants received		1,200	-	1,200	6,000
- Designated gifts		44,168	-	44,168	25,632
Charitable activities					
- Events income		6,106	-	6,106	11,198
Investments					
- Bank interest receivable		209	280	489	772
Other					
- Sundry income		61,716	-	61,716	58,298
Total		245,344	4,609	249,953	258,411
Resources expended					
Raising funds	2	214	-	214	268
Charitable activities	3	239,886	-	239,886	270,616
Total	5	240,100	-	240,100	270,884
Net expenditure for the year		5,244	4,609	9,853	(12,473)
Net movement in Funds		5,244	4,609	9,853	(12,473)
Total funds brought forward		119,493	30,486	149,979	162,452
Total funds carried forward		124,737	35,095	159,832	149,979

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND
Balance Sheet
as at 31 August 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	19,198	23,333
Investments	7	100	100
		<u>19,298</u>	<u>23,433</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	5,601	14,129
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>137,525</u>	<u>113,417</u>
		<u>143,126</u>	<u>127,546</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,592)	(1,000)
Net current assets		<u>140,534</u>	<u>126,546</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>159,832</u>	<u>149,979</u>
Net assets		<u>159,832</u>	<u>149,979</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds	10	124,737	119,493
Restricted funds	11	35,095	30,486
Total funds		<u>159,832</u>	<u>149,979</u>

Colin Seadon
Trustee



Approved by the trustees on 11/05/2021

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND

Notes to the Accounts

at 31 August 2020

1 Accounting policies

Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the governing document, the Charities Act 2011, the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Fixed assets

Expenditure on tangible fixed assets is capitalised where it is above £250. All expenditure below that level is accounted for as an outgoing resource in the year it is incurred. The charity has no heritage assets.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life which is estimated to be two to ten years. The trustees undertake an annual impairment review which considers the written down value of assets and the appropriateness of the depreciation policy.

Fund accounting

The charity operates restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds relate to amounts received which have been specified for a particular use by the donor. All other funds are unrestricted funds which the charity may use for its charitable purposes at its discretion. Within unrestricted funds, the charity may designate certain funds for specific purposes.

Income

Collections and donations are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is not recognised until such claims that are made have been approved by HM Revenue and Customs and the amount receivable can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Grants and legacies to the Church are accounted for as soon as the charity is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the charity is reasonably certain.

Gifts in kind and donated services and facilities are recognised at fair value at the point of receipt where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable and measurable.

Funds raised by events are accounted for gross.

Expenditure

Costs of generating voluntary income, which includes the costs of advertising, promotion and maintaining the Church's website are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Costs of charitable activities, which includes costs relating to the operation and management of the Church (including ministers' salary costs and rent payable), the costs of social and spiritual events organised by the Church, and all other charitable activities such as donations and grants, are accounted on an accruals basis.

Governance costs, which includes the general administrative costs of the Church, are accounted on an accruals basis.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from Income Tax on its charitable activities but is not exempt from Value Added Tax. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND
Notes to the Accounts
at 31 August 2020

2 Costs of raising funds

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Advertising	214	-	214	268

3 Costs of charitable activities

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Staff salaries	139,038	-	139,038	160,533
Premises costs	21,189	-	21,189	20,354
Youth group activities	349	-	349	2,284
Sunday school	241	-	241	130
Church resources and events	4,882	-	4,882	13,065
General administrative expenses	38,476	-	38,476	38,549
Legal and professional costs	7,559	-	7,559	5,944
Donations	28,152	-	28,152	29,757
	<u>239,886</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>239,886</u>	<u>270,616</u>

4 Governance costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Included in costs of charitable activities are governance costs as follows:		
General administration expenses	38,476	38,549
Legal and professional costs	7,559	5,944
	<u>46,035</u>	<u>44,493</u>

5 Total resources expended

	2020 £	2019 £
This is stated after charging:		
Independent examiners fees	<u>900</u>	<u>664</u>

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND
Notes to the Accounts
at 31 August 2020

6 Staff costs	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	127,133	139,162
Social security costs	6,640	12,742
Other pension costs	5,265	8,629
	<u>139,038</u>	<u>160,533</u>

No employee earned £60,000 p.a. or more

The average number of employees, analysed by function was:

	2020	2019
	No	No
Charitable objectives	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

The trustees neither received nor waived any emoluments during the period.

7 Investments	2020	2019
	£	£
Unlisted investments	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Subsidiary undertakings

Name	Class of shares	Holding
Bede Tower Limited	Ordinary	100%

The aggregate of the share capital and reserves at 31 August 2020 and of the profit or loss for the year then ended on that date for the subsidiary undertaking was:

Name	Aggregate of share capital and reserves	Profit/ (Loss)
Bede Tower Limited	<u>98</u>	<u>-</u>

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND
Notes to the Accounts
at 31 August 2020

8 Debtors	2020	2019
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	3,262	11,655
Other debtors	2,339	2,474
	<u>5,601</u>	<u>14,129</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2020	2019
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	1,592	-
Accruals and deferred income	1,000	1,000
	<u>2,592</u>	<u>1,000</u>

10 General funds	2020	2019
	£	£
At 1 September	119,493	132,822
Retained incoming/(outgoing) resources	5,244	(13,329)
At 31 August	<u>124,737</u>	<u>119,493</u>

11 Restricted funds	Balance at	Movement in resources			Balance at
	1 September	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	31 August
	£	£	£	£	£
Premises fund	30,486	4,609	-	-	35,095
	<u>30,486</u>	<u>4,609</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,095</u>

The Bethany City Church Premises fund was created to raise finance towards the costs of either the fitting out of a building or purchase of equipment and resources for use by the church in either a permanent or temporary home. The church occupies the premises of Bede Tower and the premises fund is now held for repair of Bede Tower.

BETHANY CITY CHURCH SUNDERLAND
Schedule to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2020
for the Information of the Trustees only

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Governance costs				
General administrative expenses:				
Telephone	5,223	-	5,223	4,449
Repairs and maintenance	13,849	-	13,849	11,279
Stationery and printing	2,419	-	2,419	2,915
Course expenses	1,121	-	1,121	937
Motor expenses	2,837	-	2,837	2,539
Depreciation	5,791	-	5,791	6,263
Sundry expenses	7,236	-	7,236	10,167
Loans to members written off	-	-	-	-
	<u>38,476</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,476</u>	<u>38,549</u>
Legal and professional costs:				
Accountancy fees	1,388	-	1,388	664
Insurance	6,171	-	6,171	5,280
	<u>7,559</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,559</u>	<u>5,944</u>
	<u>46,035</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,035</u>	<u>44,493</u>

