

**Annual report of the Trustees of Fatherless Barn Evangelical Church, Hedgefield Grove,
Halesowen, West Midlands. B63 2HJ
Year Ending 31 December 2021**

The Church is governed by the Trust Deed and its Basis of Faith and Constitution. It is registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 518320.

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Mr Alan Cutler
Mr Wesley R Erpen
Mr Alan J Harborne (Chairman)
Mr Richard J Mansell
Mr Paul D Vanden Branden
Mr Robert J Warner (Treasurer and Secretary)

Trustees are appointed after receiving unanimous approval by the other trustees.

Bankers

HSBC UK Bank plc
37 High Street
Stourport on Severn
Worcestershire DY13 8BD

Independent Examiner

Mrs G Morton
11 Abbey Crescent
Halesowen B63 2HP

The aims of the Charity are to provide a meeting place for its members and others who are interested in the Christian faith. We seek to reach out to those in the community with the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. A summary of the achievements in these activities is set out below. The Trustees are satisfied that these achievements clearly demonstrate that the Charity has throughout the year fulfilled its responsibility to meet the requirement of providing a Public Benefit and has thereby complied with its duty to have due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The Church is led by Elders and supported by Deacons who are elected by the Church membership in accordance with the constitution. The Church does not employ anyone, all roles are done by volunteers.

There have not been any related party transactions during the year.

The policy of the Trustees is to try and keep at least £1,500 in cash for the General Fund, as reserves for contingencies. In planning for the future we will also need to increase funds for possible building alterations. During the year this has been maintained and funds retained for the possibility of making alterations to the Church building.

The Church does not have any specific investment powers.

The trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed. These are making sure that there are sufficient leaders to look after the Church when others are absent or if any should leave. The Elders and Deacons make any needs known at a Church members meeting and nominations are invited. There is also a need to make sure that the various activities are adequately staffed by appropriate volunteers, again requests are made to the Church as the need arises. The Trustees are satisfied that any risks have been mitigated.

Review of Activities and Future Plans

Once again, we can give thanks to God for bringing us through another year and for all that He has done in us and through us on Fatherless Barn estate. The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020 has continued to affect the ministry of the Church.

Church Ministries

From January 2021 we continued to operate online Services on a Sunday morning. The numbers attending the live presentations fluctuated anything between 15 to 30 people but the number of people who watched the recordings via YouTube during the week rose sometimes to around 60 views.

We met as a Church on a Sunday morning outside for our Easter morning service and then, when the government guidelines allowed, we moved back to holding live services in the church on a Sunday morning. People wore masks, windows were kept open, social distancing was observed and a register of those attending was kept. Everyone was encouraged to leave as quickly as possible at the end of the services, to restrict the possibility of any transmission of the coronavirus.

On a good day we had close on 30 people in attendance. The services were recorded so that folks could watch at home if they still felt uncomfortable in coming out to church.

In July, the Church opened for normal Services. People were encouraged to still wear a mask if they felt more comfortable in doing so. From September to December, it would be fair to say that the profile of the church looked very different from our pre-covid days, with several of our families deciding not to attend regularly. We did hold a Family Carol Service and also a live indoor candlelit / battery lights Carol Service in the evening, and both Services were fairly full. All the children's groups did an excellent job with their Christmas presentations. We also had about sixty people attend our Christmas Day Service.

We didn't restart either our 60-Plus group for the elderly on a Tuesday or our JAM Club on a Friday for the primary aged children. We did restart Little Sunbeams, our parent and toddler group, on a Wednesday morning. Windows were kept open in the church and people were requested to wear a mask until they were seated. The numbers rose to around 25 parents bringing children and everyone appreciated the opportunity of getting out of their homes and spending time face-to-face with people. JAM Club subsequently restarted in October.

There has been a group meeting for prayer via Zoom on a Friday morning and people have appreciated it. We had our monthly prayer meetings either by Zoom or in person. Our reading programme continued for over a year, and it was great to hear the Word of God read every day by people from the church, but in April it was decided that it had run its course. Even though we didn't have regularly daily readings people were encouraged to read a passage that had been a blessing to them if they wanted to.

Most of the ministry has been delivered by members of the Leadership Team. We did a short series throughout the year on 'Not so well-known characters from the Old Testament.'

Church Building

We submitted revised plans to extend the building to Dudley Planning Department on 9 December 2020. On 12 February 2021 we received the news that planning permission had been granted. We asked a building company for an estimate to do the work and a figure of close on £500k excluding VAT was suggested. It became clear to everyone on the Leadership Team that due to the smaller profile of the church pouring money into bricks and mortar wasn't the main priority now. Instead of the extension we are looking at how we can improve the Church facilities and we are drawing up a 'wish list' of what we think needs to be done before prioritising what we need to do.

Finance

Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2021 have been independently examined. The accounts show a very healthy position. The figures are very similar to last year, once the extra items of expenditure are taken out. We give thanks again to God for His provision.

Principal Funding Sources


Donations and gifts are our main source of income and we are most appreciative of the continued support of church members and others who give in various ways. We do not make appeals for funding to people outside of Church membership other than through collections made at our Sunday morning family service. We do not use professional fundraisers or commercial participators.

Future Plans

As we came to the end of 2021, we thanked the Lord that He had enabled us to minister to so many people throughout those challenging twelve months. It is difficult to be clear about the future, but one thing that is certain, is we must focus on rebuilding our church fellowship. It would be good to restart the 60+ Group and House Groups when it is appropriate to do so. As mentioned we will be looking at improving the fabric of the building and are also considering the future leadership of the Church, whether we need to be looking to appoint either a part-time Pastor or a Community Outreach worker. Thankfully, we can rest in the fact that the FB Church is not our Church but God's, and we can trust the future to our Lord.

We are in the process of updating the Trust Deed for the Church in preparation for registering as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Unfortunately when we came to submit the document to our solicitors, Garner Canning, we found out that they had been closed by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA). We have approached another firm, PearceLegal, who are based in Solihull and they will be looking to recover our deeds and files previously held by Garner Canning from the SRA, this may take some time.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees
on 13 October 2022


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Alan J Harborne
Chairman



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Fatherless Barn Evangelical Church

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

518320

Set out on pages

1 to 3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022

**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.

Signed:

G Morton

Date:

21 October 2022

Name:

Mrs G Morton

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

Address:

11 Abbey Crescent
Halesowen
West Midlands B63 2HP

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

FATHERLESS BARN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Hedgefield Grove, Halesowen

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**INCOME**

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds 2021</u>	<u>Total 2020</u>
	£	£	£	£
Donations and Legacies	28,455	350	28,805	26,240
Charitable Activities	0	0	0	487
Other Income	0	0	0	585
Investments	17	0	17	70
TOTAL INCOME	28,472	350	28,822	27,382

EXPENDITURE

Cost of Raising Funds	0	0	0	0
Charitable Activities	13,108	550	13,658	25,476
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	13,108	550	13,658	25,476
NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE	15,364	-200	15,164	1,906
Fund Balances at Beginning of Year	38,262	1,711	39,973	38,067
FUND BALANCES AT END OF YEAR	53,626	1,511	55,137	39,973

FATHERLESS BARN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Hedgefield Grove, Halesowen

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2021

<u>2020</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2021</u>
6,216.00	Offerings & Donations	6,245.00
13,398.15	Gift Aid Donations	13,765.00
6,325.00	HMRC Tax Refund	3,346.88
	Gifts for Building Fund	350.00
	Legacy for General Fund	5,098.37
300.00	Legacy for 60+	
487.40	60 + Group	
70.09	Interest Received	17.07
585.00	Quinta 2020	
<u>27,381.64</u>	Total Income	<u>28,822.32</u>
38,067.36	Opening Balance	<u>39,972.78</u>
<u>65,449.00</u>		<u>68,795.10</u>
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
1,029.00	Gas	178.66
474.00	Electricity	110.02
66.56	Water Rates - Church	203.41
987.46	Insurance - Church	999.80
140.00	Speakers Expenses and Gifts	300.00
2,950.00	Gifts to Missionaries	2,800.00
2,760.00	Gifts to Birmingham City Mission	2,760.00
11,982.90	Building Repairs, Maintenance and Improvements	1,153.20
	Tree Survey	600.00
600.00	Church Weekend Quinta	200.00
244.61	Youth Expenses	120.60
120.00	Thirty one eight (Formerly CCPAS)	129.00
466.57	60+ Group	
115.06	Outreach Expenses	70.00
690.85	CCLI - Copyright Licence	708.58
125.29	Other Miscellaneous Expenditure	510.68
335.14	Insurance - Church House	352.30
540.07	Water Rates - Church House	551.89
427.20	Church House Repairs and Maintenance	414.00
1,421.51	Church House Council Tax	1,496.20
<u>25,476.22</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>13,658.34</u>
39,972.78	Balance Carried Forward	<u>55,136.76</u>
<u>65,449.00</u>		<u>68,795.10</u>
	Represented By:	
416.75	Current Account	386.07
39,445.85	Savings Account	54,670.21
110.18	Cash in Hand	80.48
<u>39,972.78</u>		<u>55,136.76</u>

In addition to the cash balances held above the charity owns the freehold Church buildings and the Church house in the unrestricted fund.

Liabilities

There were no liabilities outstanding at the year end.

FATHERLESS BARN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Hedgefield Grove, Halesowen

Restricted Funds

	<u>Building</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Quinta</u> <u>2022</u>	<u>60+</u> <u>Group</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balances as at 31 December 2020	0	915	796	1,711
Income for the year	350	0	0	350
Expenditure for the year	-350	-200	0	-550
Balances as at 31 December 2021	0	715	796	1,511

Unrestricted Funds

Balance as at 31 December 2020	38,262
Net movement in year	15,364
Balance as at 31 December 2021	<u>53,626</u>

The Trustees have designated £800 from the Unrestricted Funds to the Building Fund

Total Funds

Restricted Funds	1,511
Designated Funds	800
Unrestricted Funds	<u>52,826</u>
	<u>55,137</u>