

MARKYATE BAPTIST CHURCH

Registered charity no.1145170

Moderator: Revd. Graham Clarke BA (Hons), Chartered MCIPD

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts 2017

Objectives

Our objective continues to be one of enabling all people to worship at our church and to live out their faith through worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing knowledge and trust in the Lord Jesus. We provide pastoral care for those in the local community of Markyate and take part in missionary and outreach work. We maintain high standards of maintenance of our Church building and facilities and share this with our village community.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Preaching

Church services are open to all: each Sunday morning public worship is at 10.30 am. Regular Services are provided for all ages from newborn babies through children and youth, to middle aged and older. We provide a creche room, and a Sunday class for children aged 4-11

In the absence of an appointed minister Sunday services have been organised by members of the Leadership Team and led by visiting preachers and by our own members. Preaching has been on different themes including New Beginnings, Being Wholehearted (using readings from Samuel), Easter Story from John's Gospel, The Apostles, Philippians and Evangelism.

Each month we have continued with our informal service on the second Sunday of each month called Messy Church, which attracts families from our village. On the same Sunday, as an alternative to Messy Church we hold a quieter and more reflective evening service called Nightlight led by one of our members.

Prayer

A variety of prayer times have taken place throughout the year mainly asking for guidance for our future and for a new minister.

Growth in Faith

An Alpha course took place in January and February with a follow up in November and December. In May the church took part in a national prayer initiative called Thy Kingdom Come. In November a new Bible Study group began.

Membership

There were 39 members on 31 December 2017. One member died this year and two new members have joined. Several friends are currently seeking membership.

Pastoral Care

Members are cared for through pastoral care groups with the help of a pastoral care volunteer who visits those in need in the community. Four of our members attended a day course at Waverley Abbey on Paraclesis.

Youth Work

The Youth Work has been led by two of our members with assistance from a local Christian youth group called 267. Youth work in 2017 has been active in a variety of Saturday evening events such as Pizza Night, Film Nights, Ten Pin Bowling, British Bake off Competition. These Saturday events have been followed on Sunday evening by a youth worship service called Fuel. There is also a monthly event called Fiasco which includes Fun and Games and a time to learn about God and worship.

Church Activities

Regular church activities are Jack and Jill's toddler group, MBC cafe, Art Class, Keep Fit, Christian book reading group and Baptist Ladies Fellowship.

We held a successful two day 'Noise Project' in August which saw young and old working together to provide practical support and help in the community giving the opportunity to share the gospel in words and action.

At the beginning of September a Holiday at Home tea was held for mainly elderly folk from the community, and a film showing of 'Elf' hosted by one of our members in December attracted an all-age audience of 35.

Mission and evangelism

We have continued to support financially a broad range of mission activities.

Ecumenical relationships

The church is a member of Churches Together in Markyate. Joint services took place on Women's World Day of Prayer, a Good Friday Walk of Witness, and on Remembrance Day.

Ministerial Search

The trustees have continued to seek to appoint a new minister throughout the year using the Baptist Union settlement process, through an advertisement in the monthly magazine 'Premier Christianity' and explored possibilities of a trainee minister through Baptist Theological colleges. The trustees interviewed 1 applicant from the Christianity magazine advert and 4 applicants from the Baptist Union Settlement process. One of the latter, Phillip Coffin came to preach in October and for his first interview. He was invited for a second interview on 8th November. The Leadership Team voted unanimously to ask him to "Preach with a View" on 26th November and a subsequent special members' meeting overwhelmingly voted to invite him to be our next minister, which he accepted. He will start his ministry on Easter Sunday 2018.

Volunteers

The trustees want to thank all who work so hard and give so freely of their time to keep our church running and making it the lively and vibrant community that it is. Many also make valuable contributions by bringing their expertise to the benefit of the church by ensuring financial resources are used responsibly and that high standards of workmanship are achieved by those contracted to maintain or repair the fabric of the church or to supply goods or services.

Hopes and dreams for the future

Markyate Baptist Church continues to aspire to being a 'Church without walls' in our village community and we continue to work through what this means. We believe it does mean us to be inclusive, not exclusive in our church life offering Christian love, hospitality and acceptance to all, breaking down barriers between church and village in order to communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ. We believe we have found a new minister who also has a vision for a Church to be without Walls and who we hope can help us achieve this. We feel he has a great deal of experience in growing and equipping his flock. He is a gifted preacher and has a deep personal faith and heart for people. We are grateful to God for leading him to us and we are excited at the prospect of working alongside him.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed and regulated by its own members where all aspects of the work of the church are subject to the approval of the members at meetings held approximately every three months. The Leadership Team is composed of all the trustees who meet monthly to deal with church administration and pastoral concerns and jointly are responsible for preparing the

agenda for members' meetings. The moderator, a Baptist minister appointed by the church – Revd. G. Clarke of St. Albans - chairs LT meetings and Members' meetings of the church.

The church's constitution takes the form of the model Baptist Union Approved Governing Document which describes, amongst other matters, the objectives and activities of the church and the appointment of trustees.

Administrative information

Markyate Baptist Church is situated in Buckwood Road, Markyate, AL3 8JF. On the Internet, details of church activities can be accessed at www.MarkyateBaptistChurch.org and from which recent services of worship can be downloaded.

Trustees

Claire Adejumo
Helen Barton, *correspondence secretary*, until August 2017
Evelyn Bradley, until April 2017
Mark Buckley
David Hewitson
Jacquie Hewitson, from April 2017
Alan Ruffhead, *treasurer*
James Salmon, from April 2017
Rosemary Salmon, from April 2017
Christopher Trew
Kate Worden, until April 2017

Alan Ruffhead gave notice that he would retire as treasurer on 31 December 2017 and Jim Salmon will succeed him as treasurer in 2018 assisted by Claire Adejumo together with the church's administrator appointed in June 2017.

Financial review

Total income in 2017 amounted to £92,213 compared with £93,688 in 2016 and total expenditure was £37,867 (£57,815).

Donations to a variety of missions totaled £9,566 (£8,828); these are detailed on page 6.

The Building Fund – a restricted fund – intended for improvements and extensions to the church building grew modestly during 2016 by £2,724 to £90,308 with expenditure of £1,385

The church has no external source of income, other than the occasional hiring out of the church premises. While the pastoral vacancy lasts, the manse is being let out at a commercial rate and these rentals together with voluntary donations are used to meet the running costs and maintenance of the church building, salaries and associated employment costs, and for other purposes in accordance with the church's constitution. The continuing pastoral vacancy has resulted in low ministerial costs and negligible manse expenses. The financial health of the church remains good and adequate controls are in place to give early warning of any changes for better or worse. The reserves policy of the church is to maintain the equivalent of approximately 3 months' general running costs – currently estimated at £5,000 per month but with these increasing substantially in 2018 as a result of appointing a new minister who will move into the manse, the rental income will cease causing a significant reduction in the church's receipts while expenses will increase with new employment costs. All surplus unrestricted funds, £83,005 at year end, are now regarded as reserves.

Accounting Policies

The accounts are prepared in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice" (SORP 2005) issued by the Charity Commission.

Donations and Grants are accounted for when received.

Unrestricted funds represent income which has no specific instructions from the donor about how it can be used and is therefore used by the trustees for any of the church's ordinary purposes.

Designated funds represent sums set aside out of unrestricted funds for specific purposes but which can be transferred in whole or in part back into general funds at any time.

Restricted funds represent donations received or invited for a specific purpose. The funds may only be spent on the specific purpose for which they were given. A donation of £2,890 was received from the estate of a member who died in 2016. There were no directions as to how the money should be used and the trustees decided to restrict the donation to purposes connected with children's activities and audio-visual equipment improvements. The proceeds of an insurance claim against the theft of the church minibus in 2016 - £9570 - is also restricted for the future purchase of a replacement vehicle.

Endowment funds are funds whose capital must be maintained, only income from the investment being used as restricted or unrestricted depending on the purpose for which the endowment was established. The church has no such funds.

Fixed assets - the church premises and the manse 50 Buckwood Road, Markyate are included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at insurance value because reliable cost information is not available and in the opinion of the trustees a valuation would incur costs out of proportion to the benefit gained by a user of the accounts.

Other assets retained for the church's own use are shown at their latest insured value.

Governance costs - no legal fees incurred in 2017.

Pensions. The previous minister was a member of the Baptist Pension Scheme, a final salary defined benefit scheme which is not contracted out of the State second pension. The scheme is a multi-employer scheme and it is not possible to identify the assets and liabilities of the scheme which are attributable to the church. When the employment of the active member ceased in April 2015, a cessation event occurred and as a participating employer, the church became liable for an employer debt. The church took advantage of initiating a period of grace in order to be treated as if it still employed an active member, and continued through 2017 to make deficit contributions at a rate calculated by the Scheme's administrator. With the appointment of an accredited Baptist minister, an existing Scheme member, taking up his post in April 2018, the 3 year period of grace will end with 1 month to spare before a cessation event is due to be triggered. The employer debt - were a cessation event to occur - according to the Scheme's administrator's latest estimate is shown in the accounts as a contingent liability.

Staff and Trustees. The church employs an administrator and a cleaner, both part time who are not obliged, and have chosen not, to join a pension scheme. No person earned more than £60,000 during 2017. No trustee received remuneration during the year other than reimbursements incurred solely for minor purchases of provisions and materials for church use.

For and on behalf of the Leadership Team

Moderator



14.3.2018

Graham Clarke

MARKYATE BAPTIST CHURCH					
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017					
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2017	2016
	funds	funds	funds	total	
	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT					
Receipts					
Receipts from donors					
Voluntary donations and receipts	45,059	0	4,027	49,086	53,784
Gift aid tax recovered	11,204	0	444	11,648	13,828
Grants	0	0	0	0	0
Lettings	14,755	0	0	14,755	14,395
Interest on deposit accounts	1,387	0	0	1,387	1,882
Minibus hire	0	0	0	0	1,166
Other receipts <i>see Note 1</i>	2,216	0	13,121	15,337	8,633
Total receipts	74,621	0	17,592	92,213	93,688
Payments					
Ministry costs <i>see Note 2</i>	8,811	0	750	9,561	22,040
Mission donations <i>see Note 3</i>	7,700	0	1,866	9,566	8,828
Manse costs	713	0	0	713	1,724
Church costs <i>see Note 4</i>	14,720	0	2,506	17,226	16,142
Other expenditure <i>see Note 5</i>	140	0	661	801	9,081
Total payments	32,084	0	5,783	37,867	57,815
Surplus receipts over payments				54,346	
Cash funds 1st Jan. 2017				132,010	
Cash funds 31st Dec. 2017				186,356	
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES					
Cash funds					
Current accounts	6,389	0	0	6,389	7,141
Deposit funds	76,616	0	103,351	179,967	124,869
Total	83,005		103,351	186,356	132,010
Assets retained for the church's own use					
Markyate Baptist Church, 13 Buckwood Road				1,644,292	1,570,515
Freehold property, 50 Buckwood Road				342,300	350,000
Minibus				0	9,000
Church fittings, furnishings and equipment excluding pipe organ				65,337	62,405
Total assets				2,051,929	1,991,920
Contingent liability					
Baptist Pension Scheme employer debt (estimated)				28,000	<i>not known</i>
Other liability					
HM Charities gift aid refund over claimed				139	

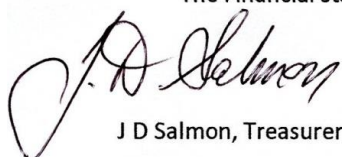
Notes to the Statement of financial activities					
	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2017 total	2016
	£	£	£	£	£
Note 1 OTHER RECEIPTS					
Christmas Fayre (gross)	1666	0	0	1666	0
Minibus theft insurance claim	0	0	9570	9570	0
Katie Jones estate donation	0	0	2890	2890	0
Sale of computer	500	0	0	500	0
Preaching skills course donation	50	0	0	50	0
Way to the Nations event	0	0	661	661	2346
<i>Other fund raising events in 2016</i>					6287
Total	2216	0	13121	15337	8633
Note 2 MINISTRY COSTS					
Employer's pension contributions	2663	0	0	2663	4199
Pastoral care	2012	0	0	2012	1940
Visiting preachers	1710	0	0	1710	1415
Resource materials and expenses	2426	0	0	2426	1181
Youth support	0	0	750	750	1507
<i>Other ministerial costs in 2016</i>					11798
Total	8811	0	750	9561	22040
Note 3 MISSION DONATIONS					
267 Project	300	0	0	300	250
Baptist World Mission	343	0	157	500	370
Central Baptist Association (Home Mission)	2476	0	0	2476	2500
EMMS International	500	0	0	500	430
Myosotis Trust	750	0	0	750	1888
Nansambo School Fund	750	0	1050	1800	1500
Sports Chaplaincy UK	250	0	0	250	0
Spurgeon's College	50	0	0	50	0
St Albans Education Projects (STEP)	1440	0	0	1440	1440
Stand By Me	500	0	0	500	450
Tear Fund Yemen	341	0	659	1000	0
Total	7700	0	1866	9566	8828
Note 4 CHURCH COSTS					
Repairs and maintenance	1857	0	1935	3792	5257
Electricity, gas, water, internet	2530	0	0	2530	2005
Cleaning	1673	0	0	1673	1577
Insurance	1452	0	0	1452	1367
New equipment	1056	0	471	1527	909
Subscriptions, licences, phone, stationery, copier	1340	0	0	1340	1227
Administrator	3250	0	0	3250	0
Catering	899	0	0	899	851
Other	663	0	100	763	0
Minibus running costs	0	0	0	0	2949
Total	14720	0	2506	17226	16142
Note 5 OTHER EXPENDITURE					
Way to the Nations funds raised	0	0	661	661	2346
Preaching skills course	140	0	0	140	0
<i>Other expenditure in 2016</i>					6735
Total	140	0	661	801	9081

Notes to the Statement of financial activities (continued)

RECEIPTS		USE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS	
	£		£
<u>Baptist Ladies Fellowship</u>			
Cash balance b/f from 2016	46	Use of Care Bus	100
Held in MBC a/c	175	Catering	215
Subscriptions	338	Gifts etc.	200
Sales	127	Held in MBC a/c	75
	<hr/>	Cash balance c/f to 2018	96
	686		<hr/>
			686
<u>Building Redevelopment</u>			
Balance b/f from 2016	88969	Friendship room refurbishment	1385
Donations	2280	Balance c/f to 2018	90308
Gift aid tax refund	444		<hr/>
	<hr/>		
	91693		91693
<u>Jack and Jill's Toddlers</u>			
Balance b/f from 2016	65	Balance c/f to 2018	65
<u>Katie Jones estate</u>			
Donation	2889	Tables, chairs for children's use	471
		Balance c/f to 2018	2418
			<hr/>
			2889
<u>Minibus</u>			
Theft insurance claim	9570	Balance c/f to 2018	9570
<u>Mission</u>			
Tear Fund Yemen appeal:			
B/f from 2016	620		
Donations	39	Tear Fund Yemen	659
Nansambo School Fund	1050	Nansambo School Fund	1050
Baptist World Mission:			
Harvest appeal	144		
Collecting boxes	13	Baptist World Mission	157
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	1866		1866
<u>Way to the Nations</u>			
Fund raising event	661	Way to the Nations	661
<u>Pollock lift</u>			
Balance b/f from 2016	900	Repairs	550
Donation	500	Balance c/f to 2018	850
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	1400		1400
<u>Youth support</u>			
Balance b/f from 2016	64	2:67 Project Gold Partnership subscription	750
From General fund	750	Balance c/f to 2018	64
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	814		814

END OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Financial statements on pages 5 - 7 were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf



J D Salmon, Treasurer

14.3.18

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of: Markyate Baptist Church

On accounts for the year ended: December 31st 2017

Charity Number: 1145170

Financial statements as set out on pages 5 to 8 of the report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner:

As trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. As a retired Fellow of the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants I consider myself suitably qualified to carry out the independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement:

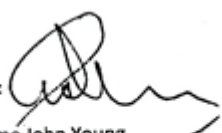
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the financial statements.

Independent examiner's statement:

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees: have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - Proper accounting records are kept; and
 - Accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date: April 4th 2018

Signed: 
Grahame John Young
17 Sunset Drive, Luton, LU2 7TN