

St. Leonards Baptist Church Annual report 2017

2017 has been another year in which we have enjoyed, worshipping and working together in St Leonards. Sunday morning services have seen us consider a range of different topics, starting with a series looking at the book of Revelation and continuing with Being Baptist, Fruitfulness on the Frontline using video presentations, the book of James and a series on mental health and well being. We were also pleased to have another visit from BMS speakers and to welcome various other speakers, both from amongst our own congregation and other local churches. We continued to meet informally on Sunday evenings, except for August and December, with a small but loyal group and we changed our format during the year so that there is now a Bible teaching and worship slot every week. We held monthly Tuesday coffee mornings from March and weekly Friday prayer meetings throughout the year. In addition our email prayer messages have enabled us to pray for each other throughout the week. The local Chinese Church congregation have used our premises each month, increasing their meetings to two Mondays, and the Link Youth Group organised by the Christian Schoolworkers has met on Monday evenings. House groups and the CAMEO ladies group have met regularly although one house group closed during the year. We have continued to host the winter nightshelter on Thursdays during the colder months thanks to the dedication of some of our own people together with outside volunteers.

The Community Centre has continued to use the premises on weekdays throughout the year, making a difference to the lives of many people in the surrounding area with the various classes on offer, the free internet access, café and advice that is offered by Ann and her volunteers and tutors.

After struggling for many years with an outdated and unsatisfactory heating system in the church and community centre we were successful in getting a grant from BIFFA for its replacement, together with the necessary approvals from the Listed Buildings authorities and the local council. This entailed a lot of work during the year but we will look forward to the project being completed during 2018.

In addition to our regular activities other events have included

- Celebration of the Iranian New Year with our Iranian friends
- Maunday Thursday communion and good Friday Walk of Witness at Easter
- The wedding of one of our regular attenders in May
- Christmas in July, a concert in aid of the Transom Trust
- A successful trip to Soul Survivor, the Christian Youth Camp held this year in Peterborough at the end of August.
- Education Sunday, looking at the work of Hastings Christian Schoolwork in September.
- A well attended Awayday in September, shared with Robertsbridge Community Church, led by Hilary Taylor, looking at the joys and challenges of being in a small church.
- CAP Sunday, led by the local CAP workers, Nick and Roy, focussed on Christians Against Poverty in October
- A training day in November organised jointly with Beulah Baptist and led by Rev Vicky Martin, Mental Health Chaplain for Mid Sussex which linked in with our teaching series on mental health and well being.
- A delicious church anniversary meal and entertainment organised by a housegroup in November.
- A Christmas meal at a local restaurant enjoyed by most of the congregation in December.
- A joint CAP and Community Centre carol afternoon before Christmas.
- Carol Service on the Sunday evening before Christmas.

Rev Janet Mardell, April 2018.

ST LEONARDS BAPTIST CHURCH

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

ST LEONARDS BAPTIST CHURCH

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr D Johnson Mrs J Mardell Mr G Hodge Mrs N Cudmore Mr A Skelton Mr M Rose
Charity number	1150270
Address	Chapel Park Road St Leonards on sea East Sussex TN37 6HR
Independent Examiner	Holland Harper LLP 26 High Street Battle East Sussex TN33 0EA

ST LEONARDS BAPTIST CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017	2016
<u>ASSETS</u>	£	£
Lloyds Bank – Business Extra Account	1,501	1,500
Lloyds Bank – 30 Day Notice Account	26,611	29,676
	<u>£28,112</u>	<u>£31,176</u>
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>
 <u>GENERAL FUND (unrestricted)</u>		
As at 1 January 2017	31,176	25,856
(Deficit) Surplus for the year	(3,064)	5,320
	<u>28,112</u>	<u>31,176</u>
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

The above accounts and the notes and other information shown on pages 2 to 3 for the year ended 31 December 2017 are as approved by the Trustees. Signed by two trustees on behalf of the board on 11 March 2018.

Graham Hodge

Naomi Cudmore

ST LEONARDS BAPTIST CHURCH
GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017	2016
	£	£
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Gift aided offerings	20,247	19,412
General fund offerings	6,047	7,771
Tax refunds recovered	6,187	5,683
Donations received	699	2,841
Bank interest received	15	14
General refunds	-	468
Net rents from Manse	10,279	10,937
Loans repaid by Chapel Park Community Centre	-	6,000
Redevelopment – grants	12,005	-
Sundry	30	-
	<u>55,509</u>	<u>53,126</u>
	=====	=====
<u>LESS: PAYMENTS</u>		
Stipend and pension contributions	20,093	17,943
Minister's expenses	1,149	4,680
Ministry	210	245
Manse expenses	241	330
Utilities	4,914	4,741
Insurances	1,583	1,636
Repairs and maintenance	1,937	3,769
Youth	621	849
Music Group	142	136
Welfare Fund	334	75
Mission (note 3)	5,253	5,639
Bank service charges	149	142
Donations	1,640	-
Admin and telephone	2,041	2,035
Waste disposal	804	641
Miscellaneous (including P A System)	1,046	1,945
Chapel Park Community Centre – loan	-	3,000
Chapel Park Community Centre – insurance	406	-
Redevelopment – new boiler etc	16,010	-
	<u>58,573</u>	<u>47,806</u>
	=====	=====
<u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>	<u>£(3,064)</u>	<u>£5,320</u>
	=====	=====

ST LEONARDS BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

1. These accounts have been prepared on a "receipts and payments" basis, in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.
2. The church is the beneficial owner at a combined insurance value of £1,364,978 (2016 £1,341,350) of premises at Chapel Park Road, St Leonards-on-Sea and at 27 Clinton Crescent, St Leonards-on-Sea, the legal title to which is held by the Baptist Union Corporation Limited as custodian trustee. The church also owns fixtures, furniture and equipment with an insured value of £61,442 (2016 £60,534).

3. Payments - Mission

	2017	2016
	£	£
S.E.B.A.	2,495	2,505
Baptist Mission	1,680	2,016
Christian Schools Workers Hastings	750	750
Baptist Union	178	168
C.A.P.	50	100
Sunrise	-	100
Snowflake	100	-
	<u>5,253</u>	<u>5,639</u>

4. The church pays pension contributions to the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund on behalf of the minister. The fund is currently in deficit and the church is required to make increased contributions which in the year to 31st December 2017 amounted to £3,384 (12 x £282). This amounted to 12% of minimum pensionable income and the same percentage is required to be made in the year to 31st December 2018.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER
TO THE TRUSTEES OF ST LEONARDS BAPTIST CHURCH

This report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2017 which are set out on pages 1 to 3, is in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND THE EXAMINER

As trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of the procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the financial statements with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as 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 view given by 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 requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Roy M Holland BSc(Econ), FCA

Holland Harper LLP
Chartered Accountants
26 High Street
Battle
East Sussex TN33 0EA

11 March 2018