

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

(ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING)

SUNDAY MARCH 28TH 2021

Weekly Church Activities

Sundays 10.30am:

Worship Service

the 1st Sunday of each month is normally a Family Service with Communion followed by a shared Lunch.

(Refreshments and Lunch suspended during the Covid restrictions)

Wednesdays 10.00am-11.00am Prayer and Bible Study

(7.00pm-7.45pm during the Covid restrictions)

Wednesdays 8.00pm-9.00pm: Prayer and Bible Study.

We normally have a social activity at least once each month

(suspended during the Covid restrictions)

Deal Pentecostal Church 69 Mill Hill, Deal, Kent. CT14 9EW www.dealpentecostal.co.uk - 01304 366137 - dealpentecostal@gmail.com Deal Pentecostal Church is in fellowship with Assemblies of God (GB). Registered Charity No 1054371

Deal Pentecostal Church Accounts Year ending December 2020

Income	2020	2019	2018	2017
Gift Aid:	£,6,657.75	£5,473.08	£4,894.67	€5,346.31
Offering and Gifts:	£29,734.30	£24,987.46	£29,939.54	£26,338.65
Interest:	£5.72	£10.76	£14.57	£1.28
Property Income:	£3,801.85	£945.00	£300.00	£565.00
Sundry Income:		£562.81		
TOTAL INCOME	£40,199.62	£31,979.11	£35,148.78	£32,251.24
Expenses	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total AOG:	£446.00	£446.00	£464.00	£461.75
Equipment:	£351.08	£50.62	£513.08	£1,538.23
House Keeping	£854.92	£1,126.14	£1,046.43	£1,182.81
Total Min. Expenses:	£680.40	£1,435.43	£1,548.50	£1,607.20
Ministry Gifts: Smethurst Min:	£,3,100.00	£,2,120.00	£,2,620.00	£2,020.00
Ministry Gifts: Philippines	£,3,156.11	£,1,018.00	£,1,018.00	£1,018.00
Ministry Gifts: Other	£,900.00	£,800.00	£,1,350.00	£800.00
Total Ministry Gifts:	£7,156.11	£3,938.00	£4,988.00	£4,138.00
Outreach & Pastoral:	£606.16	£368.60	£782.88	£700.39
Overheads:	£296.40	£376.40	£452.40	£400.40
Property Maintenance:	£837.42	£6,911.88	£1,597.58	£560.53
Total Property Utility:	£6,478.77	£7,066.44	£6,734.35	£7,214.15
Total Salary:	£14,253.20	£13,910.50	£13,780.98	£14,927.87
Stationary:	£481.75	£139.13	£269.66	£209.47
TOTAL EXPENSES	£32,442.21	£35,769.14	£32,177.86	£32,940.80
Net credit/deficit for year	£,7,757.41	-£3,790.03	£2,970.92	-£689.56
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Cash Funds	2020	2019	2018	2017
Current Account	£1,435	£1,140	£2,497	£1,139
Deposit Account	£13,678	£5,944	£8,818	£6,643
Ministry Aid Account	£240	£255	£170	£170
Cash in hand	£100	£356		£562
Total Cash Funds	£15,453	£7,696	£11,486	£8,515

[An examination of these accounts has been carried out by Mrs C. J. Bradford in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts. The procedure undertaken did not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently does not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.]

If you pay tax, please consider using Gift Aid to increase the Church's income.

Gift Aid income came to £6,658 of which just over £5,000 came from personal Gift Aid contributions. This is extra money rebated by the Government out of your income tax that you have already paid.

Statement of Church Assets and Liabilities at year end to the nearest £

Assets retained for the Charity's own use	Cost	Current value
(Please note that the current value of these assets are estimated)		
Property		
Property at 69 Mill Hill, Deal - Church Building	£37,000	£200,000
Property at 69 Manor Road, Deal – Church Manse	£65,000	£200,000
Sub-total: Property assets		€400,000
Furnishing/equipment assets		
Appliances including heaters, cookers, freezers, light fittings, etc.	£5,800	£2,900
Decorations	£400	£200
Electronics including P.A. systems, tape-deck etc.	£15,000	£7,500
Furnishings including chairs, carpets, tables, curtains, etc.	£19,200	£9,600
Maintenance including ladders, scaffolding, tools, etc.	£760	£380
Kitchen equipment	£6,000	£3,000
Musical Instruments including guitars, Grand Piano, organ, etc.	£7,000	£4,000
Office Equipment including paper, cabinets, binders, computer, etc.	£8,000	£4,000
Manse furnishings etc.	£1,000	£500
Sub-total Furnishing/equipment assets	£63,160	€32,080
Total Assets		£432,080

Our Church's Charity Trust Objectives are:

- (a) to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time may think fit;
- (b) to relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time think fit; and
- (c) to advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time may think fit.

Our strategy to implement these objectives is by providing

Weekly Services of Public Worship, Christian Training and Study Activities for all age groups including the elderly and the youth Special meetings for advancement of the Christian religion Pastoral care of the Church members, adherents and the wider community.

Our activities throughout the year have fulfilled these objectives through:

Church Activities. Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we held our Church activities on-line via Zoom during the national lockdowns. Before resuming our Services after the lockdown, we undertook a risk assessment of the building and implemented the Government's guidelines to enable us to meet in a Covid-secure environment. Notwithstanding the restrictions, we were able to meet at our building for 32 weeks out of the 52 weeks of the year—which was probably more than any other Church in the country! We took advantage of the virtual meetings on Zoom and invited guest speakers from other churches and countries. Outlines of the Sunday sermons are distributed each week and also available to download from our church website. We conducted a wedding, a baptism (in the sea) and two funerals under Covid-secure conditions. Sadly, we were unable to conduct a funeral service for two other Members who died at the beginning of the first national lock-down. Although this difficult year has been challenging for everyone, we have come through it exceptionally well and have been able to adapt to the new norms reasonably well.

Social. Understandably, our social activities have been restricted this year but we did hold a Christmas quiz on-line via Zoom. We started a Church WhatsApp group to allow members to keep in touch with each other.

Youth Work. The children have been actively encouraged to participate in the Church on-line activities. Mission. Our Church sponsors 6 children to attend the "Fervent Academy" school at Pastor Joy Bendoy's Church in Mandaue City, Cebu, Philippines. This year we financed the replacement the school's broken water pump and sent children gifts of money at Christmas. We also support Orphanages in Latvia and Ukraine financially each month through "Smethurst Ministries".

Ministry. Both Paul and the Church continue to hold status with *Assemblies of God (GB)*. Paul is Clerk to the *AoG Appeals Panel* (which involves offering advice on procedural matters and adjudicating in disputes). He is also Treasurer for "*Verah Bassett Trust Fund*"—a local Trust that makes small monetary grants to Pentecostal Churches in Kent. Paul is Senior Chaplain with *the South East Coast Ambulance* and oversees 26 Chaplains across the Trust in Kent, Sussex and Surrey.

Our plans for the future include

- > Continued structured and inspirational Public Worship, Christian Training and Study.
- > Planned activities for all age groups, including the elderly and the youth.
- > Regular meetings for advancement of the Christian religion and inviting Speakers.
- > The pastoral care of the Church members, adherents and the wider community, including practical help where needed, through both formal and informal activities.
- > Repair and update the Church property and facilities.

Reserves Policy

It is our policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible) which equates to at least 3 months unrestricted payments (equivalent to £5,000) to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The balance of £15,453 more than matched this target.

Church Fire Risk Assessment

The Church building has 4 potential fire risk areas: main hall, minor hall, ancillary rooms and kitchen. The identified fire hazards are: gas fires in main hall & minor hall; wooden structure of ancillary rooms. The identified people potentially at significant risk are: people unable to react quickly in main hall and minor hall; people isolated in ancillary rooms.

We evaluated the risks as low due to the close proximity of fire exits and because vulnerable people are always supervised.

The existing Fire Arrangements are deemed to be adequate because:

The congregation is regularly reminded of the Fire Arrangements which are displayed on the notice-boards and also announced when appropriate; The emergency lighting and water fire-extinguisher in the main church hall is checked monthly; A Fire Blanket is stored in a prominent place in the kitchen.

The Church has Policies for:

Safeguarding, Complaints, Conflict of Interest, Risk Assessment, Behaviour, Photographs, Data Protection, Cyber Safety. These are reviewed annually and copies of these Policies may be obtained from the Church Office.

Church Leadership: The Church Council (Management Trustees) are:

Paul Fermor, Margaret Fermor, Ray Teague and Jean Odon.

Church Membership

Membership of our Church is open to any Christian aged 16 years and over, who is Water-Baptized as a Believer, who actively supports our <u>Vision & Values</u> and who desires to serve and worship God within the context of our <u>Statement of Fundamental Truths</u>. All Members are expected to be Holy Spirit Baptized (or to be seeking such) and be living a life that is honouring to God. A list of Church Members and Attendees is available upon request.

Please note: We welcome and encourage the involvement and participation of Adherents in our services and activities.

Church Members

Church Membership is a public statement that our Church Family and our spiritual home is here at Deal Pentecostal Church—that this the place where we are spiritually fed and cared for and where we are blessed and can be a blessing.

Church Membership comes with responsibilities and privileges which include: taking an active part in the work and worship of the Church according to your ability and circumstances; relating into the Church's system of Pastoral Care; prayerfully contributing to the unity, encouragement and fellowship of the Church; showing a Scriptural regard for those in positions of leadership; being prepared to live by the accepted rules of Christian conduct.

Members are expected to support the Church by regular attendance at services of worship, regular prayer and considered giving.

Becoming a Church Member

To become a Church Member please ask one of the Church Leaders. Before being accepted as a Church Member, each candidate should have been regularly attending our Church services for at least 6 months and be actively involved in our Church family and activities. They should also have been Water-Baptised as a Believer and have undergone a relevant study within our Church. Candidates are asked to publicly commit themselves to our Church Family (see below) after which they will be formally welcomed as Church Members.

Church Commitment

I desire to worship and serve God in the context of our Fundamental Truths and I actively support the Vision and Values of our Church. In so doing, I commit myself to God and to the other members of our Church, to do the following:

I will Protect the Unity of our Church

- ✓ By acting in love toward other members
- ✓ By speaking words of faith and encouragement to others
- ✓ By respecting both the authority of the Holy Spirit and of our God-appointed leaders

I will Serve the Ministry of our Church

- ✓ By using my God-given gifts and talents
- ✓ By being equipped to serve
- ✓ By developing a servant's heart

I will Share the Responsibility of our Church

- ✓ By being an active witness to God's grace
- ✓ By inviting the un-churched to attend
- ✓ By warmly welcoming those who visit

I will Support the Testimony of our Church

- ✓ By attending faithfully
- ✓ By living a godly life
- ✓ By giving regularly

We pay tribute to and honour those who have died this past year:

Anna Bird died 5th April 2020

Doug Bird was admitted to hospital in April and was discharged to Woodchurch Care Homes, near Ashford on the 2nd May 2020 when he died that evening.

Madge Grinney (Lesley's Mum) died on 20^{th} May 2020

Sheila Davis died 20th August 2020

Sheila Teague died 11th February 2021

We conducted the wedding of Sam & Rhian Dudgeon on Friday 14th August 2020 and Believer's Baptism for Heidi Colpen on Friday 4th September.

Praise God for His provision during 2020

It is with great joy that we can report that during 2020, when there has been such heartache throughout our country and the world, and when it might have been expected that the income for our church would fall, we have received a far higher income than ever before. Our thanks to all those who continued to support the church financially. In addition, we have received Gift Aid on taxable income received, and some government help because of the situation.

In Proverbs 14 verse 31 says "He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honours God". As you all know this church supports some orphans in the Philippines, and regularly supports Dave Smethurst's charity to the poor and orphans in Eastern Europe. I am sure many of you have been encouraged by the reports he sends of how much material and spiritual help the charity has provided since the pandemic hit the world. As he says in his reports, we are a part of that ministry because of the support that we send. This year, in addition to the support for individual students in the Philippines we have been able to fund a new water pump when theirs broke down, by giving a further £1,340. This year we have been able to donate a total of £7,156 to missions—which is just over 17% of the church income for 2020. God has been good to us. We may not be able to go to far off places to preach but we can support those who do. Paul (the apostle), thanks the Philippians for sending him aid: I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Phil4:18-19

The promises we state in the offering prayer are true and sure and we can rejoice in God's provision to each of us. Because of His provision we can bring our tithe into the church, which in turn can help to supply the needs of others, which is a cause for great joy.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His mercies never come to an end!

They are new every morning, new every morning,

Great is Your faithfulness, Oh Lord, Great is Your faithfulness.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His mercies never come to an end!

They are new every morning, new every morning,

Great is Your faithfulness, Oh Lord, Great is Your faithfulness.

Joy Bradford

Reflections on the Covid Pandemic

While in lockdown you have the pleasure of being "locked in with your thoughts". At first, the prospect seemed quite daunting but slowly it occurred to me that God had given me a great opportunity to be a witness to those whom I love—my spouse, my family and my friends. As we live in a visual world, it seems we respond quicker to what we see than what we hear. Whilst at home in the pandemic, the best tool we had for our Christian witness, for those people to see our testimony—to see the way we lived. As people struggle with lockdown, they are looking for stability in his fragile world.

Our families are so important to the Lord and he has placed us here for a reason. So, keeping our testimony of "the joy of the Lord as our portion" is very important. We can make a godly home where Christ is honoured and by seeking God's wisdom, we can, with the help of the Lord, answer their questions truthfully. There is a strong biblical basis for focusing on the family. We have the opportunity to give to all those in our families, a glimpse of Christ in us and our relationship with Him—after all He has placed us there for that reason. For those in our family we are praying for, actions speak louder than words!!

Geraldine Farrugia

This has been a difficult year for many of us but we have been blessed by having continual fellowship last year—in church for a few weeks and then on Zoom, back at Church, on Zoom, back at Church, and on Zoom again! But we have been able to stand firm in our faith in Jesus and His Word. There is a saying "united we stand divided we fall". The Bible puts it in a different way—our heavenly Father says, "stand firm let nothing move you give yourself fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labour is not in vain." And stand firm and you will see the deliverance of the Lord. Ex.14:13

Last July we had a study on the *Broad and Narrow Way*, which is loosely based on John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* describing the pilgrim Christian's walk on the narrow way. This study was such a blessing to me because I can identify with many of the situations Christian found himself in. In one sense being in lock-down is a similar situation. We have all had to deal with circumstances that are foreign to us. We have lost 4 of our members this last year: Anna and Doug Bird, Sheila Davis and now dear Sheila Teague. We know they have reached the top of a narrow pathway and are seeing the heavenly Jerusalem: but you have come to Mount Zion to the heavenly Jerusalem the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of Angels in joyful assembly to the Church of the First-born whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God the judge of all men to the spirits of righteous men made perfect to Jesus the mediator the new covenant. Heb.12:22-23 We too have had to be steadfast and unmovable like the pilgrim. The devil will attack those who labour in the Kingdom of Light, but we can make the same response to all the difficulties we face—If God before us who can be against us. Rom. 8:31

Our memory verse for last December was But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the House of God. I trust in God's unfailing love forever and ever so. Ps. 52:8 So despite lock-down, and even though we missed the Christmas activities (although we did hold a Quiz on Zoom), to meet physically together for 32 weeks of last year was wonderful—and we even had a Believer's Baptism in the sea!

Jean Odon

The marriage of Sam Dudgeon and Rhian Cox—Friday August 14th 2020

Sam and Rhian planned their wedding with great excitement—a large family wedding at our church and a Wedding Breakfast at Deal Welfare Club. Everything was set until Covid changed all that—they weren't even sure if they could get married due to the lockdown.

Just a few weeks before August 14th Prime Minister announced that the restrictions were relaxed slightly and 30 people could attend a wedding and also an outdoor reception for up to 30 people was also allowed. A hasty call to Paul to ask if this was okay and a tent was hired for Rhian's Mum and Dad's garden. The weather forecast wasn't good—rain in the afternoon. Rhian was a little apprehensive and they arranged for people to take food home in boxes if necessary. The day arrived, the weather was a little overcast, but the church was beautifully decorated in white and blue. We were all in masks (except for Paul, Rhian and Sam) which was really strange.

It was the best wedding we could have ever been to—it was so intimate and happy. Sam and Rhian absolutely loved it. The Church gave them a framed Prayer for their Marriage, which brought a tear to our eye. The sun shone as they left and they had a great reception. They're hoping to celebrate their anniversary with a party and hope people can come without masks. What a memorable and historical wedding that was so memorable and happy.

Judy Dudgeon.

A Brief account of our Church during the Pandemic.

On Friday 20 March 2020 the Prime Minister spoke to the Nation announcing a national lock-down that lasted 15 weeks and so on Mothering Sunday (March 22nd) we began our first virtual Sunday Service on Zoom. At the end of the lock-down we undertook risk assessment of Church premises in order to comply with the Government's Covid-19 guidance. We installed hand-sanitizers and paper-tower dispensers; put up Covid-19 security signs in the building; moved chairs 2 metres between rows and re-commenced our Church Services on Sunday 5th July.

In order to maintain a Covid-secure environment, we were not allowed to have live singing and required everyone to sanitize their hands on entering and exiting the building; adhere to social distancing by keeping 2 metres apart and 2 seats between household groups. We also had to keep a record of those attending our Services for 21 days in case anyone tested positive for Covid-19. To avoid having to deep-clean the building after the Sunday Service, we moved the Bible Study from Mondays to Wednesdays and held the evening Bible Study on Zoom. (During July we were the only Church in Deal to return to their Church building.)

On Sunday 8th August the Government made it mandatory to wear face-coverings in Places of Worship and after a Risk Assessment of our Church, we introduced a "no-exemption" policy because most of people in our Congregation were in the "vulnerable" category. The Government introduced another national lock-down in November which meant returning to Zoom for our Sunday Services, and we returned to Mill Hill on Sunday 6th December but because of the restrictions on hospitality, we kept our mid-week Bible Studies on Zoom. However, in December, the Covid-19 virus mutated into an extremely virulent strain and further restrictions were introduced across the country. On Saturday 19th December, Kent was placed into the Tier 4 category which curtailed our Christmas activities. Although Churches were allowed to remain open for acts of public worship, most of the congregation decided it was prudent to stay home, so we returned to Zoom Services on Sunday 27th December. Due to big drop in the Covid infection rate and the roll out of the Covid vaccination programme, we were able to resume our Church Services at Mill Hill on Sunday 7th March 2021.

We acknowledge all those who work
to keep our Church running smoothly
including those who
teach and care for our children,
assist us in our Worship with their musical giftings,
serve refreshments and make all of us (including our visitors)
feel so welcome
clean and care for the building and garden.
We really do appreciate you!

A big "THANK YOU"
to everyone
(members and adherents)
for working together with us
in serving God here at
Deal Pentecostal Church.