



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	01	2008		31	12	2008

Reference and administration details

Charity name Cambray Baptist Church, Cheltenham

Other names charity is known by Cambray Baptist Church

Registered charity number (if any) 1130141

Charity's principal address Cambray Place

Cheltenham

Postcode

GL50 1JS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mr Mick Brunt	Deacon		Church membership
2	Mr Andy Cook	Deacon (Secretary)		Church membership
3	Mr Andy Doel	Deacon	Resigned 31/07/2008	Church membership
4	Mrs Judith Godsell	Deacon		Church membership
5	Dr Fred Hughes	Associate Pastor	Role of Pastor during Senior Pastor's vacancy	Church membership
6	Mr Brian Jones	Deacon		Church membership
7	Mr John Milroy	Deacon (Fabric Secretary)		Church membership
8	Mr Paul Montgomery	Deacon		Church membership
9	Mr Bob Nichols	Deacon	Resigned 18/08/2008	Church membership
10	Mr Alan Pilbeam	Deacon (Chair)		Church membership
11	Mr Simon Rouse	Deacon	Elected 01/08/2008	Church membership
12	Mr John Sheppard	Deacon		Church membership
13	Miss Carmel Smythe	Deacon	Elected 01/01/2009	Church membership
14	Mr Peter Stojanov	Deacon		Church membership
15	Rev Tim Welch	Senior Pastor	Appointed 26/08/2008	Church membership
16	Mr Peter Young	Deacon (Treasurer)		Church membership
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
The Baptist Union Corporation Limited	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Independent Examiner (Church accounts)	Caroline Gainey M.A.A.T.	c/o Cambray Baptist Church, Cambray Place, Cheltenham, GL50 1JS
Independent Examiner (Organisation accounts)	Tom McNeilly	c/o Cambray Baptist Church, Cambray Place, Cheltenham, GL50 1JS
Bankers	Lloyds TSB Bank plc	130 High Street, Cheltenham, GL50 1EW
	CAF Bank Ltd	25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed (dated 27/01/1855)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	<u>Senior Pastor & Assistant Pastor</u> – voting shall be by ballot at a specially called Church meeting. The nominee shall be invited to the Pastorate only if at least two-thirds of the votes are recorded in favour. <u>Deacons</u> - four deacons shall be elected from the church membership each year to serve for a three-year term, commencing on the 1st January the following year. Those elected shall have obtained at least a two-thirds majority of votes cast.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees.
- The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.
- Relationship with any related parties.
- Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

For the purpose of being a place of public Christian worship and for advancing religious, educational and charitable objects both locally, nationally and across the world.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

Public acts of worship

- There are regular services of worship every Sunday morning and evening open to all members of the community.
- A worship service is provided every Sunday morning specifically for adults with learning-difficulties ("Gateway Fellowship"), although anyone is welcome to attend.
- Mid-week Bible-study/prayer groups are held at the church, to which all members of the community are welcome.
- Weddings, Funerals, and Baptismal (by immersion) services are conducted by arrangement. These services are open for attendance by all members of the community.
- A local Chinese church uses our premises weekly for a Sunday afternoon service & twice monthly for Bible teaching.

Advancing religion and education

- Teaching sessions for adults are held mid-week.
- There is a teaching programme those 0 - 18 years, through Crèche, Junior Church, activity clubs and special events throughout the year.
- Various Ladies' Bible-study groups are held during the week.
- Outreach events and courses are held throughout the year.
- Engagement with other churches locally, nationally and globally to further the church's aim in the spread of Christianity.

Charitable activities

- Facilities are provided for a Parents & Tots group (Tiny Tots) to meet at minimal cost.
- A Boys' Activity Club (for 7 –11's) runs weekly through term time.
- Girls' Brigade (for 5 – 18's) takes place weekly through term time.
- There is a Junior Church Choir (for 5 –16's).
- A Youth Club (for 11 – 18's) takes place weekly through term time.
- Badminton Club (adults) takes place twice-weekly.
- Cambray has a Football Team participating in a local Churches Football League.
- A Rambling Club organises walks monthly.
- A Luncheon club (over 65's) takes place weekly (at low cost).
- A Craft Club (all ages) takes place monthly.
- On-going support is provided to four Cambray missionary couples working overseas in various countries.
- Ad-hoc support is made available to one-off short-term opportunities for others to go overseas.
- An opportunity is provided to support larger charitable projects - at Christmas (work with needy children - local & overseas) and in September with a 'Harvest' offering (support of a long-term development project in the developing world).
- A local Male Voice choir uses the church facilities for weekly practice sessions.
- Cambray Baptist Church is a Grade 2 Listed Building built 1853 - 1855. It is maintained to the highest standards at the expense of church members. Apart from Christian services, the Church building is also open to visitors of Cheltenham Town Centre on Friday afternoons.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- Policy on grantmaking
- Policy programme related investment
- Contribution made by Volunteers

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Statistical data – Though numbers do not necessarily reflect the full picture it is useful to capture the figures.

- An annual count is taken of the numbers attending the morning worship service on the first Sunday in December. In 2008 there were 340 adults and children present (295 in 2007).
- Approximately 300 different Adults & Children attended the Sunday Services on a regular basis through 2008.
- Approximately 75 other adults attend the other regular activities of the church.
- Approximately 70 children under 12 years old and 35 youngsters between ages 13 -19 years old attend the other regular activities of the church.

During 2008, 21 people were welcomed as new members. At the year-end the formal membership was 205 (191 in 2007). There were 8 baptisms in 2008 (7 in 2007).

Pastorate – Revd Tim Welch, our new Senior Pastor, began his ministry at Cambray on 26 August 2008. He joins Dr. Fred Hughes, our Associate Pastor. From September to December the church also employed their first “Apprentice”, Andy Symons, who used the four months to gain church based experience before going on to further training.

Outreach – Besides the activities listed above, which are open to all visitors, Cambray hosted an eight week course called “Christianity Explored”. In addition, the church hosted a seminar by John Blanchard, “Is God past His sell-by date?”. About 150 people attended, many not yet Christians, plus people from other churches. Numerous guest services were also arranged to link with specific groups and calendar activities.

Teaching – Systematic teaching has been provided over the year, primarily covering Biblical material from Matthew, Psalms, Hebrews and Ecclesiastes.

Training Group - Up to ten individuals have continued monthly training, developing leadership and preaching gifts. They have been encouraged to get actively involved in services at Cambray as well as participating at other local churches.

Small groups – A total of eight Homegroups (about 100 individuals attend) meet mid-week for Bible study and prayer in small groups. There are also three separate Ladies Bible study groups held during the week.

Achievements and performance

Serving the community – The church is following a 3 year plan which includes effective development of our outreach into the local community. Besides the activities noted about, the church is increasingly open for visitors with Fridays 'open church'.

The Gloucestershire Chinese church regularly uses our premises each week for services in the Chinese language, with approximately 25 people attending.

The Gateway Fellowship continues to thrive providing an opportunity for worship, Bible teaching and prayer for around 20 adults with learning-difficulties.

Other ad-hoc events take place with local churches.

During the year, a group of 17 (all ages) from the Abba Church in Annecy, France (Cheltenham's Twin Town) came and attended our Church Weekend.

Highlights of the year

- **April** – 165th church anniversary. Other local Baptist churches joined with us to celebrate.
"Big Praise" party – 40 children attended.
- **May** – The church family held an "Away Day" at Gorsley Baptist Church. A group from our twinned Abba Church in Annecy attended.
- **August** - a morning holiday club for 7 - 11 year olds attracted around 40 children.
- **September** - the annual Harvest offering raised £23,600 which was given to OM UK – a Christian charity working to provide a school for Dalit children in India.
- **October** – a "Light party" was held in place of Halloween with approximately 60 children.
- **November** – Church Barn Dance held in Rodney Hall.
- **December** – Carol Singing in the Beechwood Shopping Centre. Christmas offering for Spurgeon's children's homes – £1,660 given – half is used for a project in Cheltenham and the other half is used both in the UK and to support international work.

Building works – The church fabric committee continue their work to present a welcoming and safe environment, which remains practicable for a 21st century church family.

Overseas Mission – charitable works

The church continues to support mission workers on various continents, through prayer, practical support and finance. There are also encouraging numbers of young people seeking training and work abroad.

Several people from the fellowship engaged in short-term service or placements abroad in various countries.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

A reasonable working balance is maintained in the General Fund – ideally this should not fall below two month's expenditure i.e. around £12,000.

At the end of each financial year, the Deacons decide on the allocation of any surplus funds held in the General Fund. Any surplus is normally transferred to the Fabric Fund. The Deacons have determined that, whenever possible, at least £36,000 should be transferred to the Fabric Fund to fund necessary work on the buildings. The Fabric Fund is allowed to accumulate because some building projects cost more than the annual allocation.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising).
- How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity.
- Investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Due to the vacancy for our Senior Pastor, a direct comparison of expenditure between 2007 and 2008 is not possible. Underlying expenditure is increasing faster than published inflation due to growth in church attendance and associated activities. Our Sunday offerings and associated standing orders however increased by 11% year-on-year. The Gift Aid tax reclaim on this element increased by 22%. Both increases are excellent in the current economic climate.

33% of the church's overall giving goes to external causes, including our mission workers. However it is noteworthy to record that £23,600 was given to OM (Operation Mobilisation) to expand the work of a Dalit Education Centre in India – to promote education for poor and oppressed children.

Other optional information

Future Plans

We hope to appoint a new Assistant Pastor in 2009, and to develop the "Apprentice" scheme.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alan Pilbeam	Andy Cook
Position (eg secretary, chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary
Date	7 th April 2009	