



FAMILY REPORT

2023

On Mission to make disciples of Jesus.

Our Vision:

“Go and make
disciples of all nations”
Matthew 28:19

Our Mission:

We exist to express the
power of God’s love
to individuals, families,
communities and nations.

Our Core Values:

Love | Honour | Family |
Servant-hood | Generosity



About us

3 Pillars

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3 Pillars

In the early 1950's a group of approximately 12 people, hungry for more of God, formed a small fellowship in the inner city of Derby. We thank God for those early days and for His faithfulness over the years which has given rise to the vibrant, multicultural, worshipping community we know as New Life Church today. We have all generations, all ages and over 50 nationalities in our family.

Henry and Rachael are the Senior Pastors and have been leading New Life Church since September 2016. Both originally from Nigeria, have felt God's calling on them to reach the lost in Derby, the UK, and the world. They are passionate about families serving God together and have two teenage daughters who serve in the ministry with them.

In recent times, the Lord has placed an urgency on our heart as a church to give priority to being disciples and going out to make disciples of all nations in obedience to the great commission. He has instructed us as a body of Christ to set up Home Churches across our city, nation, and the world. These Home Churches are to be missional in reaching the lost and making disciples.

Be a disciple & Make disciples



Prayer

Prayer is key for all that we do. Our desire is to keep increasing in extra-ordinary prayer to see God move in our churches, neighbourhood, city and nation.

Discipleship

Being disciples of Jesus and walking in His footsteps is a priority to us. Our desire is to be more like Him and to walk the same way He walked on this earth.



Mission

He has not just called us to be disciples but also to make disciples. We take this instruction very seriously and aim to be missional in all that we do as individuals.



Senior leaders report Henry & Rachael



Senior leaders report Henry & Rachael

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Senior leaders report Henry & Rachael

Kingdom Advance

FROM THE DAYS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST UNTIL NOW, THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN HAS FORCEFULLY ADVANCED, AND THE STRONG TAKE IT BY FORCE.

MATTHEW 11:12

Last year our theme for the year was Kingdom Advance and we saw the Lord advance His Kingdom through us in different ways. It was encouraging to see the hand of the Lord in many different ways which we hope you will be able to see as you read through this report. We saw Him advancing His kingdom in Derby, bringing many to Christ and having Christ formed in us. You will find some amazing stories of how God reached out and transformed lives and we give God praise for those amazing testimonies and many more.

We are now coming up to our third year of stepping out into Home Churches and we are so blessed by what the Lord is doing in our lives and in the Home Churches.

There is such an enrichment into all our lives that we are excited about all the Lord is doing. We will keep on pressing on as disciples of Jesus who are on a mission to make other disciple makers. We do not want the multiplication cycle to stop but to carry on.

We hope and pray that as we journey with the Lord you can join us as the New Life family and we can partner with the Holy Spirit in all that He is doing here.

Henry & Rachael

New Believers:

This is one of the most important areas for us as all that we do is to depopulate hell and populate heaven. We are always encouraged to hear when people give their hearts to the Lord and are being disciplined as followers of Jesus. Last year we had about **40 decisions for Christ**, and we had **20 people get baptised** through the course of the year. This is exciting and encouraging and we trust to see more coming to know and follow Jesus.

We are looking forward to all the Lord wants to do this year 2024 as we seek to walk with Him and go where He leads us. We would ask that if you lead someone to the Lord in your sphere of influence, please communicate this to the church as we would love to equip you to disciple them to become followers of Jesus. We have materials and a very effective discipleship pathway for new believers and we want every new believer to go through it so they can stand firm and mature in Christ.

Home Churches:

We are really encouraged by the Home Churches and the way God is using them in their locations and the testimonies that are coming out of them. We are being stirred to start casting vision for what we call "Simple Church" this can be held in any other location apart from the home. If you haven't a conducive home to host a Home Church but you would like to lead a Simple Church in a coffee shop, community centre, or any other location please speak to us and we would love to make this possible.

As a church we really believe this part of our journey is so vital and important to us. Our desire is to see everyone that calls New Life their home and family to be in a Home Church or Simple church.

AOG & All Nations Movement Affiliations:

We are keeping a good relationship with the two larger Apostolic affiliations we have which are Assemblies of God (AOG) and the All Nations Movement.

Rachael continues to be on the Board of Directors for AOG and has regular Directors' meetings. She is also concluding her Ministers in Training in May 2024 and will then be ordained as a minister with Assemblies of God GB. We also have a few other ordained AOG ministers in the church, Pastor Henry, Pastor Blessen, Pastor Geoff, Roger Robb and Kerrie Robb.

Both of us (Rachael and Henry) remain on the Apostolic Team for the All Nations Movement and are seeing God moving in significant ways through the movement across the country. We support both organizations financially. For AOG we give 3% of our income to the denomination which comes to £1,100 a month and for the All Nations Movement we give £350 monthly.



Salvation Decisions:

Pray for many to come to know the Lord, especially in the Home Churches and through relationships.

Volunteers:

Pray for more volunteers as we need more volunteers in different ministries across the church.

Marriages:

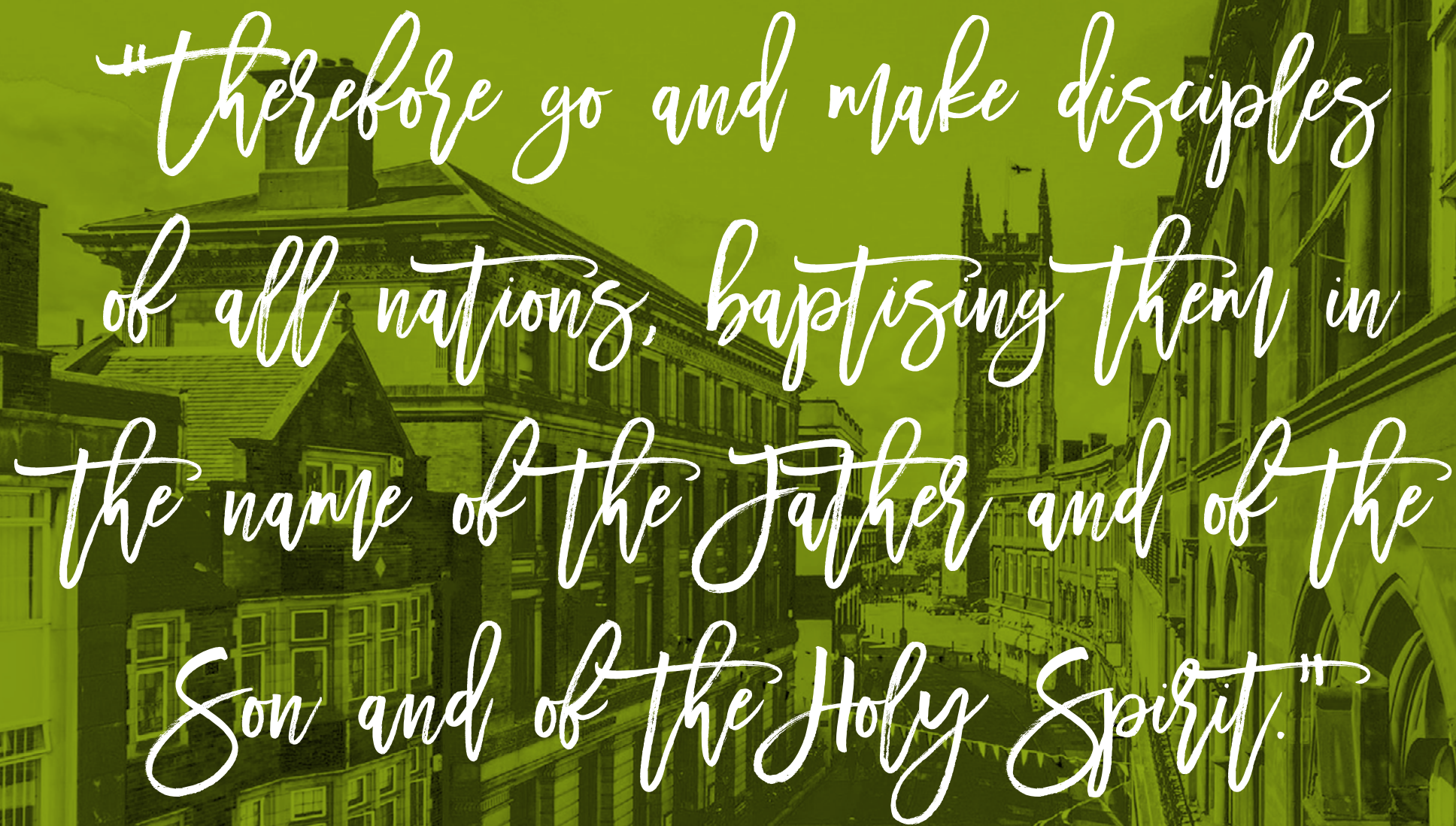
Pray for marriages, that we would see healthy marriages in church. We would also love to see single people who would love to get married, find the right partner.

Finances:

Pray that we will continue to be a generous people and that the Lord would supply all our needs as a church. Pray for wisdom to steward the finances for God's kingdom purposes.

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"Therefore go and make disciples
of all nations, baptizing them in
the name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit."

The *Fellowship, Serve, Give* New Life Family

What is it?

The New Life Family is a community of believers who are committed to seeing God's kingdom established on earth by obeying Jesus' last instructions to His church by going out and making disciples. Our mission is to express the power of God's love to individuals, families, communities and nations. We do this in community as we find in scripture many "one another" verses. We ask for three commitments if you consider New Life as your family: **Fellowship, Serve & Give**

1. Fellowship:

Fellowship with us in a Home Church and join us for our in-person celebration services on Sundays. — It is vital to fellowship together as the church of God. As New Life we emphasise being in a Home Church as a main commitment to being part of this fellowship. We encourage everyone that calls New Life their family to be part of a Home church or Simple church. This is vital to the DNA of who we are and essential to being part of the New Life family.

2. Serve:

Use your gift to serve the Kingdom of God — Every one of us has been brought here to New Life because you are important to the body and a vital part of it's existence. As a part of the family, you are making a commitment to serve in one ministry or the other. Every area of the church need your support and it is vital that you commit yourself to one of the ministries at New Life:

- **Home Churches**
- **Generational Ministries:** Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Young Adults / Student Ministry, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry.
- **Creative Ministries:** Worship Ministry, Production Ministry, Design and Media.
- **Host Ministries:** Host Team, Info Point helper, Refreshments team, Housekeeping team.
- **Outreach Ministries:** Jakes Ministry, Warm Space, Little Fishes, Evangelism team.

3. Give:

Give a portion of your income regularly to New Life Church — We all start with our giving to God financially somewhere, and as part of the New Life Family our expectation is that you will be on that journey to giving to the work of the Lord financially. We all start as "non-givers" then we move to become a "first-time giver". This is a big step for new believers but a very important step and then we grow into becoming "regular givers" as a commitment to giving regularly. From being a regular giver, you grow into becoming a "tither". This next step of becoming a tither, is the only time God says His faithfulness can be tested by us in Malachi 3:10. Tithing has been described as "returning the first 10% of your gross income to God through the church." Many of us can testify to seeing the blessing of God in our lives as we take this step of faith. Interestingly, from the Malachi passage we also learn the tithe is the Lord's anyway, so it's only as we go beyond that into becoming "extravagant givers" that we are truly giving to God out of what is ours - but then again all is God's anyway!

The Impact

20

People baptised

47

Have said 'Yes' to Jesus

3

New Home Churches

1800

1000 Smile bags given

3

Mission Trips

120

New Comers

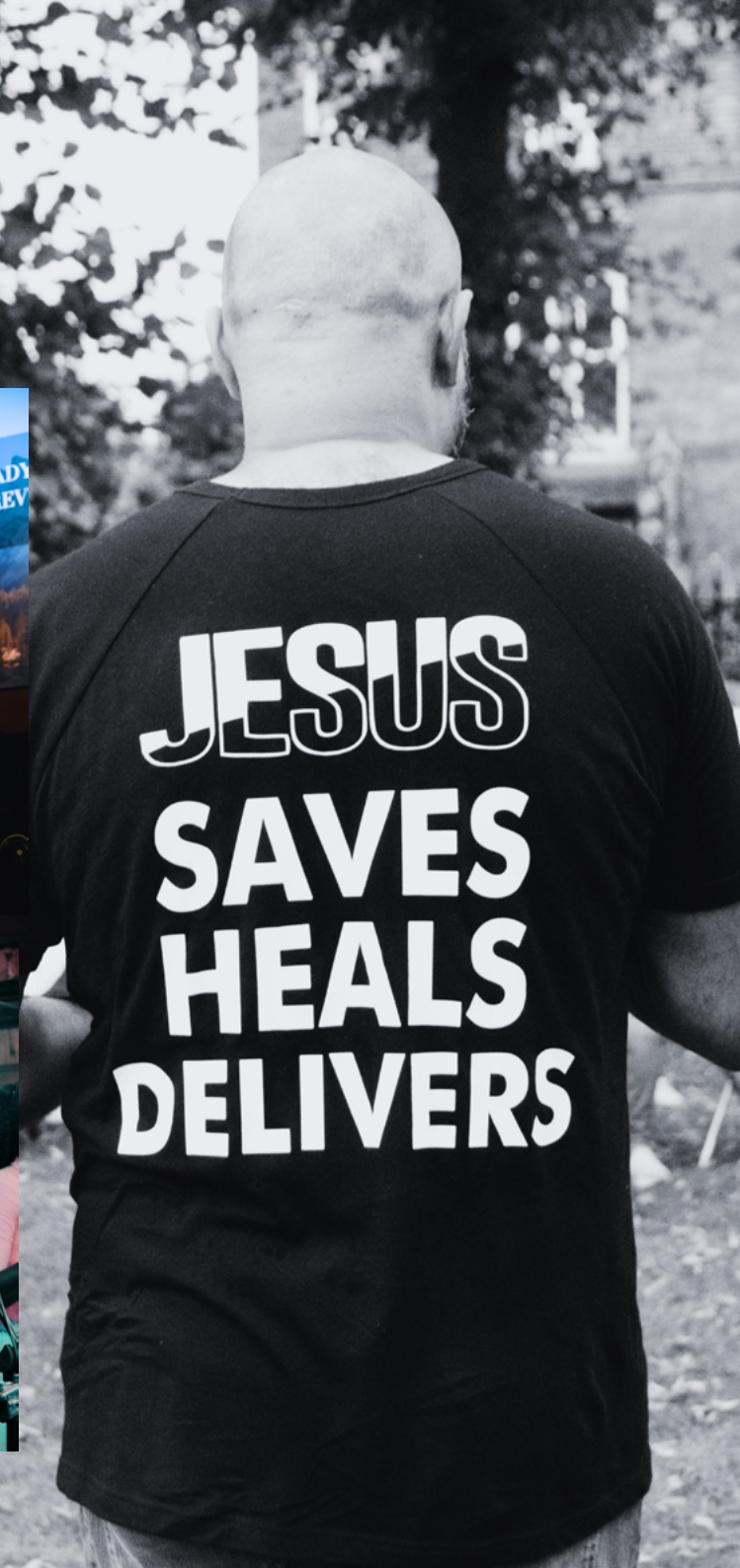
4.8k+

Followers on social media

52

Nations represented

2023





Stories & Testimonies
Stories & Testimonies
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“It has totally changed my life and I know who I am in Christ”

Marie’s Story

As a child I went to church and girls brigade. I am not sure if I believed in God though. Between childhood and April 2023 life had many more downs than ups. The best part of my life was my 4 children. In 2018 I was diagnosed with a life changing condition. I had to learn to walk again, feed myself and speak again. My future was bleak. I was not looking forward to my future. The love and support of my children was the one thing that got me through all of this.

In 2023 I was driving along to see a sign advertising the Alpha course. I really thought this was a sign language course, I spoke to my friend Maggie who explained it was a course on getting to know Jesus.

Maggie and Karen asked me to come and help at New Life Church’s Warm Space community café.

This really excited me and I was made to feel welcome straight away. This is an amazing project that gave me a new lease of life. I came to the Alpha course at New Life and it really spoke to me, showing me things that I didn’t know I was looking for. While at Warm Space I was also asking questions. Two weeks into the Alpha course I was chatting to Andy in church where he challenged me with the gospel and I immediately responded and accepted Jesus into my life. This has been the best decision I have ever made. It has totally changed my life and I know who I am in Christ.

I was also baptised in April. I have also seen other members of my family come to faith in Jesus. I feel I have a whole new family with my Christian family. I thank God for His grace and for my Christian family every day.

“Look what the Lord has done!”

“From that day I felt this overwhelmed feeling of peace and happiness”

Before Christ I was lost. I didn't have a positive outlook on life and negative feelings I was having were spiralling out of control. Trying to fill this emptiness with things and unhealthy habits without realising I just needed Jesus in my life. I had been to church in the past but never stuck to it. This time I was introduced to a concept of a home church. From that day I felt this overwhelmed feeling of peace and happiness which I hadn't felt in a long time. My life has changed so much now for the better.

— **Cinnamon**

I first heard about Christ when I was 17 years old, I had just started an apprenticeship and I was transitioning into adult life.

The guy who was training me for my apprenticeship is the person who introduced me to the Bible, over my first year at work he would tell me theories and facts about the bible until ultimately I couldn't deny that God was real anymore.

I was always convicted over the next 8 years of life as I continued to drink, fornicate and watch pornography. Until one day my girlfriend suggested we go to church one Sunday. On the way there we were optimistic but also hesitant, little did we know that our lives were about to take a full 180 degrees.

After the service our hearts had been touched and we went straight to the back room with the pastors and gave our lives to Christ. Ever since this day I've felt purpose and structure in my life.

One year later I am baptised, I am happily married to my now wife and we have a baby on the way. Look what the Lord has done!

— **Reece**

My Testimony

“I now know I am worthy of love and I have a purpose!”

Abbie's Story

Hi I am Abbie, like Reece I also grew up in a non Christian household. Life before I became a Christian I really struggled with mental health. From the age of 14 my life got flipped upside down I got diagnosed with depression, generalised anxiety disorder and panic attacks. It became so bad I began self harming and was suicidal. I spent a lot of my teenage years into my 20s not wanting to be here, questioning what the purpose of life was. I tried everything from spirituality such as crystals, to antidepressants and counselling/therapy. It never ended I constantly had intrusive thoughts and always questioned why I wasn't good enough.

When I met Reece I was a mess. Completely broken, I was angry at the world and at the pain I had experienced. Every day he showed me love and patience. One day he told me to pray. This was about 3 years ago and I tried it and it helped. I always believed in a higher power but didn't know what.

Then my mental health got so bad in 2021 I ended up in hospital for two weeks. I was partially paralysed and experienced absent seizures, loss of vision, migraines and couldn't control my bowels. This was all because my brain was so broken from mental health it caused my brain to shut down. I was classed as disabled and diagnosed with FND. I had to learn to walk again.

I can't really pin point how I got to where I am now but Reece introduced me to God. Even though him himself was on the beginning of his journey. Over time I bought a Bible, I prayed and I slowly watched my life change over 1 year. We didn't really know what we was doing but God really worked in both of us with no influence from man to believe. Then I said to Reece we need a church and I found New Life.

About 8 weeks ago me and Reece came to this church and my life changed forever. We went into the back room with John and his lovely wife, Tim and Henry and gave our life to Christ.

I'm here to tell you since that day 8 weeks ago I have had NO symptoms of mental health. My depression has gone, anxiety gone and no symptoms of FND. I am free!!! Finally after nearly 10 years of struggling, worrying and fearing life I am free!

Since becoming a Christian my life has changed for the better. I am no longer alone, the enemy tries to pull me back but my God is stronger. He freed me and I cannot thank Him enough for all He has done for me. He has continued to work in mine and Reece's life and blessed us with this beautiful family.

We want to thank you for your love you've shown. We are so grateful for each and everyone of you! God has worked so much in our lives. I'm so glad He never gave up on me. He broke those chains. Depression is no more, this whole time I just needed Jesus. My best friend. I now know I am worthy of love and I have a purpose! I want to live and I am stood here before you today a new women! Ready for any challenge with Jesus walking beside me always. Let's get baptised!! Thank you for listening.

— **Abbie**

My Story

Meet the Team



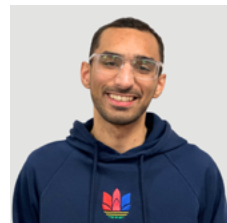
**Henry &
Rachael Ita**
Senior leaders /
Elders (BOD)



**Dave &
Rebekah Ford**
Elders (BOD)



**Blessen
Mathew**
Executive Pastor /
Elder (BOD)



**Daniel
Stevens**
Youth Pastor



**Joe & Hannah
Edwards**
Young Adults Pastors



**Danni
Chumber**
Office Administrator



**Roger &
Kerrie Robb**
Elders (BOD)



**Arjun
Dondapati**
Elder (BOD)



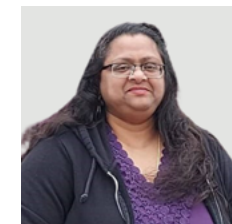
**Andy
Robinson**
Associate Pastor



**Promise
Shibu**
Media Specialist



**Benjy
Bell**
Media Specialist



**Mary
James**
Finance Manager



**Tim
Di Betta**
Ministry Pastor



**Rebekah
Ford**
Worship Pastor



**Roshni
Mathew**
Children's Pastor

Meet the Team



Finance Update

God has been faithful in the finances of the church, and we have seen Him provide for all that we have needed.

Our finances are not in the greatest place as we have a deficit to what we budgeted at the beginning of the last financial year and are about £16,000 below our 2023 income.

We have not increased our expenditure but have noticed a drop in the giving even though our weekly attendance and commitments are growing.

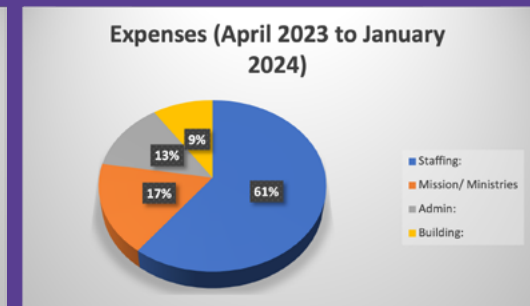
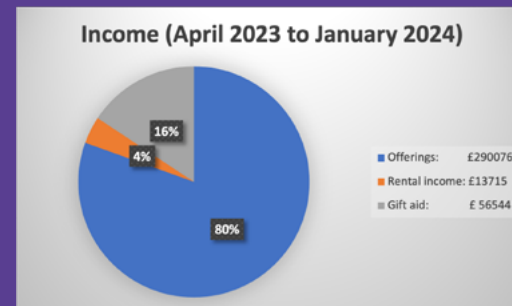
We would please encourage everyone that sees New Life as their family to make a commitment to contribute financially and at the very minimum commit to giving their tithe to God through the church. If everyone brings their tithe into the storehouse of the Lord there will not be any lack in His house.

Income

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------|
| Offerings | - | £290,076 |
| Rental Income | - | £13,715 |
| Gift Aid | - | £56,544 |
| Total | - | £360,335 |

Expenditure

| | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| Staffing | - | £234,607 |
| Mission / Ministries | - | £66,913 |
| Admin | - | £50,450 |
| Building | - | £36,378 |
| Total | - | £388,348 |



Some Highlights

2023





2023

FAMILY REPORT

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