



Accounts Examination

Christian Life Centre, Oxford: Grady Reid, Pastor

The History

Christian Life Centre Church is a large, multicultural church in Cowley, Oxford. Everyone in the congregation loves God and is passionate about seeing his glory come to our city and nation.

Our church was founded in 1996. Two years later, we wanted to **formalise our charitable status** and we turned to Stewardship to help us. We looked around at various providers, but felt that Stewardship were the right ones for us.

The Need

When we approached Stewardship, our church was much smaller than it is now. We had lots of ideas about where we wanted to go and how we wanted to grow, but what we really needed was **an organisation we could trust completely with our journey towards becoming a charity**.

We needed to rely on someone and be able to ask for help when we needed it. Stewardship was there for us right from the start.

Now that we are growing fairly quickly, we need to keep our accounts up to date, demonstrate transparency and have a clear paper trail. From time to time, we need to speak to Stewardship to ask questions and get advice. They are always available to speak to us whenever we need them.

We feel that we need to **keep improving our working practice**, and Stewardship are able to help us with this.

The Plan

Our church now has between 450-500 members. We have lots of different groups running throughout the week which means, therefore that our accounts need more work. We need to work with an organisation upon which we can rely and from whom we can ask for help whenever we need it.

We have handed over our **accounts for Stewardship to run and to examine annually**. From time to time, they visit us for a feedback session and give us the advice we need, which is always very helpful and

relevant to where we are. We are secure in the knowledge that we are on the right track financially.

The Solutions

In previous years, our accounts had been submitted late to the Charity Commission. However, for the last two to three years, Stewardship has worked with us to ensure that our accounts have been audited on time, thus avoiding possible penalties.

This has saved us money and hassle. We've found that working closely with Stewardship has helped us enormously.

The Difference

We love using Stewardship and can rely on them. **The team is incredibly professional**, they say what needs to be said when it needs to be said, **they are focussed on our needs and issues**, and they are direct and very encouraging to us.

It's great to work with a Christian charity knowing they hold the values which we share.

They've saved us money on late payment penalties, time with their efficiency and professionalism and lots of hassle since they do such a good job. **That frees us up to do what we need to do at church.**

The Future

As our income grows, we may well need more services from Stewardship and it would be to them that we would turn for such help.

About Stewardship

Stewardship exist to strengthen Christian causes, inspire greater generosity and to make giving easy with the aim for the world to encounter Jesus through the generosity of His Church. To benefit from our experience, expertise and service as Christian Life Centre has, all you need to do is choose your next steps...

Next Steps for you...

1. To receive a quotation for your specific needs you can download an application pack [here](#)
2. To find out more information you can download further detail [here](#)
3. To talk to someone about getting set up with Stewardship please call:



John Keskeys
Client Development Manager

† 020 8418 8190

e john.keskeys@stewardship.org.uk

w www.stewardship.org.uk