# Annual report on City Faith Ministries Trust (Christian Life Fellowship)

for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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# Introduction

This document has been prepared for the Trustees and members of City Faith Ministries Trust (CFMT) (aka Christian Life Fellowship (CLF) as an end of year report detailing its activities and operations throughout the year 2023, as outlined in the following information:

- Emphasis and focus 2023
- Main active components 2023
- Highlights of the year 2023
- Partnership organisations and ministries
- About City Faith Ministries Trust
- Responsibilities and functions within the Trust

# Emphasis and focus - 2023

Continuing our theme of *IMPACT* for Christ since 2018, our emphasis for 2023 was "Kingdom Advancing through the Holy Spirit". We believe that God has blessed us in order for us to impact our world with His kingdom. We sought to pursue this mandate in the same vein as we did the previous year as follows:

- As Disciples of Christ equipping our members to be disciples of Christ
- In the community through a focus on our immediate communities where we gather to worship every week
- To the nations by fulfilling our global mandate of world missions

Our emphasis was pursued through our *UK corporate activities and our main active components* as outlined in this document.

Key text used for our emphasis throughout 2023 was Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

## **UK corporate activities:**

Anointed with Power Healing School from 24th to 25th February

- Anniversary weekend from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March
- Missions' Conference 2023 from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October
- Embrace on 31st December
- Community Outreach initiatives inclusive of: Christmas hampers, food bank donations, fellowship breakfasts and lunches, a BBQ and family day out

#### CLF Global activities and initiatives:

Leadership Training took place for leaders in Sierra Leone and Kenya and five pastors from the Kenyan Church were ordained.

Christ House, CLF Ghana also initiated Apostolic Forums where leaders were gathered and empowered to do the work of ministry. The forums were also aimed at strengthening the prayer life of our leaders and igniting their passion for missions. Additionally, there were leadership development programmes throughout the year.

#### Projects in 2023

#### Ropolo (Sierra Leone)

- There was a pilot agricultural project of groundnut, pepper and cassava. There was also an onion plantation that was not successful
- The refurbishment and construction of the church building
- The purchase of school uniforms for the pupils in the Christian Life Primary school

#### Marfoki (Sierra Leone)

- The Reconstruction of Maforki church due to its dilapidated state
- Funds were raised by Omega Mission and PMission as part of their support for the church in Marfoki. The building project has reached window level, and funds are still being raised to complete the structure

## Masiaka (Sierra Leone)

 The construction of the CLF church building saw the foundation stage completed, but there are not enough funds to continue further

# Main active components - 2023

## **Church Planting**

We believe Church planting to be the most effective method of obeying the Great Commission of Jesus Christ through world evangelism and the discipleship of every born-again believer within the context of a church community.

#### **Local Churches**

As at 31st December 2023, CLF Churches comprised of:

**UK** – 5 churches:

CLF Greenwich, CLF Life Centre (Lambeth), CLF Medway, CLF Kings House (South Woodford), and Scotland. Pastor Andrew and Genesis came to a decision to operate independently of CLF in Nov 23

**Ghana** – 11 churches in 3 Districts:

**Central District**: Moree. The other Central region branches which were under Pastor Justice are no longer CLF churches, as Ps Justice has chosen to operate independently of CLF

**Accra District**: Alogboshi has moved to Achimota, Kotobabi, Teacher Mante, and Kasoa (Macedonia has closed down)

**Eastern District**: Habitat, Afiasa, Appapam, Koforidua Magazine, Moseaso and Abomosu (Osino has closed down since the Pastor left for Gamibia and subsequently chose to operate independently of CLF)

**Kenya** – 4 churches:

Nairobi – Buruburu.

**Uthiru** - Online Church and Touching Lives Youth Church.

Sierra Leone – 6 churches:

Port Loko (HQ), Maforki, Ropolon, Tiama, Benga and Touching Lives Church.

Temporal Closure of:

- Kambia Makama folded
- Masiaka No pastor
- Bo-Mopalla, Bengeh and Bambuibu. (Folded into house cells)

## Liberia – 1 Polotorie (Monrovia)

#### India – 1 Chennai

Andre Pradesh – 9 congregations all named CLFI Centre, in 9 hamlets: Ramesh (3), Solomom (3), Dora (2), Santosh (1) supervised by Gospel Torch. Each congregation is distinguishable by the pastor's name.

#### **India Missions**

Chennai - We have 1 church in a town called Padi. The church has found stability and grown under the leadership of Pstr Cynthia post covid. The specific outreaches to teaching young Hindi women to speak English has been successful with a number coming to faith but worshipping secretly for fear of persecution.

Andre Pradesh – The 9 CLFI congregations are based in 9 hamlets supervised by Gospel Torch. The churches remain vibrant and Minister Joanny Moses is now at the helm of Gospel Torch Ministries and has now assumed the role of overseeing the CLF churches.

#### The Gambia

The Fellowship was closed down following our missionary. Pstr Victor relocated to Kenya after a 2-year stint in The Gambia. There were difficulties in securing a meeting place and other religious groups were hostile to the presence of home fellowships. This became a challenge for members to remain. The few souls gathered have joined other churches.

## Republic of South Africa (RSA) - Fresh Start Sada

#### Leadership Development

CLF has a seven-stage discipleship strategy to equip our members from new believers to ordained ministers as part of our Membership Discipleship Program (MDP). This strategy is further enhanced through our Bible school (Christian Life Training Institute (CLTI), and various training initiatives and seminars as outlined below:

#### **Christian Life Training Institute (CLTI)**

CLTI is the Bible School initiative of CLF. It aims to serve our mission and vision to *make disciples of Jesus Christ* by equipping our members and the wider body of Christ with a Christ centred perspective to life and ministry.

CLTI offers two flagship courses – Ministerial Training Course (MTC) for the spiritually mature, and Christian Discipleship Course (CDC) for believers who desire to be equipped as Disciples of Christ. CLTI also offers other short courses in a variety of subjects and is

currently established in the following countries:

- United Kingdom:
  - o Ministerial Training Course
  - o Christian Discipleship Course Prayer School
- Kenya Christian Discipleship Course

#### **Ministries**

The ministries component within CLF comprises various initiatives and services whose remit and scope of operation goes beyond the CLF family to the wider body of Christ and/or the general community within society. The following were the active ministries in 2023:

#### Inside Out

A ministry to prisoners and ex-prisoners to encourage them in their spirituality; and support them in a productive alternative after prison. In 2023, BlessUp meetings resumed on a monthly basis for ex-prisoners. The process of resuming Sunday services in Belmarsh Prison began, with dates being set for 2024. (Leader: Alison Smith)

#### International Christian Women's Network (ICWN)

"Women of the Watch" (WOW) is an end time ministry of ICWN; raising intercessors throughout the earth to fulfil the call of standing in the gap and operating in the roll of the watchman in these last days. WOW is playing her part in preparing the (Bride) in ushering the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. In 2023 ICWN continued to host the annual "Women of the Watch" Weekend Prayer retreat at the Saint Columba's House in Surrey. During the August weekend there were approximately 23 women in attendance, mostly from the different CLF churches. We met with God in such a beautiful way, hearing God's prophetic word from Pastor Philip Ankrah and Pastor Martyn Reay. The ladies were stirred up for prayer and the call of the intercessor." (Leader: Sheron Ankrah)

#### Omega Generation

A youth ministry empowering teenagers and young adults to a radical and relevant commitment to discipleship and missions. There were few active missions in 2023

both local and international, and funds raised to support some CLF projects. (Leader: Peter Mensah)

## Abiding In Christ (AiC)

Mission trips for women aimed at empowering them to impact their worlds using the tools of training, evangelism, and discipleship. In July 2023, we hosted a mission trip to Ghana and were joined by Rafiat Lawal from the UK. The AiC team carried out evangelism at a local mall, held workshops with teachers and pupils at a secondary school, delivered training and ministered at a hospital, took part in a community project, ministered at a local prison and at church. The team also held a Healing workshop for Ladies. In October 2023, the team also facilitated a Prison Ministry visit with Fola Oyeleye from CLF Greenwich(Leader: Marilyn Mensah).

#### Neriah Nea Academy (NNA)

This Academy seeks to provide an exceptional learning environment rooted in biblical principles. (Leader: Janet Doughan)

## Daughters Of The King (DOTK)

A global CLF women's ministry dedicated to empowering Christian women within the body of Christ. Our aim is to empower women to maximise their potential through wholehearted pursuit of God and His kingdom purpose for their lives. It also seeks to facilitate its mandate through Women's gatherings and prayer initiatives as well as equipping women in singleness, marriage, and leadership in the church and marketplace.

During 2023 our focus for the year was to build up the fellowship and relationship amongst the women throughout CLF. We had three organised fellowship gatherings. Throughout the year each gathering would discuss singleness, marriage, and motherhood. To include our CLF churches in Africa, Ps Marilyn Mensah ran one DOTK meeting in Ghana with Sierra Leone and Kenya taking part with interactive questions and answers online. The CLF UK DOTK's first session was held in Greenwich, the second in Medway and the 3<sup>rd</sup> a restaurant meal in Lambeth. However, the numbers of attendees throughout the year did not represent the number of ladies within our combined churches, we believe the reason for this was because of the new changes and challenges taking place within CLF in this season of transition.(Leader: Sheron Ankrah)

#### Stronger Men Ministries (SMM)

A men's ministry to empower men to be strong in spirit, strong in leadership and stronger together. In 2023 SMM had not engaged in any major corporate activity however, there has been an increasing sense of a need for more engagement in the local branches across the CLF communities. (Leader: Peter Mensah)

## MaryLayo Talks

The ministry was launched in April 2023 to support, maintain and promote good mental health and spiritual wellbeing.

24 April 2023 started: Beyond the Smile podcast. Together with guests, MaryLayo discusses issues and life events that can affect mental wellbeing. 23 episodes on topics such as bereavement, perfectionism and brain tumour recovery have been published on platforms including Apple Podcasts, Spotify and Amazon music.

On 2 April, MaryLayo Talks YouTube channel launched to facilitate healing, growth and development through discussion on faith, social issues and mental health. The channel focuses on personal reflections, guest interviews and devotionals. (Leader: Mary Ogungbeje)

#### Thamesmead Christian Fellowship

A community summer program running for 4 weeks during the holidays. The scheme accommodates 100 children weekly from the ages of 4-11 years. Children enjoy a daily bible story, crafts and games. Funding from the local authority enabled every child to receive a hot meal daily. Children and families are invited to CLF community Fun days. (Leader: Angela Colman)

#### Missions

The primary corporate mission's effort of CLF comes under Christian Life Mission (CLM), formerly Christian Life Ministries) in partnership with CLM Trust. CLM Trust is a registered charity committed to world evangelism, church planting, leadership development, and social action. In 2023 CLM had oversight responsibility for the following initiatives:

- Overseas Missions: CLM sponsored and/or hosted short-term missions to Ghana,, Kenya and Sierra Leone. The remit of these missions varied from strengthening churches spiritually, ministering in church services, seminars, leadership development sessions and welfare support.
- Apostolic Forum (Kenya, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Zambia)
- Child Sponsorship: In 2023 CLM's ministry included sponsorship towards the education of approximately 50 children.
- Supporting churches and church leaders: CLM continues to provide spiritual and resource support to churches and church leaders in the UK, Ghana, Kenya, India, and Sierra Leone.

# Highlights of 2023

The highlights of 2023 are those achievements and activities scheduled in 2023 within the UK that emphasised the corporate progress of CLF during that year, including:

- Prayer night which ran every Friday in the various branches
- Congregational leader's meetings
- Easter community Fun day
- Online International Pastors and Ministers & Apostolic forums. These ran throughout the year on the last Thursday of each month
- CLF Global Prayer and Fasting in March, July and October
- Apostolic UK Forum took place in March and September.
- DOTK held in February, May, June and August.
- Mission 2023 Conference "Go" with Apostle Kingsley Gyasi.
- Christmas Hamper project supported 300 local families with food and gifts
- Embrace 2023 December 31st.

# Partnership Organisations and Ministries

In addition to CLF's initiatives and activities, CLF also supported and partnered with the following organisations and church leaders as they sought to fulfil their

#### specific mission:

- Ascension Trust and Street Pastors (Rev Les Isaac)
- Tear Fund
- Gospel Torch Mission
- Adullam Bible Mission (Bishop Tamba Mbayo in Sierra Leone)
- Alive Psalmist Inc. (Rev Peter Mensah)
- Victory International Bible School
- Spearhead Ministries (Tim Grant)

## Discipleship Training and leadership development

Ephesians 4:11-12 11 "Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. 12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ." (NLT)

- Membership Discipleship Program (MDP) Cell Groups
- Fostering Mentoring or discipleship relationships Our weekly services geared towards this end
- Christian Life Training Institute (CLTI) In-house Bible School

#### Other church and leadership activities

- Annual Apostolic Summits
- Congregation leaders' meetings
- Annual Conferences and General Services
- Anniversary Services in March and October
- Refresh Event in July
- Missions Month in October
- General Celebration Services or Joint Services
- Watch Night Services

# **About City Faith Ministries Trust**

City Faith Ministries Trust (CFMT) is the charity name under which Christian Life Fellowship (CLF) is registered.

We are a nondenominational Church and a member of the Evangelical Alliance (UK).

#### **Our Mission**

CLF is a global family of Churches and ministries committed to *making disciples of Jesus Christ* as a Christ centred purpose driven Church. Matthew 28:18-20.

#### **Our Vision**

Our vision is to fulfil our mission to *make disciples of Jesus Christ* by planting and establishing local Churches in every nation as the Lord Jesus Christ leads.

We also fulfil our vision as we facilitate Church planting and leadership development in partnership with other Churches and ministries within the body of Christ in those nations.

#### Our core values

Our core values are those ideals we are unwilling to compromise as we fulfil our vision. They are derived from our mission and embrace the following:

- Being disciples of Jesus Christ as our central focus
- Loving God wholeheartedly
- · Serving people unconditionally
- · Healthy family lifestyles
- Servant-hood and kindness
- Commitment to biblical truth and discipleship
- Personal accountability and responsibility
- · Evangelism and missions oriented
- A worshipping and prayerful community
- The pursuit of God's kingdom as first priority

#### **Our Strategy**

Our strategy speaks to us of how we pursue and fulfill our vision through a commitment to the following:

#### **World missions**

- Church planting
- Strengthen our present works and identify and raise/train new missionaries
- Mission trips: This includes leadership development, church planting, social action assignments etc. for each mission
- Child sponsorship: These are projects based in Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Kenya
- Humanitarian relief: These are initiatives that aim to alleviate poverty in local communities where our churches are based in third world countries. Projects vary from micro financing of businesses to supporting church leaders and their families.
- The teaching and preaching of the word of God
- Fellowship of believers in Cell (Discipleship) groups
- Communion around the Lord's Table
- Prayer
- Evangelism and world missions
- Planting and establishing local Churches
- Membership Discipleship Program (MDP) including CLTI being rigorous and intentional in how we develop our members over a seven-stage process:
  - Stage 1 New Believers Course
  - Stage 2 New Members Orientation Course
  - Stage 3 Spiritual Maturity Course (also Christian Discipleship Course)
  - Stage 4 Ministry Orientation for Church Workers
  - Stage 5 Leadership Orientation course
  - Stage 6 Ministerial Training course
  - Stage 7 Ordination Process

Every CLF Church should endeavor to ensure that each stage of discipleship is being expressed within the life of their local congregation

# Responsibilities and functions within the Trust

City Faith Ministries Trust (CFMT) functions as the umbrella charity responsible for CLF's Head office, corporate initiatives, new ministry initiatives outside of a local Church covering, new authorised Church plants and any CLF Church without its own charitable or CIO status.

These responsibilities are further administered under the leadership of CLF's Global Executive Board (General Presbytery) and CFMT Board of Trustees, and involve the following:

- Oversight of CLF's mission, vision strategy, doctrinal and lifestyle statements
- Corporate events in UK and worldwide
- Publications and media that relate to CLF UK and worldwide
- Existing CLF buildings in the UK
- Churches and ministries without their own legal bodies. These however should not be financially reliant on CFMT Central Funds
- Corporate missions initiatives sanctioned through CFMT
- Ordination and apostolic cover for all CLF ordained ministers
- CLTI (Bible School) worldwide
- Spiritual oversight of CLM Trust (Mission's arm) which has its own charitable status and board of Trustees
- International Council of CLF Elders as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. This body of elders are representatives of nations and regions overseen by CLF ordained ministers currently consisting of:
- Kwame John Dompreh (General Overseer)
- Philip Ankrah (Regional Overseer UK, The Gambia, India, and RSA)
- Peter Mensah (Regional Overseer Sierra Leone, Kenya, and Liberia)
- Enoch Amoah (Regional & National Overseer Ghana)
- Martyn Reay (National Overseer RSA)
- Obediah Alusine Kanu (National Overseer Sierra Leone)
- Evans Koomson Kwarteng (National Overseer Kenya)
- Carlton Lavally (National Overseer Liberia)

## CFMT seeks to raise its financial support through:

- 1. The generosity of CLF members, the body of Christ in general, and the wider public at large
- 2. A recommended 10% of tithes from local Churches in the UK
- 3. Income generated through corporate events, CLF initiatives including publications, media, CLTI, and overseas missions initiatives
- 4. Other legitimate legal avenues that do not conflict with our values or constitution

Monies raised will go towards providing financial support required to administer the

## Benefits to being part of the CLF family of Churches and Ministries

CLF exists to fulfil the Great Commission and see the body of Christ worldwide built up. Being part of this family of churches and ministries enables a unique access to the following benefits:

- Apostolic oversight and covering to all CLF ordained ministers
- Partnership with a global family of Churches and ministries
- Ordination and certification for Church leaders
- Access to heavily discounted Bible School courses for CLF ordained Church leaders
- Access to heavily discounted CLF publications and media resources for CLF ordained Church leaders
- Pastoral oversight for all CLF ministers
- WatchLeadership development and training courses at highly discounted rates for all CLF members
- Corporate initiatives that empower Church members to fulfil their unique God ordained destinies
- Access to missionary support and oversight through CLM Trust (CLF's mission's arm) for CLF Churches and ministries
- Access to grants to assist in Church planting and ministry support. Please note that these funds are limited to a first come first serve basis
- Provision of retirement benefits for full time ordained ministers

#### CLF's Global Structure and Governance

All CLF Churches and ministries are responsible for their own legal, financial and administrative affairs. However, CLF has a constitution that acts as a guide and governing document for all our Churches and ministries.

CLF Churches and ministries are interdependent, autonomous and self-governing churches and ministries, under the apostolic oversight of the CLF Global Executive (Presbytery).

#### **CLF Global Executive (Presbytery):**

Kwame John Dompreh (General Overseer)

- Philip Ankrah (Regional Overseer UK, India, The Gambia, and RSA)
- Enoch Amoah (Regional Overseer Ghana)
- Peter Mensah (Regional Overseer Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Kenya)
- Tim Grant (Spearhead Ministries)

The Global Executive (Presbytery) administers its apostolic responsibilities through the charity, City Faith Ministries Trust (CFMT) which acts as the legal body responsible for CLF UK and Global administrative initiatives and finances.

The Global Executive (Presbytery) is legally and financially accountable to CFMT Trustee Board, which is responsible for the legal, administrative and financial affairs of City Faith Ministries Trust (CFMT). The Trust Board currently consists of:

- Michael Amoah (Chair of Trustees)
- Meka Umeadi (Vice Chair / Treasurer)
- Marilyn Mensah (Trustee (CLM Trust))
- Enoch Amoah (Trustee)
- Sandra Ankrah (Trustee)
- Philip Ankrah (Trustee)
- Kwabena Kodua (Trustee)
- Martyn Reay (Trustee)
- John Dompreh (Ex Officio Trustee (Executive))

The CFMT Trustee Board is spiritually accountable to the apostolic oversight of CLF Global Executive (Presbytery). Further information about CFMT and CLF is detailed in CLF's constitution.