



New Life Community Church (North Walsham)
Registered Charity No. 1037991

**Annual Report and Accounts
for the year to 31 January 2025**

Prepared by: **Mr I Dallain (Chair of Trustees)**

Approved by: **Mr N Lawrence (Trustee)**
 Mr B Lee (Trustee)
 Mrs L Owen (Trustee)
 Mr T Greene (Treasurer)

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1 February 2024 to 31 January 2025

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New Life Community Church (North Walsham)

Aims and Purposes

New Life Community Church is a Christian church based in the Norfolk market town of North Walsham. The Church works together with local churches and community groups across North Norfolk and the Eastern Counties.

The principal activities of the Charity during the year to which this report refers were to build up the church members in Christian worship and teaching, to serve and to communicate the Christian message to non-members in the surrounding community, and to administer the Church.

New Life Community Church operates primarily in the town of North Walsham and the surrounding towns and villages.

Objectives and Activities

The church holds regular services, primarily on Sundays, involving worship and Bible-based teaching, as well as other activities such as children's groups and midweek small groups.

As well as serving its own members the church runs various activities and groups throughout the week. The church attempts to use its resources (whether in time offered by its members or other facilities) to benefit those living in the area, and particularly those in the greatest need. Youth clubs, a Parent Café for carers of children with additional needs and a weekly tots group are examples of this.

Achievements and Performance

Sunday services

The church is keen to hold services that are beneficial to all, particularly welcoming those who do not regularly attend the church.

As many people as possible are involved in the running of each service, so each week different people will lead worship, oversee the meeting, bring teaching from a bible passage, and undertake various practical tasks such as welcoming people as they arrive and serving refreshments.

Children

The church includes a large number of families and runs a lively set of engaging children's groups. These are led by a team of volunteers, and Thirtyone:eight (www.thirtyoneeight.org) guidelines are followed, including use of their guidance to form the church's safeguarding policy, to ensure the safety of the children among us.

Youth

A particular area we concentrate on is the youth of the town, both those involved in our church and those who aren't. We therefore run various youth activities; some are religious in nature; others are purely social.

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The 'Harvest' youth group is provides teaching and support to the young people in the church, and 'The Attic' on a bi-weekly basis provides an 'open door' youth venue for young people on a Friday night.

Young people from these groups regularly attend the 'Newday' festival, for fellowship and teaching organised by Newfrontiers.

Other Activities and Achievements

- Social events, meetings and meals together
- Christmas and Easter events
- Various conferences and regional Relational Mission events.
- Other groups run during the year, including New Life Tots; a weekly parent and toddlers' group, and Parents Café, a group supporting those responsible for children with additional needs.
- Weekly small groups

New Life Building

Up until August 2023 most of the activities of the church were run from rented premises, but in summer 2023 the church purchased its own building. Almost all activities are now based either here or in people's homes.

Ecumenical Relationships

New Life Community Church is self-supporting and autonomous, and as such is not part of a denomination. However, it does have an affiliation with a family of evangelical churches with similar aims and beliefs called 'Relational Mission' (www.relationalmission.org), which numbers around 100 churches across the UK and abroad.

The Church maintains close links with other Relational Mission affiliated churches in the local area, especially Aylsham Community Church and Life Church, Sheringham.

Through 'Churches Together in North Walsham' New Life also works closely with the other churches in the town and surrounding areas.

New Life Church is a member of the Evangelical Alliance UK (www.eauk.org).

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Financial Review

New Life Community Church is financially dependent on the voluntary donations of its members. For some years it has increased its reserves with the intention of purchasing a building which it achieved in 2023.

Expenditure and income were both unusually high last year due to the purchase and associated costs, and due to increased giving of its members and gifts received from others, in support of this purchase.

Income for this year was £82,264. This year the most significant sources of income were regular donations (£52,724) and a gift day which raised £16,523.

Expenditure for the year was £85,823 (£199,080 – 2024). The largest areas of expenditure during the year were: Salaries (15%), Gifts (14%) and Accommodation running costs, including servicing the mortgage (25%).

Included in expenditure are items purchased during the year, A grant was secured by the church which would pay 75% of the cost of items purchased. Through this grant £21,314 of equipment was purchased, of which £15,989 is to be reimbursed in the following year's accounting period.

As at 31 January 2025, New Life Community Church had a total cash balance of £58,450 (£61,826 – 2024) along with a Gift Aid debtor outstanding of £10,501 and grant payments due (see note 3, p9) of £15,989.

The Trustees have a formal reserves policy to ensure availability of sufficient resources for the continued running of the charity. The charity currently maintains more than is required by the policy with the aim of developing the building in the future.

The Trustees have considered the risks the charity could face and have taken the necessary steps to mitigate or eliminate these risks. For example, all major insurable risks are subject to normal churches and employers' insurance. Contractual risks are reviewed before being entered into to ensure that they could not significantly impact upon the church's ability to fulfil its objectives.

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Structure, governance and management

Organisation

During the year the Church was led by a team of four Elders; Mr I Dallain, Mr T Greene, Mr J Schaitel and Mr G Owen, and a wider team of Deacons, supported by the Trustees listed below, and a wider leadership team. There is a close working relationship between the Elders, the Deacons, and Trustees ensuring financial accountability.

Trustees

The Trustees of New Life Community Church (North Walsham) during the accounting period were:

Mr I Dallain (Chair of Trustees)

Mr T Greene (treasurer)

Mr N Lawrence

Mrs L Owen

Mr B Lee

Mr M Fairchild (resigned as Trustee in July 2024; he and his family moved abroad)

The principal aim of the Trustees is to ensure effective governance of the financial, reputational and legal obligations of the Charity, enabling the Church leaders to oversee the pastoral and evangelistic ministries of the Church. The Trustees perform their roles for the sole benefit of the Church and give their time freely. They did not receive payment for their duties and only claimed 'out of pocket' expenses.

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Administrative Information

New Life Community Church is based in North Walsham, Norfolk.

Registered Charity: No.1037991

Governing Document: Declaration of Trust dated 5th May 1994.

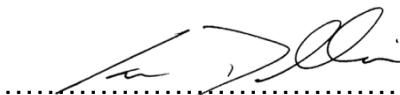
Church office and correspondence address: New Life Building
Laundry Loke
North Walsham
Norfolk
NR28 0BD

Bankers: HSBC Bank
18 London Street
Norwich
Norfolk
NR28 9BH

The Trustees have opted (under S42(3) of the Charities Act 1993) to account on a receipts and payments basis.

Trustees Approval

This report has been approved at a meeting of the Trustees of New Life Community Church (North Walsham), on 3rd August 2025 and is signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees.



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Mr I Dallain
(Chair of Trustees)

Dated6th August 2025...

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Financial Statements for the year ending 31 January 2025

Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts Schedule

		2024/25		2023/24	
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Regular Giving	Notes	£	£	£	£
Tithes and Offerings (Gift Aid)	1	42,004	12,613	25,705	20,040
Tithes and Offerings (Non Gift Aid)		10,720	3,910	24,677	0
Gift Aid Returns	2	11,715		6,598	0
		64,439	16,523	56,980	20,040

		2024/25		2023/24	
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Other Receipts	Notes	£	£	£	£
Gifts Received		30	0	0	34,212
Grants	3	1,000	0	0	11,000
Miscellaneous Income		4	0	36	0
Bank Interest		268	0	776	0
		1,302	0	812	45,212

Total Receipts		65,741	16,523	57,792	65,252
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Payments Schedule

		2024/25		2023/24	
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Direct Charitable Payments	Notes	£	£	£	£
Salaries	5	10,069	3,239	9,869	6,761
Church Events		765	0	1,758	0
Youth Events	6	15	11,772	923	0
Children & Youthwork		1,794	3,582	1,253	0
Training		25	0	425	0
Gifts	7	12,179	0	7,731	2,325
Publicity		202	0	1,028	0
Accommodation	8	15,335	0	9,189	0
Equipment and Resources	9	71	2,330	1,749	0
Administration		68	0	67	0
Insurance		1,037	0	838	0
Professional Fees/Subscriptions	10	1,739	0	2,163	0
New Building professional fees	4	2,080	0	4,946	0
Building purchase		0	0	76,261	63,739
Building improvements		5,417	0	969	0
Mortgage payments		14,105	0	7,086	0
Total Payments		64,901	20,923	126,255	72,825

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Categories	Details	2024/25		2023/24	
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
		£	£	£	£
Cash Funds	Current Account Balance	10,405	0	47,234	0
	Reserve Account Balance	5,045	0	14,592	0
	Savings Account Balance	43,000	0	0	0
	Total Cash Funds	58,450	0	61,826	0
Other Monetary Assets	Debtors				
	Gift Aid	10,501	0	11,436	0
	Grants	15,989	0	0	0
	Total	26,490	0	0	0
Assets retained for the Charity's own use	New Life Building	325,000	0	325,000	0
	Disabled ramp	600	0	800	0
	Tables and chairs	3,000	0	0	0
	Catering and kitchen equipment	4,000	0	0	0
	Speakers and Wireless Mic	3,100	0	1,200	0
	PA equipment	1,000	0	1,400	0
	Attic equipment - TVs, Sports Tables & Consoles	5,000	0	1,300	0
	Church Tents and marquee	8,000	0	300	0
	Kidsworld laptop	300	0	560	0
	Tots sensory play equipment	3,581	0	0	0
	Total Assets retained for Charity's use	353,581	0	330,560	0
Total Liabilities	Mortgage on New Life Building	181,891	0	183,993	0
	Lovewell Blake	72	0	135	0
	HMRC PAYE	55	0	0	0
	James Schaitel (reimbursement of expenses)	265	0	27	0
	Glen & Lysa Owen (reimbursement of expenses)	38	0	136	0
	Total Liabilities	182,321	0	184,291	0

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Notes

1 – Tithes and Offerings

The total amount received through Tithes and Offerings for the year ended 31 January 2025 was £69,247 (£70,422 - 2024). Of this figure, £54,617 qualified for Gift Aid (£45,745 - 2024). Included in this was giving was raised by the church towards the development of the building, see note 4 below. £16,523 was given for this purpose in a gift day.

2 – Gift Aid Returns

During the year the Church received £11,715 from Gift aid returns, which represents the period of February 2022 to January 2023. Included within Debtors is £13,654 for Gift Aid receivable for the period of February 2024 to January 2025.

3 – Grants

One grant was received by the church, £1,000 towards the outreach activities of the church. Another grant paid for 75% of equipment purchased by the church. £21,314 of equipment was purchased (see item 9 - Equipment and Resources, below) of which £15,989 was to be reimbursed through this grant; that reimbursement was made in the following accounting period.

4 – Building purchase and development

In 2023 the church purchased the New Life Building in North Walsham.

£14,105 was spent on mortgage repayments (£7,086 – 2024).

While the building was habitable and useable immediately £7,497 was spent on its development, including £1,680 on architect fees planning future development, costs involved in downgrading the electricity supply (£2,931) and the replacement of a door to provide disabled access (£1,344)

5 – Salaries

Salary expenditure at £13,308 (£16,630 - 2024) provides New Life one part-time member of staff, Suzie Schaitel (Children's and Families Worker) who is employed by the church for two days a week.

The previous year Ian Dallain (Church leader) was employed one day a week but that employment ended; he continues to work for the church voluntarily.

6 – Youth/Children's Work

The Youth Events that the Church financially supports each year are: The Attic, Newday, Youth Weekend Away (YWA) and Harvest. The Attic is a fortnightly youth club serving an average of 40 children each time. Newday is a festival held each year for around 9,000 young people. YWA is the Relational Mission youth residential weekend and Harvest is our weekly Church youth group.

During the year £1,809 (£2,176 - 2024) was spent on supporting these groups and events, which continue to serve hundreds of young people every year.

The church contributed towards the cost of Newday tickets for leaders serving and children who could not afford to go themselves, but most of this was recouped by donations towards costs made by all attendees, and by church members 'sponsoring' an attendee.

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Youth and children's work continue to be an area that the leaders of the church see as important to the life of the Church and resources and activities were provided for Youth and children to engage with during the services and in their midweek groups.

7 – Gifts

The Church gave gifts totalling £12,179 (£10,056 – 2024). Regular giving to Relational Mission (£3,600), gifts to support individuals (£579), and Good News Church in Serbia for the ongoing work (£3,000) and £5,000 to enable the purchase of a building there.

Giving to others continues to be very important to the Church and the trustees had previously agreed to make an emergency fund available to those people being served by the Church, who had immediate financial need. Nothing was paid out during the year, but the trustees anticipate that the fund may be utilised during 2025.

8 – Accommodation

£8,192 was expended on the New Life Building (£5,956 - 2024) on items such as utilities (£6,507), catering and cleaning costs (£1,578), fixtures and fittings and other sundry amounts for the new building (£107).

9 – Equipment and Resources

£3,512 was spent on equipment to furnish and use the New Life Building (£1,749 – 2024) including chairs (£1,000), folding tables (£1,925), a TV and a fridge.

A significant amount of new equipment was purchased for various groups and activities in the church, to be financed by a grant. The grant would pay 75% of the value of items purchased, these items totalled £21,314 of which £15,989 was to be reimbursed through this grant. That reimbursement was made in the following accounting period.

The items purchased were: a cooker (£1,399) and other kitchen equipment (£2,231); a marquee mainly for use for the annual Newday youth festival (£7,738); speakers (£2,330); games and consoles for use at the Attic (£4,034); soft play equipment and sensory play equipment for the Tots group and Parent Café (£3,582).

10 – Professional Fees/Subscriptions

£1,739 was spent (£2,163 – 2024) on general professional fees including copyright licenses, Evangelical Alliance membership fees, DBS checks, website and domain renewal, independent examiner fees, payroll costs.

11 - Reserves

Sufficient reserves have been retained (£58,450). This is greater than the amount needed to meet the requirements of the reserves policy.

The trustees intend to maintain sufficient reserves to cover foreseeable costs associated with the building. The heating system, for instance, is nearing its end of life with anticipated future costs of around £4,000.

The New Life Building includes a warehouse section, currently used for storage, which the church intends to develop into space for use for its activities and for the benefit of the

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community. The church has applied for grants to finance the development of the New Life Building but have not been able to raise sufficient sums so far in this way. Given the expectation that the church will need to fund this itself, it intends to increase reserves to build sufficient funds to commence the work.

The church opened a savings account with Hampshire Trust Bank in order to achieve a better interest rate on its reserves.

12 - Payments made to Trustees during the Accounting Period

During the year, £1,808 was paid to Lysa Owen and £368 to Barney Lee, to reimburse them for Church expenses paid directly, wholly and exclusively for the purposes of the Church. Receipts or Invoices were received to ensure the validity of these claims.

None of the other trustees made any payments on behalf of the Church during the accounting period, and therefore did not receive any reimbursement from Church funds.

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Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of New Life Community Church (North Walsham)

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 January 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Stacey Borrow

Address: 31 Bluebell Road, North Walsham, NR28 9EH

Signed:



Date: 03/10/2025