

# SW London Vineyard

Report and Accounts  
Year ended 31 December 2023

Stewardship   
*Active generosity*

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB  
[www.stewardship.org.uk](http://www.stewardship.org.uk)

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**  
**CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
Company Information	1
Message from the Chair	2
Annual Report of the Trustees and Directors	
Introduction	3
Ministry review	5
Financial gifts	25
Administrative review	25
Financial review	33
Future plans	38
Independent Examiner's Report	41
Statement of Financial Activities	42
Balance Sheet	43
Cashflow Statement	44
Notes to the Accounts	45
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities with Comparatives	54

## **COMPANY INFORMATION**

<b>Key staff</b>	Neil Woodward (Senior Pastor) Catherine Woodward (Senior Pastor)
<b>Governing Document</b>	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated February 1995 and updated February 2023
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	03020873
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1045257
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Helen Kite
<b>Registered Office and Principal Address</b>	Heston Court 19 Camp Road London SW19 4UW
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ajay Rajani FCIE Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB
<b>Bankers</b>	Bank of Scotland Old Broad Street London EC2N 1HZ
<b>Solicitors</b>	Pothecary Witham Weld 70 St Georges Square London SW1V 3RD
<b>Investment advisers</b>	Mazars Tower Bridge House St Katharine's Way London E1W 10D
<b>Insurers</b>	Ansvar Insurance Co. Limited Ansvar House St. Leonard's Road Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 3UR

## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to introduce the 2023 Trustees' Annual Report for the independently examined accounts of SW London Vineyard.

Once again, the vision given us by God has continued to be worked out in a range of diverse ways as outlined in the Ministry & Administrative reviews below. Thanks to the on-going sacrificial giving from within our church family and beyond, through the giving of time, energy, and money of committed members of the church, including a significant volunteer workforce, the church has continued to serve both public benefit and kingdom impact in the lives of those across south west London.

As always, I would like to thank all those volunteers, church members, leaders, Trustees and staff whose commitment and passion for the Gospel of Jesus has impacted our local communities in realising our vision for the church over what has proved to be another challenging year.

Rachel Moseley  
Chair of Trustees and Director

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Trustees of SW London Vineyard, who also act as Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and independently examined financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2023 in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees are satisfied, to the best of their knowledge, that these statements comply with the current statutory requirements, the church's governing documents and are in accordance with the Charity Commission's Statement of Recommended Practice ('SORP').

## **Objectives & Activities**

The main object of SW London Vineyard is the advancement of the Christian faith.

This has been achieved primarily, although not exclusively, through:

- meeting the practical & spiritual needs of those in the local community especially those most in need and the vulnerable
- a church congregation – as both a gathered & scattered expression
- a range of small groups
- resourcing churches across the UK and around the world

The Trustees recognise the continuing impact of the current cost-of-living financial crisis and global unrest on the life of the church over the course of the year.

The Trustees also recognise, even in the face of these challenges, that the church is well-established and continues to successfully remain faithful to its calling and mandate as a local church, communicating the Gospel with compassion and mercy to many individuals and families, both from the church and from local communities.

The Trustees wish to express their gratitude for the considerable volunteer time, energy and money that has been so generously given by leaders, church members and members of the local community in achieving the on-going aims and objectives of the church.

## **Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit.

The charitable purposes of SW London Vineyard are set out in its constitution and are fulfilled by a range of projects and initiatives run through:

## **Public Benefit continued**

- a local community centre, The Yard
- local area initiatives to meet the practical and spiritual needs of those in the local community especially those most in need and the vulnerable
- a church congregation – as both a gathered and scattered expression
- a variety of mid-week small groups

A wide range of projects are run throughout the year for the benefit of local communities and the alleviation of poverty, and we continue to develop a number of local outreach initiatives impacting the local community. These have all been made possible through the financial generosity and commitment of a significant number of regular volunteers both from the church and from local communities.

Public Benefit Projects have included:

Benefits advice (in partnership with Citizen's Advice Bureau); Christmas presents (for women & children escaping domestic violence and modern slavery); children's activities; Christmas services & events; community projects across the Ashburton & Alton estates; courses for the local community; drop-In spaces; financial support (for those in immediate financial need in partnership with Acts 435); Foodbank (in partnership with The Trussell Trust and Wandsworth Foodbank); Growbaby; Job Club; refugee & asylum seeker support (in partnership with Welcome Churches); Warm Spaces, youth activities and Sunday services

## **Vision**

We remain fully committed to the vision the Lord gave us in 2011. We believe that God has called us to:

- Make, train, and equip disciples who love and serve Jesus, who love and serve one another and who love and serve their neighbours
- Be the church across south west London through central celebration and local mission
- Plant churches across the capital, by training and equipping potential church planters and by sending and nurturing those called by God

## **MINISTRY REVIEW**

Over the course of 2023 we have implemented the above vision in the following ways, and these activities and initiatives serve and benefit both our local communities and the wider congregation.

In response to the current cost-of-living crisis, we have continued to adapt the ways in which we serve those around us to ensure the ever-challenging needs of others – especially the most vulnerable – are being met.

As always, we remain committed to serving all those around us regardless of ethnicity, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, or beliefs (including lack of religion or beliefs) in such ways that they can benefit from being part of the wider ministry of SW London Vineyard.

### **Acts 435**

Over the course of the year, we have assisted a number of individuals who have come to us through ministries at The Yard and who are in need of basic equipment or services, by utilising Acts 435. The charity operates a website platform by matching up those who want to give, to those in need, enabling needs to be met, whether it is a microwave so that an individual can cook the food given to them via the Foodbank or furniture for an unfurnished flat. Over the course of 2023 we assisted in the provision of beds, mattresses, ovens, slow cookers, air fryers and microwaves. This has meant that those coming towards us most in need have been provided with the necessary equipment and provision to enable both themselves and their families to function more holistically.

### **Ark Putney Academy**

One of the very many challenges faced by those in need during the cost-of-living crisis has been around the provision of basic essentials. To assist vulnerable families from the Ark Putney Academy ('APA'), SW London Vineyard ('SWLV') has provided a range of food items and items of furniture, including beds etc., to be given to those in need. These initiatives through the local school have been wonderful demonstrations of the impact of the local church to meet the practical needs of those from the local community and, once again, reflect the important community partnership that exists between SWLV and APA.

### **Benefits Advice (in partnership with Citizen's Advice Bureau)**

Throughout 2023 we continued to partner with the local Citizen's Advice Bureau by providing a free space and appointments to meet with a CAB advisor for those from the local community and those visiting our community centre, The Yard. In light of the financial pressures so many have been facing this year, this service has continued to prove invaluable to the local community with a number of support initiatives being offered to the most vulnerable. These have included advice on benefits; tax credits; work; consumer advice – especially relating to high energy prices; housing; immigration and debt. By enabling CAB to operate from The Yard, countless people have had access to advice and support directly impacting their financial, emotional and mental wellbeing.

### **Christmas Events**

A range of Christmas events were run during 2023 for both those from the church and wider community. Our Advent series on Sundays reflected on the themes of Hope, Joy, Peace and Love. A Christmas 'Crafternoon' and a free Christmas Lunch were hosted at the Yard, again especially with those from the

local community in mind. Both were well-attended and for some, the opportunity to sit down to a home-cooked Christmas meal would have been their only opportunity to do so. We also hosted a well-attended Christmas Singalong for both those from the church and wider community, along with VKids & Youth Christmas parties & events and other points of connection for people to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

In 2023 we continued to provide Christmas presents for women and children from across the local area who are either escaping domestic violence or have been victims of modern slavery. This year, through the generous donations from people from both the church and wider community, we were able to provide over 600 (2022: 500+) Christmas presents to those aged 0-18 without which they would have quite possibly not have received any gifts at Christmas.

These Christmas initiatives, alongside giving people an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Christmas, have provided much needed social points of contact for those for whom Christmas can sometimes be a lonely and difficult time. This contact benefits not only their social and emotional wellbeing but also affords an opportunity to help develop their spiritual wellbeing.

### **Communications**

Following the appointment of a Communications Manager in December 2022, we have seen significant improvements to the ways in which ministry across the life of the church has been communicated to both internal and external stakeholders.

In early 2023 a church-wide communications survey was conducted to ascertain people's preferences as to how and through which channels they engaged with ministry-related communication. As a result of this, a number of new initiatives were launched to help ensure that everyone could remain up to date with all that is going on in and through the church. These included: monthly newsletters; increased social media presence across 5 platforms; well-curated design and graphics for all church events and updated imagery across all platforms.

This included a re-brand for SWLV logos and ministry areas ensuring that these remained fresh and contemporary, whilst reflecting the vision and values of the church. A number of new signs were commissioned to help newcomers navigate their way into the Ark Putney Academy, and The Yard was given a facelift with new signage and window decals to more effectively communicate both its presence and purpose to the wider local community.

Whilst communication may be considered an administrative task, we believe this to be an important area of ministry that communicates our vision, values and purpose to as wide an audience as possible, thereby helping them engage with the Gospel and the kingdom of God.

### **Conflict Resolution & Peace-making**

As part of our on-going commitment to justice, following on from last year's involvement with the Journey of Hope, we hosted a Conflict Coaching Training Day. This event, led by Rebecca Brierley of St Ethelburga's Peace and Reconciliation programme, was open to all those from the church and wider community and was designed to help support and equip those experiencing – or supporting others who may be experiencing – conflict in their work or personal life. The focus was on how we can approach conflict in a way that opens communication and bridges divides in these challenging times, thereby helping ourselves



and others prevent tensions and differences from escalating whilst empowering individuals to understand and transform conflict effectively.

This workshop played an important part in our commitment to embracing difference across the life of the church and, alongside work done through The Difference Course, equip us all with the tools to learn to disagree well especially around issues of community polarization such as: multi-faith relations; youth violence; LGBTQI+ inclusion; class divisions; systemic racism and climate change.

### **Church Planting**

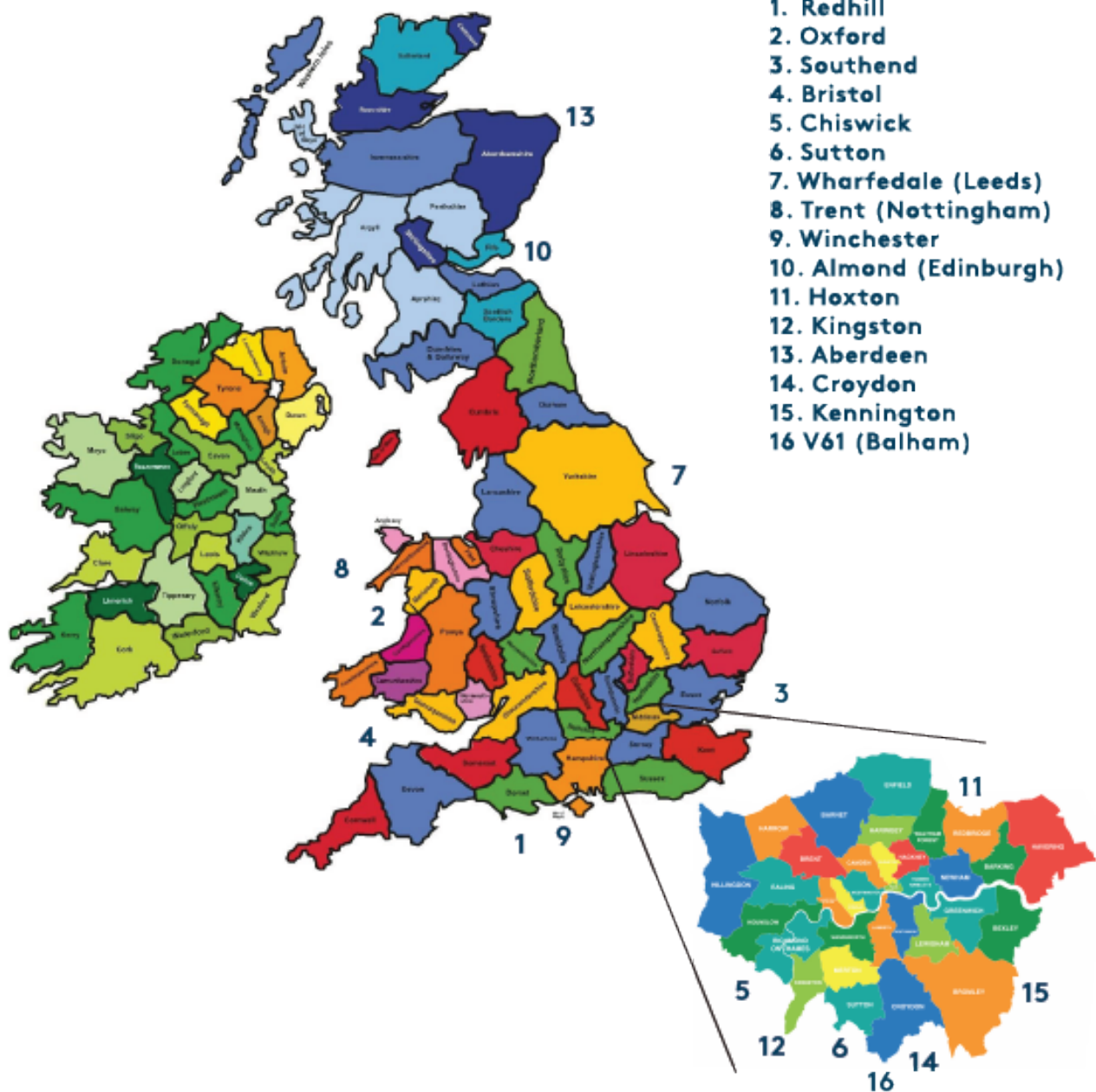
There is only so much SW London Vineyard can do from our single location in London and so from the outset we have been passionate about extending God's kingdom by starting or 'planting' new congregations of followers of Jesus across the country to impact a wide range of other local communities with the Gospel.

This church planting aspect of the life of SW London Vineyard has long served our vision of planting churches by training and equipping potential church planters and by sending and nurturing those called by God.

Alongside church planting, SW London Vineyard has a long history of training and equipping leaders by creating opportunities for people to step into leadership through preaching, leading small groups, leading worship etc.

Our commitment to planting churches reflects our belief that this is the most effective way for communities across the country to be impacted by the blessing that comes from communities of faith that both love and serve God and love and serve those around them – especially those most in need.

The following churches have been planted by South West London Vineyard since 1987 (many of which have subsequently planted other churches that have planted churches):



### **Environmental Impact**

As part of our on-going commitment to justice, we continued to build on the work done in 2021 in partnership with A Rocha UK Eco Church by reflecting on SWLV's care for God's world through our worship and teaching; in how we look after our buildings and land; in how we engage with our local community and in the personal lifestyles of our congregation. We continued to implement and develop our Environmental Policy which covers areas including: climate justice; worship and teaching; buildings; catering, cleaning and purchasing; sustainable office administration; travel; lifestyle and community and global engagement.

The aim moving forwards is for a staff member to take responsibility for the implementation and delivery of the environmental policy and practices as a church whilst working alongside Eco Church to keep our policies and procedures under review.

The impact of this focus on the environment means that, as a church, we are more keenly aware of the effects our choices and actions have on our environments. The intention is that, over time, our impact will only be positive as we seek to reduce any negative impact we may have.

### **Exploring Faith**

Exploring Faith, held at The Yard, has continued to provide a relaxed and informal space for those from the local community to explore the Christian faith. Drawing from the life of Jesus portrayed through the series 'The Chosen', guests are invited to reflect on passages from the Gospels and how they might apply to their lives and current circumstances. A free lunch and drinks are served.

Exploring Faith has proved to be a popular space for a wide range of individuals from the local community to ask questions in a safe and open environment. Alongside the relational and community impact it has proved to be a great source of support to many.

### **Families & Relationships**

As part of our commitment to make, train and equip disciples who love and serve Jesus, who love and serve one another and who love and serve their neighbours, throughout 2023 we continued to support family and relationship ministries in a number of ways.

In addition to our VKids, Youth and other family & relationship ministries, we have been in regular contact with families through email and personal contact, providing them with an extensive range of resources and details of courses and events.

Also, throughout the year we have run three family services with content aimed for all ages to enable families to worship together.

These family-based events have provided spaces for families from both the church and the wider community to come together and deepen their relationships with one another and with other families. This helps to provide much-needed relational, emotional and pastoral support for families at all stages.

### **Foodbank**

As we seek to meet the practical needs of those from the local community, we continued to work in partnership with The Trussell Trust and Wandsworth Foodbank by providing facilities, staffing and resources through The Yard. With the current cost-of-living crisis, the level of need has significantly increased, and we would like to thank both Wandsworth Foodbank and our amazing teams of volunteers for all the tireless work they put in supporting some of the most vulnerable from across the local area.

In 2023 from The Yard 10,143kg of food was given out (2022: 9,429kg: 8%↑); 1,065 people were served (2022: 868: 23%↑); of whom 342 were children (2022: 276: 24%↑); 12,780 meals provided (2022:10,416: 23%↑).

Alongside providing much-needed practical support, Foodbank has proved to be a central space for relational and social connection where vulnerable people can meet with others and, over food and a hot drink, talk – without judgment – about their struggles. This provides invaluable social, emotional and pastoral benefits.

### **Growbaby**

The aim of Growbaby is to provide good quality, new and second-hand, baby clothes and equipment, completely free of charge, to anyone who needs it, regardless of their income, background, or faith. Over the course of 2023 and, again in response to the growing need we are seeing across our local communities as a result of the cost-of-living crisis, we are pleased that this area of ministry has continued to flourish and grow.

Clothes and equipment have been kindly donated by individuals from the church and local communities, and a large quantity of high-end new clothes were kindly donated by Finest for Baby.

Growbaby continues to run each week from The Yard and has provided much needed support to families in need including: those on low income; those escaping domestic violence; those who have been victims of modern slavery and refugees and asylum seekers.

Over the course of 2023 along with formula milk and a range of other baby equipment, 6,489 nappies, 75.27kg of clothes and 53 pairs of shoes have been given out to families in need.

We have also seen an increase in the number of statutory agencies referring clients to Growbaby for support including: Richmond and Wandsworth social workers; Hestia support worker; Wandsworth Health Visitors; St George's Hospital Midwives; Hillingdon Family Support worker and a number of referrals from Wandsworth Foodbank

Being an available resource for anyone regardless of income, background, or faith has meant that Growbaby continues to provide extensive benefit to those who come along, over and above the provision of essential items. Parents find a caring environment where they are listened to, supported and encouraged. For many, this may be one of only a very few social connections during the week and the opportunity to spend time with the team, meet other parents at a similar life stage while receiving support of all kinds is greatly impacting.

### **International Mission**

Over the course of 2023 we continued to foster our links with our International Mission partners (Myanmar, Nepal, Kenya, Spain), to support and encourage them as best we can.

In addition to prayer, we sent a financial gift of £6,250 to churches in Ukraine. This gift, given through VCUKI is to be used to bring immediate relief for churches and any benevolence that they can practically express; support the extraction of people, particularly the vulnerable, women, and children from the war zone areas; partner with certain humanitarian organisations where appropriate such as Humanicare, Tearfund, Red Cross; help in the rebuilding, post-war, of the churches and their mission in Ukraine

In recent years the Charity Commission has issued an alert to all Trustees about managing the risks of making payments overseas. Given the potential levels of risk involved and the stringent requirements in place to ensure all funds are used in direct furtherance of the aims and objectives of the charity, it is likely that we will see a reduction in financial support of international partners moving forwards.

Building and developing strong partnerships with international mission groups helps strengthen the important part we all play in contributing to the blessing of the whole Body of Christ and ensuring we remain faithful to the Great Commission to 'go to all nations...'. We are privileged to be able to share of our resources and experience, and are greatly enriched by all we learn and receive from our brothers and sisters ministering the Gospel in often challenging parts of the world.

### **Iberia Missions Partnership**

In 2023, one of the Assistant Pastors took on the leadership of VCUKI's Iberia Missions Partnership. The aim of this cross-cultural mission team is to build long-term partnerships where friendships are cultivated, disciples are made, churches are planted, neighbourhoods are transformed and whole countries are impacted. A series of prayer meetings and events open to those across the UK have been hosted.

In December, one of the Assistant Pastors attended the Vineyard Iberia conference held in Barcelona, which was an opportunity to connect with other Iberia partnership leads from around the world and Vineyard church leaders from within Spain. Following the conference, they were invited to lead a service and minister at the Córdoba Vineyard.

### **Job Club**

Job Club provides free 1:1 and group support to anyone who is unemployed or under-employed as they go through the process of finding work. We have been encouraged by the service and commitment of volunteer coaches giving of their time and expertise to those looking for work. Again, as the cost-of-living crisis continues to have increasing impact, the provision of this service continues to have a significant impact on those from the local community. We are grateful to Wandsworth Job Centre for the support they provide to us in referring clients to this free service provision.

Job Club is one of the key ways we can help support people back to the dignity of work and our team of coaches have provided excellent personalised 1:1 support to many. Without the care and attention given – often to those who have been out of work for many years – it is possible that these people would not find work. The impact on their own sense of self-worth, their contribution to both their families and society cannot be underestimated.

Job Club also provides a benefit to the local Job Centre which, due to limited resources and time, is sometimes unable to provide the personalised support needed for certain clients. The Job Centre refers a number of clients to Job Club, and we are grateful for the partnership that exists between us as together we work towards supporting those looking for employment.

### **Leaders**

We are grateful to the very many effective leaders at SWLV who give tirelessly of their time, energy and money in support of the ministry of the local church. Leaders at SWLV demonstrate a high level of Christian character and commitment and lead small groups, run teams, pioneer ministry areas, lead worship, preach at Sunday services, serve as Trustees, disciple others and live out Jesus' call on their lives to love the Lord with all their heart, soul and strength.

As part of our commitment to identify, recruit, train, deploy, monitor and nurture leaders, 2023 saw the launch of the VCUKI Leadership Essentials course for all those wishing to grow in this area. Covering many of the more important and foundational aspects of leadership, Leadership Essentials was intended to give developing leaders the opportunity to grow in understanding and insight alongside others from the church family.

The curriculum, made up of a series of 18 pre-recorded video sessions delivered by national and international leaders from across the Vineyard movement, focused around the following areas; Vision and Calling – Understanding vision and calling and its importance in ministry; Spiritual and Emotional Capacity – Recognising the importance of self-awareness and strategic living; Communication – Demonstrating an understanding of key factors involved in communication; Leadership and Multiplication – Understanding the theology of leadership and its importance; Gathering and Mission – Understanding the role of gathering in the process of ministry. With the course being well-attended we are looking at ways in which this can be developed next year.

Throughout the year we held a number of Leaders' Gatherings to provide training and equipping opportunities for further development, along with creating a space for transparency and accountability where questions could be asked and openly discussed.

In October 2023 we hosted a Leaders' Houseparty weekend away in Kent to deepen relationships and build friendships. Our focus for the weekend was Embracing Difference where we began a conversation with leaders around how we embrace difference in the church especially relating to sexuality. Following the weekend away, we hosted 2 evenings online to repeat the material discussed at the weekend to ensure that all those unable to attend were able to join the conversation. Clearly this is a difficult and divisive topic, and we are genuinely grateful for the diversity of views held by both leaders and members of the church. Our hope is that we can continue to dialogue as brothers and sisters in Christ as we continue to extend the warm welcome of the kingdom of God to all those coming towards the church.

We are profoundly grateful to the many godly women and men who so freely share their calling, character and gifting with others as they seek to extend the kingdom of God. Without this diverse team of leaders running House Groups, Small Groups, Teams and Ministry Areas, the impact we would have as a church on those around us would be significantly reduced.

### **Lent & Easter Events**

During Sundays in Lent we ran our series, 'Living Out Loud', looking at the life of Jesus from the Gospels and the impact Jesus had on the lives of those from communities He was part of. This series highlighted the importance of us remaining 'outward-focussed' in all that we do as a church whether through the formal ministries of the church or through the day-to-day impact we have as followers of Jesus wherever we find ourselves.

Over the 40 days of Lent, we ran a series of daily Lenten podcasts with a wide range of contributions being made by members of the congregation. On Good Friday we ran a reflective online communion service and on Easter Sunday celebrated baptisms. In addition, we curated a Good Friday Stations of the Cross Audio Walk, again with a number of contributions from members of the congregation to provide people with a reflective narrative of the events of Holy Week leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

Seasons like Lent and Easter give us all the opportunity to take time to reflect on the part we all play in the lives of those around us, both as wider church community and as individuals. This means that we are more likely to increase the spiritual, social and emotional benefits felt by an ever-wider group of people.

### **Newcomer Integration**

We have seen a number of new people coming to both the church and our community events at the Yard. Newcomers visiting on a Sunday are welcomed by our teams and given a welcome gift, which includes information about the church and how they can get involved. The Senior Pastors then contact them with a personalised follow-up e-mail to find out how we can best support them as they look for a church community. Further follow-up emails are sent out from time to time after this to see how we can help new people integrate into the life of the church.

A new Welcome Pack has been designed and made available to all those who want to find out more about the church and includes: a letter from the Senior Pastors; information about Small Groups, Helping Out & Generosity; details of our commitment to Safeguarding and other well-designed resources helpful to those wanting to know more about who we are and how the church operates.

Throughout the year we hosted a series of Newcomers' Lunches after the morning service at the Ark, whereby those who are new to the church could meet the team and others who have been part of the church for a number of years and ask any questions they may have.

The Senior Pastors ran an online group for newcomers called Get Connected, which was intended to bring new people together online to find out more about the church and to meet other new people. This was followed up by a 6-week online course called Discovery, looking at the history of the Vineyard, the story of SWLV, our vision and values and some of the key elements of what we believe including: worship; ministry; training and sending.

The care and attention of the Welcome Teams and the quality of the information provided for those new to the church makes it as easy as possible for those coming towards the church to find a spiritual community they can belong to. A number of those new to the church are also new to the local area and so being provided a warm welcome helps them connect with a community of people they can contribute to in a meaningful and positive way.



**Pastoral Care**

A core element of making, training and equipping disciples who love and serve one another is pastoral care.

Throughout 2023 a significant number of hours were given by staff, volunteers and church members in providing extensive pastoral care support to a wide range of church members, local residents and other contacts through difficult times, both on an individual basis and through a range of church ministries and initiatives.

Much of our pastoral care work is unseen, and we are grateful for the many hours spent by so many in providing practical support, prayer, and encouragement to those in need.

Many of the Small Groups have again provided significant pastoral support for a number of individuals facing a sometimes challenging and difficult life stage. A significant proportion of pastoral care takes place in and through our small groups, in particular our House Groups.

The very many hours of on-going pastoral care provided by so many of our leaders is almost impossible to quantify and is a wonderful demonstration of the church loving and serving one another and those around them. We remain incredibly grateful to our gifted and generous leaders who tirelessly devote themselves to ministering to, supporting and encouraging individuals in their care.

Staff and leaders continued to devote a significant amount of time reaching out to both church members and those connected to the church through various ministries to try to ensure that everyone connected to the church was taken care of when needed.

As with any community of people there will always be those facing challenges of many kinds at any given time. The pastoral care available to individuals through the life of the church offers an important lifeline and support to those who are struggling with health concerns; relational challenges; family issues; financial difficulties; bereavement; mental health struggles; spiritual questions; practical needs and a whole host of other needs. This pastoral care is a reflection of the church loving God with our whole heart, soul and strength and our neighbours as ourselves. These demonstrations of pastoral care are not restricted to those who are part of the church, as there are countless stories of members of the church reaching out to support and bless those of all faiths and none.

**Prayer**

Once again, one of the highlights of the past year has been the way in which the church has responded to the call to prayer.

In January the church committed to a Month of Prayer and during Lent we created additional spaces for people to gather and pray. In May we joined churches around the nation as part of Thy Kingdom Come, a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus and God's kingdom of blessing to be extended in and through our lives. In September we started the term off with a week of prayer.

Over the course of the year, we continued to see prayer and prayer groups continue to thrive as a hugely important aspect of the life of the church. Prayer Online continued to run on a weekly basis, Sunday



Morning Prayer has continued to flourish and grow, and a series of early morning prayer meetings online were made available throughout the year to encourage people to commit to prayer.

In addition to the above, our Sunday services and mid-week small groups continue to make space each week for individuals to receive prayer ministry. This invaluable expression of pastoral care enables those coming towards the church to stand alongside others in prayer.

Prayer is a vital and central aspect of our Christian faith and, although it can be hard to quantify, its benefits are wide and far reaching. Many of those who pray regularly see it as an opportunity to express their gratitude for things in their lives. Others who may turn to prayer when feeling out of control, stressed or under pressure comment on how prayer reduces feelings of isolation, anxiety and fear bringing instead a sense of calmness, peace, encouragement and support. Ultimately prayer fosters a sense of connection – between ourselves and God and with others for whom we may be praying for or praying with.

### **Small Groups**

A wide range of small groups designed to serve both those from the church and our local communities continued to run across south west London in 2023.

Groups ranged from the highly spiritual to the highly social and included those focussed on the Bible, relationship, community and connection, as well as those designed to tackle more specific topics.

These small groups remain one of the primary points of contact whereby we can make, train, and equip disciples who love and serve Jesus, who love and serve one another, who love and serve their neighbours and who love and serve the world in which we live. Typically, each small group will reflect our key values of worship, fellowship, ministry, training and sending.

Small groups included: House Groups, Growth Groups (Bible study groups or structured courses), Life Stage Groups (for those at a similar life stage) and Connection & Activity groups (including sports and social groups). 24 small groups ran in Spring, 24 over Summer and 27 in Autumn.

Small Group Leaders' Gatherings were held over the course of 2023 with the purpose of connecting with other leaders, updating Small Group Leaders on what's happening across the life of the church, worshipping together, and ministering to one another.

These small groups play an integral part in building community, providing pastoral care and going deeper in our faith. The impact of the relationships built and lives shared cannot be underestimated and provides a safe space and sanctuary for many.

The Trustees would like to thank all those who have led and run small groups over the past year. The faithfulness and servant-hearted nature of the leaders has been a huge blessing and encouragement to so many and has played a significant and central role in ensuring the health and well-being of the church and wider community.

### **Sunday Services**

Over the course of 2023 we gathered together weekly on Sundays as a church community at Ark Putney Academy where provision was made for adults, youth and children. The main focus of our Sunday

gatherings would always centre around our values of worship, fellowship, ministry, training and sending and this was specifically curated for each specific group.

Age-specific groups, activities and ministries were run for children and youth.

For adults, our Sunday services begin with free tea, coffee and pastries being served before worship, a short talk from the Bible, celebrating Communion and making space to minister to one another in the power of the Holy Spirit. Sunday talks throughout 2023 were Bible-based around some of the following themes: Unforced Rhythms of Grace; Prayer; Living out Loud; Vineyard Values; Colossians; Grief; Ruth; Advent.

Over the summer, we ran Six Weeks of Summer, which affords our VKids & Youth teams a well-deserved break and were delighted to welcome back EzeeSport who run age-specific sports activities for children and youth. Guest speakers reflected from the Bible on Why Jesus? and their stories of life as a follower of Jesus.

In the autumn of 2023, we highlighted the importance of safeguarding by holding a Safeguarding Sunday.

Sunday services provide an opportunity for the church to come together as a community of faith and celebrate all that God is doing in and through their lives. The connection and focal point this affords enables us all to go deeper in our relationship with God, with one another and with the world in which we live. We come together as a church family and are sent out to be a blessing to those we meet during the course of our weeks from our local communities and places of work.

### **Tea & Toast**

Tea & Toast continued to run from The Yard and provided a popular and much-needed point of relational connection for those from across the local community. Every Tuesday The Yard has been open for anyone to drop-in for some breakfast and a chance to chat. With over 1,125 toasted sandwiches having been served, the focus is purely social and aims to help foster meaningful relationships between neighbours from across the Ashburton Estate. During the colder months, Tea & Toast functioned as a warm space whereby people could come and keep warm, use phone chargers, laptops and printers.

The social impact of Tea & Toast on the lives of many from the local community has meant that deeper relational connections have been established and a wider sense of community built. It has proved to be a welcoming space where many have felt open to share some of their struggles and challenges before being sign-posted to local agencies who can offer them specialised support and advice.

### **Twenties & Thirties**

With a number of those in their 20s & 30s having been impacted by the pandemic – many of whom moved away from London – we are pleased to see this important part of our church community begin to grow again with a number of those joining the church from this demographic.

A range of social gatherings for those in their 20s and 30s have taken place over the course of the year, along with a new small group, Pub Gospels, designed to create space for relationship and connection whilst sharing together some of the joys and challenges of following Jesus.

For those in this age group, many of whom have recently arrived in London for work or study, finding a place in a church community with those at a similar stage can be incredibly helpful in combatting loneliness, isolation and potential mental health challenges. As these young adults get connected to the life of the church by being part of small groups and finding somewhere to serve our hope is that they will build and deepen their relationship with God, with others and with those around them.

### **Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland**

SW London Vineyard is affiliated to Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland, a wider network of approximately 120 churches across the country. The church regularly grants a proportion of its income to support the work and objectives of Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland in establishing new churches and missions work abroad.

VCUKI provides a range of help and support to churches across the movement as they each pursue the call of God for their church. This support includes pastoral oversight; relational networking; resourcing and support; teaching and training, all reflective of our shared vision and values.

In 2023 our Children's & Families Pastor joined the core team of Dream Kids at VCUKI's summer youth festival, Dreaming The Impossible. Alongside giving a talk, his role included helping plan the programme and leading worship.

The staff team, along with other members of SWLV joined VCUKI's national Vineyard Leaders' Gathering in April 2023 for a time of teaching, encouragement and relationship building both for the team and the wider movement.

Over the course of the year, we joined with a range of VCUKI events including: VCUKI Worship conference; VCUKI Regional Days; London Senior Pastors' events; VCUKI Prayer events; national Senior Pastors' gatherings; VCUKI Training Days.

Gifts from SWLV granted to VCUKI help support both national and international church planting initiatives; international mission partnerships; coaching provision for local churches; national events including Vineyard Leadership Gathering, Dreaming the Impossible and The Cause to Live For; the development of theological and training resourcing through the Leadership College and Vineyard Ministry Pathway and the provision of gifts and grants to a number of churches across the movement to support the work being done.

In addition to our regular financial gifts to VCUKI, in May 2023, the Trustees approved a gift of £26,587 to VCUKI to support a range of Dreaming the Impossible youth events including the summer festivals.

Being part of a wider family of churches means that together we can become healthier, plant new churches, have greater kingdom impact and develop, train and equip other leaders.

### **VKids**

Our vision for VKids is that our children come to church and have fun, build real friendships and learn what it is to be a family of followers of Jesus who love and serve God, love and serve one another and love and serve the world in which we live.

VKids remains a fun, safe, engaging space for children to hear about God and experience His love in an age-appropriate way.

VKids is split into the following groups:

- The Baby Room is specifically designed for babies aged 0-12 months and is a place parents and carers can drop in and out of, or spend the whole morning in
- The Studio, located in the Sports Hall building, is for pre-schoolers (12 months+) and is a room full of toys, games, and activities, with an engaging programme which includes singing, craft, and stories
- The Gym, also in the Sports Hall building, is for primary school aged children and children choose to join one of our exciting Activity Groups for the morning. Activity Groups include: Lego; Arts & Crafts; or Sport. In addition, we have a designated Quiet Zone with sensory toys and activities
- For those in Years 5 & 6 we run a Going Deeper group. The Going Deeper tent is where age-specific teaching and activities take place with this age-range as the focus

All children in VKids have a time for clear and simple teaching from the Bible and join together for worship and prayer.

Our amazing VKids leaders and teams – all of whom are trained, DBS-checked and have a real heart for children and families – have continued to work tirelessly to provide an outstanding level of support and resourcing to children, parents, and families.

Events were run throughout the year to gather, support, equip and encourage VKids teams and leaders alike and, in response to feedback from the teams, improvements have been made in the organisation and provision of resources both at the Ark and at the offices. It is our hope that these and other improvements will encourage, equip and support the VKids teams in the important work they do.

In the spring term, VKids were led through a study of Jesus' life through the Gospel of Luke. During Lent, the focus was on Jesus the Rescuer. In the summer term VKids worked through the book of Acts and looked at the subject of Worship, before working through Old Testament stories in the autumn. Our Advent series was on the Christmas story.

Over the summer EzeeSport ran a series of sports-based sessions during our Six Weeks of Summer programme, with invitations being extended to those from across the local community. This popular event enables all those who normally serve on VKids & Youth teams to take a much-needed break over the summer holidays and also acts as a summer club for those from the local area in need of free activities for their children over the summer break.

VKids is a core ministry of the church, providing age-specific materials for those between 0-11 to grow in their relationship with God, with themselves, with one another and with the world in which they live. This important area, which provides a welcoming and safe environment for all, strengthens families and helps build community both across the church and beyond.

**Warm Space**

In light of the current cost-of-living crisis, especially relating to continued high energy prices, we have been pleased to provide a warm space at The Yard where those from the local community can spend time keeping warm at no extra cost to themselves. Guests are offered free drinks and food, along with the use of phone charging equipment and laptops.

Whilst this may not solve the cost-of-living crisis, this has proved to be a valuable space helping those most in need through the winter months and ensuring they are not alone.

**Website**

Our new website was launched in October 2023, again designed and delivered by our Communications Manager. This was a large and complex project requiring the time to ensure our website is reflective of who we are as a church community thereby enabling those coming towards the church to gain a real understanding of our vision, values and purpose.

Between October 2023 and February 2024, we have seen over 2,000 new users with 9,700 page views. Most views were of the Home Page (2,700) and Calendar (1,300).

The website redesign has resulted in a significant increase in traffic and a number of those now visiting us on a Sunday comment on how the website proved to be an invaluable resource in them finding out more about us.

The website is an important channel by which people engage with the church and, in many ways, functions as our 'shop window'. When looking for a church to call home, people will scan websites to see which ones reflect shared values and vision. Providing ready and easy access to helpful categories including small groups and events, along with important policies including Safeguarding; Complaints Handling; Whistleblowing; Spiritual Abuse; Governance; Privacy etc. are all ways in which we can help demonstrate accountability and transparency to all.

**Wellbeing Journey**

In October we invited those from the church and local community to take part in The Wellbeing Journey.

The Wellbeing Journey is series of interactive videos and discussions to help improve physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing. Covering a wide range of topics including: physical wellbeing, emotional wellbeing, spiritual wellbeing, relational wellbeing, financial wellbeing and vocational wellbeing, these sessions are designed to help individuals and communities address some of key challenges facing people in these times.

The Wellbeing Journey was run at a local café in Putney and was well-attended by both those from the church as well as the local community.

Those who attended appreciated the relaxed and informal setting and the opportunity to engage with important topics with an open and supportive group. Given the very many challenges so many are facing – both in the wake of the global pandemic and the current cost-of-living crisis – it is important that individuals from a range of different backgrounds are equipped with the vocabulary to talk about these important areas of mental, physical and spiritual wellbeing.

**Women**

Women's Ministry has continued to flourish over the course of the year with a number of gatherings specifically designed for women and women leaders.

We are fortunate to have such an outstanding group of women at SWLV many of whom bring extensive experience of leadership, entrepreneurship, expertise and wisdom, all of which is freely shared as together we seek to make a difference to the individuals and communities around us.

It has been a privilege to see a number of women speaking on Sundays and taking leadership roles across the life of the church. We remain committed to seeing women taking their rightful place, not only in the life of the church, but in its leadership, management and oversight.

Following the tragic events that took place at The Study School (directly opposite the church offices), we spent time as women to pray for all those affected: for the families, for the school and for the local community all of whom were significantly impacted by these tragic events.

Following the atrocities in Gaza and Israel, we were delighted to welcome a guest speaker. Having just returned from 9 months in Jerusalem, Nicola was able to share her experiences of engaging with communities in East & West Jerusalem, as she travelled through Israel and the West Bank, learning something of the layered stories of many. In the midst of the current escalating conflict, this was a wonderful opportunity to, once again, reflect on ways in which we embrace difference as well as giving space to pray for all those in Israel and Gaza.

**Worship**

We believe that worship is our highest priority in the Vineyard and central to our commitment to make, train and equip disciples who love and serve Jesus and who love and serve others. Over the course of 2023, we have continued to go deeper in our worship with the Worship Pastor investing in developing and overseeing worship teams.

Throughout the year a series of worship community gatherings were held to strengthen and deepen the relationships between the many people who give of their time and energy in this important area. Alongside training and team building events a number from the worship teams attended the VCUKI worship conference, 'Come Holy Spirit'.

**The Yard**

The Yard is our ministry space and community centre on the Ashburton estate in Putney and has been our base throughout 2023 for a range of community-focused initiatives including: Foodbank, Growbaby, Small Groups, Housing Advice, Job Club, Financial Advice, Benefits Advice, Citizen's Advice Bureau Support, and a range of community social events.

These initiatives are led by staff members, lay leaders, external agencies, and a significant number of volunteers.

The Community Outreach & Evangelism Pastor has done a great job developing both existing areas of ministry and pioneering new initiatives tailored to meet the needs of the most vulnerable from the local community. Over the course of the year, relationships and connections with local churches and

organisations have been strengthened and established with many showing support for the many initiatives at The Yard through generous donations of food and clothing. The Community & Outreach Pastor was invited to speak at local churches specifically about the ministry at The Yard.

Alongside Foodbank and Growbaby, Job Club has built steadily over the year and provided a much-needed support to those looking to get back into work.

The Yard has continued to open up as a drop in space for those from the local community to gather in a warm space and build relationship with one another over a hot drink and some free food. Tea & Toast on Tuesdays and Exploring Faith have been great additions to the services offered at the Yard and key relationships have been forged as a result.

The Yard remains a central part of our calling and mission as a church to serve those around us and especially those most in need. We are grateful for the privilege it is to build and deepen relationship with those from our local community and, wherever possible, to invite them along to church and point them towards Jesus.

The social impact and public benefit demonstrated through The Yard is significant. A friendly and welcoming, safe space for all to enjoy irrespective of ethnicity, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, or beliefs (including lack of religion or beliefs) is a wonderful opportunity for all to benefit from being part of the wider ministry of SW London Vineyard.

## **Youth**

Here at SW London Vineyard, we want everyone – especially our young people – to feel welcome and at home. For those of aged between 11 - 18, Youth Church runs every Sunday morning at the Ark and each week over 20 youth gather together for a catch up over breakfast, Bible study, games and sport. Key themes for this year have been the Armour of God and Worship.

On the second Friday of the month, over 20 young people, many of whom are friends of the youth, join our Youth Club in Putney, which is a space to bring friends, chill out, watch movies, eat pizza, and connect with one another in an informal setting.

In February, the youth hosted the Sunday Service in a Youth takeover, leading all aspects of the service including worship, serving, teaching and ministry.

Every so often we run youth social events which in 2023 included a DTI Roadtrip, David's Tent Worship events, and bowling.

Over the summer 14 youth attended the VCUKI national youth festival Dreaming the Impossible

Especially in the wake of the pandemic, the provision of a safe space for youth to explore their faith with a team of trained and trusted leaders has proved to be invaluable. Not only does this provide them with an opportunity to reflect on their own relationship with God, it gives the young people a safe space to talk through some of the important issues and challenges they face on a daily basis. This in turn has a positive impact on their mental health, spiritual and emotional wellbeing.



### **Volunteer Workforce and Leaders**

Over the course of 2023 we have seen a number of people joining volunteer ministry teams across the church. These teams are central to our on-going ability to offer the incredibly wide range of ministries and services as we have always done.

A number of key initiatives have helped with this including the appointment of a Teams' Pastor in January of this year.

The Teams' Pastor has worked hard to identify opportunities for people to give of their time and energy in a voluntary capacity and has developed a range of materials to ensure this is done in a safe and appropriate way. All teams now receive a Teams' Welcome Pack which includes: written role descriptions; safeguarding information and a thank you card.

To ensure teams are properly resourced for their roles, volunteers are required to undergo basic training in Child Safeguarding, Adult Safeguarding, First Aid and Health & Safety (risk assessment; fire safety; manual handling; slips, trips and falls). This provision equips all our teams with appropriate training in the areas that apply to their role and helps ensure that SW London Vineyard remains as safe a place as possible for all.

In July 2023, we hosted a Teams 'Thank You' event to express our gratitude to the 120+ people who serve in a voluntary capacity here at SWLV. This evening drinks party, at Pembroke Lodge, Richmond Park was a wonderful opportunity to gather together and celebrate all that has been achieved in and through these teams.

We have been incredibly blessed by God and remain deeply indebted to the Lord for the very many wonderful servants committed to Christ, His Church, and His Cause through the ministry of SW London Vineyard, even when faced with the challenges of a cost-of-living crisis and on-going global uncertainty.

In so many very diverse and creative ways servant-hearted, kingdom-focussed, passionate and gifted individuals have set about to

'equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.' Ephesians 4:11-12

Without each one of these doing their part, quite simply, there would be no SW London Vineyard and we are very grateful to each and every one.

### **Safeguarding & Spiritual Abuse**

Safeguarding continues to be a priority and key focus here at SW London Vineyard and we take all safeguarding matters extremely seriously as we work hard to ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the congregation attending any and all SWLV services and events.

The annual Safeguarding Policy review was conducted by the Safeguarding Co-ordinators in March 2023 and the Policy revised and updated according to current legislation and best practice before being reviewed by the Designated Safeguarding Trustee, the Board of Trustees and Thirtyone:eight.



In light of the number of cases relating to allegations of Spiritual Abuse in the wider church, we felt the only appropriate response was to ensure our policies and practices were made clear to all those at SWLV, to recognise the devastating consequences of spiritual abuse along with how concerns should be raised.

As a church, SW London Vineyard is committed to being open, honest, and accountable before the Lord, and we are wanting to actively encourage healthy and transparent relationships across the church – whether between members of the congregation, teams, staff, Trustees or leaders. Tackling problems, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, is vitally important to maintaining the overall health and well-being of the church and all who are part of it.

It is our belief that the Church has a duty of responsibility to guard against the dangers of spiritual abuse and the harm it can bring to individuals and communities. As a result, the Trustees approved a framework, made available to all members of SWLV and publicly available on our website outlining; how to recognise spiritual abuse; key characteristics of spiritual abuse; reporting concerns of spiritual abuse and resources to agencies who specialise in supporting those affected by spiritual abuse.

We would like to express our gratitude to all those who helped contribute to this paper, especially Prof. Lisa Oakley, Professor of Safeguarding and Knowledge Exchange, University of Chester.

Throughout 2023, we have focused on ensuring SWLV is a safe space for everyone. We have done this by reviewing and making updates to our policies, providing ongoing training and ensuring rigorous complaints processes are in place for every member of SWLV, staff, volunteers and those who make use of our activities and services. We have also pro-actively collaborated with social services and other authorities in ongoing situations where appropriate. A large amount of time is spent training our staff and volunteers, and ensuring our processes and procedures are robust and regularly reviewed.

Within our training and resources, we make clear that safeguarding issues can occur within both SWLV and also at associated events. We do also underline that such issues have the potential to occur elsewhere, such as when SWLV members and volunteers open up their homes to others, outside of formal SWLV events and activities.

Additionally, as part of our on-going commitment to Safeguarding, all workers – including volunteers – with Children, Youth or Adults at Risk are appointed, trained, supported and supervised in accordance with government guidance on safe recruitment.

This includes ensuring that:

- there is a written role description / person specification for the post
- those applying have completed an application form and a self-declaration form
- those shortlisted have been interviewed
- safeguarding has been discussed at interview
- written or verbal references have been obtained, and followed up where appropriate
- a disclosure and barring check has been completed where appropriate (and will be updated every 3 years)
- qualifications, where relevant, have been verified

- a suitable training programme is provided for the successful applicant, including specific safeguarding training
- the applicant has been given a copy of the church's safeguarding policy for Children, Youth and Adults at Risk and knows how to report concerns

In November we joined in with Safeguarding Sunday, a Thirtyone:eight national initiative intended to raise awareness of Safeguarding across the church and specifically to identify appropriate ways of reporting concerns. Key personnel including the Safeguarding Coordinators and Designated Safeguarding Trustee, along with independent agencies, were highlighted to ensure those in the church are aware of resources available to them.

An A5 card outlining Safeguarding principles along with key contact details has been made available to all volunteers, small group leaders, children and youth teams and is included in every newcomers' pack.

As part of our commitment to Safeguarding, all workers and volunteers – not just those working with Children, Youth or Adults at Risk – will be expected to complete Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adults training. This will raise the awareness of Safeguarding across the whole of the church thereby helping to ensure that SWLV remains a safe place for all.

In addition to the above, 'safeguarding quizzes' are now included on a regular basis as part of the VKids pre-service team meetings. These short 'pop quizzes' reinforce best practice guidelines and are tailored to specific potential situations that could take place in VKids, thereby helping keep the importance of Safeguarding front and centre as well as reinforcing key learning.

Here at SWLV we remain committed to ensuring a high standard of Safeguarding for all children, youth and adults at risk. We work hard to ensure our policies, practices and procedures around safeguarding are robust and frequently reviewed and revised. This practice is central to our ministry and calling to be a welcoming and safe space for all and especially for those who are most vulnerable. As we seek to follow Jesus, we will do all we can to prevent any kind of abuse from happening and to respond well where concerns are raised.

## **FINANCIAL GIFTS**

### **Financial Gifts from Appeals**

At the beginning of the year we held restricted funds of £12,025. During the year this was boosted by restricted donations (including gift aid and items donated to the Growbaby ministry) totalling £6,912. From this we spent £6,250 to help those affected by the war in Ukraine and just under £6,507 to support projects we ran ourselves to help the local community. At the year-end we held restricted funds of £6,180 and we anticipate that most of this will be spent in 2024.

### **Other Financial Gifts**

In addition to the above, during the year financial gifts were made (or awarded to) the following organisations:

- Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland
- Hestia
- Ivy Street Family Centre
- Evangelical Alliance

In addition to the above, financial gifts were given via the Acts 435 initiative.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW**

### **Staffing**

The Senior Pastors continued to lead South West London Vineyard throughout 2023, with a focus on setting the vision and direction of the overall ministry of the church. One of the Senior Pastors also acted as a Trustee.

In January 2023 a part-time Women's & Teams' Pastor joined the team.

In October 2023 our part-time Administrative Manager returned to work from maternity Leave. As a result, the fixed term contract for our part-time Administrative Assistant's maternity leave cover came to an end. We are delighted that upon returning to work the Administrative Manager, alongside their existing role managing finance and compliance, will be stepping into a new role taking greater responsibility for the management and oversight of the staff team and other key areas of ministry.

In October we were delighted to appoint to the role of Pastoral Assistant: Ministry Support. This role is principally intended to serve as ministry support to our Children's and Families Pastor and Youth Pastor and we look forward to the impact they will have, given their extensive experience both with SWLV and in professional roles.

During the course of the year, new staff were taken through a full induction process including:

Contracts; Disciplinary Procedures; DSE; Eligibility to work in UK; Employee Handbook; Expenses Claims Forms; Facilities; Fire Safety; Job Description & Person Specification; Job Role; GDPR; Grievance Procedures; Health & Safety; Health & Safety Handbook; HMRC Starter Checklist; Holiday Forms; Hours

of Work; Lone Working; Offer Letter; Policies & Procedures; Probationary Periods; Record of Equipment Issued; References; Reporting Relationships; Salary; Sickness; Staff Benefits; Whistleblowing.

Following induction, an End of Induction meeting is held after 1 month, an Interim Review after 3 months and an End of Probation Review after 6 months. On completion of the Probationary Period, the staff member is notified in writing of the outcome.

Staff Appraisals take place on an annual basis in January, with on-going interim reviews at regular intervals throughout the year. The Staff Team meet regularly both as a whole team and for individual 1:1 meetings.

The Trustees would like to take this opportunity to express their gratitude to the Staff Team for their on-going hard work and without whom almost none of the many and varied ministries outlined in this report would take place.

### **Premises**

Throughout 2023 Sunday services continued at Ark Putney Academy which offers us both adequate provision of space, car parking and exclusive use, thereby reducing potential Safeguarding risks.

During the summer, due to extensive refurbishment works being carried out to the Main Hall, we relocated to the Upper Foyer. With the promise of a fully functioning new heating installation to the Main Hall, we were more than happy to do this.

The Staff Team continued to work from the church offices at Heston Court, Camp Road, Wimbledon.

The Yard, South West London Vineyard's community centre on the Ashburton Estate in Putney, continued to be used as a focal point for our outreach activities to the local community and as a centre for many of our ministries focussing on those in need.

### **GDPR, Database and Communications Tools**

Over the course of 2023 we continued to use ChurchSuite as our primary database and communication tool, remaining compliant with changes in legislation.

### **Health & Safety**

WorkNest continued to act throughout 2023 as our Health & Safety advisors and in the early part of the year carried out full Health & Safety audits across all sites (Ark, Offices and The Yard). We were pleased to see that the report highlighted only medium to low priority actions, all of which are being actioned by the Operations Pastor.

Through the use of an online portal, we are able to effectively manage risk across all sites and ensure that we remain compliant with current Health & Safety legislation across a wide number of areas including; fixed electrical wiring; RIDDOR; enforcement notices; fire safety; gas safety; first aid; statutory inspections; manual handling; risk assessments; training records; emergency lighting; legionella testing; pest control; lone working; etc. This represents and requires a significant amount of management and control to ensure we continue to provide safe places for workers, volunteers and members of the public across all church-related activities.

WorkNest also provides us with a central location for recording that necessary checks are being completed at regular intervals, along with a central storage location for certificates, policies, risk assessments and other Health & Safety records.

With full access to the Health & Safety Knowledge Hub and with access to Health & Safety and expert legal advice, we are able to effectively monitor and manage this important area for an organisation such as ours.

### **Training**

The Health & Safety Executive requires that organisations with at least one employee should provide the same level of protection to volunteers where they carry out similar activities and are exposed to the same level of risk as employees. The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (HSWA) protects employees and others who may be affected by work activities. This includes those volunteering for, or on behalf of the organisation and is enforced by HSE.

To ensure that SWLV remains as safe a place for everyone, including all workers and volunteers, we seek to do all we can to protect both employees and volunteers from any potential risks arising from church-related activities. A key part of this means that volunteers, as well as employees, are included in risk assessments in order to identify any potential significant risk and implement effective control measures.

A significant element of these control measures, rolled out in 2023 to all staff and volunteers was the requirement to undergo Health & Safety and Safeguarding training provided through Astute (part of WorkNest). The basic training level for all staff, trustees and volunteers includes: Introduction to Safeguarding Adults & Awareness of Safeguarding Adults; Introduction to Safeguarding Children & Awareness of Safeguarding Children; First Aid; Introduction to Working Safely (Your Health & Safety, Risk Assessment, Fire Safety, Slips & Trips and Manual Handling). At the time of writing, 64% of staff and volunteers enrolled on these courses have completed relevant aspects and we continue to work hard to encourage all those volunteering to make this a priority.

We recognise the significant amount of time and effort it takes to work through these modules, and we are grateful to all those who have recognised the importance of undergoing such training to ensure SWLV remains a safe place for all.

In addition to the above basic training modules, the staff team have access to additional modules including; Anti Bribery & Corruption; Appraisals; Coaching; Diversity & Inclusion; Driving at Work; DSE; Electrical Safety; Environmental Awareness; Food Safety (Levels 1-3); Legionella & Water Safety; Managing Personal Stress; Martyn's Law; Mental Health; Modern Slavery Awareness; New Mothers in the Workplace; Personal Data Protection; Personal Safety; Remote Working; Preventing Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace; Respect in the Workplace; RIDDOR; Supporting Mental Health at Work; Working with Dual Screens; Working with Young People; UK Equality Legislation; Violence & Aggression.

Alongside the above, members of the staff team have undertaken the following additional training where relevant to their roles; additional Safeguarding training; ChurchSuite training; De-escalation training; Emergency First Aid Training at Work; Fire Warden training; Foodbank Signposting; Mental Health First Aid training; Paediatric First Aid.

One of the senior pastors gained accreditation as a trainer in C-Me (a behaviour profiling tool designed to empower employees and improve performance). This enabled the team to utilise their personal C-Me profiles as part of a series of team building and personal development exercises.

### **Policies, Procedures & Practices**

With the increasing number of laws and regulations churches are required to comply with, our on-going commitment to review and revise our policies and procedures continued throughout 2023.

Policies and procedures help to ensure that, as an organisation, we comply with best practice and legal regulation. Much like an endoskeleton, policies, procedures and practices provide the necessary support structures; protect the health of the organisation; and enable the church to remain mobile and actively engaged in the important work of ministry.

Over the course of 2023 we have reviewed or revised a number of policies and practices including:

Anti-Money-Laundering, Terrorism & Bribery; Bullying & Harassment; Climate Justice; Complaints Handling; Communications; Cookies; COSHH; Cyber Security; Data Protection; Dealing with the Media; Display Screen Equipment; Environmental Impact; Equal Opportunities; Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; Ethical Investment; Financial Reserves; GDPR; Grievance Procedure; Health & Safety; Internal Control; Lone Working; Making Payments Overseas; Martyn's Law; Modern Slavery; New & Expectant Mothers; Online Safety; Pastoral Care; Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans; Privacy; Reserves; Risk Management; Sabbatical; Safeguarding Children, Youth and Adults at Risk; Safer Recruitment; Safety in the Workplace; Social Media Usage; Spiritual Abuse; Staff Appraisals including 360° Reviews; Staff Handbook; Stress in the Workplace; Trustee Conflict of Interest; Violence & Aggression in the Workplace; Violence Prevention; Violence Towards Staff & Teams; Whistleblowing; Working Time Regulations; Working at Height; Volunteer Recruitment & Management.

### **Finance Support**

At the start of the Administrative Manager's maternity leave in October 2022, the Trustees authorised the outsourcing of the day-to-day handling of SWLV finances to an independent firm of accountants, Rogers Spencer. The firm was appointed following the comparison of a number of quotations and they ensured that proper accounting procedures were followed throughout the following 12-month period.

The Trustees would like to express their thanks to the Community Outreach & Evangelism Pastor, a qualified accountant, who – in addition to his current workload – stepped in to monitor and oversee day-to-day financial transactions on behalf of the Staff Team and Trustees.

The agreement with Rogers Spencer was terminated at the end of the Administrative Manager's period of maternity leave when they returned to their role.

### **Structure, Governance & Management**

SW London Vineyard (incorporated on 13 February 1995) is a charitable company (limited by guarantee) and is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association which were adopted on 13 February 1995.

The governing document was amended by special resolution passed on 3 August 2008 and, more recently, by a special resolution passed in February 2023. As a charity, the church acts entirely as a non-profit making organisation. The church has also been granted exemption from using the word "Limited" in its title.

Trustees would usually be expected to be Christian and either leaders or professionals of some standing and repute. Additionally, they will have become familiar with the values, ethos, ministry and operations of the church through their commitment to the local church.

Checks are undertaken to ensure they are in good standing and that they:

- are not an undischarged bankrupt
- have not been convicted of any offence involving dishonesty or deception
- have no criminal record
- are not banned by the Charity Commission in the UK
- are not subject to a disqualification order under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 nor to an order made under section 429 (2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986
- have not been removed from being concerned in the management or control of anybody under Section 7 of the Law Reform (miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990
- have not been removed as a Trustee by the Charity Commission or the High Court

All new Trustees are supplied with the following:

- Recent financial accounts
- Articles and Memorandum of Association
- Staff Handbook
- Health and Safety guidelines
- Risk Assessments
- Orientation covering the charity's objectives

### **Structure, Governance & Management continued**

New Trustees are recruited and appointed by the existing Trustees, although a standing invitation remains in place for anyone who would like to be considered for the role. Trustees are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. New Trustees are provided with information relevant to their duties and are encouraged to undertake relevant training to help them with their responsibilities.

SW London Vineyard is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and affiliated to Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland, a wider network of approximately 120 churches across the country. SW London Vineyard regularly grants a proportion of its income to the work of Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland to support the establishing of new churches and missions work abroad.

### **Trustees / Directors**

The Trustees set out below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 January 2023 to the date of this report:

- Rachel Moseley (Chair from 2 May 2023)



- Stephanie Bell
- Robert Byk
- Ravi Gidoomal
- Ruth Koch
- Patrick ten Have
- Neil Woodward (Chair until 2 May 2023)

Martyn Wake served as a trustee until he resigned on 10 July 2023.

Helen Kite served as Company Secretary.

The Trustees met formally on 6 occasions throughout 2023:

- 6 February
- 3 March
- 2 May
- 10 July
- 18 September
- 11 November

### **Statement of Responsibilities**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity and company law requires the Trustees/Directors to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees/Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- comply with applicable accounting standards subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation

The Trustees/Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



### **Internal Controls**

As part of their continuing responsibility, the Trustees have endeavoured to ensure that reasonable internal control procedures are in place as appropriate for the development of the church.

These include:

- annual budgets are approved by Trustees and reviewed on a regular basis
- Management Information Reports are issued on a monthly basis, including cash flow, actuals against budget, monitoring of operational reserves
- regular reviews of Risk Register and associated Action Log, a standing agenda item at all Trustees' Meetings
- periodic reviews of policies

### **Risk Management and Compliance**

Throughout 2023, the Trustees continued to maintain a centralised Risk Register to identify and mitigate major strategic, operational and financial risks to the charity. The full Risk Register was reviewed on a regular basis by the Trustees and discussed as a standing agenda item at all Trustees' Meetings. The Risk Register is available for all Trustees to review at any time via GoogleDocs.

The risks listed in the Risk Register include those which focus on Governance, Leadership, Financial, Operational, Safeguarding and External risks. In addition to the on-going risks that are on the register from year to year, specific risks identified and mitigated during 2023 included:

- Risk of reduction in financial gifts due to changing demographic of membership and economic climate resulting in over-reliance on small number of significant givers, endangering financial viability of the church, a reduction in resources and activities impacting church growth and/or reputational damage
  - This is being mitigated by; tracking and monitoring giving trends through regular reporting to the Trustees so that they can take remedial action if required; monitor giving trends and track on MIR; maintain 3-6 months' operating expenses reserves policy; ensure operating expenses separately held from reserves ; review and monitor current reserve assets; monitor income trends and make appropriate reductions in costs and/or strategies to increase income accordingly
- Risk of increased costs due to inflation, regulatory requirements and significant claims e.g. pensions, health insurance and other benefits, threatening the financial viability of the church or becoming unaffordable
  - This is being mitigated by; regularly monitoring spending; review budgets on a quarterly basis against affordability; staff costs to not significantly exceed approved 50% of income budget; regularly review strategy re: giving / tithing/ generosity
- Risk of loss of significant givers endangering financial viability of the church, a reduction in resources and activities impacting church growth and/or reputational damage
  - This is being mitigated by; Trustees monitoring giving trends and track on MIR; considering remedial action if required; maintaining 3-6 months' operating expenses reserves policy; ensuring operating expenses separately held from reserves; reviewing and monitoring

current reserve assets; monitoring income trends and making appropriate reductions in costs and/or strategies to increase income accordingly

On-going monitoring was carried out during 2023 with regard to the compliance requirements of the church in the areas of Child Protection, Disability Discrimination, Employment Law, Health & Safety, etc.

WorkNest continued to act as the church's HR consultants and worked closely with the Senior Pastors and Administrative Manager ensuring compliance in employment matters and enabling the church to keep fully up to date with changes in Employment Law.

WorkNest continued to act as the church's Health & Safety Consultants, again working closely with the Senior Pastors and Operations Pastor to ensure compliance in health and safety best practice ensuring the church was kept up to date with current Health & Safety legislation and best practice.

WorkNest also provided Staff & Volunteer training modules in the form of an E-Learning platform thereby ensuring that training and equipping resources are made available to all workers and volunteers to keep SWLV a safe place for everyone.

Thirtyone:eight continued to provide support and provision for all Safeguarding matters and we remain indebted to their professional and thorough on-going support and advice whenever Safeguarding concerns are raised.

Mazars Financial Planning Limited acted throughout the year as the charity's Investment Advisers and continued to provide investment advice to the Trustees to ensure the best stewardship of the financial resources entrusted into our hands by God.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The 2023 accounts were independently examined by an employee of Stewardship Services (UKET) Ltd.

The charity continues to rely on the generous donations of its members as its principal source of income. In the current cost-of-living crisis, especially with increasing energy prices, we have taken steps to keep bills under review and negotiated a fixed-term contract with suppliers to keep costs as low as possible.

During the year income was almost unchanged at £643,000 (2022: £641,000). Donation income fell by £10,000 but this was more than compensated by increases in income from investments and from the events we ran.

Expenditure increased by £164,000 to £795,000. The main reasons for this were:

- an increase of £90,000 in staff costs following changes to the team – primarily where positions were filled that had been left empty since as early as September 2021
- an increase of £34,000 in general ministry expenses because church ministry is beginning to return more normal levels of activity, following the pandemic and the slow transition out of it; this includes the first Leaders' Weekend (a training event for our leaders) since 2018
- an increase of £40,000 in general administrative expenses and office costs due to the bookkeeping support we received this year from Rogers Spencer, higher insurance premiums and a higher spend on IT

As result the charity has reported a deficit this year of £152,000 (2022: surplus of £10,000) from its operating activities. Changes in the market value of the charity's investments gave rise to a gain of £39,000 (2022: a loss of £121,000) and therefore, overall, the charity has reported a deficit this year of £113,000 (2022: £111,000).

This year's increase in the market value of the charity's investment portfolio reverses some of the previous year's large fall. The Trustees continue to closely monitor the performance of the charity's investments and take investment advice (see below).

The charity's net assets decreased by £113,000 to £1,254,000. Net assets comprised tangible and intangible fixed assets of £261,000, investments of £927,000 and net current assets of £66,000. Net current assets included cash of £62,000, of which £54,000 was unrestricted.

### **Investment Policy**

Mazars Financial Planning Limited acted throughout the year as the charity's Investment Advisers.

The Trustees wish to invest principally for capital growth at this point, with any income being accumulated for now but with the potential for income to be paid to SWLV in the future. The Trustees may choose to use the funds for the purchase of property, but they may be used for other expenditure.

In their investment decisions, the Trustees use the following principles:

- **Short-Term Liquidity (up to 5 years):** The Trustees are satisfied that the short-term liquidity requirements of SWLV are likely to be met by its current level of bank reserves, expected income, and from investments in gilts and bonds (which can be readily realised).
- **Medium to Long-Term Investments:** The trustees have decided to invest some of SWLV's money to achieve long-term growth and the potential to purchase property. However, they also wish to retain the flexibility to fund day-to-day expenditure if strategically important.
- **Moderate or Medium Risk Profile:** This is comprised of 3 elements:
  1. the Trustees' risk tolerance (or attitude to risk);
  2. the charity's capacity to take risk (given its cash flow objectives) and;
  3. its risk requirement (or need to take risk to achieve its objectives)
  - Risk tolerance: The Trustees have a tolerance to investment risk which Mazars describes as being moderate or medium risk.
  - Risk capacity: At this point in time as SWLV has no specific cash flow objectives; it has the capacity to cope with a fall in the capital value of the portfolio in the short term.
  - Risk requirement: The Trustees do not need to achieve a specific rate of return to achieve SWLV's long-term goals but seek to out-perform inflation and achieve a reasonable return in comparison to market performance, so as to preserve the purchasing value of the portfolio until the funds are used.
- **Ethical Investments:** The Trustees have decided to employ an ethical-screening policy. This is explained as follows:
  - The Trustees seek to invest the charity's assets in a manner which broadly reflects the attitude of the congregation toward ethical matters, and which also recognises that biblical stewardship will influence the choice of underlying investments as well as the way the funds are handled.
  - From time to time the Trustees may ask Mazars to consider increasing the exposure of the portfolio to higher risk, less liquid social impact investments, where such investments are consistent with and/or related to the ministry of SWLV.
  - Mazars have completed an assessment of the Trustees' views on ethical investment and are guided by those views when they advise on investment decisions.

In order to meet the investment objective and to stay within the investment principles, the Trustees have decided to invest most of the portfolio in UK and overseas equities and in fixed interest securities.

### **Reserves Policy**

SW London Vineyard seeks to adhere to Biblical principles when considering the issue of financial reserves. On the one hand we wish to store up in the good years for use in the years of famine (Genesis 42 v28-31) without hoarding for its own sake, whilst on the other we want to avoid storing up for ourselves treasures

on earth (Matthew 6 v19-20) and therefore wish to use any income we receive for the benefit of the kingdom of God as soon as possible.

Our Reserves Policy is framed around holding adequate reserves for:

- growth and specific future projects: to enable decisions to be made without having to make short term funding restrictions
- regular, short-term fluctuations: to balance any period of difference between income and expenditure in any given period
- financial setbacks: to cushion the charity from unforeseen circumstances so they do not disrupt the everyday running of the charity
- insolvency

Category	Definition	Vehicle	Approach
Growth & future projects	Money set aside for a specific future project or to safeguard the charity against anticipated but unknown future events	Mazars Investment Portfolio	SW London Vineyard's Investment Strategy is reviewed on an annual basis. Future goals discussed with Mazars on an annual basis to ensure funds are being invested appropriately (short-term/ long-term etc.)
Regular, short- term fluctuations	<p>Money which is used for the charity's normal day-to-day spending</p> <p>Stewardship recommends that the charity current account never drops below an amount equal to a full month's normal spending</p>	<p>Bank of Scotland Current Account</p> <p>CAF Bank Account</p> <p>(Balances up to £85,000 are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme for each banking group with which we bank. The CAF Bank account will be used as a back-up account where the Bank of Scotland account exceeds this amount)</p>	<p>Monthly review through MIR and cashflow of current operating costs against income.</p> <p>Funds can be withdrawn from the Mazars Investment Portfolio – subject to Trustee written approval – and held in the CAF Bank account where funds in the Bank of Scotland account exceed the FSCS limit (£85,000)</p>

<p>Financial setbacks:</p>	<p>Money set aside to cover ongoing church costs of the charity in the event of a loss of income or an increase in running expenses or where a deficit budget has been approved</p> <p>As these funds might be called on at relatively short notice, Stewardship recommends that it is generally only appropriate for them to be invested in deposit or notice accounts where the amount available is known, guaranteed and fully accessible at short notice</p>	<p>CAF Bank Account</p> <p>Mazars Investment Portfolio</p>	<p>The Trustees have agreed to retain unrestricted and undesignated reserves to the equivalent of 4 months' budgeted expenditure, currently £250,000, in the Mazars Investment Portfolio</p> <p>An annual cashflow is prepared and updated monthly to anticipate the likely timing of withdrawals from the Mazars Investment Portfolio. In discussion with our Account Manager, these funds will be prepared for subsequent withdrawal and may be disinvested for storage in a cash fund/ short-term holding account (e.g. Gilts if to be held by Mazars), or otherwise transferred to the CAF Bank account (up to the FSCS limit of £85,000)</p>
----------------------------	--	--	---

Insolvency	Where the charity is unable to meet its financial obligations following the liquidation of assets and investments and must be wound up	Designated 'Wind Up Costs' fund held in the Mazars Investment Portfolio	The Trustees have set aside £188,000 (3 months of average expenditure at the point of calculation) to absorb the costs involved in the event of insolvency
------------	--	---	--

The overall target for holding reserves (being unrestricted investments plus unrestricted net current assets) is £633,000. Following the closure of the designated Building fund this year the actual reserves held at the year end amounted to £987,000, which is in excess of the minimum required by the stated policy. For the time being, the trustees plan to continue to invest in the charity's services and anticipate that the charity will use some of the excess over the coming year.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

As we look ahead to 2024, the following are some of the future plans as we look to see the kingdom of God extended in the lives of those around us.

### **Vision**

Our vision for 2024 is to make, train and equip disciples who love and serve Jesus; who love and serve those around us; who love and serve the world in which we live and who love and serve His Body, the church. We want to remain true to our calling from Matthew 22, the Greatest Commandment, to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, soul and strength and to love our neighbours as ourselves. In order to do that we wish to remain faithful to our calling from Matthew 28, the Great Commission, to go to all nations, making disciples, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything Jesus has commanded.

### **Prayer**

Prayer continues to be central to all we do and so, once again, we will begin the new year with a prayer week and ensure a number of prayer spaces including online prayer, Sunday morning prayer and others will be available to people so that they can connect with others to pray.

In May we aim to join with churches from around the world as part of Thy Kingdom Come – a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost.

### **Alpha**

Having run The Wellbeing Journey in 2023 as a form of 'pre-Alpha', we plan to run Alpha again giving people the opportunity to ask questions about life and the Christian faith in a safe and supportive environment.

### **Bereavement Journey**

Following the preaching series on grief, we aim to launch The Bereavement Journey, a series of films and discussion groups that gently guide people, bereaved at any time, through the most common aspects of grief and bereavement, enabling them to process the implications for themselves and discern next steps.

This 7-week course offers an optional final session on faith questions in bereavement, provided from a Christian perspective. The Bereavement Journey is suitable for people of any faith or none and will be available to all.

### **Communications**

Building on the excellent work done by the Staff Team in 2023, we are looking to find new ways to engage as wide a group of people as possible with the good news of the Gospel of Jesus and the kingdom of God. We plan to roll out MyChurchSuite – effectively church in your pocket – to all members of the church, thereby enabling them to more easily access all the goings on in the life of the church including; small groups; events; communications; giving etc.

In addition, in order to remain compliant with GDPR, we will be launching the SWLV WhatsApp Community. This will enable all small groups and serving teams across the church to be able to communicate with one another in a safe and compliant way. Members of the church will be invited to join the SWLV WhatsApp Community and will then request to join groups that they are actively part of. Our



hope is that these initiatives will help create greater engagement and interaction between church members whilst highlighting the many and varied ways in which we can together engage and be a blessing to our local communities.

### **Embracing Difference**

Building on the discussions had around embracing difference, especially as this relates to sexuality, we are keen to continue the conversation as together we find ways to provide a welcoming and safe space for all irrespective of ethnicity, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, or beliefs (including lack of religion or beliefs).

### **Financial Stability**

Given the disruption and uncertainty of the past few years, and the current cost-of-living crisis, we are very mindful of the need to steward the resources the Lord has entrusted to us as well and as faithfully as possible.

We are so grateful for the incredible financial generosity of so many and will continue to work hard to ensure resources are managed in such a way so that we can be faithful to the mandate of our calling as a church.

Over the course of 2024 we will endeavour to communicate more effectively the difference every financial gift makes to those in the church as well as across our local communities – especially to those who are most vulnerable.

### **Leadership Development**

Following on from this year's Leadership Essentials course, the Senior Pastors plan to start a Disciples & Leaders group in 2024.

The aim of this group will be to further discuss some of the topics explored in the Leadership Essentials course focussing on some of the key ways, here in the Vineyard at least, we believe we've been called to love and serve those around us in light of Jesus' mandate from Matthew 28. Alongside that, to help us focus on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and all we read in Matthew 22 to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul and strength, we will be asking those who want to join us to gather with others to work through resources on being a disciple.

Given the challenges of our current cultural moment, we feel it is important to create a space to explore together how we retain our vision and values, whilst doing so in as safe, appropriate and culturally relevant a way as possible.

### **Policies Audit**

Over the course of 2023 a number of policies have been reviewed, revised and updated and over the coming year we aim to continue our on-going reviews of policies and procedures to ensure the proper infrastructure remains in place to enable us to function as well as we can as an organisation.

In light of the number of recent allegations across the wider church regarding leadership failures and spiritual abuse, we want to continue the work we have started on ensuring transparency and accountability in the church. We believe this starts by ensuring we have robust and carefully thought

through policies and procedures addressing key issues whilst maintaining open and honest communication.

We would like to thank the Trustees for their support and assistance in ensuring our policies and procedures remain current and are in-keeping with latest legislation.

### **Sabbatical**

One of the things strongly recommended by Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland is that all Senior Pastors should take a 3-month period of sabbatical every 7 years. Having led SWLV for the past 15 years, the Trustees are delighted that the Senior Pastors will be taking their first 3-month sabbatical from May - July 2024.

The Staff & Trustees have been working hard over the past several months to ensure that things run smoothly in their absence and, while this period of sabbatical will give the Senior Pastors a chance to pause and seek the Lord, it will give the church community an opportunity to step-up and help out.

### **APPROVAL**

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
Rachel Moseley (Jul 21, 2024 21:14 GMT+1)

Rachel Moseley  
Chair of Trustees and Director

Jul 21, 2024  
Date:.....

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 42 to 54 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 45 and 46.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

  
Ajay Rajani (Aug 5, 2024 10:34 GMT+1)

Ajay Rajani FCIE  
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
London  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Aug 5, 2024

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	611,717	6,912	618,629	628,879
Charitable activities	4	5,860	-	5,860	817
Dividends and interest receivable		18,148	-	18,148	11,057
Total income and endowments		<u>635,725</u>	<u>6,912</u>	<u>642,637</u>	<u>640,753</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Fundraising costs:					
Investment management costs		12,182	-	12,182	12,652
Charitable activities:	5	<u>769,853</u>	<u>12,756</u>	<u>782,609</u>	<u>617,696</u>
Total expenditure		<u>782,035</u>	<u>12,756</u>	<u>794,791</u>	<u>630,348</u>
<b>Net expenditure before investment losses</b>		<u>(146,310)</u>	<u>(5,844)</u>	<u>(152,154)</u>	<u>10,405</u>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>	9	<u>38,946</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,946</u>	<u>(120,931)</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<u>(107,364)</u>	<u>(5,844)</u>	<u>(113,208)</u>	<u>(110,526)</u>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	15	<u>1</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(107,363)</u>	<u>(5,845)</u>	<u>(113,208)</u>	<u>(110,526)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,354,905</u>	<u>12,025</u>	<u>1,366,930</u>	<u>1,477,456</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	15	<u>1,247,542</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>1,253,722</u>	<u>1,366,930</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account required by the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 45 to 54 form part of these accounts.

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Intangible assets	7	5,500	-	5,500	-
Tangible assets	8	255,521	-	255,521	263,727
Investments	9	927,134	-	927,134	882,783
		<u>1,188,155</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,188,155</u>	<u>1,146,510</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Stock	10	-	4,350	4,350	2,743
Debtors	11	45,754	-	45,754	14,080
Cash at bank and in hand	12	53,541	8,080	61,621	229,657
		<u>99,295</u>	<u>12,430</u>	<u>111,725</u>	<u>246,480</u>
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	39,908	6,250	46,158	26,060
		<u>59,387</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>65,567</u>	<u>220,420</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>					
		<u>59,387</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>65,567</u>	<u>220,420</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>1,247,542</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>1,253,722</u>	<u>1,366,930</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	15				
General funds		1,059,542	-	1,059,542	652,057
Designated funds		188,000	-	188,000	702,848
		<u>1,247,542</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,247,542</u>	<u>1,354,905</u>
Restricted Funds		-	6,180	6,180	12,025
		<u>1,247,542</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>1,253,722</u>	<u>1,366,930</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 however, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner and their report has been included in these financial statements.

The directors (who are the charitable company's trustees for the purposes of charity law) acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income or expenditure for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and were signed on its behalf by:

*Rachel Moseley*  
Rachel Moseley (Jul 21, 2024 21:14 GMT+1)

Rachel Moseley - Trustee and Director

Jul 21, 2024

Date

Company number: 03020873

Charity number: 1045257

The notes on pages 45 to 54 form part of these accounts.

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	A	<u>(154,082)</u>	<u>27,823</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of tangible and intangible fixed assets		(8,549)	(7,567)
Purchase of investments		(17,587)	(10,979)
Proceeds from sale of investments		12,182	12,652
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		<u>(13,954)</u>	<u>(5,894)</u>
<b>Change in cash and equivalents in the reporting period</b>		(168,036)	21,929
<b>Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>	B	<u>229,657</u>	<u>207,728</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	B	<u>61,621</u>	<u>229,657</u>

**Note A: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>	(113,208)	(110,526)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation charges	11,256	9,940
(Gains)/losses on investments	(38,946)	120,931
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(1,607)	414
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(31,674)	1,531
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	20,098	5,533
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<u>(154,082)</u>	<u>27,823</u>

**Note B: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	61,498	144,625
Notice deposits (with a term of three months or less)	-	84,906
Petty cash	123	126
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u>61,621</u>	<u>229,657</u>

An analysis of changes in net debt has not been presented because the charity does not have any borrowings.

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1 Statutory Information**

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

**2 Accounting Policies**

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets, which are measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"), with the Companies Act 2006 and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income including investment income is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part, income is generally recognised when it is received. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Donated goods. Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are recognised as income when receivable at fair value (being an estimate of the amount it would cost to purchase those items). When donated goods are distributed, an expense in respect of those items is included in the Statement of Financial Activities. At the year end any goods that have not been distributed are recognised as stock.
- iii) Income from charitable activities. This represents income receivable from events and resources supplied in furtherance of the charity's objects; income is recognised when events take place or when resources are supplied.
- iv) Income from investments. This is recognised when the income becomes receivable.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

The charity has taken the view that it has only one charitable activity, namely the advancement of the Christian faith, and all income from donations, legacies and charitable activities is in respect of this one activity.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination or audit of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

The Charities SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the charity is considered to be so integrated such that all material expenditure is considered to be for just one principal activity, which is the advancement of the Christian faith.

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**2 Accounting Policies continued**

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Intangible fixed assets

The cost of the charity's website is capitalised and amortised on a straight line basis over its expected useful life, which is expected to be 3 years.

f) Tangible fixed assets

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £500 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold property	Over 50 years after taking account of the building's residual value
Leasehold improvements	Over the remaining lease term or, if shorter, expected useful life
Church equipment	Over 3 to 5 years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

g) Investments

Fixed asset investments are held to generate income and / or for their investment potential. Investments are included at their market value at the balance sheet date. All gains and losses (be they realised or unrealised) are included in the Statement of Financial Activities under the heading 'Net gains / (losses) on investments'.

h) Leased assets

Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the charity are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

i) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

j) Taxation

The company is a registered charity; it has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

k) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Creditors and debtors are generally measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive).

l) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

**3 Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations made under gift aid	445,089	50	445,139	466,916
Income tax recoverable	112,420	13	112,433	116,691
Donations other than by gift aid	54,208	2,251	56,459	41,958
Donated items given to Growbaby ministry	-	4,598	4,598	3,314
	<u>611,717</u>	<u>6,912</u>	<u>618,629</u>	<u>628,879</u>



**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Conferences and church activities	5,860	-	5,860	817
	<u>5,860</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,860</u>	<u>817</u>

**5 Charitable expenditure**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>a Costs incurred directly on specific charitable activities</b>				
Staff costs	260,562	-	260,562	197,411
Staff expenses	13,311	-	13,311	6,567
Sunday services	66,338	-	66,338	74,597
Other ministry expenses	66,156	-	66,156	38,075
Grants, gifts and community ministries (note 5c)	101,057	12,756	113,813	105,718
	<u>507,424</u>	<u>12,756</u>	<u>520,180</u>	<u>422,368</u>
<b>b Costs incurred on support &amp; administration</b>				
Governance costs				
Cost of accounts preparation and independent examination	4,500	-	4,500	3,900
Staff costs	111,669	-	111,669	84,605
Staff expenses	5,705	-	5,705	2,808
General administrative and office costs	90,559	-	90,559	62,804
Premises	38,740	-	38,740	31,272
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	10,756	-	10,756	9,220
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	500	-	500	720
	<u>262,429</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>262,429</u>	<u>195,329</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>769,853</u>	<u>12,756</u>	<u>782,609</u>	<u>617,696</u>

In addition to the fees payable for the preparation and examination of the accounts, the charity paid £1,386 (2022: £1,211) to Stewardship for payroll bureau and consultancy services.

**c Grants, gifts and community ministries**

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2023 £
<i>Financial grants and gifts</i>			
Grants for UK and overseas mission	60,041	-	60,041
Grants for the relief of hardship	11,172	2,440	13,612
	<u>71,213</u>	<u>2,440</u>	<u>73,653</u>
<i>Community ministries</i>			
The Yard: rent, rates, utilities and other premises expenses			29,247
Other Compassion ministry expenses			10,913
			<u>40,160</u>
<i>Combined total</i>			<u>113,813</u>

The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2022 £
<i>Financial grants and gifts</i>			
Grants for UK and overseas mission	30,781	-	30,781
Grants for the relief of hardship	30,371	3,108	33,479
	<u>61,152</u>	<u>3,108</u>	<u>64,260</u>
<i>Community ministries</i>			
The Yard: rent, rates, utilities and other premises expenses			24,852
Other Compassion ministry expenses			16,606
			<u>41,458</u>
<i>Combined total</i>			<u>105,718</u>

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**5c Grants, gifts and community ministries continued**

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2023 £	2022 £
Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland		
to support its general work with the Vineyard movement	30,829	29,961
to support its work with young people	26,587	-
to support its work in Ukraine	6,250	25,513
Hestia	4,922	4,514
Ivy Street Family Centre	2,000	-
Mercy Outreach	-	344
Grants to other organisations individually less than £1,000	625	820
	<u>71,213</u>	<u>61,152</u>

The charity makes grants and gifts to a number of organisations and individuals to support activities that are consistent with the charity's own charitable objectives. The charity has undertaken to donate approximately 5% of its income to Vineyard Churches UK.

**6 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration**

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross wages and salaries	310,938	231,977
Social security	29,315	25,648
Pension costs	31,978	24,390
	<u>372,231</u>	<u>282,015</u>

Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers. The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	Number	Number
Pastoral	6.00	5.25
Administrative	3.00	1.25
	<u>9.00</u>	<u>6.50</u>

This year one employee received emoluments between £60,000 and £69,999 (in 2022 no employees fell in this range) and one (2022: one) employee received emoluments between £70,000 and £79,999.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the key staff named on the Company Information page. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2023 £
N Woodward, who is a trustee, and his wife Mrs C Woodward	<u>131,917</u>	<u>12,070</u>	<u>13,038</u>	<u>157,025</u>

The following amounts were charged in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2022 £
N Woodward, who is a trustee, and his wife Mrs C Woodward	<u>126,330</u>	<u>10,124</u>	<u>12,487</u>	<u>148,941</u>

Retirement benefits accrued to one (2022: one) trustee (namely N Woodward) under a defined contribution (money purchase) pension scheme.

Mr & Mrs N Woodward served as church leaders and received the above payments for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document. Their salaries are reviewed and agreed by the charity's other trustees by reference to pre-agreed salary scales. Mr & Mrs N Woodward are not present when their salaries are discussed and voted on.

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**7 Intangible fixed assets**

	Website £
Cost	
At 1 January 2023	9,844
Additions	6,000
At 31 December 2023	<u>15,844</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 January 2023	9,844
Charge for the year	500
At 31 December 2023	<u>10,344</u>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2023	<u>5,500</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>

**8 Tangible fixed assets**

	Freehold Property £	Leasehold Improvements £	Church equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2023	347,997	94,875	333,451	776,323
Additions	-	1,550	999	2,549
At 31 December 2023	<u>347,997</u>	<u>96,425</u>	<u>334,450</u>	<u>778,872</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	93,338	91,699	327,558	512,595
Charge for the year	6,960	1,459	2,337	10,756
At 31 December 2023	<u>100,298</u>	<u>93,158</u>	<u>329,895</u>	<u>523,351</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2023	<u>247,699</u>	<u>3,266</u>	<u>4,555</u>	<u>255,521</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>254,659</u>	<u>3,176</u>	<u>5,893</u>	<u>263,727</u>

**9 Fixed asset investments**

	2023 £	2022 £
Market value at the beginning of the year	882,783	1,005,387
Additions during the year	17,587	10,979
Disposals during the year	(12,182)	(12,652)
Realised and unrealised gains	38,946	(120,931)
Market value at the end of the year	<u>927,134</u>	<u>882,783</u>
Analysis of investments:		
UK equities	119,766	110,499
Overseas equity investment funds and unit trusts	344,834	319,649
Gilts and bonds	349,021	309,202
Cash	22,598	34,890
Real estate, commodities and other	90,915	108,543
	<u>927,134</u>	<u>882,783</u>

**10 Stock**

	2023 £	2022 £
Stock of items donated, or purchased, for Growbaby ministry	4,350	2,743
	<u>4,350</u>	<u>2,743</u>

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**11 Debtors**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	24,741	4,733
Prepayments and accrued income	21,013	9,347
	<u>45,754</u>	<u>14,080</u>

**12 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash at bank with immediate access	61,498	144,625
Notice deposits (with a term of three months or less)	-	84,906
Petty cash	123	126
	<u>61,621</u>	<u>229,657</u>

**13 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Employment taxes	7,480	-
Other creditors	21,343	15,792
Accrued expenses	4,500	4,320
Grant obligations	12,835	5,948
	<u>46,158</u>	<u>26,060</u>

**14 Pension commitments**

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £31,978 (2022: £24,390) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £350 (2022: £nil) were owed.

**15 Funds**

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Gains and losses 2023 £	Transfers in year 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Linda Spicer Memorial Fund	26,587	-	(26,587)	-	-	-
Building Fund	676,261	-	-	-	(676,261)	-
Winding Up Reserve Fund	-	-	-	-	188,000	188,000
	<u>702,848</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(26,587)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(488,261)</u>	<u>188,000</u>
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	<u>652,057</u>	<u>635,725</u>	<u>(755,448)</u>	<u>38,946</u>	<u>488,262</u>	<u>1,059,542</u>
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>1,354,905</u>	<u>635,725</u>	<u>(782,035)</u>	<u>38,946</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1,247,542</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Acts 435 Fund	1	1,410	(1,410)	-	(1)	-
Growbaby Fund	3,944	4,661	(4,255)	-	-	4,350
Ukraine Fund	6,250	-	(6,250)	-	-	-
Refugees Fund	1,830	-	-	-	-	1,830
Hestia Fund	-	691	(691)	-	-	-
Community Fund	-	150	(150)	-	-	-
	<u>12,025</u>	<u>6,912</u>	<u>(12,756)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>6,180</u>
Total funds	<u>1,366,930</u>	<u>642,637</u>	<u>(794,791)</u>	<u>38,946</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,253,722</u>

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**15 Funds continued**

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2023
	£	£	£	£
Intangible fixed assets	5,500	-	-	5,500
Tangible fixed assets	255,521	-	-	255,521
Investments	739,134	188,000	-	927,134
Stock	-	-	4,350	4,350
Debtors	45,754	-	-	45,754
Cash at bank and in hand	53,541	-	8,080	61,621
Creditors	(39,908)	-	(6,250)	(46,158)
	<u>1,059,542</u>	<u>188,000</u>	<u>6,180</u>	<u>1,253,722</u>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Gains and losses	Transfers in year	Closing balance
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Linda Spicer Memorial Fund	26,587	-	-	-	-	26,587
Building Fund	773,099	8,672	(9,993)	(95,517)	-	676,261
	799,686	8,672	(9,993)	(95,517)	-	702,848
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	669,844	602,161	(594,533)	(25,414)	-	652,057
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>1,469,530</u>	<u>610,832</u>	<u>(604,526)</u>	<u>(120,931)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,354,905</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Yangon Vineyard & Eden Ministry	-	344	(344)	-	-	-
Acts 435 Fund	1	1,815	(1,815)	-	-	1
Growbaby Fund	7,925	3,450	(7,430)	-	-	3,944
Ukraine Fund	-	21,763	(15,513)	-	-	6,250
Refugees Fund	-	2,500	(670)	-	-	1,830
Hestia Fund	-	50	(50)	-	-	-
	<u>7,926</u>	<u>29,921</u>	<u>(25,822)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,025</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>1,477,456</u>	<u>640,753</u>	<u>(630,348)</u>	<u>(120,931)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,366,930</u>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2022
	£	£	£	£
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Tangible fixed assets	263,727	-	-	263,727
Investments	179,935	702,848	-	882,783
Stock	-	-	2,743	2,743
Debtors	14,080	-	-	14,080
Cash at bank and in hand	220,375	-	9,282	229,657
Creditors	(26,060)	-	-	(26,060)
	<u>652,057</u>	<u>702,848</u>	<u>12,025</u>	<u>1,366,930</u>

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**15 Funds continued**

**Information about the various funds held by the charity:**

**Designated funds**

The **Building Fund** represents funds which have been set aside for the future purchase of a church building. Following a review the trustees concluded that this fund was not required and it was decided that this fund should be closed. Part of the balance was transferred to a new Winding Up Reserve Fund (see below) and the remainder was transferred to general funds.

The **Linda Spicer Memorial Fund** represents the legacy received from Linda Spicer, a longstanding employee and member of SW London Vineyard, as a result of naming SW London Vineyard as the sole beneficiary of her Unum Life Assurance policy.

Linda made no restrictions as to the way in which the money should be spent. However, on 21 November 2016, the Trustees of SW London Vineyard agreed to establish the fund, to invest it as part of the church's wider investment portfolio and to designate it (but by no means restrict it) for the following:

- a) Compassion ministries
- b) Local mission including Alpha
- c) International mission
- d) The work of Vineyard Churches

During the year the charity decided to distribute the remaining balance in this fund to Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland to support their work with young people (known as Dreaming The Impossible)

Though the charity fully intends to continue operating for the foreseeable future, the trustees believe it is prudent to create a new **Winding Up Reserve Fund** to ring fence the resources that would be needed to close the charity should this eventuality arise. The amount required is believed to equate to about 3 month's operating costs.

**Restricted funds**

The **Yangon Vineyard & Eden Ministry** fund represents five specific donations from SWLV members, in support of Yangon Vineyard & Eden Ministry. These were given through their UK charity, Mercy Outreach UK.

The **Acts 435** fund represents donations made anonymously by local people online, through the Acts 435 website, for local people in need, that have made an application through us at The Yard.

The **Growbaby** fund represents financial donations and donations of baby related items given to the Growbaby ministry run at The Yard, which provides new and good quality second hand clothes and equipment to families with children under 5 years, free of charge. Expenditure from this fund relates to the distribution of the clothes and equipment only.

The **Ukraine** fund was created from donations given to help those affected by the war in Ukraine. From the money received the charity has made grants to Vineyard Churches UK and Ireland to support their work in this area.

The **Refugees** fund was created from donations given to help support the charity's work with refugees.

The **Hestia** fund represents financial donations from members of SWLV, who wanted to contribute to the Christmas presents being given to children being supported by Hestia, who are part of families escaping domestic violence.

The **Community** fund was created from donations received to help support the charity's work in the community from The Yard.

**16 Operating lease commitments**

The minimum amounts payable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews) under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows:

	Other		Land and buildings	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Payments falling due:				
Within one year	1,904	2,991	25,565	25,565
Between one and five years	7,188	748	39,417	44,000
After five years	-	-	-	6,417
	<u>9,092</u>	<u>3,739</u>	<u>64,982</u>	<u>75,982</u>

During the year the charity was charged the following amounts in respect of its operating leases:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Hall hire contract	53,900	57,340
Property leases	40,678	39,910
Equipment leases	<u>2,578</u>	<u>2,991</u>

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**17 Transactions with related parties**

During the year the charity received donations totalling £259,266 (2022: £244,610) from related parties (which includes trustees, key management and any person or business closely connected to them).

The freehold property referred to in Note 8 'Tangible fixed assets' represents a 45% interest in a residential property owned jointly with Mr & Mrs N Woodward, who occupy the property; Mr Woodward is a trustee and he, with his wife, are the church's senior leaders. The joint ownership agreement for this property contains clauses that restrict the ability of the charity to realise its investment in the property however none of these restrictions would prevent the charity from instructing the sale of the property should the charity require the proceeds to remain financially viable.

During the year the charity was charged £4,489 (2022: £1,611) in relation to services associated with the above property; this expenditure was incurred in respect of the senior leaders' employment duties. No other expenses were paid to, or for, the trustees (except for reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity).

**18 Members**

Each member of the company commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £1.

**SW LONDON VINEYARD**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	General Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	General Funds 2022 £	Designated Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	611,717	-	6,912	618,629	598,958	-	29,921	628,879
Charitable activities	4	5,860	-	-	5,860	817	-	-	817
Dividends and interest receivable		18,148	-	-	18,148	2,385	8,672	-	11,057
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>635,725</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,912</b>	<b>642,637</b>	<b>602,161</b>	<b>8,672</b>	<b>29,921</b>	<b>640,753</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>									
Investment management costs		12,182	-	-	12,182	2,659	9,993	-	12,652
Charitable activities:	5	743,266	26,587	12,756	782,609	591,874	-	25,822	617,696
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>755,448</b>	<b>26,587</b>	<b>12,756</b>	<b>794,791</b>	<b>594,533</b>	<b>9,993</b>	<b>25,822</b>	<b>630,348</b>
<b>Net expenditure before investment losses</b>		<b>(119,723)</b>	<b>(26,587)</b>	<b>(5,844)</b>	<b>(152,154)</b>	<b>7,628</b>	<b>(1,321)</b>	<b>4,099</b>	<b>10,405</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>	9	<b>38,946</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>38,946</b>	<b>(25,414)</b>	<b>(95,517)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(120,931)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(80,777)</b>	<b>(26,587)</b>	<b>(5,844)</b>	<b>(113,208)</b>	<b>(17,787)</b>	<b>(96,838)</b>	<b>4,099</b>	<b>(110,526)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	15	<b>488,262</b>	<b>(488,261)</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>407,485</b>	<b>(514,848)</b>	<b>(5,845)</b>	<b>(113,208)</b>	<b>(17,787)</b>	<b>(96,838)</b>	<b>4,099</b>	<b>(110,526)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Total funds brought forward		652,057	702,848	12,025	1,366,930	669,844	799,686	7,926	1,477,456
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	15	<b>1,059,542</b>	<b>188,000</b>	<b>6,180</b>	<b>1,253,722</b>	<b>652,057</b>	<b>702,848</b>	<b>12,025</b>	<b>1,366,930</b>