

	Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
	From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
		Day 01	Month 01	Year 2023		Day 31	Month 12	Year 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	River Church (Orpington)		
Other names charity is known by	Ramsden Family Church (previous name)		
Registered charity number (if any)	1121675		
Charity's principal address	C/o Mr Patrick Wakeford		
	30 Pleasance Rd		
	Orpington, Kent		
	Postcode	BR5 3AR	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Patrick Wakeford	Chair of Trustees		
2	Peter Cross			
3	Arron Phillips			
4	Joel Perez	Treasurer		
5	Samantha Howard			
6	Hannah Urbanczyk		1 January – 27 February	
7				
8				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity’s trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	By Charitable Trust Deed
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	The Trustees must be appointed by a resolution passed by a simple majority at a meeting of the Trustees. (The appointment must be confirmed by Deed where property is held)

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the Church are:

1.

For the benefit of the public to advance the Christian Faith (in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs) in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Trustees from time to time may think fit;

2.

For education, care for the sick and relief of poverty in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Trustees from time to time may think fit.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Providing a place of worship for the River Church (Orpington) group to advance the Christian Faith for the benefit of the public.

Supporting voluntary workers in the World and within the U.K. to advance the Christian Faith for the benefit of the public.

Training members of River Church (Orpington) in Leadership Skills to advance the Christian Faith for the benefit of the public. This is done regularly at midweek meetings as well as special events.

Care of sick people within the church including visiting and providing support.

The employment of two part time community support workers to provide support and reach out to those in need in our community during and after the pandemic will continue in 2023.

Hosting Community and Outreach Events for the benefit of the Public in the Crays and Orpington. This brings local people together and fosters community spirit and cohesion. Other activities such as games and entertainment are provided for the benefit of the public. In addition, the church supports the local Foodbank and the local Christians Against Poverty group, both of which seek to alleviate poverty in the area. The Church is now running a CAP jobs club helping people in the local community find employment and improve their skills.

Youth Club evening to advance the Christian Faith for the benefit of the public. This involves activities which develop interpersonal skills of teenagers and young adults as well as connecting with other youth groups from other areas around the UK.

Running a Sunday School on a Sunday morning for younger attendees of the River Church to advance the Christian Faith for the benefit of the public, and to promote education. The Sunday School is open to all members of the public with different activities appropriate for the varying age ranges.

Activities undertaken by the church pastor have included:

- Overall leadership / providing direction for the River Church.
- Responsibility for organising regular church meetings.
- Responsibility for the overall set up and administration related to church meetings.
- Helping local people with personal needs.
- Providing community support groups within the church set up.
- Oversight for activities run for the local community such as outreach meetings.
- Providing spiritual and emotional support to those in need.
- Visiting people in hospital to provide support.
- Home visits for people unable to leave their houses for health/family reasons.
- Counselling people with mental health issues.

Please note that money was also spent on DBS Checks for volunteers involved in activities where appropriate.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Volunteers have contributed to the running of the Charity, particularly in practical ways on a Sunday morning in order to set up the meeting place so that it can run efficiently in order to advance the Christian Faith for the benefit of the public. Volunteers give their time and skills in many ways to support the ongoing work of the Charity.

Some of the volunteer roles have included:

- Placing signs / directions to the meeting centre.
- Setting up the chairs / banners / tables.
- Tea / Coffee provision.
- Setting up the stage for the musicians including all the musical equipment.
- Running a Sunday School.
- Organising & running games / rewards at community events.
- Setting up of equipment for the Community Events.
- Helping at the youth group which is run on some Saturday evenings.
- Visiting, befriending and offering hospitality to people in the community, including both two-parent and single-parent families, and individuals without any family support, by different church members.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The church continues to meet together every Sunday with new members joining, which includes some with a church background and others with no or limited previous experience of church. We are glad to see that many newcomers are from a very wide range of ethnic minorities and nationalities.

As the church activities grew, we have started using the Giggs Hill Church Hall building; this enabled us to hold a wide range of daily activities through the week that have greatly impacted the local community, from toddler groups, youth meetings, support groups, bible studies, men's and women's breakfast, CAP meetings, worship meetings, Gospel Meetings aimed at new believers, baptisms, picnics and other charitable events.

The charity continued its membership of the "Mission Life Grace" network of churches, which currently consists of five core churches, together with a number of associate churches. During July and August, the church supported many to attend our summer outdoor activities including boys camp, girls house party and our annual church's summer conference camping in Devon.

The church continues to stream our Sunday Services on YouTube from our original Zoom meeting during the pandemic, this has a positive impact tackling loneliness all across our communities. The leadership felt that it was important for people to still be able to participate in our services from home and not missed out due to mobility or any other issues that might keep them from attending our meetings in person.

The Kids' work within River Church has continued to grow and prosper; the groups expand the children's education by teaching them about the Christian faith, encouraging them to participate in the band and Choir and providing opportunities for them to grow through activities. We have had to increase the amount of DBS checked volunteers to support the children's ministries both on a Sunday and in the midweek.

The Youth work for teenagers and young adults has continued to develop; this provides a positive social environment for young people and helps build confidence, bible studies and socials have run every week and we are thankful for the leaders who faithfully served throughout the year.

The stable financial position enabled the charity to continue employing two Community workers, whose roles started in September 2020 and have now become permanent employees.

The church financially supports local people to alleviate poverty, together with providing support for missionaries overseas. The church also arranged a hamper for a homeless shelter, and Christmas gifts for an orphanage.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trust Deed states that "The Trustees will be jointly responsible with the Spiritual Leadership for the maintaining of a minimum cash balance within the church accounts of £500".

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The income received has mainly been provided through voluntary donations made by members of the public. In addition, further income was received from some of these donations through the Gift Aid scheme.

The expenditure enables the objectives to be fulfilled by sustaining the regular running costs of the charity and particularly by enabling the support of the pastor, which enables others to be trained and the core objectives to be developed. Money is given to several projects across the world to enhance our faith objective and the relief of poverty. International giving is matched in the local communities for relief of poverty and hardship.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Joel Perez

Full name(s)

Patrick Wakeford

Joel Perez

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair of Trustees

Treasurer

Date

27.10.2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
River Church (Orpington)

No (if any)
1121675

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts


For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2023	To	Period end date 31/12/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Offerory (Gift Aid Eligible & General)	108,967	-	-	108,967	77,398
Gift Aid Received	11,433	-	-	11,433	15,533
Bank Credit Interest	2	-	-	2	-
Other Gifts, Events & Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	179	-	-	179	97
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	120,580	-	-	120,580	93,027
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	120,580	-	-	120,580	93,027
A3 Payments					
Administration	1,929	-	-	1,929	5,470
Insurance & Child Protection	1,062	-	-	1,062	698
Community Events & Outreach	347	-	-	347	1,433
Kids Work & Youth	1,898	-	-	1,898	3,014
Group Network and Connected Events	3,171	-	-	3,171	1,930
Salaries, Employment Expenses, and Retirement Support of Former Pastor	54,247	-	-	54,247	58,343
Rent, Hall Hire and Building Expenses	24,710	-	-	24,710	12,536
Support of Missionaries, Gifts & Social Need	16,880	-	-	16,880	16,377
IT and Technology	2,098	-	-	2,098	4,306
Hospitality, General Expenses & Travel	1,441	-	-	1,441	807
Worship, Speakers & Training	572	-	-	572	1,289
Other & Misc (e.g. Special Events, Moving Costs etc. and Hardship Support)	-	-	-	-	1
Investment Expenses	87	-	-	87	86
Sub total	108,441	-	-	108,441	106,291
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	108,441	-	-	108,441	106,291
Net of receipts/(payments)	12,139	-	-	12,139	13,264
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	30,446	-	-	30,446	43,710
Cash funds this year end	42,585	-	-	42,585	30,446

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Main Bank Account	37,842	-	-
	Cash Box	-	-	-
	Reserve Account and Additional Account	4,562	-	-
	Investment Account	181	-	-
	Total cash funds	42,585	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Gift Aid Claims for 1 January to 31 December 2023 will be processed in 2024, and will therefore show in next year's accounts.	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Investment Account	Unrestricted	-	46,122
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Equipment e.g. Musical Instruments, Sound Equipment, Laptop, Projector, Chairs etc.	Unrestricted	-	3,000
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Patrick Wakeford Joel Perez	27/10/24 27.10.24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

RIVER CHURCH (ORPINGTON)

On accounts for the year
ended

31st DECEMBER
2023

Charity no
(if any)

1121675

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st DECEMBER 2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

T. S. Watson

Date:

10th OCTOBER 24

Name:

TERENCE STANLEY WATSON

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

40 FILSHAM ROAD
ST LEONARDS ON SEA
EAST SUSSEX, TN38 0PA