

# **THE CITY CHURCH**

Report and Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 August 2024

Company number: 06732225

Registered charity number: 1130031

# THE CITY CHURCH

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

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Company number	06732225
Registered charity number	1130031
Secretary	Mr S D Clark
Trustees	Mrs K Bailey Mr S D Clark Mr P Gregory Mr A Ntung Mr M S Segal Mrs F Thomas
Registered office:	34a Simmonds Road Wincheap Industrial Estate Canterbury Kent CT1 3RA
Independent examiner	Mr C M Geary

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# THE CITY CHURCH

## Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of The City Church for the year ended 31 August 2024.

The City Church is a company limited by guarantee, and it is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. Its principal address is 34a Simmonds Road, Wincheap Industrial Estate, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3RA.

### **Principal activity**

The objectives of The City Church are the advancement of the Christian religion according to evangelical and biblical principles.

### **Trustees**

The trustees during the year were as follows:

Mrs K Bailey

Mr S D Clark

Mr P Gregory

Mr C Pickford – resigned 25 July 2024

Mr M S Segal

Mr T J Wilson – resigned 4 April 2025

Mr A Ntung

Mrs F Thomas – appointed 6 November 2023

All of the trustees are also directors of the company. Mrs F Thomas was appointed a director on 6 November 2023, while Mr C Pickford resigned during the financial year on 25 July 2024.

### **Review of activities and achievements**

The church is led by a four man Eldership team, with two being full-time employees and one of those also being a director. They are supported in the day-to-day operations by a team of ten men and women comprising four full-time, six part-time staff and two volunteers.

During the year the church has continued to grow and thrive with Sunday service attendance regularly over 500 people. The church continues to utilise technology to stream Sunday meetings to reach a wider audience and provide access to those who are unable to come to church services in person.

# THE CITY CHURCH

## Trustees' Report

(continued)

Weekly worship meetings were held at Canterbury Academy. Other church activities and programmes listed below continued throughout the year:-

- Weekly and monthly prayer meetings.
- Weekly Small Groups where church members meet in small gatherings usually 8 – 16 in number. These meetings include, inter alia, worship, prayer and Bible study.
- Children's work is undertaken primarily on Sunday mornings.
- Regular youth work takes place during the week and weekends.
- A "Coffee and Chaos" meeting is held during the week for mothers and toddlers.
- Weekly meetings for students for praise, worship, prayer and teaching.
- The church operates the "Chartham Pantry", which provides food parcels and toiletries for individuals and families in the Chartham area who are struggling to make ends meet in this financially difficult time.
- "Make Lunch" is an outreach project designed to engage with and provide food during school holidays for families reliant on school dinners.
- Various Alpha courses are held to enable non-Christians to discuss and find out more about Christianity. During the year these have included courses for adults, students and youth.
- Various community events take place throughout the year.
- Marriage enrichment courses.
- Kintsugi Hope wellbeing courses.
- The Bereavement Journey course.
- Specific Men's and Women's events
- The church also works with other churches in Canterbury to support various community initiatives such as Street Pastors and Healing on the Streets.
- Volunteer workers undertake a formal teaching programme during their designated period to equip them for future roles and leadership either in the church or elsewhere.

The church has continued to thrive, with finances remaining stable, Sunday attendance and Small Groups significantly increasing. As a church we have been called to be an equipping and sending church, yet despite some members moving on during the year on missional activities the church continues to attract new members, and as a result membership has grown.

A main objective of the church is the advancement of the Christian Religion and to this end the church has supported various churches in the East Kent region as well as church plants into continental Europe. In previous years we have sent church members to begin church plants in France (Lille), Colchester (UK), Whitfield (UK) and a Gospel Plant into Sheppey (UK). We continue to maintain links with these churches and plants, supporting them with visits by Elders, worship leaders and financially when required.

Currently the church rents accommodation for administrative offices and various Church meetings. However, it aims to buy premises and with this in mind it has built up a "Building Fund" over many years to achieve this purpose. These funds are invested in fixed term deposits of various durations spread across multiple banks to maintain full FSCS protection of the funds, with the aim of maximising returns whilst minimising exposure to risk. The church has a 'building team' who continue to look at potential building opportunities as and when they arise.

# THE CITY CHURCH

## Trustees' Report

(continued)

### Review of Finances

The statement of financial activities for the year is set out on page 5. A summary of the financial results is set out below.

The Charity's income during the year was £555,000, and expenses were £529,000. All donated income is derived from Church members and no outside fund raising is undertaken. All funds donated to the Charity are used either for the day-to-day operation and meetings of the Church or to further Christian work in the UK or overseas in accordance with the objectives of the Charity. A separate building fund is maintained as funds are raised towards a new building project, and this has continued to grow.

Regular monthly giving has been sustained at a high level, which has allowed the Church to maintain its day-to-day operations and its general cash reserves. These general reserves are important, enabling the Church to meet any additional expenditure and to support any new Church work or project.

A prime objective of the Church is to give away an average of 10% of unrestricted income each year to support the advancement of the Christian religion in the UK and overseas. During the period covered by these accounts the amount given away or set aside for church planting projects has met this target.

### Trustees' responsibilities regarding the financial statements

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Church and of the income and expenditure of the Church for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:-

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- follow applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Church will continue in existence.

The trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the Church has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church 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 Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Church.

.....  
S D Clark

21 May 2025

# **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of THE CITY CHURCH**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The City Church (the church) for the year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, and the related Notes to the accounts.

## **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

It is my responsibility :

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## **Independent examiner's statement**

I confirm that no matter has come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me reasonable cause to believe:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the church in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

I have not come across any other matter in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Christopher Geary**  
Chartered Accountant  
Geary Partnership  
Church Hill Farm, Elmstone, Canterbury, Kent, CT3 1HN

21 May 2025

# THE CITY CHURCH

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
Donations		438,729	57,984	496,713	481,795
Charitable activities – church & social		29,399	420	29,819	20,180
Interest receivable		29,303	-	29,303	4,113
Total income		497,431	58,404	555,835	506,088
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Charitable activities & support costs	3	(470,986)	(58,656)	(529,642)	(482,357)
Net income/(expenses) before transfers		26,445	(252)	26,193	23,731
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		26,445	(252)	26,193	23,731
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		944,555	57,136	1,001,691	977,960
Total funds carried forward		971,000	56,884	1,027,884	1,001,691

# THE CITY CHURCH

## Balance Sheet at 31 August 2024

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Tangible fixed assets</b>					
Equipment	4		7,697		12,242
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	5	72,138		80,905	
Bank balances		957,719		924,685	
		<u>1,029,857</u>		<u>1,005,590</u>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors due within one year	6	(9,670)		(16,141)	
		<u>1,020,187</u>		<u>989,449</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>					
			1,020,187		989,449
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>1,027,884</u>		<u>1,001,691</u>

REPRESENTED BY:

### Funds

Unrestricted funds			
General fund		211,069	208,235
Designated fund – Building fund		759,931	736,320
Restricted funds	7	56,884	57,136
		<u>1,027,884</u>	<u>1,001,691</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

For the year ended 31 August 2024, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and no notice has been deposited under section 476.

The trustees, who are also the directors of the company, acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 21 May 2025.

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S D Clark

Company number: 06732225



# THE CITY CHURCH

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Operating activities				
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		26,193		23,731
Adjustments				
Interest received		(29,303)		(4,113)
Depreciation		4,994		4,887
Loss on disposal of assets		87		-
Movements in working capital				
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		8,767		(33,820)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		(6,471)		166
Cash generated by/(used in) charitable operations		4,267		(9,149)
Investing activities				
Equipment purchased	(536)		(5,545)	
Loan repaid by Hope Church, Wymondham	-		25,000	
Interest received	29,303		4,113	
Net cash flows from investing activities		28,767		23,568
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		33,034		14,419
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		924,685		910,266
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		957,719		924,685
REPRESENTED BY:				
Bank balances		957,719		924,685

# THE CITY CHURCH

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

### 1 General information

The City Church is a public benefit entity and a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. It is a registered charity.

### 2 Accounting policies

#### Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Church and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds which have been put aside at the discretion of the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions declared by their donors.

#### Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Church is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

#### Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources. Expenditure on charitable activities comprises all expenditure incurred directly in pursuance of the Church's charitable objectives. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with administration of the Church and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements. No amounts are included in the financial statements for the value of services donated by volunteers.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised and included at cost. Depreciation is provided on fixed assets at an annual rate of 20% on a straight line basis, over their expected useful lives.

# THE CITY CHURCH

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

### 3 Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2024	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	238,941	-	238,941	223,827
Pension costs	17,936	-	17,936	16,880
Staff costs	1,182	1,125	2,307	1,814
Operational costs	49,848	236	50,084	40,988
Sundry expenses	2,548	-	2,548	-
Communications/IT	11,418	197	11,615	9,334
Meetings	29,963	1,655	31,618	26,519
Projects & Ministries	64,371	10,254	74,625	40,107
Training	3,878	1,569	5,447	649
Gifts for others	-	11,981	11,981	23,980
RM Community	-	30,639	30,639	30,458
Tithes – paid out	45,108	1,000	46,108	53,178
Building refurbishment & fees	(608)	-	(608)	8,536
Accounts examination fee	1,320	-	1,320	1,200
Depreciation	4,994	-	4,994	4,887
Loss on disposal of assets	87	-	87	-
	<u>470,986</u>	<u>58,656</u>	<u>529,642</u>	<u>482,357</u>

The average number of employees was 10 (2023: 10).  
No employee received remuneration above £60,000.

### 4 Fixed assets - Equipment

	£
Cost	
Brought forward	41,582
Additions	536
Disposals	(6,389)
	<u>35,729</u>
Carried forward	
Accumulated depreciation	
Brought forward	29,340
Charge for the year	4,994
Disposals	(6,302)
	<u>28,032</u>
Carried forward	
Net book value	
Brought forward	12,242
	<u>7,697</u>
Carried forward	

# THE CITY CHURCH

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

### 5 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income tax recovered	55,293	57,623
Other debtors & prepayments	16,845	23,282
	<u>72,138</u>	<u>80,905</u>

### 6 Creditors – due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Creditors & accruals	8,700	13,197
Deferred income	970	2,944
	<u>9,670</u>	<u>16,141</u>

### 7 Restricted funds

	Brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Carried forward £
Sheppey	15,767	4,976	5,865	-	14,878
RM Community	41,369	31,695	31,105	-	41,959
Gifts for others	-	21,733	21,686	-	47
Total restricted funds	<u>57,136</u>	<u>58,404</u>	<u>58,656</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,884</u>

### 8 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	7,697	-	7,697
Debtors & prepayments	63,904	8,234	72,138
Bank balances	908,026	49,693	957,719
Creditors due within one year	(8,627)	(1,043)	(9,670)
Net assets	<u>971,000</u>	<u>56,884</u>	<u>1,027,884</u>