

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

For the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the examined financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

**Legal and Administrative Information**

The Elders of the church together with the minister are deemed to be the Charity Trustees. The Elders are elected by the Church Members and serve for a period of three years. They may then be re-elected for a further period of three years, following which they will not be eligible for re-election for one year.

The Elders and Minister who have served during the year and to the date of this report are as follows:-

Mr Richard Hill	Mr Brian Hosier (to 14.11.21)
Mrs Margaret Jenkins	Mrs Tina Ashitey
Mr Martin van Staveren (to 14.11.21)	Mrs Fredwyn Hosier
Dr Paul Ashitey	Mr Derek Wilcox (to 14.11.21)
Dr John Strange	Rev Melanie Smith (to 31.03.22)

The church premises are situated on the corner of Burford Gardens and Fox Lane, London N13 4AL. The church secretary to 14 November 2021 was Mr Martin van Staveren and from that date the contact person is Dr John Strange (secretary@palmersgreenurc.org.uk)

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

**Objectives and Activities**

The objective of this church is to advance the Christian religion in accordance with the doctrines, principles and usages of the United Reformed Church. The church is part of the Enfield and East Hertfordshire Local Area Group of the Thames North Synod of the United Reformed Church.

The church is also a member of Churches Together in Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Grange Park. Membership of the church is open to all on profession of faith and acceptance by existing members.

We aim to be a Church for all people who seek and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

The church has been in existence on this site for over 100 years, although a charity it was excepted from registration. It was first registered as a charity on 16 July 2009 under number 1130583.

The detailed work of leadership and organisation is carried out by members of Core Groups consisting of Elders and other members, with the Minister and Church Secretary associated as appropriate. Currently there is just one such group:

Worship and Study:      Convenor      Mrs Fredwyn Hosier

The Core Groups are supported by a Finance and Fabric Resources Committee to deal with the finance and property matters necessary to support the work of the church. The officers of this committee are as follows:

Mr Tony Obi-Ezekpazu	Chairman
Mr Brian Hosier	Secretary/Acting treasurer

Overall leadership and pastoral oversight are the responsibility of the current serving Elders of which there are 6. For pastoral purposes, they work in teams with non-serving Elders and other church members.

**Financial**

The accounts for the year are set out on pages 4 to 7. The trustees have taken the opportunity to prepare these financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 Section 144, using the Receipts and Payments basis available to small charities, and the United Reformed Church guidance.

As we decided not to transfer the usual £30k to our Designated Funds for property repairs and then received an insurance receipt of £28k we ended the year with a surplus on our Unrestricted Fund of £33,239 which when added to the balance brought forward gives us £59,735 to carry forward in this fund.

The designated funds are detailed in note 2 to the statements. These funds have reduced during the year due to payments to replace the boilers in our halls complex. At the end of the year the total of our Designated Funds was £200,721. Of this total £62,676 is held in a cash fund to help with the cost of replacing the sanctuary roof when the time comes. In addition we have investments allocated to this fund and worth £114,070 at 31 December 2021.

The restricted fund comprises mainly funds held on behalf of local churches for work with the homeless giving night shelter supported by All People All Places.

Reserves amount to approximately 6 months expenditure which is considered satisfactory in view of all exceptional expenditure being met from Designated Funds. It is known that more costs are likely to be incurred in the coming years to support the ongoing work of the church.

#### **Investment Policy**

In the past our funds were all held in bank accounts. However, when we were advised that work on the high-level roofs is not likely to be necessary for at least 5 years, £50,000 was transferred to COIF Investment Ethical Fund in 2016 in the hope that we can enjoy a higher return and at least keep pace with inflation. At the year end this investment was worth £114,070 and it is still considered this work is not yet required.

#### **Risk Management during the year**

The trustees have identified what they believe to be the major risks which the church faces and are satisfied that these have been adequately mitigated where necessary.

#### **Volunteers**

As would be expected within a church structure, all activities of the church are carried out by volunteers, apart from the Stipendiary Minister who is paid from a central church Ministry and Mission fund to which this church contributes, and our Organists who are paid directly by the church. The work of the church is, therefore, substantially dependent upon the voluntary members, but it would not be appropriate to consider the value of their time.

#### **Public Benefit**

When planning our activities for the year, the Elders have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit including the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Everyone is welcome to attend our regular services and other activities. Some of our regular worshippers are residents in residential homes in the area and where requested they are assisted to get to the church activities including worship.

#### **Achievements and performance**

Worship remains central to the life of Palmers Green URC, and we are grateful to the ministers, lay preachers, and our own worship teams who lead services.

The Church is a member of Churches Together in Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Grange Park, committed to undertaking activities together where possible and appropriate. We have continued to work with these other churches during the year, meeting regularly with representatives, and participating in pulpit exchanges and morning prayers during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We also participated in Lent Groups. This relationship with other churches is seen to be an important means of increasing our effective service in the community.

#### **Coronavirus**

The church has followed all government advice and any additional denominational recommendations. This has resulted in the buildings being closed for most of the year to all but a few permitted users. This in turn has led to a reduction in our income from users of £60k. This has been mitigated to some extent by reduced costs and we are currently making a claim on our insurers for this lost income. However the work and worship of the church continued in other ways and we are not expecting any detrimental effect on our ongoing work and mission.



**Achievements and Performance**

During 2017 the church agreed to do more to include the local community in our fellowship, and adopted a new Mission Statement:

We are a group of different people looking for,  
and finding, strength and meaning in God's love.  
You will always be welcomed gladly.  
We worship and pray together.  
We learn about God's love and forgiveness  
through Jesus, the Bible and with the help of each other.  
Together we will work to make Jesus present  
by loving actions done, and by loving words spoken,  
in this church and beyond these doors

Palmers Green URC is a member of the Enfield and East Herts Local Area Group, along with 9 other neighbouring United Reformed Churches. The churches in the group work together on issues including ministry, mission, and discipleship.

The church maintains and reviews a Safeguarding Policy, and DBS checks are carried out for all Elders and Junior Church workers.

The church regularly leaflets the local area with details of Easter and Christmas services and other events, and a weekly Saturday Coffee Morning is regularly attended by members of the local community.

During 2019 we started to look at the environmental impact of our activities. Various changes were made so that we now operate in a "greener" way, and the church qualified for a Bronze award from Eco Church. In 2019 we also became a member of the Inclusive Church network, which "celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate".

We collected to support various charities. The church has continued to support work in Tabora, Tanzania, through one of our church members who returned from working there during 2008.

We continue to collect food and cash donations for North Enfield Food Bank. During the winter of 2020/21 we hosted a Night Shelter one night a week for local homeless people. This was co-ordinated by All People, All Places, with different local churches hosting one night each so that the whole week was covered.

Our church membership at the end of 2021 was 64. There were 10 people in the congregation attending services regularly on Sunday mornings who had not yet committed to full membership.

While the number of children attending on Sunday mornings remains low, we have flourishing uniformed organisations. Parade services each quarter are always well attended by these young people. Relations with the leaders are good and there is a high level of participation in Parade Service preparation. At the end of 2021 we began considering the appointment of a paid Junior Church worker to assist in our work with children.

The Covid-19 lockdown meant that worship services and other activities in our buildings again ceased just before Christmas 2020. We were able to reopen from May 2021.

Whilst we could not hold worship services in our buildings, online worship services for our Local Area Group of URCs were led by our Minister and other preachers each Sunday using Zoom software, and these were well attended by our members. Those who preferred not to join online worship were sent weekly worship services by post, along with our bulletin and magazine. Other regular church activities and meetings also took place online until we were able to re-open our premises.

Our monthly magazine continues to be an important means of communication to members and the local community, and a new editor was appointed to continue this work at the end of 2021.

During this year, our minister, Revd. Melanie Smith informed us that she had accepted an appointment to the staff of the Pacific Theological College in Fiji. Her final service was held at the end of October, although she remains in pastoral charge pending her departure to Fiji, which has been delayed by Covid-19 restrictions. The church has already begun the process of seeking a new Minister; a Vacancy Committee has been set up, and an Interim Moderator appointed.

**Approved by the Elders and signed on their behalf by:**

**Dr John Strange**  
Trustee

 **April 2022**



## PALMERS GREEN UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Page 4

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2021 Total £	Last Year 2020 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Offerings		32,397			32,397	36,550
Fund raising and donations		5,775			5,775	1,975
Monies raised for outside causes	3			215	215	2,170
Night Shelter				1,467	1,467	0
Gift Aid tax repayments		8,593			8,593	9,802
Other churches pastorate expenses			650		650	1,563
Property - manse letting		27,600			27,600	23,000
Property - church/hall users	4	43,667			43,667	36,100
Grants		4,890			4,890	0
FIT Receipts		1,806			1,806	2,061
Sundry		28,000		350	28,350	140
Bank interest & investment income			31		31	725
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>152,728</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>2,032</b>	<b>155,441</b>	<b>114,086</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
Ministry & Mission Fund		55,380			55,380	49,876
Ministry & worship expenses		9,209			9,209	5,908
Church running costs	5	49,683			49,683	42,467
Manse running costs		1,031			1,031	1,969
Programme activity costs	6	636			636	0
Support of outside causes	7		4,250	732	4,982	2,907
Night Shelter				738	738	0
Other churches pastorate expenses			1,145		1,145	1,519
Maintenance of church buildings	8		61,589		61,589	10,616
Maintenance of manse	9		0		0	18,830
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>115,939</b>	<b>66,984</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>184,393</b>	<b>134,092</b>
<b>NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)</b>		<b>36,789</b>	<b>-66,303</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>-28,952</b>	<b>-20,007</b>
<b>TRANSFERS between funds</b>	2	-3,550	3,550		0	0
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT after transfers</b>		<b>33,239</b>	<b>-62,753</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>-28,952</b>	<b>-20,007</b>
<b>CASH FUNDS b/fwd 1 January</b>		26,496	263,474	3,548	293,518	313,525
<b>CASH FUNDS c/fwd 31 Dec</b>		<b>59,735</b>	<b>200,721</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>264,566</b>	<b>293,518</b>
<b>STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>						
<b>Monetary assets</b>						
Bank current accounts		2,989			2,989	18,973
Deposit accounts		56,746	200,721	4,110	261,577	274,545
<b>Total monetary assets</b>	10	<b>59,735</b>	<b>200,721</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>264,566</b>	<b>293,518</b>
<b>Other assets</b>						
Gift Aid recoverable		2,154			2,154	2,046
Other monies due to church						
Investments at MV						
£114,070 at 31.12.21			114,070		114,070	97,656
<b>Assets used for church purposes</b>						
Buildings under statutory trusts	11					
Church contents	11					
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Other creditors					0	

APPROVED by the Trustees on 28 April 2022 and signed on their behalf

by Dr J Strange

(name)

(signature)



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

## NOTES

## 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993 Section 42(3), using the Receipts and Payments basis available to small charities, and the United Reformed Church guidance.

## 2 FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the church for any of its ordinary purposes.

Designated Funds represent unrestricted funds set aside by the church for specific designated purposes; they can be transferred back into general funds at the church's decision. In addition to the balance on the roof repair Fund we hold investments with a value of £114,070 so this fund has a true value of £176,929 at 31 December 2021.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in ytd £	Payments in ytd £	Transfers for ytd £	Balance c/fwd £
Fabric Reserve Fund	141,939	31	61,589		80,381
Roof Repair Fund (see note above)	62,676				62,676
Benevolent Fund	5,300		4,250	2,500	3,550
Outreach/Outings	712				712
Other churches in pastorate	2	650	1,145		-493
Special Purposes	46,130				46,130
Organ Overhaul	6,715			1,050	7,765
<b>Totals for designated funds</b>	<b>263,474</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>66,984</b>	<b>3,550</b>	<b>200,721</b>

Restricted Funds represent income which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of a trust or bequest, or donations or grants received or invited for a specific purpose. These funds can only be spent on the specific purpose for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent must be carried forward as a balance on that fund for future expenditure on that specific purpose, or returned; it cannot be absorbed into general funds.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in ytd £	Payments in ytd £	Balance c/fwd £
Sundry	0	350	350	0
Commitment for Life (incl Gift Aid)	31		31	0
Other outside causes (incl Gift Aid)	151	215	351	15
All People All Places Night Shelter	3,366	1,467	738	4,095
<b>Totals for restricted funds</b>	<b>3,548</b>	<b>2,032</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>4,110</b>

## 3 MONIES RAISED FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES (including Gift Aid)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2021 Total £	Last Year 2020 £
Christian Aid					313
Unseen	215			215	1,788
Toilet Twinning					28
Other					41

## Totals raised for outside causes

## 4 PROPERTY INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2021 Total £	Last Year 2020 £
Regular users and concerts	42,172			42,172	33,391
Casual users	1,495			1,495	1,612
Donations	0			0	1,097
<b>Total property income</b>	<b>43,667</b>			<b>43,667</b>	<b>36,100</b>

## 5 CHURCH RUNNING COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2021 Total £	Last Year 2020 £
Gas and electricity	9,688			9,688	8,452
Insurance	6,358			6,358	6,009
Water rates	2,098			2,098	442
Gardening	652			652	1,167
Telephone & postage	495			495	785
Stationery and photocopying	1,007			1,007	2,136
Magazine	2,464			2,464	2,259
Maintenance of equipment	4,349			4,349	5,860
Equipment	0	61,589		61,589	10,616



Cleaning/caretaking  
Admin Consultant  
Sundry

**Total church running costs**

19,411  
2,044  
1,117

49,683

61,589

19,411  
2,044  
1,117

111,272

11,692  
2,095  
1,570

53,083

**PALMERS GREEN UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY**

Page 6

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**NOTES - continued**

**6 PROGRAMME ACTIVITY COSTS**

Church activities  
Outreach - DEBT CENTRE  
Other

**Total programme activity costs**

Unrestricted  
Funds £

Designated  
Funds £

Restricted  
Funds £

This Year  
2021  
Total £

Last Year  
2020 £

636

636

0  
0

636

0

0

636

0

**7 SUPPORT OF OUTSIDE CAUSES**

Other

**Total support of outside causes**

4,250

732

4,982

2,907

4,250

732

4,982

2,907

**8 MAINTENANCE OF CHURCH BUILDINGS**

Other property repairs  
Purchase of equipment

**Total maintenance of church buildings**

61,589

61,589

10,616  
0

61,589

0

61,589

10,616

**9 MAINTENANCE OF MANSE**

Exterior repairs  
Manse improvements

**Total maintenance of manse**

0

0

0

0

0

18,830

**10 MONETARY ASSETS**

The church monies are not held in segregated accounts, but for the sake of this financial statement the total of each account is allocated appropriately over the various funds.

**11 ASSETS USED FOR CHURCH PURPOSES**

The church building and the manse are vested in URC Thames North Synod Trust as trustees and are not church assets. They are held for the benefit of Palmers Green Church in accordance with the statutory trusts applicable to URC properties under the URC Acts. For insurance purposes the church buildings are insured by the church for £10,337,322 and the manse for £707,643. The church contents are insured by the church for £83,005, and the Organ for £979,580.



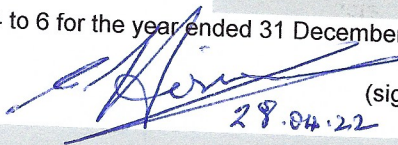
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

**TREASURER'S STATEMENT**

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 4 to 6 for the year ended 31 December 2021 from the accounting records of the church.

Brian Hosier

(name)



(signature)

28.04.22

(date)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 4 to 6

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

Signed by the Independent Examiner:

Jean Margaret Wyber

date:

30 April 2022

Jean Margaret Wyber  
7 Mornington Close  
Woodford Green  
Essex IG8 OTT