

The United Church, Jewry Street, Winchester
Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2024

Administrative Information

The United Church, Jewry Street, Winchester, is a registered charity, number 1135083. The Church office is located within the Church. The contact details are:- The United Church, Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RZ; Tel. 01962 849559

The Trustees who served during the course of 2024, and to the date this Report was approved, were as follows:-

Minister: Rev Timothy Searle (Chair)

Others: Mr Stephen Barber

Rev Adrian Bulley

Dr John Lander

Mrs Jane Lawson

Dr Janet Messer

Mrs Johanna Pellatt

Mr Martin Ramsey

Structure, Governance and Management

The United Church is a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) in which the participating denominations are:- The Methodist Church of Great Britain; and
The United Reformed Church

The United Church is governed by its Constitution, which was adopted on 9th December 2009, and amended on 19th February 2010 and 21st March 2010. The Constitution may be amended at either an Annual or Special Congregational Meeting. The Charity shall be administered and managed by a body of Trustees, consisting of:-

- Ex officio Trustees, being the minister of the LEP for the time being;
- 8 elected trustees elected at the Annual Church Meeting; and
- Not more than 2 co-opted Trustees appointed by the Trustees, until the next annual Church Meeting

Elected Trustees shall hold office from the end of the Annual Church Meeting at which they are elected until the end of the third such Meeting after their appointment and shall be eligible for re-election at that Meeting. There are currently no formal policies in place for the induction of Trustees.

The Church structure was changed in 2023 with the formation of Enabling Groups, and a Leadership Team that replaced the previous Church Council. The Leadership Team meets approximately every two to three months with a number of Enabling Groups covering areas of day to day operations.

Grants to other charities and institutions are brought to a Church Meeting and agreed by that body.

Objectives and Activities: The purpose of the charity is to advance the Christian faith, primarily in the community of Winchester and surrounding areas, in accordance with its principles and practices. In achieving its purpose, it will engage in a range of activities either on its own or with others, including, but not restricted to:

- The celebration of public worship
- The teaching of the Christian faith
- Mission and Evangelism
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The provision of facilities with a Christian ethos for the local community including, but not restricted to, the elderly, the young and other groups with special needs, and
- The support of other charities in the UK and overseas

This purpose was included in the Constitution that was approved by the Charity Commission.

Review of the activities and achievements

A worship service, open to the public, is normally held at 10.30 each Sunday. An additional service at 09.00 on Sunday mornings meets about once a month. Live streaming of 10.30am services is in place so that communal worship is accessible to those who are housebound, working or unable to attend.

The membership of the Church on 31 December 2024 was 132. The change during the year was due to deaths and transfers, offset by the admission of new members.

As well as teaching the Christian faith, including mission and evangelism, significant public events and facilities provided for the community during the year, examples being:-

- (a) The coffee bar open Monday to Friday, providing cheap refreshments and a safe place of welcome
- (b) An NHS operated baby clinic on Thursdays, accompanied by a church-provided play session for parents and babies
- (c) Joint working with other churches in the area to provide a chaplaincy service to businesses in the Winchester City Centre
- (d) "Meet and Greet" sessions every Saturday mornings for refugees, mostly from Ukraine and, occasionally, from Syria, Afghanistan and other countries. Hot drinks, other refreshments, and many social activities are provided for up to 50 people, mostly mothers with dependent children. The support provided is greatly appreciated.

Financial and other support for other charities in the UK and overseas continues; examples being:-

- The Winchester branch of MHA Communities provides support and friendship to old people living in their own homes across the Winchester district to help maintain independence, improve well-being, encourage inclusion and reduce isolation. The project includes coffee and chat, IT support; mindfulness sessions, art therapy and gentle exercise, all of which are aimed at building confidence and encouraging attendees to reengage with their local community in a safe way, including regular exercise, singing and lunch groups as well as "at home" befriending visits. The church provides subsidised offices and activity space, as well as volunteers.
- Sending shoeboxes through Link to Hope for families and the elderly.
- Donations were made to local charities with links to the church.
- Providing financial services to the "Winchester Churches Christmas Project" which donates Christmas presents chosen by individuals and families in need.
- Providing payroll services, and holding funds on behalf of Winchester City Centre Chaplaincy and also contributes towards the costs of the chaplaincy.
- During 2024 the church purchased a concert grade piano to enhance worship, and provide a musical resource for learners and musical groups

- Various charities and other organisations meet in the Church, some regularly and others on an ad hoc basis. The following are current regular users:-

Winchester Community Choir

Waynflete Singers

Winchester Music and Opera Society

Hampshire Music Service Youth Choirs and Wind Ensemble

NHS Southern Health Baby and Child Clinic

Winchester Learning Disability Service

Winchester Ukrainian Cultural Association

Financial Review

A Reserves Policy was approved by the December 2007 Church Meeting, reviewed in 2013 and again at the Meeting on 24th November 2019. A fundamental review of the Policy was undertaken and approved in 2023, setting out a general reserve of three months expenditure along with a building reserve for forecast expenditure outside normal maintenance. The reserve amounts are reviewed annually by the Church Meeting.


The routine annual expenditure of unrestricted funds in 2024 was £184,495 and total unrestricted funds income was £202,264. The unrestricted total funds amount as at 31st December 2024 was £186,820. A net surplus in unrestricted funds of £17,768 was achieved, reversing the net deficit in 2023 of £17,489 and greater deficits in previous years. This improvement in position was primarily achieved through increased individual giving, and prudent expenditure. This will help to build up funds that can be used towards long-term plans for significant capital expenditure on premises.

This Annual Report, and the financial accounts for the year to 31 December 2024, were approved at the Church Meeting on 29 June 2025 and signed by the Meeting Chair.

Janet Messer (Treasurer) on behalf of United Church, Winchester Trustees

Date.....

Signed on behalf of United Church, Winchester by Rev Timothy Searle


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Date..... 13th July '25

THE UNITED CHURCH, WINCHESTER
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024				2023			
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>								
Incoming resources from generated funds:								
Voluntary income	105,667		20,472	126,139	105,261		11,449	116,710
Tax Reclaim	20,098		1,825	21,923	16,106		1,515	17,621
Activities for generating funds	68,216	13,841		82,056	63,157		1,231	64,388
Investment income	8,284			8,284	6,912			6,912
Grants				0				-
Total incoming resources	202,264	13,841	22,297	238,402	191,436		14,195	205,631
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>								
Charitable activities:								
Methodist/URC Assessment	77,188			77,188	76,272			76,272
Costs of church activities	85,289			85,289	89,910			89,910
Capital expenditure	22,019			22,019	42,744			42,744
General		15,719	23,584	39,304			19,996	19,996
				0				-
Governance costs				0				-
Total resources expended	184,495	15,719	23,584	223,799	208,926	-	19,996	228,922
Net movement in funds	17,768	-1,878	-1,287	14,603	- 17,489	-	- 5,801	- 23,291
<u>ASSETS</u>								
Total funds brought forward 1 January	169,027	3,454	33,664	206,145	189,969		13,899	203,868
Total funds carried forward 31 December	186,820	1,575	32,466	220,862	172,481	-	8,098	180,579

**THE UNITED CHURCH, WINCHESTER
BALANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	2024			
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
CURRENT ASSETS				
current	10,351		1,761	12,111
deposit	5,222			5,222
CFB fund	171,248			171,248
appeals accounts				-
christmas project account			4,099	4,099
city chaplaincy account			26,606	26,606
coffee bar		1,575		1,575
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	186,820	1,575	32,466	220,862

	2023			
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
	12,520		233	12,753
	18,739			18,739
	141,222			141,222
			3,017	3,017
			4,848	4,848
	172,481	-	8,098	180,578

REPRESENTED BY :

Balance Brought forward	169,027	3,454	33,664	206,145
Net movement for year	17,793	(1,878)	(1,198)	14,717
Balance Carried forward	186,820	1,575	32,466	220,862

Annual Accounts for 2024 approved at



Signed by Rev. Tim Searle, Trustee and Chairman of meeting

	START	UCW main account	coffee bar	Christmas project	City Centre chaplaincy
Unrestricted					
Coop current	5,289				
HSBC current	3,777				
Coop deposit	10,002				
HSBC deposit	8,737				
CFB	<u>141,222</u>				
UCW main		169,027			
Designated					
Coffee bar	3,454		3,454		
Restricted					
Coop current	233				
Appeals account	2,928				
CFL account	<u>90</u>				
		3,250			
Christmas Project	4,848			4,848	
City Centre Chaplaincy	25,566				25,566
TOTAL	206,145	172,277	3,454	4,848	25,566

	FINISH	UCW main account	coffee bar	Christmas project	City Centre chaplaincy
	10,351				
	5,222				
	<u>171,248</u>				
		186,820			
	1,575		1,575		
	<u>1,761</u>				
		1,761			
	4,099			4,099	
	26,606				26,606
	220,862	188,581	1,575	4,099	26,606

Coop Cur	12111.36
Coop Dep	5222.32
CFB	171247.58
	188581.26

THE UNITED CHURCH, WINCHESTER
 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS - 1 JAN TO 31 DEC 2024 (UNRESTRICTED)

2024 Totals

RECEIPTS (NON-RESTRICTED)	
Standing orders/regular giving	84,316
Donations	4,940
Legacy and grants	16,610
	<u>105,867</u>

Tax reclaim	20,098
	<u>20,098</u>

Sales and fees	100
Coffee bar income	13,500
Premises	47,857
Contributions towards costs	
balancing for restricted transfers	
Refunds	6,758
	<u>68,216</u>

Bank interest	8,284
	<u>8,284</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS

200,264

PAYMENTS (NON-RESTRICTED)

Ministry	
- Methodist/URC assessment	77,124
- Ministry expenses	64
	<u>77,188</u>

Mission

Young people	377
- City Centre Chaplain/CTW	1,872
Charity	
- Basics Bank	300
- Street Pastors	600
- Nightshelter	600
Olive Branch	700
Trinity Day Centre	
- Live at Home/ MHAC	300
- WinACC	

Transfer of gift aid to restricted accounts
 Transfer of gift aid to WCCP

4,750

Worship, Fellowship, Pastoral

- Organist, music	4,790
- Workshop aids	665
- Kitchen	
- Fellowship	422
- Misc	116
	<u>5,992</u>

Administration

Staff salary	6,398
HMRC	1,419
Nest	1,924
- Office expenses	708
- Yours printing/publicity	3,063
- Telephone, broadband, & computers	1,606
Training	
Misc	1,312
Bank/ finance Charges	102
	<u>16,532</u>

Premises

Staff salary	17,870
- Cleaning	6,106
Gas	4,247
- Electricity	8,068
Water	2,079
- Maintenance	9,683
- Insurance	8,795
Misc	1,040
Maintenance	114
	<u>58,003</u>

Refunds

12

SUB-TOTAL

12

Capital expenditure

22,019

TOTAL PAYMENTS

184,695

NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

17,768

CASH BALANCE START

172,481

CASH BALANCE END

190,249

THE UNITED CHURCH, WINCHESTER
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS - 1 JAN TO 31 DEC 2024 (DESIGNATED)

RECEIPTS	
Coffee bar	13,841
TOTAL INCOME	<u>13,841</u>

PAYMENTS	
Coffee bar	15,719
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>15,719</u>

Net movement in funds	-1,878
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TOTAL BALANCE START	3,454
TOTAL BALANCE END	1,575

Note - Coffee bar is managed through a separate bank account run by the team

THE UNITED CHURCH, WINCHESTER
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS - 1 JAN TO 31 DEC 2024 (RESTRICTED)

RECEIPTS	receipts
Funeral donations	0
Flowers	906
Traidcraft	0
Christmas Project Gift Aid (pass thru)	763
WCCP (Christmas Project)	6,557
MHA	0
DEC	0
MWiB	13
Refugees	1,553
Embrace ME	104
Easter Offering	161
CFL (Link to Hope)	2,437
Legacy Appeals Account	0
WCCC (Chaplaincy)	9,804
TOTAL INCOME	<u>22,297</u>

PAYMENTS	payments
Funeral donations	530
Flowers	450
Traidcraft	1,103
Christmas Project Gift Aid (pass thru)	763
WCCP (Christmas Project)	7,305
MHA	8
DEC	408
MWiB	13
Refugees	1,042
Embrace ME	104
Easter Offering	331
(CFL) Link to Hope	2,526
Legacy Appeals Account	237
WCCC (Chaplaincy)	8,764
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>23,584</u>

Net movement in funds **-1,287**

	WCCP account	WCCC account	UCW account	TOTAL
TOTAL BALANCE START	4,848	25,566	2,925	33,339
TOTAL BALANCE END	4,099	26,606	1,346	32,052

Note - Winchester Churches Christmas Project (WCCP) and Winchester City Centre Chaplaincy (WCCC) are managed through separate bank accounts from UCW bank accounts, run day to day by the partnerships
WCCC was brought into UCW accounts at the start of the year and therefore the restricted accounts starting balance does not reflect the balance carried over from 2023

THE UNITED CHURCH, WINCHESTER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS102) issued by the Charity Commission, and also in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

The profit and loss basis of accounting has been adopted, and the principal accounting policies set out below are applied.

The accounts have been compiled with pounds & pence, however these are truncated to the nearest pound in Excel on this document, resulting in occasional apparent £1 "errors" in maths

1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant. Monies raised for outside causes are treated as restricted funds.

Designated funds are those reserved by the Church for specific purposes.

1c Tangible Fixed Assets

The trustees of the church and manse buildings are the United Reformed Church (Wessex Trust) Limited.

Expenditure incurred on the church and manse is written off in the year it is incurred as is expenditure on furniture and equipment. The church owns no motor vehicles.

1d Incoming Resources

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received.

Gift Aid tax recovery is recognised as income when it is received.

Legacies are accounted for when received.

All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

1e Resources Expended

Resources expended are recognised in the year to which they are incurred and include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. They are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate.

Governance costs represents direct expenditure on the governance of the church, including insurance.

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

1f Taxation

The church is an excepted charity within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly it is exempt from income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

1g PAYE

PAYE information is filed online.

Independent Examiner's Report on the Account (unsigned copy)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of **The United Church, Winchester.**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The United Church (the Trust) for the year ended **31 December 2024.**

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').

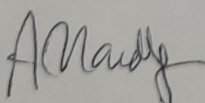
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Signed: 

Name: Alexia Mawdsley

Relevant professional qualification / membership of professional bodies (if any): N/A

Address: 2 Pilgrims Gate, Winchester, SO22 6RQ

Date: 12 May 2025