

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1135273

**Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023  
for  
German Speaking Lutheran Church  
in East Anglia**

Geoff Mann FCIE  
Geoff Mann Ltd  
Dee House  
Highworth Avenue  
Cambridge

## **German-Speaking Lutheran Church in East Anglia**

### **Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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<b>Trustees</b>	
	Dr B Becker
	Mrs B Ewald (from 14 January 2023)
	Mrs B Finger-Berry (from 24 February 2023)
	Dr G Goldbeck
	Mrs S Guly (until 17 June 2023)
	Mrs S K Hathaway
	Miss M Longstaff
	Mr A C Emerson-Moring
	Mrs H O'Kane
	Rev K Othmer
	Mrs D Rose
	Dr P Schutz
<b>Principal Address</b>	
	Shaftesbury House 4 Shaftesbury Road Cambridge CB2 8BW
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1135273
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	
	Geoff Mann FCIE Geoff Mann Limited Dee House Highworth Avenue Cambridge CB4 2BQ
<b>Bankers</b>	
	Bank fur Kirche und Diakonie, Dortmund Barclays Bank Plc, Leicester HSBC Bank, Billericay, Essex Schroder & Co Ltd, London

## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

### Report of the Trustees

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the church and of the surplus or deficit of the church for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- (i) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (ii) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (iii) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the church will continue in business.
- (iv) Observe the methods and principals of the Charities SORP.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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 Charities Act 2011.

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.

### Objectivities and Activities

#### Objectives, Organisations and Activities

The objective for which this charity has been established is the advancement of the Christian religion. This is achieved primarily by providing church services, pastoral care and other related activities for German speaking Protestant Christians

The church is a member of the Synod of German-Speaking Lutheran, Reformed and United Congregations in Great Britain, referred to as 'The Synod'.

#### Public Benefit

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion; enabling ordinary people to live out their faith through the church's activities.

**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Report of the Trustees**

**Achievements and Performance**

**Charitable Activities, Achievements and Performance**

The trustees (also referred to as 'Church Council' [Kirchenvorstand]) are pleased to report that, during the year 2023, in many diverse ways, our church activities have positively engaged with people and enabled them to discover and to grow in faith and experience and share in Christian fellowship.

Our church has undertaken and supported a wide range of church activities. These were, for example, regularly held church services and Bible studies, as well as many pastoral home visits, which are increasingly necessitated by the advancing age and decreasing mobility of several of the church members.

For the most part the above took place in-person in our 5 East Anglian districts: Cambridge, Norwich, Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds and in Essex.

Each of the congregations in the 5 districts highly values belonging to a German-speaking Christian Church community as well as being a base from which to reach out and care for the spiritual and emotional wellbeing of their fellow members, guests and visitors and their local ecumenical contacts.

Apart from meeting in-person, members of the East Anglian congregations (together with guests from further afield) met in weekly online devotional times during Lent and Advent and on other special occasions in the Church year.

Members also enjoyed taking part in several UK-wide online church services that were prepared by the constituent members of the Synod under which the German-speaking Protestant congregations (such as our church) are united in Great Britain.

The above mentioned church services, Bible studies and pastoral visits are only a part of the wide range of activities, thought of, developed and undertaken by our current Pastor, Kerstin Othmer. However, they are frequently carried out and provided in cooperation with dedicated volunteers from church who assist with their skills, talents, spiritual input, insight and local knowledge.

**Highlights in the Year 2023**

**Events for and by all the generations**

- The annual congregational residential weekend, held on 23 - 25 June at the Christian Conference Centre, The Pleasance, Overstrand next to a beautiful Norfolk beach, was a resounding success with its intergenerational attendees - albeit with a smaller number of attendees than in previous years.
- At the church's Summer Fete (Sommerfest) in July we celebrated 60 years of the church being in the German Church House in Cambridge. It was rounded off with a very enjoyable and highly professional music concert.
- A barbeque at the end of the summer school holidays.



## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

### Report of the Trustees

- The popular, intergenerational St Martin's Day Festival in November was again attended by approximately 75 people. It attracts non church and unchurched people from Cambridge and beyond, alongside regular church members and included a puppet show and a lantern procession.
- 24 people travelled to Thetford Forest to gather pine tree branches that were allocated to them by the local forestry officer and then having 53 people, including many children, work this greenery into Advent wreaths the following day - both being wonderful community activities that generate good conversation and fellowship
- An Advent Market (Adventsbasar), while providing members with much loved opportunities to celebrate and socialise within a German-speaking cultural context, this also attracts guests with no formal links to the church and leads to enhanced intercultural understanding

The church has a spacious rear garden at the Church House in Cambridge. This proves to be immensely useful and is appreciated by all its users. Furthermore, the garden attracts use by community and neighbourhood groups. For example, a local nursery rents the space for outdoor play on weekday mornings.

In November, the church has been registered with the Eco Church initiative. This is 'A Rocha UK's award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that the Gospel is good news for God's earth'. Many aspects of our church life were assessed against the Eco Church catalogue of green credentials. Areas have been identified for future development.

### Children's and young people's church work

- During school term time, a dedicated team of volunteers have led Children's Church (Kindergottesdienst) in Cambridge. Children's Church normally runs parallel with a joint start with the regular church services, unless there is already another children's event going to take place in church that day eg St Martin's Day Celebration. The team meets every 2-3 months, for training, support and planning and alongside have also developed into a network providing personal support for each other.
- A confirmation group of 4 young people completed their year long preparation course leading to their Confirmation on 16 July at an extremely well attended service, which took place in the sunny garden of the Cambridge Church House. Integrated into the confirmation group are young differently abled people or with challenges.
- In September a new group of 3 young people from East Anglia started preparation classes for Confirmation. It includes very creative teaching and fun time. On occasions, this is spent jointly with the young people who are also preparing for Confirmation and are based in the congregations of London East. The combined classes are expertly and jointly led by Pastorin Silke Halfmann (London East) and Pastorin Kerstin Othmer (East Anglia).

**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Report of the Trustees**

**Internships and visitors**

- The Church Council and the congregation are very grateful to two young women, Johanna Loheide (September 2022 to March 2023) and Charlotte Fischer (September to December 2023), who have undertaken internships in the work of our church. They contributed and enriched the life of the church in many ways, worked very competently and were great in building mutual connections to the young people in the church.
- We also welcomed Martha Kloss, and Friederike Hallet, both students of Theology each visiting the church for a month. They were inspiring and brought fresh perspectives to the church life.

Pastorin Kerstin Othmer provided extensive and valuable practical and theological guidance and professional development for these four young women.

During the year our church had visits of individuals, but also of groups. Both are an invaluable resource to connect, explore and learn with others about the Christian faith, and gain a mutual understanding.

- A 3 day visit of members of the leadership team of the German Protestant parish Boxhagen/Strahlau in Berlin Friedrichshain, in March
- A 3 day visit of the Concert and Church Choir Dortmund Aplerbeck
- A group of teachers who work for the Institute for Pedagogical-Theological Education in Hamburg visited in September
- In conjunction with Westcott House (Anglican Church Theological College in Cambridge), a group of trainees at the Protestant Church Preachers Seminary in Wittenberg with their teacher, Pfarrer Oliver Fischer, visited in October.

**Activities across Great Britain**

Through her untiring commitment to theological education for children and young people and training for lay readers, Pastorin Kerstin Othmer contributes and/or leads on a number of national and international activities and follows these up with their attendees.

- Commissioned by the Synod, Pastorin Othmer held face to face and online education/training weekend courses: a) for lay readers (Pradikanten/innen) from across Great Britain, and b) for people engaged in conducting Children's Church in their respective congregations.

## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

### Report of the Trustees

- Hands on collaboration on theological projects with her fellow pastors from the Synod.
- Ecumenically active by participating in and supporting local Christian Networks.

### Communication

Throughout 2023, members and friends of our church have received four Church Newsletters (Gemeindebrief) either digitally or by post, depending on their preference

Other ways of disseminating information and news about and from the church (spiritual and practical news, regular and special activities/events and about its people) takes place via the church's website, via monthly digital letters sent out by Pastorin Othmer and to a lesser extent via social media.

### Meetings of the Board of Trustees (Church Council {Kirchenvorstand})

During the year 2023 the Church Council met 10 times. This frequency helps the trustees to ensure that church management can be planned and maintained effectively.

Apart from a weekend meeting held in person at the Church House in Cambridge in February 2023, the Church Council has continued to hold its meetings online. This saves considerable time for travel for many of the attendees. Furthermore, it helps the trustees in their aim to reduce the church's carbon footprint.

The church AGM took place online on 18 June 2023. At the AGM a new Church Council was elected for a 3 year period.

The church has continued to provide both traditional and new forms of church services, including exciting events for children, families and all ages. With shared worship and prayers, bible meetings, music and spiritual support for people across the region and giving pastoral care to people in need at times of hardship, anxiety, isolation, illness or bereavement.

The Church Council would like to thank Pastorin Othmer for all that was achieved in 2023, for her spiritual guidance, imagination and energy, hard work and in making sure that new solutions could be used as well as traditional ones in all areas of the practical and spiritual life of the church, its members, and German-speaking people in East Anglia.

Her work in the church ministry was supported and enhanced by many volunteers, Church Council members, children's team, lay preachers, newsletter team and many members of the congregations across the region, and all of these people deserve equal thanks for all their time and hard work given to the church, to enable people to live out their faith through the church's activities.

Barbara Botradi-Bullman, treasurer of our church from 2005 to 2023, deserves a particular mention here. Her quiet, competent and thorough day to day management of the complex church finances has been immeasurably valuable and will be a difficult act to follow. Since October there is a transition of her many tasks to a finance team of 3 members.



**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Report of the Trustees**

**Financial Review**

**General**

The trustees acknowledge with grateful thanks the tremendous commitment of church members, from whom the annual contributions, collections, general donations and donations for specific church items, reached a total of £50,072, (2022:£38,131). Gift Aid claimed this year brought an additional £7,555 (2022:£6,638). Total investment income brought a return of £19,223 being slightly more than the previous year (2022:£19,072)

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund which has been available for the Pastor/Pastorin to give financial help in individual cases of any hardship. During 2023 it was not used and therefore £295 was still available at the year end. During 2024 the trustees will decide whether any new allocation could be made towards this fund.

Early in 2023 the church received a generous grant of £1,673 from the Evangelische Kirche Deutschland (EKD) to support the costs of a special two day Church Council meeting in February 2023, with an external facilitator, to consider all options of future church planning 'Zukunftsperspektiven'

The church also received a grant of £250 from the Synod towards the costs of this special future planning meeting of the Church Council in February 2023.

With thanks the church also received two further grants from the Synod during 2023 arising from the Kaiser Wilhelm II (KWII) Fund. The first was £2,200 to support general activities including church services and the second was £2,540 to help with the costs of 11 specific church activities. This included the 3 traditional activities of the congregational weekendheld at Overstrand in 2023, activities of the Confirmation group and the St Martin's Day events in November 2023. As mentioned, 8 new activities were supported, which was a welcome and refreshing development.

Based on the accounts deficit in 2022, the church applied to the Synod for a reduction in the Synod Contribution amount for 2023, which was granted towards the end of the year by reducing the amount from the original figure of £58,000 to £55,000.

The special 2 day meeting held in February had highlighted the fact that in total over the last two years the church had withdrawn £20,000 from reserves (both general and restricted endowment) and without any new plans for income generation this negative trend would continue and indeed the budget for 2023, based on the year before, predicted a large deficit for the year end.

Potential options for the future sustainability of the church were discussed and detailed in subsequent work by Church Council members. Two important actions were planned in February, this being firstly to talk with church members at all services and events, including small groups at the AGM about the options facing the church if income could not be increased, and secondly by means of a personal letter sent out in early December on behalf of the Church Council appealing for funds, and for church membership contributions. The response to both of these actions has been astounding, and very much appreciated.

**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023****Report of the Trustees****Restricted Endowment Fund**

This fund is part of the Asset Transfer Agreement which became effective on 31 May 2013, when the two former churches, each one a separate charity, merged to become one church and one single charity. The value of the fund is shown in a separate Endowment Fund column, and can be used for the purposes described in the Letters Patent of Charles II, dated 13 September 1672, namely that the Fund's income can be spent in accordance with the church's general charitable purposes, but the Fund's capital should be invested to generate income, and after careful consideration by the trustees, the capital should only ever be spent on projects that involve the construction, maintenance or improvement of buildings used by the German-Speaking Lutheran Church for purposes which fall within the trusts set out in the Letters Patent.

During 2023 there were no withdrawals from the Restricted Endowment Fund.

**Reserves policy**

The trustees are aware of the general legal duty to apply charitable funds within a reasonable time of receiving them. Those reserves that are not part of the Restricted Endowment Fund are shown on page 11 as Unrestricted Funds (General Fund and Designated Fund for new vehicle) and Restricted Funds (Synod Contribution to Pastor's Salary Reserve Fund).

The amount in the designated fund for a new vehicle is decided by annual review of the trustees as part of the Unrestricted Funds. At the year end, the trustees decided that the vehicle fund should have no addition this year, and therefore remain at £2,000 at 31 December 2023.

The amount in the Restricted Fund is not decided by the trustees, but has been stipulated by the Synod to be a minimum of £60,000 as a reserve for the purpose of contribution to the Synod for the Pastor's salary. The investment growth for this amount is added to the fund.

The total Unrestricted Funds available on 31 December 2023 was £70.933 which is sufficient to cover 8 months of expenditure. This is higher than at the year end 2022 (£60,147) due to the very welcome increase in funds from donations and church members' contributions during 2023.

**Investment policy and objectives**

Part of the income of the charity is derived from its investments. The investment manager's objective is to maximise total return with due regard for risk, with an ethical and responsible investment portfolio and to report regularly via the Treasurer to the trustees. The trustees remain committed to a long term investment policy aiming to protect the real capital value whilst generating a sustainable level of income to fund current expenditure.

**Structure, Governance and Management****Governing Document**

The church is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and is constituted as an unincorporated charity.

Since 1 June 2013, two churches have merged to become one, as one single charity, with a new name. This section summarises where the details can be found as they have applied to each of the two individual churches until 31 May 2013, and describes the structure as it is for the new merged charity.

**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Report of the Trustees**

**German Lutheran Church in Cambridge and East Anglia (Reg Charity No 1135273)**

The structure, governance and management were set out in the constitution dated 11 November 2009, which replaced the previous constitution of 15 March 1964. The church was founded on 2 December 1956, and the pastoral office was established on 1 May 1959.

**Trust Property and Funds administered in connection with the German Lutheran Church (known as the Hamburg Lutheran Church) at Dalston (Reg Charity No 251121 prior to amalgamation on 31 May 2013)**

The legal basis of the church, which was founded in 1669, is the Charter granted by King Charles II on 13 September 1672. The congregation has been mainly German-speaking Protestant Christians living in the county of Essex. The church building was formerly located in Ritson Road, Dalston, London E8 but was sold in November 1982, and thereafter services were held in various churches throughout Essex. Further details concerning the charity up to 31 May 2013 can be requested at any time from the new merged charity.

**German-Speaking Lutheran Church in East Anglia (formerly German Lutheran Church in Cambridge & East Anglia and Hamburg Lutheran Church) (Reg Charity No 1135273)**

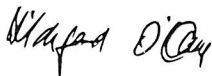
The structure, governance and management are set out in the constitution dated 11 November 2009, as amended on 18 May 2013, and as amended on 27 June 2021. The last amendment to the constitution was approved by the AGM on 12 June 2022 and notified to the Charity Commission.

For better transparency, the Church Council has compiled the various aspects of its financial management into one new document, the Internal Financial Control Policy. The final version is to be approved in February 2024.

Since 15 December 2020, the property and land of Church House, 4 Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge, CB2 8BW has been vested in the Official Custodian for Charities on behalf of the trustees of the German-Speaking Lutheran Church in East Anglia.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 5 June 2024 and signed on their behalf.

Mrs H O'Kane  
Trustee



Dr G Goldbeck  
Trustee





**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**To the Trustees of German-Speaking Lutheran Church in East Anglia**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the related notes.

**Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner**

As the church's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Acts 2011 ("the Act").

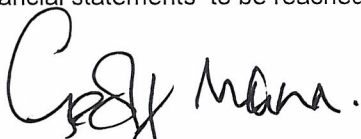
I report in respect of my examination of your church's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act, and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent Examiner's Report**

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 the accounting records were not kept in respect of the church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 brought in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Geoff Mann FCIE  
Geoff Mann Ltd  
Dee House  
Highworth Avenue  
Cambridge

## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>Income and Endowments from</b>						
Donations and legacies		66,627	0	0	66,627	47,714
Investments		19,223	0	0	19,223	19,072
Other	2	27,831	0	0	27,831	24,089
<b>Total</b>	1	113,681	0	0	113,681	90,875
<b>Expenditure on</b>						
Church activities		104,779	0	0	104,779	108,284
<b>Total</b>	1	104,779	0	0	104,779	108,284
Net gains/(losses) on investments		1,884	1,470	8,638	11,992	-51,479
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		10,786	1,470	8,638	20,894	-68,888
Transfers between funds	1(h)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		10,786	1,470	8,638	20,894	-68,888
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>						
<b>Total Funds Brought Forward</b>		60,147	61,971	349,692	471,810	540,698
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>		70,933	63,441	358,330	492,704	471,810

## Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses

There were no recognised gains or losses for 2023 or 2022 other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities

## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Balance Sheet

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible assets	5		6,684		10,026
Investments			456,427		445,372
			-----		-----
Total fixed assets			463,111		455,398
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors	5	7,555		6,889	
Cash at bank		24,083		12,618	
		-----		-----	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		31,638		19,507	
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due within one year	6	2,045		3,095	
		-----		-----	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			29,593		16,412
			-----		-----
<b>Net Assets</b>			492,704		471,810
			-----		-----
<b>The Funds of the Charity</b>					
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund			68,933		58,147
Designated fund for new vehicle			2,000		2,000
			-----		-----
			70,933		60,147
Restricted Funds					
Pastor's salary reserve fund			63,441		61,971
Endowment Funds			358,330		349,692
			-----		-----
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>			492,704		471,810
			-----		-----

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 5. June 2024 and signed on their behalf.

Mrs H O'Kane  
Trustee



Dr G Goldbeck  
Trustee



## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Notes to the accounts

**1 Accounting Policies****(a) Basis of Preparation of the Accounts**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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) (Effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

German Speaking Lutheran Church in East Anglia meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

**(b) Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**(c) Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**(d) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Motor vehicles	20% straight line basis
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## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Notes to the accounts

**(e) Fixed Asset Investments**

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date giving rise to unrealised gains or losses which are taken into the Statement of Financial Activities. Realised gains and losses are shown separately in the Statement of Financial Activities calculated as the difference between proceeds and historic cost. Investment income and its tax related credit are taken into account on a receivable basis.

**(f) Debtors**

Trade debtors and other debtors are recognised at their settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discount due.

**(g) Creditors and Provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**(h) Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity. Endowment funds are donated with the intention of their being used in perpetuity.

The endowment fund was created with a transfer of assets from the Hamburg Lutheran Church in 2013 and continues to be administered in accordance with its original purpose, which is to generate income from managed investments that is to be spent on continuing the charitable objectives of the church.

The trustees are, as part of furthering charitable objectives, entitled to spend the underlying capital for projects that involve the construction, maintenance or improvement of buildings used by the church for the purpose of their charitable aims.

**(i) Foreign Currencies**

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the statement of financial position date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.



## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Notes to the accounts

2	Other Income	2023 £	2022 £
	Bazaars, sales, sommerfest etc	3,873	2,957
	Collections for charities	2,682	3,113
	Other income	2,561	2,051
	Rental income	15,711	13,466
	Weekend retreat	3,004	2,502
		-----	-----
		27,831	24,089
		-----	-----

## 3 Staff Costs

The German Church Pastor was paid direct by the Synod of German Speaking Lutheran, Reformed and United Congregations in Great Britain, of which the church's contribution is £55,000 (2022 : £57,500)

## 4 Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

## Trustees' expenses

Trustees were reimbursed a total of £830 (2022 : £278) in respect of expenses incurred in their capacity as trustees. In addition, the German Church Pastor, who is also a trustee, was reimbursed a total of £4,226 incurred in the course of her work as the minister of the church.

5	Tangible Fixed Assets	Motor vehicles £
	<b>Cost</b> At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	16,710
		-----
	<b>Depreciation</b> Balance at 01.01.23	6,684
	Charge for the year	3,342
		-----
	Balance at 31.12.23	10,026
		-----
	<b>Net Book Value</b> At 31.12.23	6,684
		-----
	At 01.01.23	10,026
		-----



## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Notes to the accounts

<b>6</b>	<b>Fixed Assets Investments</b>	<b>2023 Market value £</b>	<b>2022 Market value £</b>
	National Savings Income Bonds	1,000	1,000
	Shares	455,427	444,372
		-----	-----
		456,427	445,372
		-----	-----
	Market value at beginning of year	444,372	505,851
	Net gain/(loss) on disposal/revaluation	11,992	-51,479
	Disposal proceeds	-937	-10,000
		-----	-----
	Market value at end of year	455,427	444,372
		-----	-----
<b>7</b>	<b>Debtors: due within one year</b>	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
	Gift aid tax claim	7,555	6,639
	Prepayments	0	250
		-----	-----
		7,555	6,889
		-----	-----
<b>8</b>	<b>Creditors: due within one year</b>	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
	Accruals	1,500	2,800
	Pastor's discretionary fund	295	295
	Payments in advance	250	0
		-----	-----
		2,045	3,095
		-----	-----
<b>9</b>	<b>Related Party Disclosures</b>		

There were no related party transactions in the year that required disclosure.

## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Notes to the accounts

## 10 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	6,684	0	0	6,684
Fixed Asset Investments	34,656	63,441	358,330	456,427
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Fixed Assets	41,340	63,441	358,330	463,111
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Debtors	7,555	0	0	7,555
Cash at Bank	24,083	0	0	24,083
Creditors Due within one year	-2,045	0	0	-2,045
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Current Assets	29,593	0	0	29,593
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Assets	70,933	63,441	358,330	492,704
	-----	-----	-----	-----

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	10,026	0	0	10,026
Fixed Asset Investments	33,709	61,971	349,692	445,372
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Fixed Assets	43,735	61,971	349,692	455,398
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Debtors	6,889	0	0	6,889
Cash at Bank	12,618	0	0	12,618
Creditors Due within one year	-3,095	0	0	-3,095
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Current Assets	16,412	0	0	16,412
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Assets	60,147	61,971	349,692	471,810
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## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities: Income and Endowments

		2023 £	2022 £
<b>Donations and Legacies</b>	Contributions	31,881	26,599
	Donated services and facilities	3,918	2,831
	Donations	14,273	8,074
	Donations for baptisms and funerals	1,945	625
	Gift aid recovered	7,555	6,638
	Grants	7,055	2,947
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		66,627	47,714
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Investment Income</b>		19,223	19,072
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Other Income</b>	Bazaars, sales, sommerfest etc	3,873	2,957
	Collections for charities	2,682	3,113
	Other income	2,561	2,051
	Rental income	15,711	13,466
	Weekend retreat	3,004	2,502
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		27,831	24,089
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Income and Endowments</b>		113,681	90,875
		<hr/>	<hr/>

## Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities: Expenditure

		2023 £	2022 £
<b>Charitable Activities</b>			
	Bazaars, sales, sommerfest etc	1,096	957
	Congregation and services	1,898	1,424
	Donations to charities	2,682	3,113
	Hire of churches and halls	1,447	1,647
	Newsletter	638	611
	Organist fees	1,880	1,842
	Pastoral candidates/lay preachers	99	378
	Synod contribution	55,000	57,500
	Weekend retreat	7,044	6,457
		-----	-----
		71,784	73,929
		-----	-----
<b>Management</b>			
	Council tax and insurance	4,038	3,854
	Gardener, cleaner and admin	2,818	2,701
	Heat. Light and water	3,400	3,395
	Motor vehicle refurbishment	3,342	3,342
	Property maintenance and refurbishme	10,039	10,372
		-----	-----
		23,637	23,664
		-----	-----
<b>Governance costs</b>			
	Accountancy and legal fees	3,073	4,069
	Motor and travel	3,954	4,924
	Stationery and postage	1,615	1,102
	Telephone	716	596
		-----	-----
		9,358	10,691
		-----	-----
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		104,779	108,284
		-----	-----