



Welwyn
Evangelical Church

Report and Accounts

year ended 30 September 2024

WELWYN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	Fulling Mill Lane Welwyn Herts. AL6 9NH	
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	With effect from 6th May 2010, the Church was registered with the Charity Commission (reg. No. 1135832). It is governed by a new Constitution dated 11th July 2009, (as updated by amendment dated 20 February 2019), and revised Rules of Practice which were adopted by the church in November 2009 and May 2022. Prior to this the church was an excepted charity, governed by the Trust deed dated 12 November 1892, and the associated schedule of Articles of Faith, The Rules of Practice, and The Procedures for the management and administration of the church as a charity.	
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1135832	
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Mostyn Roberts Jamie Campbell Chris Pountney Nigel Pountney Anthony Hendley Matt Jones Andy Ward Stephen Coombes	Elder and Pastor (to July 2024) Elder and Pastor (from August 2024) Elder Deacon Deacon Deacon (to August 2024) Deacon (from November 2023) Deacon (from November 2023)
HOLDING TRUSTEES	Wendy Evers Andrew Ward Carolyn Clark Simon Barfoot	
BANKERS	Barclays Bank The Welwyn Group 12/12A The Howard Centre Welwyn Garden City, Herts. AL8 6ER	
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Archie McDowall BA, CA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB	

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WELWYN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

The Trustees are pleased to present the Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Objects of the charity

The charity, which is a church, is governed by a *Constitution* and is constituted as a Trust.

The church's principal object, as set out in its governing document, is the advancement of the Christian religion as defined by the *Schedule of Articles of Faith*, both in the Welwyn area and elsewhere.

This purpose is achieved by:

- a) Regular meetings for public worship and for Bible teaching
- b) Financial support for our pastor and others so that they can devote themselves to the ministry of preaching, teaching and pastoral care; this includes support to train others for this work
- c) Evangelistic activities in the community
- d) Production and distribution of Christian literature
- e) Practical help to those in need, especially to fellow believers

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

To further the objects and vision, the charity's main activities and achievements were as follows:

The Church continued to meet for worship and "teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ".

It placed a strong emphasis on all the means of grace and regularly met for prayer and Bible study. The Sunday services were also Livestreamed and the midweek Bible Studies and prayer meetings used Zoom to include folk who were unable to attend. During the year, the church premises were used for the teaching programme including Sunday Bible classes, and weekday evening activities for children and young people. A number of other activities for different interest groups were arranged, and the Church continued to evangelise and to show the love of Christ to the local community.

The Church took an active interest in missionary work at home and overseas by prayer and financial support.

In planning the activities, the Trustees have applied the guidance given by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Financial review

Unrestricted voluntary receipts were just over £103,000, which is similar to the previous year.

Restricted voluntary receipts were lower at just over £4,000. Receipts from charitable activities were slightly higher than the previous year at just under £1,000. A sum of approx. £2,100 was received from interest on investments. Overall, the total receipts reduced by £1,600 compared to the previous year.

Direct charitable activity payments were higher than the previous year by £10,000 at just over £79,300.

Grants paid were lower at £21,900. Unrestricted support costs were higher by £2,200 over the year.

Overall, total payments exceeded total receipts by nearly £9,000.

Future Plans

The key strategies for the church are to remain the same.

Grants Policy

In keeping with the Aims of the Charity, the Church supported a number of institutions and individuals both at home and overseas. The Church business meeting determined those causes to which grants are made, based upon either an annual review of previous recipients or as a new cause. No ongoing commitment is given to any recipient prior to renewal.

Investments Policy

The Deacons have pursued an investment policy which provides shorter and longer term returns in vehicles specifically set up for Charities. Risk is reduced by spreading across different schemes.

Policy on Reserves

The Officers have agreed a policy on reserves such that unrestricted funds are maintained at a level to:

- a) Cover ministerial, care, local outreach, administration and support costs without which the Church could not function.
- b) Provide funds which can be designated to specific projects to enable these projects to be undertaken at short notice.

At the year end, the unrestricted net reserves were in the region of £69,000. This sum is being held to

to provide funds for future use, including £20,000 for maintenance projects, and £20,000 for the ministry. The trustees believe the charity should aim to hold £69,000 to meet these requirements.

The level of reserves is monitored and reviewed by the Charity Trustees twice annually.

Governance

The names of the Trustees who served since 1st October 2023 are listed on Page 1. They were elected by a majority of the Members in accordance with the provisions of the governing documents. The Trustees meet regularly to monitor and review activities in accordance with existing policy and decisions, and propose new or modifications to existing policy and decisions for adoption at the Church members meeting.

Organisational Structure

All Members subscribe to *the Rules of Practice*, which cover the administration of the Church and its Officers. The roles of Elders and Deacons within the Church are described in that document and are based on the New Testament teaching. The scope of the authority of the Church Officers in the discharge of their legal responsibilities is documented in *the Procedures for the management and administration of the Church as a charity, Fifth Edition (March 2024)* as amended.

Risk Management

All major insurable risks are subject to normal Churches' and employers' insurance. Contractual risks are reviewed before being entered into to assess that they could not significantly impact upon the Church's ability to fulfil its objectives.

A review is undertaken during the year of the major risks to which the church is exposed. The officers have taken appropriate steps to mitigate these risks.

Trustees Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by

Jamie Campbell 
Jamie Campbell (Mar 21, 2025 06:29 GMT)

Mar 21, 2025

Nigel Pountney 
N. D. Pountney (Mar 21, 2025 16:33 GMT)

Mar 21, 2025

**Independent Examiner's Report
To the Trustees of**

Welwyn Evangelical Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Welwyn Evangelical Church (the Trust) for the year ended 30 September 2024 on pages 5 to 8 following.

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 2011 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 2011 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 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Archie McDowall

Archie McDowall (Mar 24, 2025 14:40 GMT)

Archie McDowall BA, CA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Mar 24, 2025

WELWYN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted General £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Receipts					
<i>Voluntary receipts</i>					
Grants and gifts received	2a	103,045	4,083	107,128	110,276
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		103,045	4,083	107,128	110,276
<i>Other receipts</i>					
Interest received		2,069	-	2,069	923
Charitable activities	2b	485	500	985	589
Sale of Assets		-	-	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Receipts		105,599	4,583	110,182	111,788
Payments					
<i>Payments in furtherance of the church's objectives</i>					
Direct charitable activity	3	78,817	500	79,317	69,286
Grants paid	3	17,325	4,535	21,860	23,906
Support costs	3	17,970	-	17,970	15,747
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Payments		114,112	5,035	119,147	108,940
Net Receipts/(Payments) before transfers		(8,512)	(453)	(8,965)	2,848
Transfers between funds	6	(753)	753	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		(9,265)	300	(8,965)	2,848
Cash funds as at last year end		81,109	-	81,109	78,261
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash funds at this year end		71,844	300	72,144	81,109

The notes on pages 7-8 form part of these accounts.

WELWYN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted General £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
1. Cash Funds				
Barclays Bank General Account	21,625	300	21,925	32,973
Cambridge & Counties Bank deposits	50,203	-	50,203	48,134
Petty Cash - Bookstall	16	-	16	2
	<u>71,844</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>72,144</u>	<u>81,109</u>
2. Other monetary assets				
Book Stock - valuation at cost	215	-	215	215
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid	2,914	-	2,914	2,952
Other debtors	22	-	22	7
	<u>3,151</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,151</u>	<u>3,173</u>
3. Liabilities				
Employment costs due to HMRC	4,111	-	4,111	1,867
Fee for Independent Examination	950	-	950	840
Other creditors	-	-	-	10
Accrued expenses	428	-	428	612
	<u>5,489</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,489</u>	<u>3,329</u>

4. Assets retained for charity's own use

The value of the assets owned are:	£	
Freehold Building	100,000	Historic cost as of 30/09/2024
Refurbishments and improvements	130,200	At cost
Plant/Machinery/Equipment	30,100	At cost
Program related investment	<u>80,000</u>	See note below
	<u>340,300</u>	

The Freehold property above comprises the Church premises at Fulling Mill Lane.

The Program Related Investment is an advance made in September 1999 for £100,000 on a property for the Pastor who holds the registered title. The church made available an additional sum of £15,000 in March 2006 towards part-equity in the property extension. Subsequently, the new evaluation and redistribution in the share of ownership was calculated as 55.08% of the proceeds of sale in favour of the church. In March 2016 the Pastor increased his share of ownership by paying the church £35,000, thereby reducing the church's share to 48.72%. In Summer 2024, the Pastor advised the church that he would be selling the property, and at the current time the property is in the process of being conveyed. The expected return is approximately £340,000.

The Trustees are confident that the current market value of the property is above cost.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,

Jamie Campbell *Jamie Campbell* Mar 21, 2025
Jamie Campbell (Mar 21, 2025 06:29 GMT)

Nigel Pountney *N. D. Pountney* Mar 21, 2025
N. D. Pountney (Mar 21, 2025 16:33 GMT)

The notes on pages 7-8 form part of these accounts.

WELWYN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

1. Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

2. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>(a) Voluntary income</i>				
Gifts and donations	83,579	4,083	87,662	91,310
Tax recovered	18,466	-	18,466	18,966
Bequests received	1,000	-	1,000	-
	103,045	4,083	107,128	110,276

(b) Incoming resources from charitable activities

Literature sales	14	-	14	101
Youth Work/ Ladies events	471	-	471	487
Sundry income	-	500	500	-
	485	500	985	589

3. Charitable activity costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>Direct charitable costs</i>				
Ministry	70,518	-	70,518	60,934
Church Teaching & Pastoral	5,221	500	5,721	5,374
Local Evangelism	2,445	-	2,445	2,397
Youth/Adult work	632	-	632	582
	78,817	500	79,317	69,286

Grants (see note 4)

UK Missionary	14,825	4,535	19,360	19,245
International Missionary	2,500	-	2,500	4,661
	17,325	4,535	21,860	23,906

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>Support costs</i>				
Property and repairs	15,433	-	15,433	13,488
Governance costs	943	-	943	878
Other administration	1,593	-	1,593	1,381
	17,970	-	17,970	15,747

Total	114,112	5,035	119,147	108,940
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WELWYN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

4. Grants Paid

	Institutions	Individuals	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Gospel Work	8,965	500	9,465	11,471
Missionary Work	7,020	-	7,020	4,950
Ministerial Training	1,340	-	1,340	1,275
Medical Provision	4,535	-	4,535	125
Hardship Relief	-	-	-	6,085
	<u>21,860</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>22,360</u>	<u>23,906</u>

The major grants paid in the year were:

European Mission Fellowship	£5,760	(Support of a Pastor in Spain and a Pastor in Italy who are leading church work, and for a conference in Ukraine)
Mercy Ships	£4,535	(Medical provision in Africa)
Overseas Missionary Fellowship	£2,625	(Gospel Work in Taiwan)
United For Mission	£5,100	(Gospel work in the UK and France, support of a Pastor in France)
Gospel Grace Church, Sri Lanka	£2,500	(Church planting work in Sri Lanka)
Pastors Academy	£1,340	(Ministerial training in the UK)

5. Employees

The Church has one employee, the Pastor (2023:1), with most of the church's activities being carried out by volunteers. The Pastor, JM Roberts, is both a church leader and a trustee, and retired from that role in July 2024. His gross salary, paid in his role as a church leader, is allowed by the governing document, and was within a salary band of £50,000 to £60,000.

The Pastor Elect, JP Campbell, started employment in June 2024, and from August 2024 became the Pastor. He is both a church leader and a trustee. His gross salary, paid in his role as a church leader, is allowed by the governing document, and was within a salary band of £50,000 to £60,000.

No remuneration was paid to any other trustee during the year nor to any person connected to them. No trustee expenses were paid to any trustee during the year.

5. Movement of funds

	Balance at 30 Sept 2023	Receipts	Transfers	Payments	Balance at 30 Sept 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Harvest 2023 - Mercy Ships	-	3,783	753	4,535	-
Sundry income	-	500	-	500	-
Harvest 2024 - Mombasa Mission	-	300	-	-	300
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,583</u>	<u>753</u>	<u>5,035</u>	<u>300</u>