

# Muswell Hill Baptist Church

Report and Accounts  
Year ended 31st March 2025

Stewardship   
*Active generosity*

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB  
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**MUSWELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	Dukes Avenue Muswell Hill London N10 2PT
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution adopted 15th July 2009
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1136971
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	The Reverend Alexander John Roberts (resigned 31/07/2024) David Slater Rosemary Pettman Church Secretary Jonathan Ashley-Norman Lynda Roderique
CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES	London Baptist Property Board Ltd.
BANKERS	Barclays Bank plc COIF Charities Deposit Fund National Savings and Investments London Baptist Property Bond
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Lisa Darby FCA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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**MUSWELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

**Objects of the charity**

The charity, which is a church, is governed by a constitution. The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

**Vision**

In order to achieve our Purpose more effectively the Church continued its vision focused on **inviting** This is encapsulated in the strap line ***Inviting a Great City to a Great Saviour***.

**Aims**

We will seek to develop:

- Invitational People
- Invitational Programmes
- Invitational Premises
- Invitational Partnerships

**Values**

- We will PRAY and seek the working of the Spirit of God
- We will be COMMITTED to one another in fellowship and in the vision
- We will disciple through PREACHING, TEACHING and WORSHIP

**Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements**

To further the above objects and vision, the Church engages in a range of activities, either on its own or with others, that vary from time to time with activities being initiated, expanded, or closed, as appropriate.

The Activities may include but are not restricted to:

- Regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching the Word of God;
- Believer's Baptism, as described in the Statement of Faith and the Communion of the Lord's Supper;
- Evangelism and mission, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally;
- Teaching, encouragement, welcome and inclusion of children and young people in a safe environment;
- Nurturing the growth of Christian disciples; education and training for Christian and community service;
- Giving and encouraging pastoral care;
- Supporting and encouraging charitable social action in the United Kingdom and abroad;
- Developing relationships with and supporting Baptists and other Christians.

### **Invitational People**

We were delighted to be able to invite people to events during the year. People were encouraged to use invitations to bring people to various events in our programme. Large numbers now attend our Carers and Toddlers weekly event and our monthly Fellowship Lunches with a devotional meeting (aimed at older people). We distributed hundreds of invitations to our key Sundays – Easter, and Christmas. We welcomed school events which led to the Church being full several times over the Christmas and end-of-school year periods with many local families in attendance.

The church continued to support members and friends working in Christian ministries of various kinds in Europe, Africa and among Turkish and East Asian peoples in the United Kingdom. One of our members is a Full-Time Free Church Chaplain in the British Army.

### **Invitational Programmes**

We held a well-attended Quiz Night, Barbeque and Summer Picnic. A new venture was a walk by the men's group in the city of London with an excellent guide, from Christian Heritage London.

The Muswell Hill Soup Community Kitchen under its Director Martin Stone continued to develop the use of the van. For some these deliveries of hot meals are their only outside contact apart from medical visits. The Community Kitchen also meets two days a week on our premises.

### **Invitational Premises**

We opened our premises as part of the Open House Festival event in London, enabling people to access the building without coming to an event or worship service. This was highly successful and much appreciated.

Gospel Outreach Ministry [GOM] (an offshoot of the New Testament Church of God of Prophecy) continued to meet at our premises.

### **Invitational Partnerships**

People were invited to fill Christmas Shoeboxes for the Samaritan's Purse charity project Operation Christmas Child. Nationally and across London our partnerships with the Evangelical Alliance, the London Baptist Association and the Baptist Union of Great Britain helped to resource another year.

We continued to host the popular Rainbow Preschool and the Fortis Green Kids Club (afterschool provision) plus the concerts for local schools. These raise the profile of our Church in the Community.

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

### **Financial review**

The Trustees were able to navigate and administrate the Charity throughout following the retirement of the Minister John Roberts in July 2024. The Rev Josh Kane was appointed as Moderator for the interregnum to support the church finding a new minister.

In the event, the reduction of expenses, the steady income from residential lettings and the regular, committed giving of the congregation meant that finance was one of the least troubling issues we faced. The Trustees remain confident that this will remain true for the coming year.

During the year income decreased by £34,667 to £166,782, and expenditure decreased by £72,324, to £148,952. As a result the cash held by the charity increased by £17,830 to £268,754, of which £260,242 is unrestricted and can be used for any charitable purpose.

**Reserves policy**

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £80,000 (which equates to about 5 months' of unrestricted expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £260,242 and restricted funds (relating various sub groups in the Church) of £8,513. The charity is complying with its reserves policy.

**Governance**

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rest with the trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity. New trustees are appointed by nomination and voted for by church members. Baptists Together publish 'Help I am a Charity trustee' and we follow its guidance.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

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:

*Rosemary Pettman*

[Rosemary Pettman \(Jan 27, 2026 10:55:46 GMT\)](#)

Rosemary Pettman

Date: Jan 27, 2026

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**MUSWELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Muswell Hill Baptist Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 on pages 6 to 9 following.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity 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 charity'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 accordance with 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Lisa Darby*  
Lisa Darby (Jan 27, 2026 14:50:04 GMT)

Lisa Darby FCA  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
LONDON  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Jan 27, 2026

**MUSWELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

		Unrestricted Funds				
		General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income receipts</b>						
Donations and legacies		59,388	-	13,030	72,418	74,038
Gift aid receipts		4,546	-	274	4,820	11,302
Income from letting of facilities		79,913	-	-	79,913	104,141
Income from Charitable Activities		25	-	-	25	253
Bank Interest		9,606	-	-	9,606	11,715
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>153,478</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,304</b>	<b>166,782</b>	<b>201,449</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	112,332	-	28,618	140,950	208,702
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	7,492	-	510	8,002	12,574
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>119,824</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,128</b>	<b>148,952</b>	<b>221,276</b>
Net of receipts / (payments) before		33,654	-	(15,824)	17,830	(19,826)
Transfers between funds	5	(16,433)	-	16,433	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>17,221</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>17,830</b>	<b>(19,826)</b>
Cash funds as at last year end		243,020	-	7,904	250,924	270,750
<b>Cash funds at this year end</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>260,241</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,513</b>	<b>268,754</b>	<b>250,924</b>

The notes on pages 8 - 9 form part of these accounts.

**MUSWELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted funds	2025	2024
		General funds	Designated funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>A Cash funds</b>						
Cash at bank with immediate access		33,647	-	8,513	42,160	23,915
Deposit accounts		226,594	-	-	226,594	227,008
		<u>260,241</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,513</u>	<u>268,754</u>	<u>250,924</u>
<b>B Other monetary assets</b>						
Gift aid due to charity		8,019	-	-	8,019	4,546
Other debtors		-	-	-	-	8,210
		<u>8,019</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,019</u>	<u>12,756</u>
<b>C Liabilities</b>						
<b>Falling due within one year</b>						
Fee for Independent Examination		2,160	-	-	2,160	1,920
Accrued expenses		6,227	-	-	6,227	6,020
		<u>8,387</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,387</u>	<u>7,940</u>

**D Assets retained for charity's own use**

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost	Insurance value
		£	£
Properties:			
Church Buildings, Dukes Ave., London N10 2PT		-	
2 Dukes Ave (currently 3 flats)		-	8,695,000
Manse at 71 Grasmere Road (Sold 13/10/25)		-	
Contents of church (including organ)		-	241,877
		<u>-</u>	<u>8,936,877</u>

The trustees have used insurance values from November 2024 as the trustees are unable to reliably estimate current values; insurance values may differ materially from current values.□

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Rosemary Pettman  
Rosemary Pettman (Jan 27, 2026 10:55:46 GMT)

Rosemary Pettman

Date: Jan 27, 2026

The notes on pages 8 - 9 form part of these accounts.



**MUSWELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**1 Accounting policies**

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted	Total	Total
	General	Designated	Funds	2025	2024
	funds	funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly</b>					
Employment costs (see note 4)	13,238	-	-	13,238	40,047
Ministry expenses	9,260	-	28,618	37,878	30,419
Maintenance of buildings & equipment	50,487	-	-	50,487	104,103
Utilities	21,348	-	-	21,348	19,917
Insurance	6,432	-	-	6,432	5,810
Accountancy and Independent examination	7,254	-	-	7,254	5,108
Office costs	1,591	-	-	1,591	1,524
Subscriptions	2,509	-	-	2,509	1,547
Bank Charges	213	-	-	213	227
	<u>112,332</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,618</u>	<u>140,950</u>	<u>208,702</u>

**3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others**

Grants for:					
Winchester Vineyard	UK Mission	2,719	-	-	2,719
Baptist Union Home Mission	UK Mission	1,403	-	-	1,403
Pathway	UK Mission	880	-	-	880
Word for Weopan	UK Mission	650	-	-	650
Open Air Camapign	UK Mission	770	-	-	770
OMF International	Overseas Mission	523	-	-	523
Operation Mobilisation	Overseas Mission	546	-	-	546
Other small grants to organisations <£1,000		-	-	510	510
		<u>7,492</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>510</u>	<u>8,002</u>
					<u>12,574</u>

**4 Transactions with related parties**

Rev. Alexander John Roberts served as church leader and was paid £12,376 salary and pension contributions of £494 (2024: £34,200 salary and £5,835 pension contributions) for serving in that capacity, not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

In addition, the charity incurred expenditure totalling £4,717 (2024: £7,216) in respect of the provision of accommodation (which is customary for ministers) to Rev. Alexander John Roberts, who is a trustee so that they could better perform their duties.

Within other restricted fund expenditure is a £1,500 payment made to Rev. Alexander John Roberts on his retirement. £1,400 was raised by the congregation towards this gift.

Kangas Creative a business owned by trustee Dave Slater was paid £801 (2024: £7,000) towards the costs of a new sound system installation for the Sanctuary and other parts of the church building. This work was completed in October 2024.

MUSWELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5 Movement of funds

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
General funds	243,020	153,478	(119,824)	(16,433)	260,242
Tuesday Fellowship	4,277	1,230	(980)	-	4,527
Soup Kitchen and van ministry	-	8,772	(24,926)	16,155	0
Junior Church	856			-	856
DOT	2,655	1,245	(772)	-	3,128
Other	115	2,057	(2,450)	278	-
	<u>7,904</u>	<u>13,304</u>	<u>(29,128)</u>	<u>16,433</u>	<u>8,513</u>
Total funds	<u>250,924</u>	<u>166,782</u>	<u>(148,952)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>268,754</u>

During the year a transfer was made from the General Fund of £16,155 to the Soup Kitchen and Van Ministry fund and £278 to the Other restricted fund to cover expenses incurred.

The Tuesday Fellowship Fund is restricted for use by the Tuesday Fellowship group

The Soup Kitchen and Van Ministry Fund is for our Community Kitchen free meals ministry

The Junior Church Fund is restricted for Children's work

The DOT Fund is restricted for the Toddler Group Ministry

The Other Fund is for small amounts of restricted funds received for specific items