

Report of the Trustees  
and  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

**Central Church**  
**Swindon**

MHA Monahans  
Chartered  
Accountants 38-42  
Newport Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN13D  
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Central Church

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Statements for the Year Ended 31  
December 2020

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Central Church

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31**  
**December 2020**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The purpose of the Charity is to advance the Christian faith in the Area of Benefit in accordance with the principles and practices of the Participating Churches.

In achieving its purpose, the Charity will engage in a range of activities, either on its own or with others, including (but not restricted to):

- a) the celebration of public worship;
- b) the teaching of the Christian faith;
- c) 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
- d) the support of other charities in the UK and overseas.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit.

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 December  
2020

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**The Church**

Normally, we have a weekly Sunday worship service at 10.30 am. Holy Communion is included during the service on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. A ministry of Healing and Wholeness - with prayers and laying-on of hands is offered during the service on the third Sunday of the month.

A Junior Family Church (JFC) for children and young people is held during service times with the exception of the first Sunday. We also hold extra, special services during the major Christian festivals, for example, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Christmas. The Minister and members of the Pastoral Committee take Holy Communion to the housebound twice a year and/or when requested. The minister also attends the Tuesday Fellowship Group and the Wednesday Circle Group to keep in contact with those people who do not normally attend Sunday acts of worship.

Due to Coronavirus lockdown, we closed the church in March as instructed by the Government and LEP participating denominations. The Minister produced a weekly written service which was emailed, posted and delivered to members of the congregation. The monthly newsletter was distributed in the same way.

When restrictions were eased, we held a one-off Service of Thanksgiving in August, and then fully reopened on Sunday 6th September, complying with Covid rules.

We had to close again from Sunday 8th November in compliance with the second lockdown, and reopened when we were allowed to on the 6th December. We then stayed open until the New Year.

Our Minister, Revd Moyra Davies, was due to retire in July but agreed to stay on until Easter 2021 to see us through the pandemic. We are extremely grateful to her for this.

Normally, our regular organist, Dr Themis Toupoulidis, plays for us three Sundays per month, Cyril York plays on the second Sunday every month, and Carolyn Wallbank plays whenever there is a fifth Sunday. We are also grateful to the following organists: Jenny Powley and Janet Furze, who support us on occasional Sundays throughout the year.

Our Membership at 31st December 2020 stood at 71. We also have a number of adherents who are faithful attendees who are not full Members. Our average weekly attendance is 37 adults. Unfortunately, whilst we are in touch with a number of families, the children and teenagers have largely ceased to attend. There are a number of reasons for this but we are aware that many other activities take place on Sunday mornings. Sadly, there have been three funerals during 2020.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to hold several of our special services in 2020 such as Church Anniversaries, and **marking Christian festivals such as Holy Week and Easter. However, we did manage to celebrate Harvest in** September with a lovely service, when the church was beautifully decorated by two of our members for the occasion.

The church was open again for much of the Advent Season, when we were able to decorate the church with traditional trimmings such as the Advent Wreath and Christmas Tree. We were also able to use our lovely, full-sized Nativity scene - which was originally made several years ago by members of the congregation, and is always much appreciated by everyone.

The Service of Lessons and Carols is another much loved service, and we were so pleased that we were able to hold this service - which once again everyone enjoyed - even though due to Covid rules, we had to listen to carols rather than sing them ourselves.

We held our usual Christmas Day service and, again, appreciated the decorations and presence of the Nativity scene.

Unfortunately, once again due the Covid restrictions, we weren't able to hold some of our usual fundraising events throughout the year - such as Christian Aid Big Breakfast in May and MacMillan Cancer Coffee Morning in September. However, we did manage a collection for Water Aid at our Harvest Festival - when we also had a collection of dried goods which were donated to the Swindon Food Collective.

We continued collect and deliver food and other items for the Food Collective throughout the year - whenever the church was open - and we also made a monetary donation to them of £250.

Our Christmas Appeal this year was for Swindon Women's Refuge - which was so well supported that we managed to give them a wonderful array of lovely things for the women - and a whole heap of great toys and gifts for the children and young people of the Refuge. Our Christmas Day collection was given to the charity, Action for Children.

We were unable to hold a full AGM but we ensured that elections were held and the Annual Report and accounts approved.

Christine Durant and Judith Furse met with our prospective new Minister, Revd Jonathan Edwards over Zoom in April, and during the easing of restrictions he met in person with Christine and Revd Moyra Davies. They were joined by Judith Furse on the phone. Following this, a Church Meeting was arranged so that Jonathan could meet our congregation.

Central Church  
Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 December  
2020

Following the meeting, everyone was in favour of us 'calling' him to become the next Minister of Central Church - and he will start his ministry with us on Easter Sunday 2021. Jonathan will not be full-time - but will be a part-time "transitional minister", who will help us discern our vision for the future.

**Church Decoration:** The first Sunday in Advent (Advent Sunday) always sees our church decorated for the coming festive season. The Advent Wreath is on display at the front of the church in readiness for the four Advent Candles to be lit, week by week, in sequence. At the beginning of the Christmas morning service, of course, the central white candle, the Christ Candle is lit.

**Carol Service:** As has been mentioned elsewhere, sadly, due to Covid restrictions, we were unable to hold our usual 'Carols by Candlelight with Christingles Service'. This was a great shame as it's a service much looked forward to during the Christmas Season. However, we were able to hold a 'Lessons and Carol' service - even though we could only listen to the carols. Nevertheless, it proved to be a beautiful service which was much enjoyed by the whole congregation..

**Christmas Presents for the Housebound and those Members who have been bereaved during the past year:** Central Church always buys a present for those Members of our congregation who are housebound and are no longer able to get to church as they once did. We also purchase a gift for anyone who has been bereaved during the current year.

**Christmas Morning Service:** This is always a lovely family service when children and adults alike welcome the Christ Child in the manger into our world. In previous years, the children have been invited to bring along one or two of Santa's presents.

**Church Facilities:** The Church facilities are also used by two other worshipping communities. These are New Life Christian Ministry, led by Pastor Alphonso Davis; and Glory of God, led by Pastor Sidney Martins. Both make good use of the premises including the Baptistry - for baptism by full immersion.

Junior Family Church (JFC)

JFC has failed to function this year with no children attending even before the pandemic closed worship. Sadly there are too many other external activities happening on a Sunday and we need to consider how we can re-engage with our young families, perhaps by meeting during a weekday evening instead. However, this will need a lot of planning and we would require more leaders to assist with this.

**Safeguarding** is taken very seriously. All relevant people involved with our children or vulnerable adults hold a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

### **Tuesday Fellowship**

We met twice a month from January through to March, with a few devotional meetings, a talk on hospital chaplaincy and a games afternoon. Then sadly Coronavirus and lockdown meant that we ceased to meet. During those first few months our numbers, already small, dropped considerably and as Covid was still rife in September when we would normally have started meeting again after the summer break, it was felt unwise to recommence our meetings. When it is safe to do so, we will hold an AGM, but sadly it is unlikely that the group meetings will continue due to numbers.

### **Wednesday Circle**

As above, we met through the first three months of 2020 starting off the year with a winter supper where we all brought and shared a meal and had a wonderful evening of fellowship together. We have not met for the remainder of the year but there is a goodly number of people in this group and it is hopeful that we can start meeting again when the pandemic is a thing of the past and it is considered safe to do so.

### **Bible Study Group:**

This Group has been unable to meet due to Covid.

### **Prayer Fellowship:**

This group was unable to meet due to Covid. However members kept each other informed of prayer requests and so individual prayer at home continued.

### **World Church Group:**

The World Church Group exists to try and keep up-to-date with matters of concern around the world as well as with local issues requiring a Christian voice. The group met in January but was unable to do so again. However newsletters and information was still shared as much as possible. The link with Baptist missionaries Daniel, Regiane and Anna Sophia Clark remains and it was good to receive their letters and hear how they are coping with Covid in Peru. Stories for Change, the newsletter for Commitment for Life was circulated where possible and the church gave them a gift of £200 to help with their vital work with the poor of Central America.

Central Church

Central Church also supports the work of **Amnesty** International. The congregation participated in the Write for Rights campaign.

## Central Church

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Sadly it was not possible to fundraise for Christian Aid, although we did mark Christian Aid Week with a written service featuring their work.

We were however able to make a donation of £100 to the charity, Christians Against Poverty (CAP), which was the World Church Group's chosen charity for the quarter, January-April 2020.

As mentioned elsewhere in this Report, our Christmas charities this year were Action for Children and the Women's Refuge.

**We are committed to continuing to look outward to support the vulnerable and disadvantaged both at home and abroad.**

#### **Newsletter**

We have a monthly newsletter which carries news of the church family, Bible readings, notification of events, and items of general interest. This is available to everyone, and copies are taken to the housebound.

#### **Church in the Community - Lent Lunches**

Central Church hosted the first Lent lunch of the season, at St. Aldhelm's church. This is a simple meal attended by churches in Swindon town centre to raise money for Christian Aid and CAFOD. Due to Corona virus restrictions no other lunches took place.

#### **Friends of SCC**

Swindon Commercial Chaplaincy (SCC) is a registered charity providing chaplaincy to the workplace in the local area. Central Church and the Pilgrim Centre have kindly allowed SCC to use an office in the Pilgrim Centre and for its registered address. Central Church and a number of individuals have become a 'Friend of SCC' by supporting the charity financially and with prayer.

In March 2020 when the Covid 19 pandemic hit, we asked our chaplains to gather telephone numbers and email addresses from those whom they visit. We asked them all to stop visiting and we closed the office. Sheila and Marion have been working from home, popping into the office from time to time where necessary. The chaplains have been keeping in touch with their people as much as possible by phone and email, and by sending the occasional card. Sheila has been telephoning the shop managers to reassure them that we are all still here for them. She has also been keeping in regular contact with the chaplains.

When the first lockdown was over, some of the chaplains did manage to get back into their shops. They were really welcomed back by their people as it has been such a difficult time for the workers. Others were not able to get back in. This was either because their shops were too small and they could not maintain social distancing, or they were vulnerable themselves and had to stay away.

We set up regular 'Chaplains Chat' sessions by Zoom so that we could all see and talk to each other. We also had the occasional managers' meeting by Zoom. Sheila and Marion have also been attending Zoom meetings with Workplace Chaplaincy Mission UK (WCMUK). This charity keeps a weather eye on chaplaincies across the country. They also supply our chaplains' insurance. Their meetings have been exploring various topics including the theology of chaplaincy and how to execute chaplaincy in a post covid world. The meetings have been very helpful.

Sheila has featured on regular slots on Wiltshire Radio's Sunday morning programme. This helps to raise our profile within the town. She also regularly gives out the chaplaincy telephone number for anyone to contact if they need anyone to speak to in these difficult times. This message is also on our social media pages and website.

2020 has been extremely challenging and now in 2021 we are once again in lockdown. During the last year the retail sector has suffered greatly, and many of the shops were already facing difficulties. Despite everything we remain optimistic. We believe there has never been a greater need for the chaplaincy service. Many members of staff in local shops are overwhelmed and in need of our support. We look forward to the day when we can get back to them. Also, to exploring new ways of doing chaplaincy. We extend our grateful thanks to all of our supporters, through prayer and financial giving. Also to Team SCC for all that they do.

#### **The Pilgrim Centre**

Bookings for room hire started to drop off very quickly when the Covid rules came in. We cancelled some ourselves in order to keep everyone safe. Revd Moyra Davies, David Davies and Christine Durant maintained a presence in the building throughout the year and ensured vital maintenance work was done.



### Central Church

They oversaw much-needed decorating and laying of new carpet was completed. The National Blood Transfusion Service continue to use our building but there is no way of knowing how many customers we have lost for good.

**Cleaners:** As the cafe isn't open at present, its cleaner, Mrs. Suzie Osbaldstone, has decided to retire. Mrs. Jane Corcoran continues to clean the rest of the building.

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31**  
**December 2020**

**Cafe @ Central:**

Cafe @ Central opened in October 2016 as a church and community facility, and has been much appreciated by everyone.

In 2020, the cafe reopened on Thursday 6th February following the Christmas break, but unfortunately just five weeks later, on 12th March, it had to close down again due to Coronavirus Lockdown - and did not reopen for the remainder of the year.

**Issues and Trends**

The 'Volunteer Welcome Handbook' continues to be updated as and when legislation changes. Volunteers continue to be made aware of COSHH (The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) regulations.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

At 31 December 2020, total funds were £1,341,920. Restricted funds were £866,908 and endowment funds were £255,358. Unrestricted reserves were £219,654. Free reserves, after making allowance for tangible fixed assets, were £217,325.

The trustees' reserve policy is to maintain free reserves at a level which equates to approximately six months costs in order to cover unplanned situations that may occur from time to time. This is in line with good practice and follows the recommendations of the charity commission. Based on the present level of costs the required free reserves are £50,000. Reserves held are above the required level.

The Covid-19 restrictions meant that we could not worship in our building until September. Our minister, Revd Moyra Davies, sent out a written service every week. Our income was affected although many members have continued to make their financial offering throughout lockdown. All room hire bookings have been cancelled apart from the NHS Blood and Transplant Service whose sessions we have continued to host. This means our income will be reduced. We do have enough reserves to cover our expenses for the foreseeable future.

**FUTURE PLANS**

**Goals for 2021**

- We intend to continue to ensure that our Safeguarding Officer - together with those relevant personnel who have been appointed and commissioned by the Leadership Team to respond to any safeguarding concerns - have continued safeguarding training with regard to vulnerable adults and children.
- We will continue to support initiatives with children and families such as Messy Church.
- We will also continue to support and encourage regular social 'get-togethers' such as church meals and 'outings', as these provide an invaluable opportunity to create an atmosphere of openness and friendliness, and for the whole congregation to feel a sense of belonging to the one church family.
- We will continue to support local external ecumenical initiatives such as Lent Lunches in Swindon town centre.
- We will continue to support national and international events such as:  
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, World Day of Prayer, Christian Aid Week, Macmillan Cancer Support: World's Biggest Coffee Morning, One World Week, and the charity, Action for Children.
- We will continue to encourage those attending services to come forward for baptism or confirmation and full membership.
- We will continue to hold Lent Study and Advent Courses each year, and observe traditional Holy Week services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.
- We will continue reviewing and updating all policies. Review and amend where necessary the Volunteers' Handbook, Safeguarding Policy, and Health and Safety Policy, etc.
- Review all risk assessments and amend where necessary
- Continue to ensure that there are sufficient personnel who are trained in First Aid.
- Review all pricing structures, maintenance contracts, utility use and general expenditure to ensure unnecessary losses are not being incurred.
- We will continue to support volunteers with special needs.
- We will be undertaking an overhaul of our Church website.
- We are working towards becoming a greener church.
- We will continue to be a welcoming, caring, and inclusive Christian community, serving God in Church and in the local community.

**Report of the  
Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31  
December 2020**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

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

We are a single congregation church comprised of three denominations. We are recognised by the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB), and locally by the West of England Baptist Association, (WEBA), Methodist Connexion and locally by the North Wiltshire Methodist Circuit, and the United Reformed Church General Assembly and locally by the South Western Synod. We serve the Swindon town centre area. Our membership is also drawn from other areas of the town.

We are members of Churches Together in Swindon Centre (CTISC). We are also members of Swindon Churches Together (SGT) who act as our sponsoring body for guidance and oversight.

Our church minister is normally taken in rotation from the three denominations. We currently have a minister from the Baptist tradition, Revd Moyra Davies.

Central Church operates from the purpose-built Pilgrim Centre. The building comprises a ground floor cafe called Cafe @ Central, the first floor Worship Area and second and third floor offices and meeting rooms, which are available for hire by the community.

**Trustees:**

Judith Furse {Chair}, David McNab, June Osborne, Sue Mason, Joanna Struthers-Frost, Rita Cammegh and Christine Durant.

**Executive:**

Our Trustees are all members of our elected Executive who oversee the running of the church and premises. The Executive meets six times a year. Elections are held during our Annual Church Meeting, with all elected positions held for three years maximum before re-standing for election. We also have one ex-officio member of the Executive, Revd Moyra Davies (Minister).

**Other officers serving Central Church and the Pilgrim Centre:**

**Secretariat:** Christine Durant, and Marion Manning, membership secretary.

**Finance Officer:** Sue Mason assisted by David Davies

**Finance data input and report writing: MHA**

Monahans **Cash counting:** Brian Miller and Frank Glead.

**Chair of Church Meeting:** Christine Durant

**Staffing Officer:** Judith Furse

**Leader of Junior Family Church (JFC):** Christine Durant assisted by Hannah Evans.

**Leader of the Youth Group:** Vacancy

**Information Officer:** Vacancy

**Manse Fabric Officer:** David McNab

**Marriage Registration:** Marion Manning

**Pastoral Committee: Elected Members:** Janet Ferris, Jane Walsh and Glenys Thomas. Revd Moyra Davies Chairs this committee as an ex-officio member. There is a group of non-elected Pastoral Carers who also sit on the Pastoral Committee which meets quarterly. The Pastoral Carers visit our sick and elderly.

**Safeguarding Officers:** Revd Moyra Davies, Mavis Poolman

**Induction and training of Trustees:** Resources are available for training any new Trustees in their duties, e.g. our constitution model document, standing orders, web site, Charity Commission website, local knowledge as many of our Executive have been serving for many years. All legal requirements regarding ongoing information is continually updated and displayed in both the Centre and Cafe.

**External Representation**

Locally, we have representatives on **Swindon Churches Together (SCT)** - Revd Moyra Davies and Judith Furse; and **Churches Together in Swindon Centre (CTISC)** - Revd. Moyra Davies, who is also Chair of this group, and Sylvia Barnes. Revd Moyra Davies also acts as our representative to WEBA, and two church members, Christine Durant and Judith Furse are our representatives on the North Wiltshire Methodist Circuit. Judith Furse is also our representative to the URC SW Synod. We are also involved in the local Interfaith Group.

**Properties:** the legal title of properties managed by the Church trustees belong to the following as custodian trustees: West of England Baptist Trust Company, United Reform Church, and the Methodist Church.

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 December  
2020

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

1145817

**Principal**

**address** The  
Pilgrim Centre  
Regent Circus  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN11PX

**Trustees**

J Furse  
S Pope (resigned  
10.9.20) D McNab  
C  
Durant  
S  
Mason  
RCammeg  
h J  
Osborne  
J Struthers-Frost

**Independent Examiner**

Steve  
Fraser FCA  
MHA Monahans  
Chartered  
Accountants 38-42  
Newport Street  
Swindon  
Wiltshir  
e  
SN13D  
R

**Bank account**

Royal Bank of Scotland, 127 Commercial Road, Swindon. SN1 5PZ

**Financial/Investment**

West of England Baptist Association (WEBA),  
United Reformed Church (URC), and Methodist Finance Board.

**Contact details**

Web Site Central Church: [www.centralchurch.com](http://www.centralchurch.com)

Web Site Pilgrim Centre:

[www.pilgrimcentre.co.uk](http://www.pilgrimcentre.co.uk) Email:

[pilcen@aol.com](mailto:pilcen@aol.com)

Tel: 01793 537642

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Approved by order of the board of trustees

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J Furse - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to**  
**the Trustees of**  
**Central Church Swindon**

Independent **examiner's** report to the trustee of Central Church Swindon  
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Central Church Swindon (the Trust)  
for the year ended 31 December 2020.

**Report on the 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 earned out under section 145 of the Act and  
in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission  
under section 145(5Xb) 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 in which  
attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be  
reached.



Steve Riser  
FCA  
MHA Monahans  
Chartered  
Accountants  
38-42 Newport  
Street Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN13DR

Date: 11th April 2021

**Central Church**

**Statement of Financial  
Activities  
for the Year Ended 31  
December 2020**

	Notes	Unrestrict ed funds £	Restrict ed funds £	Endowme nt fund £	2020 Total fund s £	2019 Total fund s £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	19,571	31		19,602	25,630
Other trading activities	3	11,521			11,521	40,506
Investment income	4	24,418	9,846		34,264	43,569
<b>Total</b>		55,510	9,877		65,387	109,705
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>						
Raising funds	5	1,933	480	14,642	17,055	7,827
<b>Charitable activities</b>	6					
Church activities		93,794	175		93,969	87,716
<b>Total</b>		95,727	655	14,642	111,024	95,543
Net gains on investments		6,126	9,906		16,032	116,849
<b>NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE)</b>		(34,091)	19,128	(14,642)	(29,605)	131,011
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		253,745	847,780	270,000	1,371,525	1,240,514
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>219,654</u>	<u>866,908</u>	<u>255,358</u>	<u>1,341,920</u>	
					<u>1,371,525</u>	

The notes form part of these financial

**Central Church**

**Balance  
Sheet 31  
December  
2020**

2020  
£

2019  
£

Notes

**FIXED ASSETS**

Tangible assets

**Investments**

Investments

Investment property

12

13

14

2,329

3,442

891,557

875,524

246,514

1,140,400

878,966

**CURRENT ASSETS**

Debtors

Investments held for sale

Cash at bank and in hand

15

16

17

7,608

14,529

270,00

198,308

216,47  
9

205,916

501,008

**CREDITORS**

Amounts falling due within one year

18

(4,396)

(8,449)

**NET CURRENT ASSETS**

201,520

492,559

**TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT  
LIABILITIES**

1,341,920

1,371,52  
5

**NET ASSETS**

1,341,920

1,371,  
525

**FUNDS**

Unrestricted funds

Restricted funds

Endowment funds

20

219,654

253,745

866,908

847,780

255,358

270,000

**TOTAL FUNDS**

1,341,920

1,371,52  
5

The financial statements were approved.  
by the Board  
.....J,u;l.....Zo',l.,nd were signed on its behalf  
by:

of Trustees and authorised for issue  
on

C A Durant

C Durant - Trustee

.....  
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The notes form part of these financial

## Central Church

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no significant areas of judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

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

##### **Legal status of the charity**

The charity is an unincorporated charity, constituted by a trust deed.

The registered office address and the nature of the charity's operations and principal activities of the charity are given in the trustees report.

##### **Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions**

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

##### **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.

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. This is normally upon notification by our investment advisor of the dividend yield of the investment portfolio.

##### **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



**Central Church**

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**.

**Notes to the Financial Statements -**  
**continued for the Year Ended 31**  
**December 2020**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES -**

**continued Governance costs**

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the cost of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment	20% on straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on straight line basis

**Freehold property**

The Pilgrim Centre is owned by the Baptist Church (two thirds), Methodist (one sixth) and United Reform Church (URC) (one sixth). The Manse is owned by the URC. Expenditure incurred on the church and manse is written off in the year it is incurred.

The above properties are not recognised as assets of the charity.

**Investments**

Investments are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Any gain or loss on revaluation is included in the Statement of Financial Activities as unrealised.

**Investment property**

The church receives an annual rent from a property that is held upon trust by the West of England Baptist Association (WEBA) Trustees. Investment properties are included in the accounts at open market value. All movements arising from revaluation are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities. Realised gains and losses on investment properties are calculated as the difference between the disposal proceeds and the market value at the beginning of the year or cost of purchases during the year. Unrealised gains and losses are derived from the movement in the market values during the year.

**Debtors**

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

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors**

Creditors 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 are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Taxation**

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

**Fund accounting**

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

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of the grant.

Endowment funds are funds which are held subject to donor-imposed stipulations that they be maintained as capital. The income earned from these funds is used for general purposes where

allowed or for the specific purposes intended. The aim and use of each endowment fund is set out in the notes to the accounts.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The church operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the church's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

## Central Church

### Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The church also pays pension contributions for its Minister to the Baptist Ministers Pension Trust Limited, which is a final salary defined benefit scheme. The scheme is a multi-employer scheme and it is not possible to identify the assets and liabilities of the scheme which are attributable to the church. Therefore, as there is insufficient information, the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

#### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations and collections	16,349	20,684
Gift aid	3,253	4,962
Legacies		—
	<u>19,602</u>	25,630

#### 3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Cafe @ Central takings	555	5,372
Hire of Pilgrim Centre	10,766	35,134
Other income		
	<u>11,521</u>	40,506

#### 4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2020	2019
	£	£
Rents received	8,471	15,544
Income from fixed asset investments	25,454	27,561
Deposit account interest		464
	<u>34,264</u>	<u>43,569</u>

#### 5. RAISING FUNDS

##### **Investment management costs**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Portfolio management	580	50
Rental property - repairs and professional fees	<u>15,953</u>	<u>3,576</u>
	<u>16,533</u>	= 3,626

##### **Other trading activities**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Purchases	378	3,984
Repairs and renewals	144	217
	<u>522</u>	<u>4,201</u>

Aggregate amounts	<u>17,055</u>	= 7,827
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**Central Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

**6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs (see note 7) £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Church activities	<u>42,266</u>	<u>51,703</u>	93,969

**7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	2020 £	2019 £
Staff costs	27,889	27,567
Manse property expenses	2,455	2,145
Sundries	650	625
<b>Denominations and assessments</b>	8,871	10,327
Worship	1,814	2,729
Donations	587	---
	<u>42,266</u>	43,529

**8. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Church activities	<u>49,350</u>	<u>2,353</u>	<u>51,703</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

**Management**

	2020 Church activities £	2019 Total activities £
<b>Rates and water</b>	1,903	638
Insurance	4,405	4,487
Light and heat	11,317	12,488
Telephone and internet	2,393	2,366
Printing, postage and stationery	2,792	3,071
Cleaning and household	4,694	7,551
Repairs and renewals	17,585	6,516
Professional fees	98	571
Bad debts	125	
Bookkeeping, management accounts and payroll	2,925	2,978
Depreciation of tangible and heritage assets		<u>1,241</u>
	49,350	<u>41,907</u>

**Governance costs**

	2020 Church activities £	2019 Total activities £
Independent examination and accountancy	<u>2,353</u>	<u>2,280</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements -**  
**continued for the Year Ended 31**  
**December 2020**

**9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

**10. STAFF COSTS**

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	27,727	26,993
Other pension costs	162	574
	<u>27,889</u>	<u>27,567</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2020	2019
	1	1

Minister

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Key management personnel for the charity comprises the Minister. The total employee benefits for key management personnel of the charity were £27,889 (2019 - £27,567).

**11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestrict ed funds £	Restrict ed funds £	Endowme nt fund £	Total fund s £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>				
Donations and legacies	25,605	25		25,630
<b>Other trading activities</b>	40,506			40,506
Investment income	31,313	12,256		43,569
<b>Total</b>	97,424	12,281		109,705
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>				
Raising funds	7,827			7,827
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Church activities	87,289	427		87,716
<b>Total</b>	95,116	427		95,543
Net gains on investments	14,475	102,374		116,849
<b>NET INCOME</b>	16,783	114,228		131,011
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<u>(163)</u>	<u>163</u>		
<b>Net movement In funds</b>	16,620	114,391		131,011
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>				
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>				
As previously reported	237,125	733,389		970,514
Prior year adjustment			270,000	270,000
<b>As restated</b>	237,125	733,389	270,000	1,240,514

**Notes to the Financial Statements • continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

<b>11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES • continued</b>				
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment fund	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	253,745	847,780	270,000	1,371,525
<b>12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS</b>				
		Equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020		<u>25,963</u>	<u>23,966</u>	<u>49,929</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 January 2020		23,513	22,974	46,487
Charge for year		816	297	
At 31 December 2020		<u>24,329</u>	<u>23,271</u>	<u>47,600</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 December 2020		<u>1,634</u>	<u>695</u>	2,329
At 31 December 2019		<u>2,450</u>	<u>992</u>	<u>3,442</u>
<b>13. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS</b>				
		West of England Baptist Trust Co. £	United Refonn Church £	Totals £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>				
At 1 January 2020		367,080	508,444	875,524
Unrealised gains		(16,631)	32,664	16,033
At 31 December 2020		<u>350,449</u>	<u>541,108</u>	<u>891,557</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 December 2020		<u>350,449</u>	<u>541,108</u>	<u>891,557</u>
At 31 December 2019		<u>367,080</u>	<u>508,444</u>	<u>875,524</u>

Investments held by the West of England Baptist Trust Company are used to fund significant repairs to the Pilgrim Centre. Investments held by the United Refonn Church are for significant repairs to the manse. There were no investment assets outside the UK. During the year ended 31 December 2018, £80,000 of unrestricted funds were invested in the United Refonn Church fund.

<b>14. INVESTMENT PROPERTY</b>	
	£
<b>FAIR VALUE</b>	
Additions	246,514
At 31 December 2020	246,514
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 December 2020	246,514
At 31 December 2019	

The investment property was purchased in January 2020 and is held at cost The trustees are not aware of any material change in the value of the property.



**Central Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements -**  
**continued for the Year Ended 31**  
**December 2020**

**15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,123	5,180
Other debtors	1,058	1,058
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>5,427</u>	<u>8,291</u>
	<u>7,608</u>	<u>14,529</u>

**16. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Investment property held for sale		<u>270,000</u>

**17. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

Included in cash is £85,016 (2019: £75,723) which is held on deposit by the West of England Baptist Trust Company.

**18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other creditors	975	130
Deferred income		5,044
Accrued expenses	<u>3,421</u>	<u>3,275</u>
	<u>4,396</u>	<u>8,449</u>

Deferred income relates to rental income received in advance.

**19. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment fund	2020 Total funds	2019 Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	2,329			2,329	3,442
Investments	101,480	790,077	246,514	1,138,071	875,524
Current assets	120,241	76,831	8,844	205,916	501,008
Current liabilities	(4,396)			(4,396)	(8,449)
	<u>219,654</u>	<u>866,908</u>	<u>255,358</u>	<u>1,341,920</u>	<u>1,371,525</u>

**20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.1.20	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.20
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	253,745	(34,091)	219,654
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Swindon Church Fund	432,398	(7,265)	425,133
URC Fund	413,087	26,538	439,625
Manse Repair Fund	2,295	(145)	2,150

	<b><u>Central Church</u></b>			
		847,780	19,128	866,908
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Property - Baptist		270,000	(14,642)	255,358
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>1,371,525</u>	<u>(29,605)</u>	<u>1,341,920</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements -  
continued**

**20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds. included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming <b>resources</b> £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movemen t in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	55,510	(95,727)	6,126	(34,091)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Swindon Church Fund	9,847	(480)	(16,632)	(7,265)
URC Fund			26,538	26,538
Flower Fund	30	(30)		
Manse Repair Fund		<u>(145)</u>		<u>(145)</u>
	9,877	(655)	9,906	19,128
<b>Endowment funds</b>				
Property - Baptist		(14,642)		(14,642)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	65,387	<u>(111,024)</u>	<u>16,032</u> <u>(29,605)</u>	

**Comparatives for  
movement in**

**funds**

	At1.1.19 £	Prio r yea r adjustment £	Net moveme nt in funds £	Transfer s between funds £	At 31.12.19 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	237,125		16,783	(163)	253,745
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Swindon Church Fund	380,478		51,920		432,398
URC Fund	350,377		62,710		413,087
Flower Fund	239		(402)	163	
Manse Repair Fund	2,295				2,295
	733,389		114,228	163	847,780
<b>Endowment funds</b>					
Property - Baptist		270,000			270,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	970,514	270,000	131,011		<u>1,371,525</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming <b>resources</b> £	Resource s expende d £	Gains and losses £	Moveme nt in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	97,424	(95,116)	14,475	16,783

**Central Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements -  
continued**

<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Swindon Church Fund	12,256		39,664	51,920
URC Fund			62,710	62,710
Flower Fund	<u>25</u>	<u>(427)</u>	<u>        </u>	<u>(402)</u>
	12,281	<u>(427)</u>	102,374	114,228
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>109,705</u>	<u>(95,543)</u>	<u>116,849</u>	<u>131,011</u>

## **Central Church**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements •** **continued for the Year Ended 31**

#### **20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS. continued**

##### **Endowment funds**

Property - Baptist

This fund represents the value of the Southampton property managed by the church as managing trustees, the deeds of which are held by the West of England Baptist Trust company as custodian trustee. The fund is held for the general purpose of the charity.

##### **Restricted funds**

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of the grant. The purpose of the above restricted funds are as follows;

Swindon Church  
Fund

This represents funds held by the West of England Baptist Trust Company on behalf of the church and is to cover significant repairs to the Pilgrim Centre building.

URC Fund

The URC Fund is restricted to use on the United Reform Church manse and

Flower Fund  
Manse Repair  
Fund

other related activities. It is represented by investments held on trust for the Church by the United Reform Church.

The Flower Fund provides flowers for the church and for members who are ill.

The Manse Repair Fund represents monies received to fund repairs to the Manse

## **21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

Total donations of £1,590 were received from trustees. These donations were all given without conditions. Trustees also donate via church plate collections. These amounts are not recorded separately

There were no other related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2020.