

Hope Churches

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 December 2024

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

HOPE CHURCHES
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	17 Hunloke Way Malmesbury SN16 9FL
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO Constitution dated March 2013, as amended May 2019
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1151101
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Ian Cambray-Smith Mark Faithfull David Jones Susan Jones
NAMES OF ADVISERS EG BANKERS	CAF Bank Limited
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Nick Spear ACCA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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HOPE CHURCHES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Objects of the charity

Hope Churches is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (reg: 1151101) and is governed by a Constitution dated 6 March 2013 (as amended 26 May 2019). Its charitable purposes are:

* To advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statements of belief appearing in schedule A of its constitution.

* To relieve persons who are in conditions of need or hardship or who are aged or sick and to relieve the distress caused thereby in the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.

Objectives and activities

The aims of the charity are primarily outworked through the operation of Hope Church in the town of Malmesbury, Wiltshire. 2024 was the twelfth year of operation for Hope Church. The Church continued to hold public worship services every Sunday along with a programme of complementary mid-week activities including mid-week bible study and home groups called Centre. The church continues to offer live streams of its services which allows members who are otherwise unable to travel to the church to participate online.

Hope Church has a very practical, inclusive and family friendly approach to all its activities, enabling ordinary people to live out their faith through:

* Worship and prayer, learning about the Good News of Jesus, increasing their knowledge of Scripture and how to apply these to daily living.

* Pastoral care for people both within and outside the Hope Church family.

* Outreach work to share the Gospel

Achievements and performance

Worship, prayer and establishing Services of Christian Worship are held every Sunday morning in the main hall of Malmesbury Town Hall. These are characterised by modern, high energy worship and a very relaxed and child friendly atmosphere.

The service includes bible-based teaching from the Church Pastors and Elders, visiting speakers and members of the congregation. The sermons are recorded and made freely available on the Church website and Apple, Google and Spotify podcasts.

Achievements and performance (continued)

All services and events are open to all and free of charge and are funded by the donations of the congregation and friends of Hope Church.

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

In support of the charity's objective to relieve need and hardship we launched a new initiative Good News Shoes which, in partnership with a local Clark's Shoe Shop, provides vouchers for school shoes to primary school aged children who come from families in need (defined as qualifying for free school meals) in the town of Malmesbury.

We also started a new summer time initiative during our Adventure Club holiday program to offer free meals to children who attend, covering the food gap during school holidays for children who normally receive free school meals.

Financial review

Total incoming resources for unrestricted funds were £47,270 (2023: £42,246) including Gift Aid claimed and bank interest. There were no restricted funds received. Total payments for the year were £49,241 (2023: £47,960).

The deficit for the year was £1,972 compared to a deficit of £5,714 in 2023. The charity ended the year with cash of £68,628, of which £51,182 was unrestricted. Lead Pastor Mark Faithfull was paid a salary of £7,198 and Lead Pastor Lydia Faithfull was paid a salary of £7,198 in respect of their employment as church pastors. No other Trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year for acting as a Trustee. Andrea Phillips works part time as Children's worker, responsible for our regular Sunday School and running holiday craft activities during school holidays.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have set a target for reserves of around six months running costs (£25,000), in order to protect the work of the charity from sudden changes in donation levels and to fund the replacement of any material equipment that should fail. Total reserves at the end of 2024 were £68,628, of which £51,182 (which includes the designated fund referred to below) was available to support the reserves policy.

Mindful of the need to continue to invest in the infrastructure of the growing church and fund the charitable objectives, the Trustees have agreed that they should continue to build the reserves of the charity over the next few years with the aim to purchase a suitable building to support the charity's activities. No additional funds were specifically designated from unrestricted funds to support this vision as the charity had operated at a budgeted deficit for the year.

Volunteers

The majority of the work of the charity is performed by volunteers, including the Pastors and Trustees. It has been gratifying to observe more members of the congregation get involved in practical ways in the running of Sunday services, special events, midweek groups and pastoral care.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is managed and administered by the trustees who give due regard to the spiritual leadership of the church which is provided by the Pastors and Elders. New trustees are appointed by the existing trustees by a majority vote.

The Trustees at the end of 2024 were: Mark Faithfull, Ian Cambray-Smith, David Jones, and Sue Jones who are supported by a book-keeper and treasurer.

The spiritual leadership of the church is provided by the Lead Pastors, Mark and Lydia Faithfull. The Pastors are assisted by the Church Elders: David and Sue Jones.

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:


Mark Faithfull (Oct 16, 2025 09:05:26 GMT+1)
MARK FAITHFULL
Date: Oct 16, 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF

HOPE CHURCHES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Hope Churches ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 on pages 6 to 8 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.

Nick Spear

Nick Spear (Oct 16, 2025 10:20:30 GMT+1)

Nick Spear ACCA
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Oct 16, 2025

HOPE CHURCHES
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2024 £	2023 £
		General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £		
Income receipts						
Donations		38,769	-	1,032	39,801	32,532
Gift aid receipts		7,325	-	-	7,325	9,570
Bank interest		144	-	-	144	144
Total receipts		<u>46,237</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>47,270</u>	<u>42,246</u>
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	46,811	-	-	46,811	44,030
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	1,160	-	1,270	2,430	3,930
Total payments		<u>47,971</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,270</u>	<u>49,241</u>	<u>47,960</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before		(1,734)	-	(238)	(1,972)	(5,714)
Transfers between funds	5	(238)	-	238	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(1,972)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,972)</u>	<u>(5,714)</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		33,154	20,000	17,446	70,600	76,414
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>31,182</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>17,446</u>	<u>68,628</u>	<u>70,600</u>

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

HOPE CHURCHES
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted funds	2024	2023
		General funds	Designated funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds						
Cash at bank with immediate access		31,182	20,000	17,446	68,628	70,600
Petty cash		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>31,182</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>17,446</u>	<u>68,628</u>	<u>70,600</u>
B Other monetary assets						
Gift aid due to charity		8,105	-	-	8,105	7,325
		<u>8,105</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,105</u>	<u>7,325</u>
C Liabilities						
Falling due within one year						
Trade creditors		1,952	-	-	1,952	-
PAYE/NI and pensions due		252	-	-	252	131
Fee for Independent Examination		1,170	-	-	1,170	1,128
Wages payable		-	-	-	-	200
		<u>3,374</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,374</u>	<u>1,459</u>

D Assets retained for charity's own use

	Value
	£
Contents and equipment	17,089
	<u>17,089</u>

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

E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

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

Mark Faithfull
Mark Faithfull (Oct 16, 2025 09:05:26 GMT+1)
 MARK FAITHFULL
 Date: Oct 16, 2025

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

HOPE CHURCHES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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 Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Employment costs (see note 4)	20,733	-	-	20,733	19,888
Rent & property costs	14,280	-	-	14,280	11,690
Insurance	318	-	-	318	265
Independent examination	1,128	-	-	1,128	1,104
Administration & support	5,248	-	-	5,248	4,938
Repairs, maintenance & equipment	105	-	-	105	1,277
Other ministry costs	5,000	-	-	5,000	4,867
	<u>46,811</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,811</u>	<u>44,030</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Organisations:					
SAT-7 Trust	-	-	-	-	600
Malmesbury PCC	1,000	-	-	1,000	750
Other small grants to organisations	160	-	-	160	2,580
Grants to individuals	<u>1,270</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,270</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,430</u>	<u>3,930</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

Mark Faithfull and Lydia Faithfull served as church leaders and were each paid £7,198 (2023: £7,198) for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

No other payments were made to trustees or persons related to them, except for reimbursement of expenses paid out on behalf of the charity for duties unrelated to their duties as a trustee.

5 Movement of funds

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	33,154	46,237	(47,971)	(238)	31,182
Designated funds					
Building Fund	<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,000</u>
	<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Restricted funds					
Building Fund	<u>17,446</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,446</u>
Good News Shoes	<u>-</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>(1,270)</u>	<u>238</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>17,446</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>(1,270)</u>	<u>238</u>	<u>17,446</u>
Total funds	<u>70,600</u>	<u>47,270</u>	<u>(49,241)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,628</u>

The designated **Building** fund represents funds set aside by the trustees to secure a future church building (known as the Home 4 Hope project).

The restricted **Building** fund was created from donations received to help secure a future church building (known as the Home 4 Hope project).

The restricted **Good News Shoes** fund is to distribute Clarks shoes vouchers to families who are struggling to buy their children's school shoes, and to fund the food for the children's club.