

Registered Charity Number: 1158997

SOUTH
STREET
CHURCH

Sharing Life. Living Faith.

**Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2024**

SOUTH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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for the year ended 31st December 2024**

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TRUSTEES REPORT 2024

The current trustees are Andrew Conibear (Chair), Bev Vale (Vice Chair), Rosemary Sherwin, Simon Ogden and Tim Spelman (also an Elder).

The consistent theme of the last few years has been the challenging financial position of South Street Church. The past year has been no different and the year ended with an operating loss.

Summary of finances

Year	Total income £	Total expenditure £	Net operating income £
2024	111,277	116,636	(5,359)
2023	112,160	115,193	(3,033)
Variance	(883)	1,443	(2,326)

The church relies on the giving from members and the wider congregation to function and provide all of the various outreach, youth work and ministry services. The trustees on behalf of the whole church would like to thank everyone who gifts to the work of the church.

Additionally, the financial position for 2024 was supported by two significant donations

received during the year – thank you, and we thank God for his continued provision for us.

Without these one-off donations, the financial position would have been considerably worse.

Important points that everyone associated with South Street Church must recognise

Like every single organisation, we are operating in an inflationary environment. The cost of employment and utilities continue to rise whilst the income the church receives does not keep up with expenditure. Income from ‘regular giving’ over 2024 reduced, and in some months reduced significantly.

Everyone who attends and uses the various provisions of South Street Church should be concerned about this. The scope of the church to reduce expenditure is limited. The most significant cost is employment, and the provision of everything the church delivers is dependent on our paid employees, supported of course by the many volunteers who give their time so generously.

We continue to encourage all members to prayerfully consider what they can afford to gift to the church, and wherever possible, to do this via direct debit. This gives a more consistent income flow as opposed to the ad hoc nature of giving on an ‘as and when’ basis.

Whilst the majority of our expenditure covers employment costs, we commit around 10% of annual income to support other external ministry work. In the past year this was over £9,000, and included donations to our sponsored child in India, Christians Against Poverty, Cogwheel Trust, David Symons, Evangelical Alliance, Faith in Kids, Scripture Union, Tear Fund, United Generations and Vision for Asia.

Moving ahead into 2025

We do have to be stark and say that the current financial position is not sustainable. Monthly regular giving has been reducing. For context, giving in November and December 2024 was around £500 each month less than in 2023. The first three months of 2025 has continued with a reduction in giving.

We have drawn down funds at the start of 2025 from the main account to cover our costs if this trend continues, but, as reported last year, this ‘topping up’ to support our activities is not sustainable over the longer term.

The trustees are now in more regular discussions with the elders about the financial position of the church. Over the next couple of years, we will have to consider the overall format and operating model of the church, if the current level of giving is our ‘normal’ operating income. Please pray for us as trustees and the overall church leadership. We want to ensure we are

SOUTH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 31st December 2024

able to support the ministry and outreach of South Street Church, to the glory of God.

We continue to pray and trust that God will provide for us and guide all of us in the financial decision making surrounding the work of South Street Church.

Finally, we would like to place on record our thanks to Seb, Chloe, Cathy, Rose and Sue for everything they have done over the past year.

Andrew Conibear

Chair of Trustees

ELDERS REPORT

God's blessings in 2024 have been so abundant, we have much to be thankful for! Whether veterans of the faith or exploring Christianity for the first time, as a fellowship we encourage each other to step towards God every day.

Our year began in the book of Esther who reminded us that God uses us to fulfil his purposes in whatever circumstances we find ourselves in. Jesus' journey to the cross in Mark's Gospel led us up to Easter while our journey through Romans gave us time to reflect on the wonder of God's character whose salvation is a gift, not something we earn through works,

The book of Judges reminded us that God uses the most unlikely of characters to rescue the most undeserving of people who turn to him. After the summer we concentrated on living out our faith and telling people about Jesus through the Living and Telling course and finished the year in 1 Corinthians 13 pondering the heart of love that motivated the incarnation.

South Street Church champions an 'every member ministry and mission' culture with homegroups and youth hosting Sunday services and sharing Jesus through personal witness. We continue to give thanks for everyone growing in their faith, especially our many young people. We celebrate their willingness and growing confidence in leading from the front. This year we dedicated Wendell and Huckle, baptised Jasmine, Joy, Viv and Alex and look forward to baptising others who want to make a public profession of faith in 2025.

We continue to share God's love with the local community through our thriving ministries; toddler groups including 'Dads and Tods', community cafe, the Easter and Christmas extravaganzas, carol service, serving at the academy, over 70's events, Open the Book dramas at Southmead Primary school, meeting and praying with people at our stall at the Branton Christmas Market.

We thank God for the newcomers he brings, some of whom are exploring Christianity for the first time or re-engaging with a dormant faith.

Thank you to all those who invited, attended, cooked and served at our Alpha course, we're seeing an increased appetite for God in unchurched people, so be bold and invite your friends, colleagues, and family to explore faith. We had special times of fellowship thanks to Eva's initiative to organise social evenings and Holly, Amy and Dan who made our church weekend away to Hill House wonderful with sunny walks, fun in the pool and time to reflect on our busy lives. God is faithful!

Seb Latimer

on behalf of the Elders

BRAUNTON FOODBANK AND CAFÉ

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 31st December 2024

We continue to open at our SS church on a Wednesday at 12 noon to provide food and household products to people who have a basic need. This is mainly a referral system and vouchers are issued locally through social prescribers, doctors, schools, social workers or indeed, people can turn up and we will issue an emergency voucher. Customers are then signposted to citizens advice and hopefully given help and the tools to thrive.

Alongside this we operate a community café for anyone to make use of where we serve a 3 course hot meal. This café is set up to run alongside the foodbank as we didn't want the foodbank to be merely transactional (we give, they take) but has enabled us to get to know our community and friendships and companionship has been formed between us all.

We operate with the help of a bank of volunteers from the church and the community and the volunteers are as important as our customers.

Last summer the community raised funds for us to have an additional shed. Volunteers from the trades community erected the shed and George from this church constructed a connecting roof between the two buildings. This has transformed the environment for our volunteers with more areas to work undercover from the elements.

In May we had a presence at the Braunton Fayre and offered hot drinks and cakes to passers-by. This helped raise the profile of what we do and many interesting conversations came out of the event.

In the café we have celebrated many birthdays for our customers including two special 89 year old birthdays! Not mentioning any names but they are members of this church. Just to show there is no age limit to our volunteers.

This past year we have had to cope with a change in leadership with Cathy, Seb and me taking up the slack. This has also meant that our volunteers have had to step up and lead the food distribution to maintain continuity of the provision.

Why do we do this

We believe that in engaging with people that do not know God or have only a limited knowledge of His love and grace is essential. We can walk alongside people whether customers or volunteers. People matter and relationships are key.

We must form relationships first so there is trust. If as a church we stand with people in a practical way, then the church has credibility to transform and reach into peoples lives. We want to demonstrate and proclaim the gospel where we can and in a timely way. That's when the Holy Spirit takes over!

So, as explained we couldn't open without the support from our community volunteers.

Simply anyone can fall on hard times and many of our volunteers have a lived experience which makes them open hearted.

We would like to thank anyone in our church who helps us in any way – you know who you are! The roles are varied:

Sorting and packing the store shed

Receiving deliveries and donations

Collecting donations and fresh food from supermarkets

Delivery of parcels to people who are stuck in their own homes for whatever reason

Waiting in the café

Cooking, washing up and making hot drinks

Baking cakes

Welcoming customers

Sitting with individuals and sharing a meal

Operating the voucher system and signposting people to further financial help

Donating food and produce

Donating money to buy food

Most importantly – Praying

If you feel compelled to help in any way, then please speak to one of us.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 31st December 2024

The reality is, we all, whether we have a faith or not, face challenges and need each other to thrive in the age we live in. Please reach out to one of us in confidence if you yourself need help. We are there for the whole community including church members.

God wants to transform; our task is to participate.

- ☐ Please prayer for continued good relationships and harmony
- ☐ Continued supply of food
- ☐ Opportunity to share the Gospel

Caroline Tucker

CARE AND VISITING TEAM REPORT

Most of the care for our members was provided by Home Groups, with the leaders having the closest relationship with their members and knowing their needs. We continued to visit the sick in hospital, as well as send flowers and cards to the ill or bereaved. We had nine members of our congregation making up our visiting team, and seven members regularly visited.

Rose Perkins
Church Manager

FAMILY WORKER REPORT

Our impact in the community has continued with Toddler Group running every Monday for children under 3 and their adults. We have a lovely group that attend regularly and we are also running a waiting list currently. We range in numbers from 10 - 16 families. We provide a hot drink and biscuits, free play plus story and song time. This is a group to build relationships with adults and their children.

Little Stars is our preschool age group and runs for 2.5 & 4 year olds and their adults. We lowered the start age as we have a waiting list for Toddler Group and felt this would encourage parents and their children to move over to the 'older' group. This group has grown over the past year and has a regular core of about 8 families. Like Toddler Group, we have free play, hot drinks, biscuits plus story and song time. We also include an age-appropriate craft and activity plus a clear Bible link.

We have continued to run our annual Light Party and Extravaganzas as an outreach for non-church and church children but, again, have lowered the targeted age range to better suit the demographic in our community. We were successful with numbers running for 3 - 8 year olds so will continue with this for the time being. We also ran our annual Christmas Extravaganza leading into an 'all-age' carol service suitable for everyone.

Our monthly Dads and Tods group is proving to be popular. The Dads are usually provided with something to eat from biscuits, cakes and bacon sandwiches as the children play. We have three men who regularly serve this group. Including a Bible story has been discussed for future months.

We continue to hold regular all-age services and weekly groups for our church children on a Sunday. In the 5-10 year old group, the children choose which topics they would like to find out about and, in 2024, we covered 'Women in the Bible', 'Romans', 'Lego Parables' and 'Brick by Brick Christmas' from Faith in Kids. The children get a challenge to complete most weeks and win badges for service, commitment and for completing those challenges. The children are engaging with the themes well and love earning their badges (and I love the

SOUTH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 31st December 2024
privilege of working with all of them!)

Cathy Ogden
Families Worker

HOME GROUPS

We continue to have 8 thriving Home Groups held at various times of the day or evening and over a number of different days. They are accessible to all ages and abilities. We have studied the Bible Society's course on Romans, the book of Judges, then the "Living and Telling course from Agape" followed by an excellent Advent daily readings "Love Came Down by Sinclair Ferguson". We have started 2025 with the challenging "Practising The Way Course from John Mark Comer". The Home group studies are complemented by the Sunday sermons with Home groups being the vehicle of service within the church including hosting and leading the Sunday services.

The Home Groups enable us, as a church, to grow in the knowledge of God and His word and how to live effectively for Him. We grow closer, supporting in practical ways and encouraging each other, sharing life and living faith together.

THE POINT

The Point Youth group is run at St George's House with support from South Street Church. It is for school years 6-9 and runs during term time on a Sunday evening 6.30 – 8.00.

The youth group is open for all and is attended by approximately 25 young people from the surrounding villages.

There has been lots of fun playing games such as signs, pool and table football.

Each night we have a small discussion and we have been working through Bear Grylls Soul Fuel.

Please pray for the young people that attend and the Point Team.

Baz Barrow

YOUTH

My work with South Street Church includes a variety of practice: from church youth groups and mentoring to supporting pastorally in schools and community youth clubs.

I spend a lot of time pastorally supporting young people through mentoring sessions and group work and I also support students at the local secondary school via lunchtime clubs.

I also support a local community youth club where we welcome local kids to come and engage in activities and games. I connect with both churched and unchurched children in all of my work, and I greatly enjoy connecting with the community.

Chloe Livingstone
Youth Worker

SOUTH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31st December 2024**

Reference and Administration Details

Registered name

South Street Evangelical Church

Registered Charity number

1158997

Principal address

South Street
Braunton
EX33 2AS

Senior Staff

Seb Latimer (Pastor)
Sue Nightingale (Administrator)

Trustees

Name	Position	Appointments/Resignations
Andrew Conibear	Chair	
Rosemary Sherwin		
Tim Spelman	Elder Trustee	
Simon Ogden		
Beverley Vale	Vice chair	

Independent Examiner

Michael King
53 Fountain Fields
High Bickington
EX32 9BW

16/5/2025

Approved by the board of trustees on..... and signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Conibear

.....
Andrew Conibear, Chair

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
South Street Evangelical Church

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of South Street Evangelical Church (The Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2024.

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 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried 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(5)(b) 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 confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Michael King MAAT
Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians
53 Fountain Fields
High Bickington
Devon
EX37 9AP



Date: 17th April 17, 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the Year ended 31st December 2024

				2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Notes	funds	funds		
		£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	2	96,861	10,369	107,230	107,790
Rental income		1,048		1,048	1,688
Grant income				0	0
Investment income	3	2,999		2,999	2,682
Total Incoming Resources		100,908	10,369	111,277	112,160
Charitable activities					
Advancement of the Christian Faith	4	109,788	6,848	116,636	115,193
Total Resources Expended		109,788	6,848	116,636	115,193
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) resources		-8,880	3,521	-5,359	-3,033
Transfer between funds				0	0
		-8,115	2,756	-5,359	-3,033
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds brought forward		112,432	1,325	113,757	116,790
Total Funds carried forward		103,552	4,846	108,398	113,757

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31st December 2024

				2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £	Total £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	7	0	0	0	0
Current Assets					
Debtors		0	0	0	0
Cash at bank		103,852	4,846	108,698	114,007
		103,852	4,846	108,698	114,007
Current Liabilities					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	-300	0	-300	-250
Current Assets less Current Liabilities		103,552	4,846	108,398	113,757
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		103,552	4,846	108,398	113,757
Funds					
Restricted funds	9		4,846	4,846	1,325
Unrestricted funds	9	103,552		103,552	112,432
Total funds		103,552	4,846	108,398	113,757

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 16/5/2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Conibear

Andrew Conibear, Chair

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements and assessment of going concern

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 2015)', 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.

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

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.

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

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

Equipment and fixtures and fittings - 4 years straight line

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash, current bank accounts and deposit bank accounts with no withdrawal limitations.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where then charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will 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 recognised at their settlement amount.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

2. Donations and Legacies

2024	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Donations	83,326	10,369	93,695
Gift Aid received	13,535	0	13,535
Grant received	0	0	0
	96,861	10,369	107,230

2023	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Donations	87,620	9,690	97,310
Gift Aid received	10,480	0	10,480
Grant received	0	0	0
	98,100	9,690	107,790

3. Investment income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Interest income	2,999	0	2,999	2682

4. Expenditure on charitable activities

2024	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Church charitable activities	108,828	6,848	115,676
Support costs	959		959
	107,277	9,359	116,636

2023	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Church charitable activities	104,094	9,791	113,885
Support costs	1,308	0	1,308
	105,402	9,791	115,193

5. Analysis of support costs

	2024	2023
Accountancy	350	250
Insurance	609	1058
	959	1,308

6. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	73,549	70,577
Pension costs	6,860	6,262
	80,409	76,839

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2021.

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
The average monthly number of employees during the period was as follows:	5	4

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

7. Tangible fixed Assets

	Fixtures	Equipment	Total £
Cost			
Cost brought forward	1,966	1,866	3,832
Additions	0	0	0
Total cost carried forward			
	1,966	1,866	3,832
Depreciation			
Depreciation brought forward	1,966	1,866	3,832
Charge for year	0	0	0
Total depreciation carried forward			
	1,966	1,866	3,832
Net Book Value			
At 31 December 2024	0	0	0
At 31 December 2023	0	0	0

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Taxation and social security	0	0
Accruals and deferred income	300	250
Other creditors	0	0
	300	250

9. Movement in Funds**Unrestricted Funds 2024**

	Balance 1st Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31st Dec 2024
General Fund	77,975	99,162	-107,277	12,692	82,552
Building Fund	13,457			-13,457	0
Operational Reserve Fund	21,000				21,000
Youth and Children	0	1,746	-2,511	765	0
	112,432	100,908	-109,788	0	103,552

The trustees have decided to remove the **building fund** and transfer all remaining monies to the **general fund**. There was no documentation of where the money came from and why it was set aside. The money was and still is included in the total 'Unrestricted Funds' and could be used as needed, including building work.

The **Youth and Children** fund was incorrectly included in **Restricted fund**. This has been presented in the **Unrestricted funds**. A transfer from the general fund to the Youth and Children's was made to account for the deficit in Youth and Children's.

Unrestricted Funds 2023

	Balance 1st Jan 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31st Dec 2023
General Fund	81,905	102,470	-105,402	-998	77,975
Building Fund	13,457	0	0	0	13,457
Operational Reserve Fund	21,000	0	0	0	21,000
Total Funds	116,362	102,470	-105,402	-998	112,432

Restricted Funds 2024

	Balance 1st Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31st Dec 2024
Refugee Fund	0	0.00	0		0
Church Weekends	0	5,974	-5,180		793
Food Bank	1,325	4,395	-1,667		4,053
	1,325	10,369	-6,848	0	4,846

Restricted Funds 2023

	Balance 1st Jan 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31st Dec 2023
Refugee Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Church Weekends	0	6,835	-7,555	720	0
Food Bank	368	2,427	-1,470	0	1,325
Youth and Children	60	428	-766	278	0
Total Funds	428	9,690	-9,791	998	1,325

10. Trustee remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

SOUTH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH

The following pages do not form part of the Financial Statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations and legacies		
Donations	92,908	97,310
Gift Aid received	13,535	10,480
Grants received		0
Other income	1,835	1,688
Total income from donations and legacies	108,278	109,478
Investment income		
Interest received	2,999	2,682
Total income from investment income	2,999	2,682
Total incoming resources	111,277	112,160
Charitable activities		
Payroll expenses	73,549	70,577
Pension costs	6,860	6,262
Ministry expenses	3,158	4,336
Gifts	9,396	8,040
Food Bank	1,667	1,471
Sunday service	171	262
Youth and children	2,511	1,743
Family day and weekend away	5,180	8,321
Rent	4,277	3,137
Light and heat	3,340	2,789
Maintenance	1,885	3,835
Office expenses	607	337
Telephone	698	671
Fees and subscriptions	2,049	1,847
Safeguarding	328	257
Total expenditure on charitable activities	115,676	113,885
Support costs		
Accountancy	350	250
Insurance	609	1,058
Total support costs	959	1,308
Total resources expended	116,636	115,193
Net (outgoing) / incoming resources	-5,359	-3,033