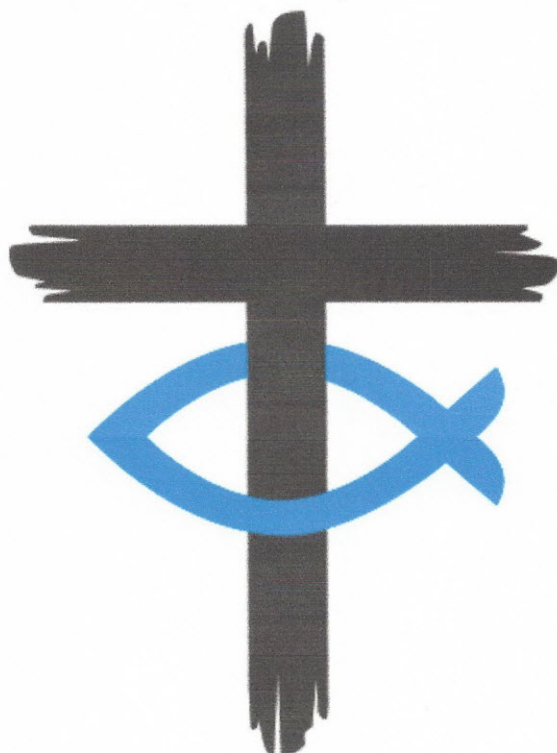


ST COLUMBA'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

NORTH SHIELDS



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**Financial Statement  
for the year  
1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020**

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TREASURER

H K ARMSTRONG

EXAMINER

J R MILLS FCCA
Laverick Walton & Co

19 March 2021

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2020 Total £	Last Year 2019 Total £
RECEIPTS						
Offerings & Gift Aid Tax Refund	3	68,393.71			68,393.71	63,435.59
Donations	4	4,196.68			4,196.68	6,684.96
Fund Raising	5	174.21			174.21	5,413.27
Church Premises Receipts	6	5,926.65			5,926.65	12,789.00
Legacies	7					4,000.00
Monies Raised for Outside Causes	8			1,887.50	1,887.50	2,625.65
Programme Activity Receipts	9		637.47		637.47	1,954.21
Manse Receipts	10					4,516.90
Investment Receipts	11	40.20	1,300.00	60.30	1,400.50	2,124.50
Miscellaneous Receipts	12	1,822.10		1,669.90	3,492.00	1,607.22
Total receipts		80,553.55	1,937.47	3,617.70	86,108.72	105,151.30
PAYMENTS						
Ministry & Mission Assessment	13	42,185.00			42,185.00	39,060.00
Synod Assessment	14					3,570.87
Ministry Expenses	15	1,586.46			1,586.46	2,383.04
Church Buildings Maintenance	16	6,748.04	4,285.20	72.07	11,105.31	9,109.59
Church Running Costs	17	23,205.02			23,205.02	25,736.75
Manse Maintenance	18	1,237.50			1,237.50	3,384.05
Manse Running Costs	19	3,480.24			3,480.24	3,152.64
Programme Activity Costs	20	1,533.24	397.68	320.00	2,250.92	3,792.74
Cost of Fundraising	21	113.25			113.25	324.96
Support of Outside Causes	22			2,047.00	2,047.00	2,782.65
Other Costs	23			1,602.40	1,602.40	3,516.44
Total payments		80,088.75	4,682.88	4,041.47	88,813.10	96,813.73
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)		464.80	-2,745.41	-423.77	-2,704.38	8,337.57
TRANSFERS between funds	2	1,533.24	-1,533.24		0.00	0.00
CASH FUNDS b/fwd 1 January		11,224.54	108,938.42	8,245.05	128,408.01	120,070.44
CASH FUNDS c/fwd 31 December		13,222.58	104,659.77	7,821.28	125,703.63	128,408.01

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Monetary assets

Cash						
Bank Account		13,222.58	104,659.77	7,821.28	125,703.63	128,408.01
Total monetary assets	24	13,222.58	104,659.77	7,821.28	125,703.63	128,408.01

Other assets

Gift Aid Recoverable		3,206.38			3,206.38	3,221.80
URC Northern Synod Expenses		330.72			330.72	
Non Church Use of Premises						340.00

Assets used for church purposes

Buildings under Statutory Trusts	25	Church buildings and manse				
Church Contents	25	Furnishings and equipment				

Liabilities

Significant Creditors						
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APPROVED by the Trustees on 11 January 2021 and signed on their behalf

by (name) (signature)

The notes on pages 2 to 6 form part of this financial statement

Alison Drew

13 Jan 2021.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

NOTES

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 Section 133, using the Receipts and Payments basis available to small charities, and the United Reformed Church guidance.

2 FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the church for any of its ordinary purposes.

Designated Funds represent unrestricted funds set aside by the church for specific designated purposes; they can be transferred back into general funds at the church's decision.

Designated Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Transfers for year £	Balance c/fwd £
a Traidcraft Reserve	936.26	637.47	-397.68		1,176.05
b Legacy Reserve	31,097.11		-4,285.20	1,500.00	28,311.91
c Buildings Reserve	30,000.00				30,000.00
d Janet Dall Thomson Charity	505.05	1,300.00		-1,533.24	271.81
m General Reserve Fund	46,400.00			-1,500.00	44,900.00
Totals for Designated Funds	108,938.42	1,937.47	-4,682.88	-1,533.24	104,659.77

Restricted Funds represent income which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of a trust or bequest, or donations or grants received or invited for a specific purpose. These funds can only be spent on the specific purpose for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent must be carried forward as a balance on that fund for future expenditure on that specific purpose, or returned; it cannot be absorbed into general funds.

Restricted Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Balance c/fwd £
e Educational Projects	1,664.90		-270.00	1,394.90
f Electrical Equipment/Projector Fund	689.84		-72.07	617.77
g Glen Fund (Flowers)	27.45	60.30	-72.45	15.30
h Monies raised for outside causes	514.30	1,887.50	-2,047.00	354.80
i New Technology/Mission Project Fund	2,675.19			2,675.19
j Contra Entries	0.00	1,529.95	-1,529.95	0.00
k Manse Reserve	0.00			0.00
l Youth Club Funds	455.65		-50.00	405.65
n Flower Fund Reserve	217.72	139.95		357.67
o Maud Driver Junior Church Reserve	2,000.00			2,000.00
Totals for Restricted Funds	8,245.05	3,617.70	-4,041.47	7,821.28

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2020 Total £	Last Year 2019 Total £
3 OFFERINGS					
a Gift Aid Offerings	48,130.60			48,130.60	41,879.70
b Gift Aid Tax Refund	12,649.60			12,649.60	11,334.38
c Free Will Offerings	7,613.51			7,613.51	10,221.51
Total Offerings	68,393.71			68,393.71	63,435.59
4 DONATIONS					
a From Organisations	933.18			933.18	4,916.96
b From Individuals	3,263.50			3,263.50	1,768.00
c From individuals - Educational Projects					
d From individuals - New Tech/Mission					
Total Donations	4,196.68			4,196.68	6,684.96
5 FUND RAISING					
a For General Purposes	174.21			174.21	5,413.27
Total Fund Raising	174.21			174.21	5,413.27
6 CHURCH PREMISES RECEIPTS					
a Non Church Use of Premises	5,726.65			5,726.65	12,699.00
b Weddings and Funerals	200.00			200.00	90.00
Total Church Premises Receipts	5,926.65			5,926.65	12,789.00
7 LEGACIES					
a For General Purposes					2,000.00
b For Restricted Purposes					2,000.00
Total Legacies					4,000.00

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

NOTES - continued

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2020 Total £	Last Year 2019 Total £
8 MONIES RAISED FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES					
a Monies Raised for Outside Causes			1,887.50	1,887.50	2,625.65
Total Monies Raised for Outside Causes			1,887.50	1,887.50	2,625.65
9 PROGRAMME ACTIVITY RECEIPTS					
a Traidcraft Receipts		637.47		637.47	1,810.21
b Other Receipts					144.00
Total Programme Activity Receipts		637.47		637.47	1,954.21
10 MANSE RECEIPTS					
a Manse Rent Receipts					
b Manse Other Receipts					4,516.90
Total Manse Receipts					4,516.90
11 INVESTMENT RECEIPTS					
a Charifund: Glen Fund Flowers			60.30	60.30	74.70
b Charifund: Glen Fund General	40.20			40.20	49.80
c Thomson Charity Drawdown		1,300.00		1,300.00	2,000.00
Total Investment Receipts	40.20	1,300.00	60.30	1,400.50	2,124.50
12 MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS					
a Contra entries			1,529.95	1,529.95	1,254.25
b Miscellaneous Receipts			139.95	139.95	352.97
c HMRC JRS Grant	1,822.10			1,822.10	
Total Miscellaneous Receipts	1,822.10		1,669.90	3,492.00	1,607.22
13 MINISTRY & MISSION ASSESSMENT					
a Ministry & Mission Assessment	42,185.00			42,185.00	39,060.00
Total Ministry & Mission Assessment	42,185.00			42,185.00	39,060.00
14 SYNOD ASSESSMENT					
a Synod Assessment					3,570.87
Total Synod Assessment					3,570.87
15 MINISTRY EXPENSES					
a Car Mileage Allowance	31.50			31.50	70.65
b Fixed Car Allowance	1,365.60			1,365.60	1,365.60
c Ministers Expenses	12.43			12.43	125.56
d Book Allowance	58.88			58.88	136.84
e P11D National Insurance	13.52			13.52	
f Pulpit Supply	370.00			370.00	1,060.00
g Interim Moderators/Vacancy Expenses					
h URC/Synod Contribution	-265.47			-265.47	-375.61
Total Ministry Expenses	1,586.46			1,586.46	2,383.04
16 CHURCH BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE					
a Annual Service / Maintenance Costs	3,750.80			3,750.80	3,000.86
b Decorating Internal / External					1,040.47
c Electrical / IT Work	1,665.92		72.07	1,737.99	1,483.09
d Internal Works	412.12			412.12	496.89
e External works	630.00	4,285.20		4,915.20	1,250.00
f Purchase / Renewal of Equipment	277.20			277.20	1,814.49
g Other	12.00			12.00	23.79
Total Church Buildings Maintenance	6,748.04	4,285.20	72.07	11,105.31	9,109.59

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

NOTES - continued

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2020 Total £	Last Year 2019 Total £
17 CHURCH RUNNING COSTS					
a Gas and Electricity	4,210.31			4,210.31	5,911.87
b Insurance	6,384.00			6,384.00	5,766.60
c Water Rates	44.44			44.44	95.67
d Telephone and Internet	798.60			798.60	849.94
e Cleaning	3,809.95			3,809.95	5,842.59
f Printing/Stationery, Photocopying & Office	1,434.90			1,434.90	1,945.77
g Publications	314.80			314.80	361.18
h Licences / Subscriptions	983.16			983.16	620.73
i Accounts Examination	264.00			264.00	264.00
j Secretarial Costs	1,163.82			1,163.82	168.00
k Church Organists / Music	3,797.04			3,797.04	3,910.40
Total Church Running Costs	23,205.02			23,205.02	25,736.75
18 MANSE MAINTENANCE					
a Repairs and Renewals	1,650.00			1,650.00	3,518.80
b URC/Synod Contribution	-412.50			-412.50	-134.75
Total Maintenance of Manse	1,237.50			1,237.50	3,384.05
19 MANSE RUNNING COSTS					
a Council Tax	2,242.03			2,242.03	2,373.32
b Insurance	995.19			995.19	882.07
c Telephone and Internet	714.00			714.00	610.61
d Water Rates	335.58			335.58	313.21
e Gas and Electric Bills					
f URC/Synod Contribution	-806.56			-806.56	-1,026.57
Total Manse Running Costs	3,480.24			3,480.24	3,152.64
20 PROGRAMME ACTIVITY COSTS					
a Childrens' activities	53.00			53.00	223.50
b Youth Activities			50.00	50.00	100.00
c Worship / Educational Projects / Training	376.93		270.00	646.93	229.52
d Traidcraft purchases / Donations		397.68		397.68	1,748.81
e Trio Stewardship Campaign					
f Good Practice	136.49			136.49	120.00
g Miscellaneous	864.78			864.78	130.96
h Projects	102.04			102.04	1,239.95
Total Programme Activity Costs	1,533.24	397.68	320.00	2,250.92	3,792.74
21 COST OF FUNDRAISING					
a Offerings	113.25			113.25	174.73
b Other					150.23
Total Cost of Fundraising	113.25			113.25	324.96
22 SUPPORT OF OUTSIDE CAUSES					
a Funds for Outside Causes			2,047.00	2,047.00	2,782.65
b Incurred Expenses					
Total Support of Outside Causes			2,047.00	2,047.00	2,782.65
23 OTHER COSTS					
a Miscellaneous					171.94
b Glen Fund Flowers			72.45	72.45	73.35
c Contra Payments			1,529.95	1,529.95	1,254.25
d Legacy Reserve Payments to Reserves					2,016.90
Total Other Costs			1,602.40	1,602.40	3,516.44

24 MONETARY ASSETS

The church monies are not held in segregated accounts, but for the sake of this financial statement the total of each account is allocated appropriately over the various funds.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

NOTES - continued

25 ASSETS USED FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

The church building and the manse at 15 West Dene Drive, North Shields are vested in the United Reformed Church (Northern Province) Trust as trustees and are not church assets. They are held for the benefit of St Columba's United Reformed Church, 30 Northumberland Square, North Shields NE30 1PW in accordance with the statutory trusts applicable to URC properties under the URC Acts. For insurance purposes the church buildings are insured by the church for £7,718,527 and the manse for £563,574. The church contents are insured by the church for £286,836. The insurers are Integra Insurance Solutions Ltd. trading as Congregational.

26 INVESTMENTS HELD FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

Janet Dall Thomson Charity Trust Fund

The United Reformed Church (Northern Province) Trust company holds on behalf of the church investments representing money received as a Legacy from Janet Dall Thomson. The release of this to the church is decided by the church alone. Amounts received during the year are included in these accounts. The value of the investments and deposits and the treatment of the income is as follows:

	<u>Market value</u>		<u>Application of income</u>
	<u>31.12.2019</u>	<u>31.12.2020</u>	
Janet Dall Thomson Trust	£34,300.73	£36,043.83	Retained by Trustees, Drawdown included above

Glen Family Memorial Flower Trust Fund

M&G Charifund holds on behalf of the church an investment representing money received in memory of the Glen Family. The capital is held in trust with the income being received by the church quarterly. As laid down in the trust 60% of the income is to be spent on providing flowers in the church on the last Sunday in October each year with the remaining 40% of the income for the general purposes of the church. Amounts received during the year are included in these accounts. The value of the investment is as follows:

	<u>Market value</u>		<u>Application of income</u>
	<u>31.12.2019</u>	<u>31.12.2020</u>	
Glen Family Trust Fund	£2,491.04	£2,058.86	60% Flowers for church 40% General purposes

27 CHARITABLE STATUS

With effect from the 9 December 2015 St Columba's United Reformed Church was registered by the Charity Commission and it has been entered onto the Register of Charities as follows.

ST COLUMBA'S NORTH SHIELDS UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY
Charity Number 1164784

28 EXAMINATION OF CHURCH ORGANISATION ACCOUNTS

The Finance and Property Care Team of St Columba's United Reformed Church, in accordance with Charity Commission Requirements, have examined the accounts of the following organisations attached to the Church for the period to 31 December 2020.

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Closing Balance</u>	<u>Charitable Gifts</u>
Café 2-2-1	£1,584.08	£428.13
HANDS	£757.84	£100.00
Junior Church	£54.69	---
Parent & Toddler Group	£648.45	---
Square Table	£680.69	£77.29
UNICEF	£69.91	£405.00
Youth Club	£405.65	£42.80

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Donations & Fund Raising

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2020 Total £	Last Year 2019 Total £
DONATIONS FROM ORGANISATIONS					
Square Table	450.00			450.00	2,832.00
Hand Made Cards	80.00			80.00	342.34
Café 2-21					700.00
HANDS					500.00
Sunday Morning Coffee	203.18			203.18	542.62
Brownies	200.00			200.00	
Totals donations from Organisations	933.18			933.18	4,916.96
TRANSFERS FROM OTHER ACCOUNTS					
From Traidcraft Account to General Reserve				0.00	750.00
From Janet Dall Thomson Charity to General	1,533.24	-1,533.24		0.00	1,799.93
Totals donations from Other Accounts	1,533.24	-1,533.24	0.00	0.00	2,549.93
DONATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS					
From Individuals	1,440.50			1,440.50	395.50
From Funerals	1,743.00			1,743.00	1,222.50
In lieu of Christmas Cards	80.00			80.00	70.00
From Weddings					80.00
Total Donations from individuals	3,263.50			3,263.50	1,768.00
FUND RAISING					
Sale of Books	70.00			70.00	100.00
Granny's Attic	101.00			101.00	1,171.58
Strawberry Fayre					652.00
Sale of Marmalade & Lemon Curd					115.00
Christmas Market					1,533.69
Miscellaneous	1.21			1.21	
Afternoon Tea					1,071.00
Quiz Night					770.00
Church Meal	2.00			2.00	
Total Fund Raising	174.21			174.21	5,413.27
DONATIONS TO OUTSIDE CAUSES					
Compassion			1,069.00	1,069.00	1,050.00
UNICEF			405.00	405.00	510.00
URC Commitment for Life					227.50
Christian Aid Cyclone Idai Appeal					268.30
Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade					121.85
Harbour Support Services - Christmas Eve					605.00
Nite Bite - Harvest			280.00	280.00	
Pearey House - Christmas Eve			293.00	293.00	
Total Fund Raising			2,047.00	2,047.00	2,782.65

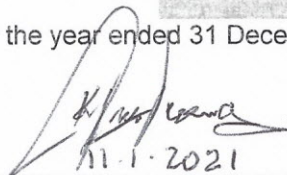
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 to 6 for the year ended 31 December 2020 from the accounting records of the church.

Keith Armstrong

(name)


11.1.2021

(signature)

(date)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements of St Columba's United Reformed Church for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 to 6.

Respective responsibilities

The church is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and considers that the audit requirement of Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions of the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination of the church funds, nothing came to my attention which gave me cause to believe otherwise than that the financial statements accord with the accounting records of the church, and that those records satisfied the requirements of the Act. I am not aware of any matter to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed by the Independent Examiner:



date: 1/3/21

Name and address of the Independent Examiner:

Mr J R Mills FCCA
Laverick Walton and Co.
B3 Kingfisher House
Team Valley
Gateshead
Tyne & Wear
NE11 0JQ

**St Columba's North Shields United Reformed Church
Charity**

Charity Number 1164784

**Annual Report and Accounts
For the Year Ended
31st December 2020**



**St Columba's North Shields United Reformed Church
Charity
Trustees Report For the year ended 31st December 2020**

Trustees	Alison Drew	Church Secretary
	Shirley McKay	Until September 2020
	Norma McAvoy	Until September 2020
	Margaret Armstrong	from April 2019
	Wendy Bradley	from April 2019
	Gillian Oliver	Minute Secretary
	Evelyn Spence	Until February 2020
	Aileen Grant	
	Louise Charlton	Until April 2020
	David Eltringham	
	Helen Saunders	
	Lesley Waugh	From May 2020
	Jill Thompson	From September 2020
	Barbara White	From September 2020
Minister	Revd. Trevor Jamison	
Treasurer	Mr Keith Armstrong	
Address	30 Northumberland Square North Shields Tyne and Wear NE30 1PW	
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 69 Bedford Street, North Shields NE29 0AU	
Independent Examiner	Mr Jonathan R Mills Laverick Walton & Co 83 Kingfisher House Team Valley Gateshead NE11 0JQ	

St Columba's North Shields United Reformed Church
Charity
Trustees Report For the year ended 31st December 2020

The Trustees who are the Minister and Serving Elders of the Church submit their report and the examined accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020

Structure Governance and Management

The Church was registered under the terms of the Charities Act 2006, in 2016. The governing documents are the Trust distilled from the United Reformed Church acts (1972 & 1981) and scheme of Union (1972) adopted 25th June 2014.

The Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

The Trustees (Serving Elders) are elected by the Church Meeting of St Columba's United Reformed Church. Nominations are sought by direct approach. Individuals can indicate their willingness to serve, they then must seek a nominator. All Trustees (Serving Elders) must be members of the United Reformed Church.

The Trustees (Serving Elders) meet each month and in their capacity as Trustees deal with legal, financial and property needs of the Church. Financial matters are reviewed in liaison with the Finance and Property Team, the Trustees receive and act on relevant matters contained in the reports provided by the Church teams responsible for the maintenance and fabric of the Church.

Risk Management

The Trustees are aware of their responsibilities to assess risks in relation to its activities. To this end the Church has adopted the Safe Guarding Policy produced by the United Reformed Church Northern Synod and have appointed a dedicated Safe Guarding Co-ordinator and Assistant.

Objectives and Activities

The object of the Charity is the advancement of the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the scheme of union of the United Reformed Church. St Columba's URC is committed to enabling people to worship as the Church and to become part of the Church family.

Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament. We endeavour to enable those in the community to live out their faith as part of the Church family;

- Worship and prayer.
- Provision of Pastoral care for the community.

- Mission and outreach to the community.

Achievements and Performance

The Church continued to offer morning and evening services in the church building until the advent of the Coronavirus pandemic. Subsequent to that, during 2020, services were offered each Sunday morning, either in physically distanced form, or online. Additionally, an online service was offered on a monthly basis.

Prior to the pandemic the church offered events for the church congregation and community through the week:

- Monday - Youth Club
- Tuesday - Café 2-21 serves coffee and light lunches also offers a quiet prayer time in Church
- Wednesday - Parent and Toddlers
- Thursday - Square Table Lunches
- Thursday Evening - Bible Study
- Saturday - Coffee Morning
- Sunday morning - an "Early Bird" breakfast is available for anyone in need when friendship and sharing time is also appreciated.

With the arrival of the pandemic most of these activities were suspended. The Bible study and coffee morning, however, continued online.

Outside organisations' use of the Church premises throughout the week has been curtailed during the pandemic.

The Church is associated with and accommodates a Brownie and Girl Guide Company, which continues to meet online. The Church is also affiliated to the 4th Tynemouth Beavers/ Cubs/Scout Group, with their Headquarters situated near our Church.

- ❖ Slimming World was meeting twice a week, and then subsequently online
- ❖ Yoga classes met weekly when possible, organised by a Church member.
- ❖ Messy Church normally is held every other month on a Sunday afternoon, and organised by a very keen team of leaders, was suspended, but with hopes to deliver online events.
- ❖ Fairtrade Stall, normally available every Sunday morning, awaits return to use of the church building.
- ❖ Normally, family Services are encouraged, especially on Mothering Sunday, Easter, Fathers Day, Harvest, Operation Christmas Child, Remembrance Sunday,

Nativity and Carol Services. The 2020 carol service was shared as an online event via YouTube.

- ❖ Normally, every Sunday within Morning Worship Junior Church caters for all children of any age which comprises of a Creche area and a working area for crafts and games related to a Bible story. During the pandemic, materials were delivered to family homes, and a successful online nativity service took place.

At present there are 93 members on the Church Roll, with 15 adherents and 6 on the Community Roll.

We had a regular attendance on a Sunday morning of 50 people with an increase of congregation on special occasions until March when we went into lockdown.

During lockdown we have held worship via Zoom with a regular attendance at our morning services of between 30- 35 and at our monthly evening services of between 20-30. When allowed during this pandemic we have held 2 services in the building socially distanced and we have had up to 43 people attend.

We have a very committed team of people combining Pastoral and Congregation under the title of Congregational Care Team. Additionally, in 2020 we commenced mailing a *Weekly Update* to all members of the church to help maintain links across the congregation.

The Church members also sponsor three children through Compassion UK. One young boy Dan now 17 years old is from Uganda and two children 7 years old from Rwanda.

The Church produces a monthly magazine which is available for all people connected to the Church, which includes friends, families, students and the community. In 2020 this was redesigned and is delivered online to most, and by post to the remainder.

Volunteers

The Church relies on members of the congregation to maintain the life, worship and fabric of the Church, volunteers act in the following capacities:

- Stewards – who welcome and assist people at services, weddings, baptisms, funerals, and who in 2020, with the help of appropriate training, ensured the safety of those participating in physically distanced worship at the church building.
- Finance and Property Team deal with the day- to -day financial matters of the Church under the oversight of the Trustees.

- Facilities Management Team - deal with the maintenance and upkeep of the building and fabric of the Church, including ensuring its safety during periods of closure in 2020.
- Congregational Care Team - attends to the pastoral needs of the Church which includes visiting, and during 2020, keeping in touch by phone and letter.
- Worship and Nurture Care Team – assists in the ministry, worship and prayerful care of the congregation.
- Technical Team – look after the overhead screen and sound system and they ensure all services go well. Also, from 2020 the Team oversaw use of technology for online worship and meetings, and production and delivery of weekly updates and church magazines online.
- There is also a Prayer Circle who meet regularly to pray and share together concerns of people in need.

Other Activities

St Columba's is a member of Churches Together in North Shields, represented by one or two Members of the Church and a Minister. This is a body of various Church denominations who meet on a regular basis to arrange joint ecumenical services, discuss matters of ecumenical interest and seek to work closely within the community.

Reserve Policy

The Church has a Reserve Policy which endeavours to maintain sufficient reserves to provide the necessary income to sustain the charity's viability and future, and provide a cushion for any unexpected and, consequently, unplanned calls on the charity's financial resources.

The Church therefore holds £30,000 in a Buildings Reserve and also 6 months of annual budgeted expenditure in a General Reserve Fund totalling £44,900.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

Total receipts on the unrestricted General Account were £82,087 and payment from the account totalled £80,089 resulting in a surplus on the year of £1,998. This left the General Account standing at £13,223.

Considering that the Church was closed for normal worship for half of the year due to Covid-19 this was an exceptional result. The support of the Congregation in not just maintaining offerings at the level of 2019, but increasing them by £5,000, shows their commitment.

The Church has five Designated Reserves which ended the year holding a total of £104,660. This was a reduction of £4,278 over the year. Apart from the £74,900 explained above in the Reserves Policy Section,

£28,312 of the remainder is held in a Legacies Reserve awaiting allocation.

We also have a number of small Restricted Reserves which are held for specific Purposes. These total £7,821, a reduction of £424 over the year.

The Trustees also have available to them the unrestricted funds held in The Janet Dall Thomson Charity, which has as its Custodian Trustees the United Reformed Church (Northern Province) Trust. The Balance of the Charity at 31 December 2020 had increased by £1,743 to £36,044.

The Trustees continue to be satisfied that we have sufficient funds to cover any problems which occur as a result of Covid-19.

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

Signed Alison Drew Date 7/4/21