

ST ANDREW'S FROGNAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023

This report includes information required by the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting by Charities 2005 as applicable to charities entitled to prepare accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Andrew's Frognal is a local church of the United Reformed Church (URC) in Great Britain, a member of 'Churches Together in Hampstead' and a member of the URC's Thames North Synod. It is situated on the junction of Finchley Road and Frognal Lane in Hampstead, London, postcode NW3 7DY.

It was separately registered as a charity on 21 November 2016, charity no. 1170281. Its trustees are the elders: Victoria Ferguson, Andrew Glennie, John Meadows, Doreen Morgans, Anne Noble, David Noble, Susan Noble, Christy Sawyer; and its treasurer: Trevitt Steggles. The church building, the manse at 42 Armitage Rd, London NW11 8RD and the Garden Flat, Orchard Mead House, 733 Finchley Rd, London NW11 8DJ, together with a 20% share in the manse of Trinity, Camden URC at 34 Willes Road, London NW5 3DS, are vested in URC Thames North Trust as trustees and held for the benefit of St Andrew's Frognal URC in accordance with the trusts applicable to URC properties.

The church maintains bank accounts with HSBC Bank for general use and holds 4 savings accounts: three with COIF (Charities Official Investment Fund) administered by CCLA (Charity Commission and Local Authority), and the other with the Churches Mutual Credit Union.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The church's activities are overseen by the Elders' Meeting in accordance with the provisions of The Structure of the URC determined by the General Assembly of the URC and supplemented by the rules of St Andrew's Frognal URC. The Elders' Meeting, assisted by its Finance and Fabric Committee, is responsible for the financial administration of the church, and the care and maintenance of the church premises together with the manse and flat. Elders' meetings are normally held monthly. The Church Meeting (of all who wish to attend) gives general guidance on the life and work of the church; only church members have voting rights.

New elders are elected by members of the church at a church meeting. Their term of office is not limited. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer are voted on at the AGM.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As a local congregation of the URC, St Andrew's seeks to advance the Christian religion through its activities and the facilities offered to the community by its building. It provides benefit to the public by:

- providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for the congregation and for anyone else who wishes to benefit from what the church offers;
- promoting Christian values and service by members of the congregation to the community, for the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Specifically it offers Sunday morning worship, both at the church and on-line through Zoom, various Bible Study sessions, and other occasional services and events including weddings, funerals and christenings. It also provides the main premises for the Wengelawit Eritrean Lutheran Church in London.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

While the minister's post is currently vacant, services were conducted in some form every Sunday, by visiting ministers or by church elders who are trained lay preachers. Since re-opening of the church in 2021, following the Covid pandemic when services were held using Zoom, simultaneous broadcasts of the services via Zoom have continued, helping to bring the church to a wider congregation.

The Finance and Fabric Committee have liaised regularly after services and by telephone and email to ensure timely and effective church maintenance.

Elders and others have continued to make a wide variety of contributions: in the choir, providing ministry, providing pastoral care, catering, flowers, managing hall lettings, property management etc. Thanks are due to all who make the church a welcoming feature of the community and a safe environment, particularly to those who took the necessary actions at relevant times to grapple with new technology during and following Covid.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In 2023 a small surplus of just over £1,000 was recorded. This was aided by a recovery of about £25,000 in the value of investments, but impacted by a number of one-off projects including energy-saving measures such as hall roof insulation.

The reserves at year end stood at £506,000 of which £499,000 was in unrestricted funds.

The policy on reserves is that unrestricted funds should exceed 12 months of income from hall lettings (currently about £50,000 in a normal year) this being the largest single source of income, but at risk if the hall were to become unusable for any reason (as it was in 2020).

The church pays a contribution to the URC's Ministry and Mission fund, this operating like a tax with different rates on different sources of income. In 2023 the contribution was £43,500. Because it works 2 years in arrears (eg 2022 contribution based on 2020 income) it can cause significant fluctuations in annual profit or loss. However, an underlying position close to break-even is expected to be achievable over the next few years, probably with small losses. The continuing use of one-off legacy receipts from 2019 to fund various initiatives in line with the church's mission is under regular consideration by the trustees.

Special charity collections in church have continued. Just over £3,000 was donated in 2023 to a variety of causes.

This report was approved by the Trustees on and is signed on its behalf by the Church Secretary.

.....

ST ANDREW'S FROGNAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31.12.23
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Page 1

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2023 Total £	Last Year 2022 Total £
RECEIPTS						
Ordinary collections		252			252	264
Freewill offering		8,731			8,731	6,931
Other donations/events		0			0	0
Gift Aid tax repayments		1,788		243	2,031	3,395
Interest		11,691		0	11,691	8,259
Lettings		42,517			42,517	47,259
Property rents		53,259			53,259	55,868
Charity special collections		0		525	525	1,005
Other		0			0	0
Legacies		0			0	15,000
Investment growth (unrealised)		25,502		0	25,502	-34,525
Total receipts		143,741		768	144,509	103,456
PAYMENTS						
Ministry & Mission Fund		43,559			43,559	28,920
Ministerial expenses		0			0	0
Manse expenses		1,063			1,063	988
Pulpit supply		1,790			1,790	1,920
Church music		0		4,773	4,773	4,037
Church water, gas, elec'y, tels		6,373			6,373	8,937
Church insurance		12,528			12,528	10,735
Printing, stationery, IT		995			995	835
Cleaning services and materials		11,273			11,273	10,047
Copyrights		223			223	210
Children's church		0		0	0	0
Charities		0		2,768	2,768	2,947
Subscriptions etc		0			0	0
Fabric		57,175		0	57,175	30,023
Events/catering/flowers		74			74	197
Bank charges and miscellaneous		207			207	268
Training		0		688	688	236
Total payments		135,262		8,229	143,491	100,300
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)		8,479		-7,461	1,018	3,156
TRANSFERS between funds		-2,000		2,000		
CASH FUNDS b/fwd 1 January		492,469		12,450	504,919	501,762
CASH FUNDS c/fwd 31 December		498,948		6,989	505,938	504,919

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Monetary assets						
HSBC current account		94,698			94,698	127,515
HSBC business account		2,187			2,187	2,153
CCLA ethical fund		251,281			251,281	228,466
CCLA deposit fund		111,969			111,969	101,204
Churches Mutual Credit Union		8,219		6,989	15,208	15,194
Builder's imprest		2,000			2,000	2,000
COIF (URC) investment acct		31,926			31,926	29,238
Total monetary assets	4	502,282		6,989	509,271	505,770
Other assets						
Gift Aid recoverable					0	0
Rental debtors						
Assets used for church purposes						
Buildings	5			Church buildings, manse and flat		
Church contents	5			Furnishings and equipment		
Liabilities						
Cheques not cleared at 31.12		3,333			3,333	871

APPROVED by the Church Meeting held on 14/4/24 and signed on its behalf
by CHRISTY SAOYER (name) [Signature] (signature)

The notes on pages 2 and 3 form part of this financial statement

Financial statements for the year ending 31.12.23

NOTES

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, 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.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Transfers for year £	Balance c/fwd £
Congregational/legacy fund	492,468	141,741	135,262		498,948

Totals for unrestricted funds

492,468	141,741	135,262		498,948
---------	---------	---------	--	---------

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.

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.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Transfers for year £	Balance c/fwd £
Organ and choir fund	10,812		4,773		6,039
B How training fund	1,638		688		950
Charities fund	0	2,768	2,768		0
Totals for restricted funds	12,450	2,768	8,229		6,989

3 MONIES PAID TO OUTSIDE CAUSES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2023 Total £	Last Year 2022 Total £
Christian Aid				316	1,146
Trussell Trust				0	64
British legion				80	61
British Red Cross Morocco appeal				1,000	0
British Red Cross Libya appeal				1,000	0
Marie Curie hospice				70	76
Christian Solidarity Worldwide				0	123
DEC Pakistan Appeal				0	1,000
Crisis UK				0	147
URC Commitment for life				303	330
Total				2,768	2,947

4 MONETARY ASSETS

Restricted funds are not held in separate accounts, but for convenience are shown under the CMCU account. Interest and investment gains have been allocated to the now combined congregational/legacy funds.

5 ASSETS USED FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

The Trustees of the church and manse buildings are the URC Thames North Synod Trust who hold them upon trust for purposes connected with St Andrew's Frognal URC. For insurance purposes the church buildings are insured for £22.4m and the contents for £172,000.

The manse house and garden are insured for £700,000, reflecting rebuild not sale price (which was £1.43m).

Financial statements for the year ending 31.12.23

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements for the year ending 31.12.23

T J Steggles



10.3.24

(date)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements for St Andrew's Frognal URC for the year ending 31.12.23 as set out on pages 1 and 2.

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 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 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, no matter has come to my attention which

- (1) gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respects the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act, and to prepare accounts which accord with those records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
(2) require, in my opinion, attention to be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by the Independent Examiner:



date: 01/03/2024

Name and address of the Independent Examiner: CHRIS FILMER, WOODHURST, NETHER CLOSE, FROGNAL, H10 8HE

Relevant professional qualification or body:

FCMA

ST ANDREW'S FROGNAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31.12.23
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Page 1

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2023 Total £	Last Year 2022 Total £
RECEIPTS						
Ordinary collections		252			252	264
Freewill offering		8,731			8,731	6,931
Other donations/events		0			0	0
Gift Aid tax repayments		1,788		243	2,031	3,395
Interest		11,691		0	11,691	8,259
Lettings		42,517			42,517	47,259
Property rents		53,259			53,259	55,868
Charity special collections		0		525	525	1,005
Other		0			0	0
Legacies		0			0	15,000
Investment growth (unrealised)		25,502		0	25,502	-34,525
Total receipts		143,741		768	144,509	103,456
PAYMENTS						
Ministry & Mission Fund		43,559			43,559	28,920
Ministerial expenses		0			0	0
Manse expenses		1,063			1,063	988
Pulpit supply		1,790			1,790	1,920
Church music		0		4,773	4,773	4,037
Church water, gas, elec'y, tels		6,373			6,373	8,937
Church insurance		12,528			12,528	10,735
Printing, stationery, IT		995			995	835
Cleaning services and materials		11,273			11,273	10,047
Copyrights		223			223	210
Children's church		0		0	0	0
Charities		0		2,768	2,768	2,947
Subscriptions etc		0			0	0
Fabric		57,175		0	57,175	30,023
Events/catering/flowers		74			74	197
Bank charges and miscellaneous		207			207	268
Training		0		688	688	236
Total payments		135,262		8,229	143,491	100,300
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)		8,479		-7,461	1,018	3,156
TRANSFERS between funds		-2,000		2,000		
CASH FUNDS b/fwd 1 January		492,469		12,450	504,919	501,762
CASH FUNDS c/fwd 31 December		498,948		6,989	505,938	504,919

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Monetary assets						
HSBC current account		94,698			94,698	127,515
HSBC business account		2,187			2,187	2,153
CCLA ethical fund		251,281			251,281	228,466
CCLA deposit fund		111,969			111,969	101,204
Churches Mutual Credit Union		8,219		6,989	15,208	15,194
Builder's imprest		2,000			2,000	2,000
COIF (URC) investment acct		31,926			31,926	29,238
Total monetary assets	4	502,282		6,989	509,271	505,770
Other assets						
Gift Aid recoverable					0	0
Rental debtors						
Assets used for church purposes						
Buildings	5			Church buildings, manse and flat		
Church contents	5			Furnishings and equipment		
Liabilities						
Cheques not cleared at 31.12		3,333			3,333	871

APPROVED by the Church Meeting held on 14/4/24 and signed on its behalf
by CHRISTY SAEYER (name) [Signature] (signature)

The notes on pages 2 and 3 form part of this financial statement

Financial statements for the year ending 31.12.23

NOTES

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, 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.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Transfers for year £	Balance c/fwd £
Congregational/legacy fund	492,468	141,741	135,262		498,948

Totals for unrestricted funds

492,468	141,741	135,262		498,948
---------	---------	---------	--	---------

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.

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.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Transfers for year £	Balance c/fwd £
Organ and choir fund	10,812		4,773		6,039
B How training fund	1,638		688		950
Charities fund	0	2,768	2,768		0
Totals for restricted funds	12,450	2,768	8,229		6,989

3 MONIES PAID TO OUTSIDE CAUSES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2023 Total £	Last Year 2022 Total £
Christian Aid				316	1,146
Trussell Trust				0	64
British legion				80	61
British Red Cross Morocco appeal				1,000	0
British Red Cross Libya appeal				1,000	0
Marie Curie hospice				70	76
Christian Solidarity Worldwide				0	123
DEC Pakistan Appeal				0	1,000
Crisis UK				0	147
URC Commitment for life				303	330
Total				2,768	2,947

4 MONETARY ASSETS

Restricted funds are not held in separate accounts, but for convenience are shown under the CMCU account. Interest and investment gains have been allocated to the now combined congregational/legacy funds.

5 ASSETS USED FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

The Trustees of the church and manse buildings are the URC Thames North Synod Trust who hold them upon trust for purposes connected with St Andrew's Frognal URC. For insurance purposes the church buildings are insured for £22.4m and the contents for £172,000.

The manse house and garden are insured for £700,000, reflecting rebuild not sale price (which was £1.43m).

Financial statements for the year ending 31.12.23

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements for the year ending 31.12.23

T J Steggles



10.3.24

(date)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements for St Andrew's Frognal URC for the year ending 31.12.23 as set out on pages 1 and 2.

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 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 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, no matter has come to my attention which

(1) gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respects the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act, and to prepare accounts which accord with those records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
(2) require, in my opinion, attention to be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by the Independent Examiner:



date: 01/03/2024

Name and address of the Independent Examiner: CHRIS FILMER, WOODHURST, NETHER CLOSE, FROGNAL, H10 8HE

Relevant professional qualification or body:

FCMA