

CROSSWAY STRATFORD

(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

CROSSWAY STRATFORD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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CROSSWAY STRATFORD
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND
ADVISERS**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Trustees	Reverend Jamie Child Alasdair Henderson Daniel McIntosh Michael Bajomo
Company registered number	10498312
Charity registered number	1172415
Registered office	194 Humberstone Road London E13 9NQ
Treasurer	Alan Bright
Company secretary	Jennifer Westbrook
Accountants	Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co Chartered Accountants 21-27 Lamb's Conduit Street London WC1N 3GS

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ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Context:

Crossway Stratford remains significantly focused on the Stratford and New Town area of East London, but in keeping with the character of Stratford, we connect with East London's networker population such that our mission extends beyond the strict boundaries of the Stratford and New Town area to reach many in East London with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our amalgamation with St Matthew's, West Ham, has expanded our focus to include those within the Parish boundaries of the church, with an estimated 2,500 homes.

The Borough of Newham continues to increase in diversity of population, with businesses, universities, and other enterprises continuing to move to the area and Newham population figures estimate growth at 375,778 people by 2025.

Our core values as a church are Gospel Passion, Gospel Word, Gospel Community and Gospel Progress and more details about those values can be found here <https://www.crosswaystratford.org/core-values>. During the calendar year 2023, we continued Sundays at School 21, in Stratford, hosting morning services in their hall for everyone and 'Crossway kids' in their classrooms for children the age of 6 months to 11 years old.

We also study God's word in small groups during the week at St Matthew's on either a Wednesday or Thursday evening. These groups represent smaller expressions of our Gospel Community and we encourage the groups to share their lives with each other outside of the weekly Bible study.

Achievements and performance:

Crossway Stratford started as a church meeting in Stratford, East London. It began its life in September 2016 with a group of approximately 60 adults and 10 children meeting within a University Campus.

We describe ourselves as 'one church, two locations, three gatherings' and continue to reach both those living in Stratford and those specifically in the Parish of St Matthew's, West Ham. We have an average attendance of 179 adults and 55 children at our morning meetings spread across both venues and an average of 35 people for our evening services.

1. Discipleship and pastoral support:

Rev Jamie Child continues as the Senior Pastor of Crossway Stratford and was officially appointed vicar of St Matthew's, West Ham by Bishop Lynne Cullen on 21st June 2023 and together with the Elders and Council continue to lead and guide the congregation.

Sunday meetings

Crossway Sunday meetings centre on the faithful teaching of the Scriptures and Christian education and worship. During the reporting year we have taught through the books of Ephesians, Joel, Nehemiah, 1 Kings, 1 Peter, Matthew & Ezekiel as well as topical series on 'Core Values'; 'Ten Commandments'; 'One Hit Wonders – Summer Series'; 'Hearing God's Voice' and 'Getting Ready for Christmas'.

Midweek small groups

The midweek bible groups are overseen by the 'Senior leaders' of small groups with Jamie Child leading that group. They meet approximately every 2 weeks with Group Leaders to help them discuss and prepare the up-and-coming studies. The aim of these meetings is to support and train the leaders.

There are approximately 195 people in our small groups which are spread over Wednesday and Thursday evenings. During the period January to March, we continued through the book of Exodus. From May to July, we worked through the book of Ephesians and ended the year with 1 Peter for the months September to December.

As well as providing further opportunity for Bible study and prayer these groups also provided a significant amount of pastoral support, by creating smaller settings in which care can be better provided.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

These groups have offered support for people struggling with mental, physical and financial problems as well as creating a forum for strengthened relationships.

Childcare at St Matthew's and School 21

School 21 site:

Throughout 2023 Crossway Kids (aged 3 to 11) enjoyed gathering together on Sunday mornings.

These sessions took place at the same time as the Sunday morning meeting. The kids join the Sunday morning meeting at the beginning and sometimes the end and then go out for Crossway Kids in the middle part of the meeting. Children were split into smaller groups according to age and enjoyed age-appropriate lessons that included time teaching the Bible, games, crafts and songs. Follow up material for parents to utilise with their children at home were given when the children were collected from their sessions. Often the children learnt a truth that mirrored the content the adults enjoyed in the main meeting.

Throughout 2023 Crossway Crèche operated at the same time as Crossway Kids, for babies and toddlers (aged 6 months to 3 years). Crossway Crèche generally included free play, Bible stories, Bible songs and a snack based around a structured, cyclical curriculum.

St Matthew's site:

Children's ministry at St Matthew's church continued with the launch of a new, age differentiated group. Kids at St Matthew's functioned in a similar way to Crossway Kids at School 21.

Crèche continued to run at St Matthew's church. This functioned in the same way to Crossway Crèche at School 21.

All of the above groups, across both sites, were resourced by trained and DBS-checked groups of volunteers. From September, groups on the School 21 site had an overall average attendance of approximately 33 children per week, whilst groups on the St Matthew's site had an overall average attendance of approximately 19 children per week.

Training was provided for the leaders of the children's groups on how to lead and in safeguarding.

The leadership also sought to regularly include child-friendly content in the Sunday meetings to help the children engage, and we held some All-Age Services where all children remained in the main meeting throughout its duration. Similar childcare arrangements were provided when Crossway ran weekends away or Saturday teaching mornings.

Youth Group ('Youth Extra' and 'Friday night youth')

Members of the church family aged 11-18 remained in the Sunday morning meeting for the duration of that meeting. To help them engage, learn and pray more effectively, Crossway ran an additional youth group meeting after the main church meeting at School 21 for these young people. In the 30-45 minutes they had together after the Sunday morning meeting, the group played games, talked about the sermon and prayed together in a way that best served that age group, led by a trained and DBS checked group of volunteers.

Weekends away

Crossway Stratford organised two weekends away during 2023. Both were residential weekends away, at a Christian conference centre approximately 40 minutes from Stratford. The first was in May where 107 adults and 48 children attended to hear our Guest Speaker, Eric Ortland speak on the book of Job. The second one took place in November where 125 adults and 48 children attended reviewing scripture on the topic of 'God's not like you... and why that's such good news.' Our weekends away continue to be an excellent way of building one another up, deepening our understanding of scripture and our relationships with one another, and we provide financial help to ensure as many people as possible are able to benefit from this time together.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Workplace ministry

Crossway Stratford continues to reach out to those whose jobs are based in The International Quarter and 'Here East,' with the focus of the ministry being the weekly 'Stratford Talks.'

Our talks continued at the 'Workable' (a working space on the 19th floor of the office block, which also houses the FCA, and is across the road from HMRC) until end of March 2023 then relocated to a nearby restaurant, The Cow, within the Westfields shopping centre at Stratford. Weekly attendance averages between 15 – 20 people including some who attend via a weekly zoom link for anyone working from home.

Alongside the Stratford Talks meeting, Andrew Holt is also still involved with providing Bible teaching for the fortnightly 'Here I Am' ministry based at Here East and the monthly HMRC Christian Union meetings. A particular highlight of the year was c. 85 people attending HMRC's evangelistic carol service, many more than expected, with a majority taking away a copy of John's gospel.

Trainees at Crossway

Luke Wadehn joined the team as an Associate in September. He is engaged in the Crosslands training course and receives mentoring and training at Crossway. He is focussed on Student and Children's ministry at Crossway among other things.

Amanda Lemon-Thomas started as a London City Mission (LCM) pioneer in September, placed at Crossway. As well as receiving formal training at LCM and a placement away from Crossway, she also serves a day a week at Crossway. She has focussed on youth ministry and is developing her role more widely.

Staff movements

Our women's worker Lizzie Cobbold took maternity leave from October and will return next year in November. Yasmin Bartlett, one of our Operations Managers returned from maternity leave in February.

Other informal ministries

Crossway Stratford makes a point of trying to stimulate, support and equip people for more spontaneous expressions of pastoral support and discipleship outside of the formal structures that have been put in place to enable this. Below are some of these informal ministries. They include but are not limited to: 1-1 meetings to enable individuals to find pastoral support, study the scriptures and find out more about the Christian faith; midweek women's groups which discuss the Sunday sermon together; preaching practice groups; and Bible study training groups.

Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group is an opportunity to get together once a month on a Monday evening to discuss, share insights and pray through the things that have challenged them about a Christian book.

The group has been running since January 2021 and is aimed primarily women who can't attend daytime groups but are looking for meaningful discussion and accountability, and to pray with other women. There is an open invitation to new joiners and others who are looking to connect with women through the context of a book group.

They began 2023 reading through three short books: 'True Friendship' by Vaughan Roberts, 'Risk is Right' by John Piper and 'The Freedom of Self Forgetfulness' by Tim Keller. During the summer term they read and were deeply challenged by 'The Radical Disciple' by John Stott. In the Autumn term they enjoyed 'His Testimonies - My Heritage' - a devotional on Psalm 23 by multiple authors.

Holiday Club

In July, we ran a Holiday Club for the local community. Those leading and helping were volunteers from the congregation who were all trained and DBS-checked. We had on average 23 children each day from Reception - Year 6. Around half of this number did not attend our normal Sunday meetings. This work included teaching from the Bible, songs with leaders involved, crafts and games.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2. Evangelism and outreach:

Sunday meetings

At our Sunday meetings, the aim has been to be as welcoming as possible to people who do not yet consider themselves part of the church and especially those in need and who wanted to enquire into the Christian faith. The meetings were designed to be as accessible as possible, and the church family does an excellent job of welcoming those who are new.

Guest Sundays

Once each academic term we host a 'guest Sunday'. This is designed to be a Sunday meeting where things are particularly accessible to those who do not consider themselves to be Christian but are interested in finding out more. We held 3 such meetings across 2022. An example of one such guest Sunday was hosted in March where Rico Tice considered the question 'Why bother with the Christian faith?' The other 2 services considered 'The Danger of being Really Good' and 'Why Jesus is such a big deal'.

Christmas Services

We hosted a total of 6 Christmas Services across both venues, with Traditional Carol Services that included a Children's Christmas special running alongside the meeting in a separate room, and an All-Age Carol Service. We also hosted an evening Carol by Candlelight Service at St Matthew's which proved to be popular. In addition, we were able to host a Saturday afternoon Nativity Service with light snacks well received by the children. Our Christmas Eve service was well attended with 150 people in attendance and Christmas Day saw another 140 people attending. A number of people attended for the first time due to our letter box flyers.

Explored Courses

In 2023 we ran one 'Christianity Explored' course and one 'Hope Explored' course, both being hosted in a classroom at School 21, to enable friends to be easily brought along by those who attend that morning meeting, and for children to be looked after in Sunday School if needed. These courses are designed to be really accessible to those looking into the Christian faith, a place to ask questions and explore what Christianity is all about; both courses had 2-3 regulars coming, and were much appreciated by those attending.

Tots @ St Matt's

In September 2023, we started a weekly 'stay and play' session for under 5s and their carers. The session, which had previously only been running in holidays, now runs every Wednesday morning in term-time, enabling us to build relationships with children and carers quicker as people return each week. We have 15-20 children attend on average, around half of which do not attend Crossway. Attendees have included residents staying at a local hotel, who heard about the group through Talking Point. Each session includes a bible story, songs, crafts and toys, and we've been very blessed with a fantastic team of volunteers and a lovely friendly atmosphere.

Dangerous Club (Pre-teen Youth Group)

In April 2023 we started a group for school years 5-6 called Dangerous Club. For the summer term this ran once a month at St Matthew's. We used some helpful resources from Faith in Kids and the evenings consisted of time to chill out and play games, a short gospel talk and discussion and then various different activities including pizza afterwards. The team consists of four members (all DBS checked) and an average of 10-15 children. There is a good mix of children who regularly are part of Crossway Kids on a Sunday and children who haven't attended church in the past. By September 2023, we increased meeting to every other week. Overall, children continue to bring their friends and we have seen children from the local community join following visits to our Sunday Services. We hear about Jesus every time we meet and the children are happy to discuss the Bible. We have lots of fun together too!

Youth Outreach ('Friday night Youth')

The Friday evening youth group has been able to meet in person, weekly on Friday nights during school term times, regularly taking place at St. Matthews church. Attendance varied each week, but in general around 6-12 young people consistently attended - each week involving playing lots of games, hearing a Bible talk whilst hanging out together. The group exists to engage local youth with the Christian message and provides a good

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

opportunity for young people engaged in Crossway church life to reach out to and invite their friends to join. Regular termly youth group socials and fun events have been well attended and enjoyable occasions to continue building good relationships, including group meals, trips to trampoline parks, craft nights and games nights. The youth group is led by a team of trained and DBS checked volunteer leaders.

The Youth group has enjoyed lots of additional outings and events, including a grub crawl visiting the homes of different church family members, separate boy and girl socials, hangouts in the park, trampoline events, and excitingly planned to go away as a group for the first Youth weekend away in February 2024.

Crossway Football Ministry

During 2023 the football ministry was able to run from January to July for young people and adults in the East London area. Sessions consisted of a warm-up, football drills, a gospel talk and a match at the end. Sessions took place on Monday evenings in East Ham for young people aged 11-15 years old and an adult football session for age 16+ to adults. Around 6 young people were able to attend the football training each week and hear the gospel talk and around 7 were able to attend the adult football training session each week and hear a gospel talk.

Missionary support

Crossway supports six mission partners; Luigi Palombo (Bologna, Italy); Lea Laurovicova (in Bratislava, Slovakia); the Pope family (in Santiago, Chile); Portia Yiadom (in Accra, Ghana); the Tandy family (in Paris, France); Priscilla (East Asia). All these mission-partners work full-time to proclaim the Christian gospel. Crossway supports these mission-partners financially, in prayer and in practical support where possible.

CAP Debt Centre

This year has been one of reflection for the CAP ministry. At the start of the year, we undertook a review of the Debt Centre service and found it to be less effective at reaching those of greater social need than we had originally hoped. Whilst still seeing a number of clients regularly (14 from Jan '23-'24) the number able to engage with the process as a whole, and the wider church, has been disappointing. This is due to several reasons, which prompted us to think about whether a different model of engagement would be appropriate. This led us to make the decision to move away from the Debt Centre model and plan to transition to what we hope will be a better fit for our church and local community. This new service, the CAP Money Course, is a shorter, more accessible programme for those in need of personal budgeting advice. We hope this will be more conducive to engagement with church family and wider church life, and easier to engage people in need with the hope of the gospel. We hope by late Spring '24 to have begun our first run of the CAP Money Course. At Christmas we again provided clients with hampers made by the women at Revive (from donations by the wider church family) and invitations to carol services. These were received well.

Talking Point English Conversation Classes

Talking Point continues to run at St. Matthew's on Tuesday evenings. Since the influx of refugees from nearby hotels we have had consistent numbers of students coming along and engaging with the classes, around 15-20 students on average per week. This has also led to a broadening of the student body as we have had a number of more local residents coming along. One beginner lesson and one intermediate lesson run simultaneously on the night, and we have had a pool of 15 volunteers across the year. Highlights have included: children of students coming along to the Holiday Club in the summer, 6 students (with 6 children) coming along to the autumn guest service with a translated talk for them to follow along (in Arabic, Albanian, Farsi, Portuguese, Spanish), a number of students (a family from Iran, El Salvador, and a student from Colombia) coming regularly to church and settling in to life as part of the St. Matthew's congregation. We have also continued to have termly celebration lessons with explicit gospel content (Easter, Summer, Christmas) that were well attended. At the Christmas celebrations we gave away goody bags, similar to CAP hampers, that were also well received. One significant adaption is amongst the children of the students. Whereas previously we have simply provided a place just overseeing kids' play, from September we have started more intentional input for those who come along. We talk through a Bible story and making a related craft with them. While this is not formal childcare, as the students understand they are still responsible for their children in the building, it has been great for our volunteers to minister in this way and talk about Jesus with them. We have had between 5-15 kids per week,

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

from 2-13 years old!

Wreath-Making Event

We hosted an evening Wreath-making Event for adults (for the 3rd year running), to be guided through making a Christmas wreath, and to hear a reflection about the real meaning of Christmas. The wreath-making workshop was led by 2 external volunteers. This was followed by a talk from one of our church members (who works for the charity UCCF). We had 40 in attendance (an increase from the previous year) with members of the congregation volunteering on the night who helped with hosting and music entertainment. Some of those attending also attended one or more of our Christmas events.

Women's group community support

Some members of the midweek daytime women's group compiled and donated Christmas Hampers as gifts for clients of the CAP debt centre.

Looking forward

Following Rev Jamie Child's official appointment at Vicar of St Matthew's, West Ham, Crossway Stratford and St Matthew's, West Ham have seen wonderful fruit from the merging of the two churches. 2023 has been a year of settling into this new arrangement for Sunday church gatherings and the church has embraced the opportunity well. Having established this way of doing church has created space for the church to grow into in both venues and new opportunities for reaching the community. As one church with two front doors we have seen many ways that the Lord has presented new opportunities and we are excited to see what he might do.

With an injection of money into upgrading some of the facilities of the St Matthew's building, we plan to make the space more effective for Sundays and make the space more effective for use during the week days and weekends. Additionally we hope to make the space more effective for heat retention in the winter to make the building warmer and the bills lower. Questions of more substantial renovation of the building remain for 2024 and onwards. We recognise that this will be a long term vision which will need wisdom and guidance together with careful navigation of our relationship with the church of England.

Financial Review:

The accounts are for the year to 31 December 2023.

Total unrestricted income during this period was £504,721

Total unrestricted expenditure in the period was £528,265

The income was almost exclusively made up of giving and other donations from members of the congregation. 66% of giving was in the form of regular donations (including claimed Gift Aid).

Reserves policy

Crossway Stratford intends to pursue a reserves policy of holding the equivalent of three months' unrestricted operating and staff costs. At the balance sheet date unrestricted funds are comprised of a designated Futures Fund of £180,000 and the General Fund of £98,618. With an aggregate balance of £278,618 in net unrestricted current assets, the reserves policy has been complied with.

Risks and uncertainties

The main risks and uncertainties facing Crossway Stratford are as follows:

Operational risks to health and safety and safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults

The church safeguarding officer is Rosie Lisser who regularly liaises with the Chelmsford Diocese safeguarding team. Crossway Stratford has adopted the Church of England's National Safeguarding Policy. Ms Lisser liaises with the trustees on any safeguarding matters.

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ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial risks

The trustees recognise that the main financial uncertainties arise from the need to provide financially for the staff members and to provide adequate meeting space for the church. These uncertainties have been managed on a day-to-day basis by the Church Operations Manager, Senior Minister and Church Treasurer with regular oversight by the trustees.

Structure and governance:

Crossway Stratford obtained Company status (10498312) on 25 November 2016, and Charity Status (1172415) on 4 April 2017. It is managed by its trustees, under the terms of its constitution, and is a Public Benefit Entity. The Reverend Jamie Child, Mr Alasdair Henderson, Mr Mike Bajomo and Mr Daniel McIntosh are trustees on fixed terms and renewed by congregational votes at the end of their respective terms as laid out in the constitution. They meet six or seven times a year.

The church has a 'Council' and together with the PCC for St Matthew's, West Ham, they met 4 times during 2023. Both groups comprise of godly, mature men and women to whom the trustees look for wisdom and guidance in their decision-making.

Crossway also has a group of trained small group leaders who represent an excellent source of wisdom and leadership in the life of the church.

Crossway Stratford also has two external referees who are available for support and accountability in certain circumstances as laid out in the constitution of Crossway Stratford.

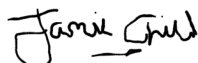
The Church held its Annual General Meeting (also referred to as the 'Annual Vision Meeting') in April 2023 for the whole church family and will hold its next Annual General Meeting on 25 April 2024.

Volunteers

The life of Crossway Stratford is in large part dependent upon the generous partnership of volunteers who consider themselves part of the church family. Most of what has been achieved, under God, would not have been possible without their time, gifts, resources and commitment.

The trustees want to put on record their gratitude to God and these volunteers.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Reverend Jamie Child

(Trustee)

Date: 27/3/2024

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Crossway Stratford ('the charitable company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charitable company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charitable company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: *Richard Hill*

Dated: 27/3/2024

Richard Hill FCA

Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co
Chartered Accountants
21-27 Lamb's Conduit Street
London
WC1N 3GS

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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations	3	458,089	8,230	466,319	385,577
Charitable activities	4	41,040	-	41,040	38,270
Investments	5	5,592	-	5,592	1,483
Total income		504,721	8,230	512,951	425,330
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	528,265	9,217	537,482	488,702
Total expenditure		528,265	9,217	537,482	488,702
Net movement in funds		(23,544)	(987)	(24,531)	(63,372)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		302,162	12,626	314,788	378,160
Net movement in funds		(23,544)	(987)	(24,531)	(63,372)
Total funds carried forward		278,618	11,639	290,257	314,788

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 13 to 28 form part of these financial statements.

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REGISTERED NUMBER: 10498312

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	12	12,783	9,846
Cash at bank and in hand		287,055	313,562
		<u>299,838</u>	<u>323,408</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(9,581)	(8,620)
Net current assets		<u>290,257</u>	314,788
Total net assets		<u><u>290,257</u></u>	<u><u>314,788</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	15	11,639	12,626
Unrestricted funds	15	278,618	302,162
Total funds		<u><u>290,257</u></u>	<u><u>314,788</u></u>

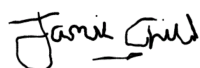
The charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Reverend Jamie Child
 (Trustee)
 Date: 27/3/2024

The notes on pages 13 to 28 form part of these financial statements.

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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(32,099)	(69,871)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Bank interest	5,592	1,483
Net cash provided by investing activities	5,592	1,483
Cash flows from financing activities		
Net cash provided by financing activities	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(26,507)	(68,388)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	313,562	381,950
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	287,055	313,562

The notes on pages 13 to 28 form part of these financial statements

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. General information

Crossway Stratford is a private company limited by guarantee without share capital, and is incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England and Wales. It is also registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Crossway Stratford's registered office address is 194 Humberstone Road, London, E13 9NQ.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling and are rounded to the nearest £1.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Crossway Stratford meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Income

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Interest is accounted for when received.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

2.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Any Common Fund contributions (none currently) are accounted for when payable. Any amount pledged but unpaid at 31 December is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation.

All other expenditure is accounted for on the accruals basis.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £2,000 are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £2,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over three years.

2.5 Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount.

2.6 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

2.7 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt.

2.8 Financial instruments

The charitable company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2.9 Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charitable company to the fund in respect of the year.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charitable company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Regular donations (excluding Gift Aid)	318,367	-	318,367	243,787
One-off donations (excluding Gift Aid)	83,705	-	83,705	91,637
Gift Aid	54,140	-	54,140	41,490
Workplace Ministry Fund (restricted)	-	6,883	6,883	3,616
Weekends support fund	-	547	547	1,150
Other collections	-	800	800	192
Other unrestricted income	1,877	-	1,877	3,705
Total 2023	458,089	8,230	466,319	385,577
Total 2022	380,811	4,766	385,577	

All the above income is unrestricted unless otherwise indicated.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Weekend Away income	37,074	37,074	32,756
Books	1,023	1,023	1,332
Refreshments	2,943	2,943	4,182
Total 2023	<u>41,040</u>	<u>41,040</u>	<u>38,270</u>
Total 2022	<u>38,270</u>	<u>38,270</u>	

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Bank interest	5,592	5,592	1,483
Total 2022	<u>1,483</u>	<u>1,483</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable activities	528,265	9,217	537,482	488,702
Total 2022	487,602	1,100	488,702	

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2023 £	Other costs 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable activities	352,188	185,294	537,482	488,702
Total 2022	300,753	187,949	488,702	

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly (see below) 2023 £	Grant funding of activities (note 8) 2023 £	Support costs (see below) 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Charitable activities	465,071	45,186	27,225	537,482	488,702
Total 2022	428,776	45,103	14,823	488,702	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs (note 10)	352,188	352,188	300,753
Mission Partners - gifts to individuals	9,366	9,366	7,439
Crossway Kids	931	931	712
Guest events	1,760	1,760	1,714
Weekend Away cost	35,189	35,189	48,631
Staff training	3,616	3,616	2,764
Music and IT	3,929	3,929	5,777
Books	2,349	2,349	1,865
Lord's Supper	345	345	497
Bibles and Gospels	717	717	1,632
Refreshments	7,668	7,668	5,449
Rent (venue)	46,763	46,763	51,293
Payroll processing	250	250	250
Total 2023	<u>465,071</u>	<u>465,071</u>	<u>428,776</u>
Total 2022	<u>428,776</u>	<u>428,776</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Rent (office)	-	-	300
Hospitality	1,659	1,659	978
Travel	842	842	593
Printing, postage and stationery	5,113	5,113	3,211
Internet	993	993	676
Repairs and maintenance	1,037	1,037	2,985
Insurance	401	401	-
Bank charges	434	434	496
Payroll processing	135	135	950
Promotion	554	554	637
Other expenses	1,097	1,097	-
Recruitment expenses	-	-	270
St Matthew's costs - including expenditure in relation to repairs and maintenance costs	11,947	11,947	1,074
Governance costs: Preparation and examination of annual financial statements and confirmation statement filing fee	3,013	3,013	2,653
Total 2023	<u>27,225</u>	<u>27,225</u>	<u>14,823</u>
Total 2022	<u>14,823</u>	<u>14,823</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

8. Analysis of grants

	Grants to institutions 2023 £	Grants and gifts to individuals 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Charitable grants	41,847	3,339	45,186	45,103
Total 2022	23,980	21,123	45,103	

The charitable company has made the following material grants to institutions during the year:

Name of institution	2023 £	2022 £
Christians Against Poverty	7,450	7,200
Crosslinks	16,280	16,280
Church of England Evangelical Council	4,000	-
Faith in Schools	4,000	-
Open Doors	3,250	-
Faith in Kids	3,000	-
London City Mission	1,867	-
	39,847	23,480
Other grants to institutions, individually £1,000 or less	2,000	500
	41,847	23,980

9. Governance costs - independent examiner's remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Preparation and independent examination of annual financial statements	3,000	2,640

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

10. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross salaries (including clergy stipend and pension)	259,111	240,286
Employers' NI	12,814	8,295
Pension costs	23,064	20,809
Clergy rental costs	57,199	31,363
	352,188	300,753

The average number of persons for whom salaries or stipends were paid for by the charitable company during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Full-time staff	8	7

The number of persons included within staff costs whose employee benefits exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	1

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year ended 31 December 2023 the Reverend Jamie Child was paid a stipend at Diocese of Chelmsford standard rates. Also, contributions to Mr Child's pension were made at Diocese rates. These payments were made by the Diocese, and Crossway Stratford fully reimbursed the Diocese for them.

Crossway Stratford provided accommodation for Mr Child at 192 Portway - a property owned by Gospel Support and Homes Trust (GSHT, formerly known as Great St Helens Trust) and for which Crossway Stratford paid rent. The intention is that Mr Child and his family continue to occupy the property, under the rental agreement with GSHT.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Trustees' remuneration and expenses (continued)

During the year the following amounts were paid:

		2023 £	2022 £
Reverend Jamie Child	Stipend and pension contributions	39,444	40,259
	Accommodation costs	26,559	26,389

During the year ended 31 December 2023, expenses totalling £1,162 were reimbursed or paid directly to a trustee (2022 - £676 for 1 trustee).

12. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	-	391
Prepayments and accrued income	1,000	-
Tax recoverable	11,783	9,455
	12,783	9,846

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	-	374
Other creditors	-	5,475
Accruals	9,581	2,771
	9,581	8,620

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

14. Financial instruments

	2023 £	2022 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	287,055	313,562

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise cash at bank and in hand.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

15. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated fund				
Futures Fund	180,000	-	-	180,000
General funds				
General Fund	122,162	504,721	(528,265)	98,618
Total unrestricted funds	302,162	504,721	(528,265)	278,618
Restricted funds				
Workplace Ministry Fund	21	6,883	(5,917)	987
Weekends Support Fund	-	547	-	547
Hardship Fund	12,605	800	(3,300)	10,105
	12,626	8,230	(9,217)	11,639
Total funds	314,788	512,951	(537,482)	290,257

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated fund					
Futures Fund	110,000	-	-	70,000	180,000
General funds					
General Fund	246,435	420,564	(487,602)	(57,235)	122,162
Total unrestricted funds	356,435	420,564	(487,602)	12,765	302,162
Restricted funds					
Workplace Ministry Fund	7,405	3,616	-	(11,000)	21
Weekends Support Fund	800	1,150	-	(1,950)	-
Hardship Fund	13,520	-	(1,100)	185	12,605
	21,725	4,766	(1,100)	(12,765)	12,626
Total funds	378,160	425,330	(488,702)	-	314,788

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

15. Statement of funds (continued)

The aims and uses of the major designated and restricted funds are as follows:

Futures Fund – funds designated by the elders for church planting from Crossway and for building purchase – either for the church to meet in or for staff housing. The intention is that 10% of the church's annual budget has this future focus.

Workplace Ministry Fund – for funds received relating to the establishment and continuation of a Workplace Ministry in Stratford named 'Stratford Talks'.

Weekends Support Fund – funds received specifically for helping people to attend church weekends away.

Hardship Fund – for funds received specifically towards relieving hardship within the local community as and when it arises.

16. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Designated funds	180,000	-	-	180,000
General funds	122,162	504,721	(528,265)	98,618
Restricted funds	12,626	8,230	(9,217)	11,639
Total funds	314,788	512,951	(537,482)	290,257

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Designated funds	110,000	-	-	70,000	180,000
General funds	246,435	420,564	(487,602)	(57,235)	122,162
Restricted funds	21,725	4,766	(1,100)	(12,765)	12,626
Total funds	378,160	425,330	(488,702)	-	314,788

CROSSWAY STRATFORD
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Current assets	288,199	11,639	299,838
Creditors due within one year	(9,581)	-	(9,581)
Total	278,618	11,639	290,257

18. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(24,531)	(63,372)
Adjustments for:		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(5,592)	(1,483)
Increase in debtors	(2,937)	(891)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	961	(4,125)
Net cash used in operating activities	(32,099)	(69,871)

19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	23,223	59,767
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	263,832	253,795
Total cash and cash equivalents	287,055	313,562

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 January 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 December 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	313,562	(26,507)	287,055
	<u>313,562</u>	<u>(26,507)</u>	<u>287,055</u>

21. Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently-administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charitable company to the fund.

22. Members' liability

In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

23. Related party transactions

	2023 £	2022 £
Donations made by the trustees and treasurer	<u>16,997</u>	<u>7,950</u>