

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

England & Wales · Charity number 1178326

Details

Other names	ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY, ST JAMES'S CHURCH CENTRE, ALNWICK, ST JAMES'S URC, ALNWICK
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2018-05-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	37 Springfield Park Alnwick NE66 2NH
Phone	01665510896
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Website	https://stjamesalnwick.org.uk/

Activities

Objects: 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.

Activities: United Reformed Church, providing a place of worship

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northumberland

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£77,460	£92,893	-	-
2024-12-31	£108,631	£112,298	-	-
2023-12-31	£68,903	£82,682	-	-
2022-12-31	£78,682	£91,378	-	-
2021-12-31	£62,794	£99,932	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANTHONY DAVID WILKINSON		1987-04-01
Charles David Cartwright		2026-04-12
ELIZABETH MACTAGGART SPENCE		2009-08-01
JEAN WHITE BARR		1995-04-01
Julie Wightman		2020-04-12
KAY MILLICAN HETHERINGTON		1979-07-01
MADELINE FRANCES RUSSELL		1979-07-01
SANDRA DENNISE BAKER		2026-04-12
WADE THOMAS SHERMAN		2011-06-01
WILLIAM HENRY CROSIER		1973-02-01

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1178326

Accounts



**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
POTTERGATE, ALNWICK**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO

31ST DECEMBER 2025

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ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST December 2025

	2025					2024	
	Unrestricted Fund		Restricted Funds			Total 2025	Total 2024
	General Fund	Flower Fund	New Taxi Fund (From 2025)	Commitment For Life	£p		
Notes	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p	£p	
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Incoming Resources from generated funds:							
Voluntary Income	2	58,927	-	380	475	59,782	63,495
Activities for Generating funds	3	17,171	-	-	-	17,171	17,539
Investment Income	4	258	-	-	-	258	26,789
Other Income	5	249	-	-	-	249	808
Total: Incoming Resources		76,605	-	380	475	77,460	108,631
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Charitable Activities:							
Ministerial Costs	6	36,047	-	-	-	36,047	35,485
Costs of Church Activities/Refurbishments	7	44,066	-	-	-	44,066	59,208
Donations for Specific Purposes and Restricted Funds passed on	8	12,305	-	-	475	12,780	17,604
Total: Resources Expended		92,418.43	-	-	475	92,893	112,298
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(15,813)	-	380	-	(15,434)	(3,666) (26,500)
Net gain on revaluation of investments		3,200	-	-	-	3,200	5,779
		(12,614)	-	380	-	(12,234)	(24,387)
Total funds b/fwd 1 January 2025		118,834	296	-	-	119,131	143,518
Total funds c/fwd 31st December 2025		106,221	296	380	-	106,896	119,131

The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025

		2025				2024
		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds			
		General Fund £p	Flower Fund £p	Taxi Fund (From 2025)	Commitment For Life £p	2025 £p
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible Fixed Assets	9	-	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors and Accruals	10	-	-	-	-	215
Bank and Cash Balances		16,067	296	380	16,743	60,237
Investment at current Market Value		90,074	-	-	90,074	145,987
		<u>106,141</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>380</u>	<u>106,817</u>	<u>206,438</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Creditors payable within one year	11	596	-	-	596	915
		<u>596</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>596</u>	<u>915</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	12	105,545	296	380	106,221	205,523
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>105,545</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>380</u>	<u>106,221</u>	<u>205,523</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY						
Unrestricted Income Funds:		105,545	-	-	105,545	205,182
Restricted Income Funds		-	296	380	676	341
		<u>105,545</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>380</u>	<u>106,221</u>	<u>205,523</u>
		Held in Investment and Lloyds Current A/C				

APPROVED by the Trustees Meeting held on 11-3-20

Signed:



The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued by the Charity Commission and the United Reformed Church guidance. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted where deemed relevant and the principal accounting policies set out below have been applied.

1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant.

1c Tangible Fixed Assets

Property: The church and manse premises are not included in the balance sheet because reliable cost information is not available and valuation would incur significant costs which would be onerous compared with the additional benefit gained by the user of the Accounts. A note of the insurance valuation is shown in Notes to the Accounts - No 9. Please note that the Manse was sold in November 2025.

Furniture and Equipment: The contents of the premises are not capitalised in the accounts because expenditure incurred on the property was written off in the year it was incurred. See again Notes to the Accounts - No 9

1d Incoming Resources

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received. For purposes of clarification, tax refunds claimed from gift aided donations have been recognised as income when the refund of tax is received. Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified. All other income is generally recognised when it is received, including VAT which may be recoverable under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. Increase or Decrease in Market Value of Investments is taken from the report provided by our Fund Manager at 31st December in the current year.

1e Resources Expended

The URC Ministry & Mission Fund contribution is paid regularly and is included in the financial statements for the year to which it relates. Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT. (See also note 1d above). They are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate.

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

1f Taxation

As part of the United Reformed Church, the church is an excepted charity within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly, it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

	2025				Total 2025	2024
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds				
		General Fund	Flower Fund	Taxi Fund (From 2025)		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2 VOLUNTARY INCOME						
Offerings	33,661	-	-	-	33,661	32,131
Funeral Gifts	75	-	-	-	75	486
Grants	3,985	-	-	-	3,985	-
Donations	871	-	-	-	871	2,087
Specific Charitable Causes - Collections	12,295	-	380	405	13,080	17,976
HMRC - Gift Aid Recovered	7,240	-	-	70	7,310	7,591
URC Northern Province - Reimbursements	800	-	-	-	800	3,225
	58,927	-	380	475	59,782	63,495
3 Activities for Generating Funds						
Fundraising Activities / Events	1,732	-	-	-	1,732	185
Use of Premises	15,439	-	-	-	15,439	17,344
Sale of Book - History of St James's	-	-	-	-	-	10
	17,171	-	-	-	17,171	17,539

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	2025				Total 2025 £	2024 £
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds				
	General Fund £	Flower Fund £	Taxi Fund (From 2025) £	Commitment For Life £		
4 Investment Income						
During 2025, the charity held current and deposit accounts with Lloyds Bank and have an Investment Fund.						
Drawdown from Legacy Investment	-	-	-	-	-	26,500
Bank Interest	258	-	-	-	258	289
	258	-	-	-	258	26,789
5 Income Resources from Other Charitable Acts						
Weddings and Funerals	-	-	-	-	-	305
Sundry income	249	-	-	-	249	503
	249	-	-	-	249	808
Total Income	76,605	-	380	475	77,460	108,631
6 Ministerial Costs						
Ministry & Mission Fund						
The church contributes to the central URC costs of training and providing ministers (including the centralised payment of stipends, pension Contributions and other benefits for ministers), running the denomination and the wider missions of the national church. In 2024, collective giving to the M&M Fund reached 16.2m, towards a total income in 2024 of 18.5 m.						
Ministry & Mission fund	33,273	-	-	-	33,273	33,606
Minister's Car Allowance	-	-	-	-	-	455
Manse Costs	2,774	-	-	-	2,774	1,424
	36,047	-	-	-	36,047	35,485
Worship and Teaching Costs						
Worship, Licences and Music	2,666	-	-	-	2,666	2,653
Pulpit Supply	1,403	-	-	-	1,403	874
	4,069	-	-	-	4,069	3,528
7 Costs of Church Activities						
Church and Halls Costs:						
Utilities	8,230	-	-	-	8,230	10,299
Insurance	6,550	-	-	-	6,550	6,392
Repairs & Renewals, Planned Mntnce	13,506	-	-	-	13,506	28,262
Booking Software, General Off Exp, Broadband	1,174	-	-	-	1,174	191
Cleaning, Kitchen and Supplies	6,742	-	-	-	6,742	5,689
Website and Publicity	817	-	-	-	817	672
Bank Charges	277	-	-	-	277	146
	37,297	-	-	-	37,297	51,651

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	2025				Total 2025 £	2024 £
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds				
	General Fund £	Flower Fund £	Taxi Fund (From 2025) £	Commitment For Life £		
Other Programmes						
Outreach and Other Donations	250	-	-	-	250	-
Taxi Fund (Original)	1,596	-	-	-	1,596	1,985
	<u>1,846</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,846</u>	<u>1,985</u>
Other Expenses						
Wedding & Funeral fees	-	-	-	-	-	100
Sundry Expenditure (Incl Reimbursable Items)	348	-	-	-	348	1,532
Subscriptions	110	-	-	-	110	110
Carbon Footprint Offset - Americas Portfolio	395	-	-	-	395	303
	<u>853</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>2,045</u>
8 Specific Donations and Restricted Funds Passed On						
In 2025, we are supporting Israel & Palestinian Territories						
Commitment for Life Payment	-	-	-	475	475	389
Northern Synod Ignite Donation	11,250	-	-	-	11,250	15,000
Specific Causes/Funerals - Payments	1,055	-	-	-	1,055	2,215
	<u>12,305</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>12,780</u>	<u>17,604</u>
Total Expenditure	92,418	-	-	475	92,893	112,298
9 Tangible Fixed Assets						
Premises: For the reasons stated in Accounting Policy note 1c, the church and manse buildings are not evaluated in Tangible Fixed Assets. For insurance purposes, the sums are: Church Buildings Declared Value £8,588,188. The Manse insurance was covered in URC Northern Synod Trust Block Policy						
10 Investments						
Balance brought forward	86,874	-	-	-	86,874	107,595
Drawn down 2025	-	-	-	-	-	(26,500)
Net unrealised investment gain	3,200	-	-	-	3,200	5,779
Balance carried forward	<u>90,074</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>90,074</u>	<u>86,874</u>
Investments comprise the balance of The Gordon Wood Legacy, invested in a Standard Life Elevate General Investment Account. Within that account, the principal holding (c99%) is in a Liontrust Sustainable Future Managed Income Fund. The balance of the account is held as cash in a money market account.						
11 Debtors and Accruals						
Accrual has been made for the following income						
Nil	£	£	£	£	£	£
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
12 Current Liabilities and Provisions						
Provision has been made for the following expenditure						
AA Taxis - December	£	£	£	£	£	£
	86	-	-	-	-	86
MMCS Cleaners - December	510	-	-	-	-	510
	<u>596</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>596</u>

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

12 Restricted Funds

The church accounts include three Restricted Funds, where the monies can only be used for the specific purpose for which they were entrusted to the church. These monies are not at the disposal of the Church Meeting for any other purpose:

- 1) Commitment for Life Fund - the church takes part in the URC initiative to support specific projects on an on-going basis. Income for the full year is usually paid over to the URC on an annual basis at the beginning of the following year
- 2) Flower Fund - Bequest of £500 was received during 2012.
- 3) Taxi Fund (From 2025) - Donations from 2025 onwards are restricted. Taxi Transport is paid for members with restricted mobility


The movements in the Restricted Funds during the year were:

	2025				2024
	Flower Fund £	Taxi Fund (From 2025) £	Commitment For Life £	Total 2025 £	£
Balance b/fwd	296	-	-	296	333
Direct Giving	-	380	405	785	389
Gift Aid Income	-	-	70	70	-
Total Income:	296	380	475	1,151	722
Restricted Funds Passed On	-	-	-	-	37
Accrued Expenditure - Specific Causes	-	-	475	475	389
Accrued Income	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure:	-	-	475	475	426
Balance to carry Forward	296	380	-	676	296

**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025**

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 - 6 for the year ended 31st December 2025

Signed: 
Jean Barr

Date 31st January 2026



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

St James's Alnwick URC Charity

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1089954

Set out on pages

1 - 6

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2025.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

13/MARCH 2026

Name:

JOHN WRIGHT

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

A&IB ACCI

Address:

ABBEDORE, Y STEEPY LANE
LESBURY
ALNWICK, NE66 3PU

Section B

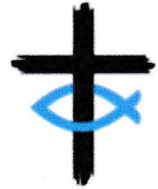
Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners)

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the central portion of the page. It is intended for the user to provide details as requested in the text above.

ST. JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
Pottergate, Alnwick, Northumberland



Charity Registration Number: 1178326

TRUSTEES REPORT 2025

Structure, Governance & Management:

Trustees who have served between 1st January 2025 and the date of this Report:

Church Coordinators

And Secretary: Liz Spence and Julie Wightman

Church Treasurer: Jean Barr

Elders: Henry Crosier
Kay Hetherington
Madeline Russell
Wade Sherman
David Wilkinson
Margaret Wilkinson

St James's Alnwick is a member church of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain which was established by the 1972 United Reformed Church Acts. The church has its own Constitution and Governing Documents as approved by the Church Meeting.

The Trustees (serving Elders) are elected by the Church Meeting of St James's Alnwick URC. Management decisions are taken by the Trustees' Meetings and formally ratified by the Church Meeting. All management decisions are approved by consensus or majority at properly constituted meetings.

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.

To meet this objective, the Charity supports the wider councils of the United Reformed Church through giving and participation. The Charity also provides regular acts of worship, promoting Christian teaching which is in accordance with the traditions of the United Reformed Church. The Charity recognizes the importance of working with other faith communities on an ecumenical basis and is an active member of Christians Together in Alnwick.

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and believe that this requirement is met by the activities set out in the reports below.

Further and more detailed, information on the activities of the Charity may be found in the extracts below, taken from Reports provided by the Church Co-Ordinator and Joint Church Secretary and the Treasurer.

31st December 2025



Church Centre Coordinator Annual Report (Extract)
Year Ending 31st December 2025
Office Bearer Liz Spence
Joint Church Secretary Julie Wightman

This was the first full year following our minister's retirement in April 2024. It has been challenging but we thank the congregation for all their support and encouragement. We are happy to report that Northern Synod have now also appointed a minister as our Pastoral Friend, who will be able to answer our questions as they arise, attend some Elders Meetings and who has agreed to preside at all our morning communion services. We are very grateful to have this support.

St James's is part of the recently formed North Northumberland Pastorate of six churches. A Steering Group holds regular meetings and we are making progress in preparation for declaring a vacancy later this year. All six churches recognise the need to work together to make the new Pastorate work.

Our Membership sits at 73 members and about 30 friends. We had two funerals in the church and one memorial service. There were no weddings or baptisms. We were pleased to welcome members of the local Methodist Church who wish to worship with us after their building was closed and we are always pleased to welcome visitors, either visiting family or on holiday.

Our fears that our worship numbers might decrease have not been realised and we are pleased that attendance has been steady with an average of 48 in the morning and 12 at the two evening services a month. We thank our Pulpit Supply Secretary for his hard work organising pulpit supply and to the Worship Group for leading worship on a regular basis. The Alnwick Quakers still hold their worship meeting weekly in the church.

In August we held a "Vision Day" to review our St James's Mission Statement of

"A welcoming church, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, focused on outreach and support within the Alnwick community and beyond."

We invited a facilitator from Northern Synod to lead the morning when the 24 people who attended discussed how we thought this mission statement could help planning for the future of this church and its congregation. This was followed by lunch. Another day is planned for early 2026.

We have held a few social events during the year that included a lunch after the Harvest Festival in September and coffee mornings in aid of Church Funds and Charity as well as a Domino Drive in aid of Christian Aid. Much enjoyed by all.

It was our "turn" to host the Synod Meeting in October at St James's, and it was good to welcome old friends and new and to have interesting talks and discussion.

Our premises are widely used for ecumenical use. Churches Together in Alnwick and its umbrella organisations use the building. We host Messy Church, Ignite Projects, including Open the Book, (taking Bible Stories into schools), Lenten Lunches and the regular fortnightly ecumenical coffee mornings which gives a welcome to all.

The Church buildings also continue to be well used by the Alnwick community for a variety of uses. Many groups meet regularly – Choirs, Civic Society, Music Concerts as well as support groups, training and social gatherings. Unfortunately, the Girl Guides, Brownies and Rainbows were disbanded this year. The buildings continue to support the church and letting out the halls raised £15,000 this year.

In October, we received the report from the Quinquennial visit. This visit (organised by Northern Synod) carries out an extensive review of our building and identifies work that needs to be done within specific time scales. Following a meeting to discuss this, 5 priorities were identified in the urgent category

a, Guttering, b, Roof Repairs, c, Fire Regulations and d. Structural Issues. The Finance and Property Committee will address these concerns in due course.

Our building is old, Grade 2 listed and requires constant monitoring. The roof continued to need work over 2025, so the scaffolding seemed to be up for a long time.

Following our minister leaving the Manse in April 2024, Northern Synod put the house on the market, and the sale eventually went through with the new owners pleased to move in in November 2025. During the time it was empty we are grateful to members of our Finance & Property committee for checking the premises each week and making sure that it was maintained. We expect to receive 50% of the proceeds from the sale.

We thank our Editor for his continued work on the Newsletter, Pilgrim Ways. It is published fortnightly and emailed out or posted out to those without electronic support. Hopefully this keeps people up to date with Church and Synod news. We also receive the Synod news every fortnight.

As Joint Church Secretaries, we hope that, with your help, St James's will continue to be proactive and respond to both your needs and those living in our community. We each have different skills and we share responsibility for our various tasks, including managing the halls, planning, policy writing and documentation.

We are going through many changes, and the future will not be easy, but with you supporting the Elders and the Church groups, we shall continue to work together to continue God's work in this community.

Liz Spence and Julie Wightman

January 2026

Church Treasurer's Annual Report (Extract)

Year ending: 31st December 2025

Office Bearer: Jean Barr

General Expenditure: In common with other URC churches, we pay an annual sum to the URC Trust to sustain Ministry & Mission in the wider church, this being our biggest item of expenditure. Our contribution, at £33,273 for 2025, remained similar to 2024 (£33,606). While we have been without a minister since April 2024, we continued to be responsible for the maintenance of our Manse until it was sold in November 2025. When we are finally able to

make the Call for a new minister, we know that we will share this minister with the other five churches in the North Northumberland Pastorate, namely Longframlington, Rothbury, St Andrew's Glanton, St Mark's Amble and Wooler United Reformed Churches. In due course, it is hoped that a suitable Manse will be purchased by the Trust to service all congregations within our Pastorate. Running costs for such a manse, as well as ministerial expenses, would be shared.

While many areas of expenditure stayed close to or within budget, the notable exception was Roof Repairs (£9,000), following emergency roof repair work which had started at the end of 2024. A Listed Places of Worship Grant offset some £3,985 against these costs. We were pleased to note that Electricity and Gas costs (£8,230) came in at less than budget (£10,000). They do, however, remain a concern, and we will continue to monitor those.

No Legacy Grants were made in 2025. However, we received £11,250 from our Northern Province Trust to pass on as funding for Ignite, a local Christian charity who focus on youth and schools' work. Other donations and outreach funding made were covered by matching income. Including the above, total expenditure in 2025 was £92,893 against a budget of £71,537. It should be noted that the £11,250 passed over to Ignite had not been part of our budgeted expenditure or income.

General Income: Our main Income in 2025 came from our Offertory. This came in above budget at £33,661, an increase from £32,131 in 2024. While this, in itself, is encouraging, we must remain very mindful of our own Freewill Giving. In recent years, we have been heavily reliant on drawdowns from our Wood Legacy Investment (reported separately below), which may not be sustainable over the longer term.

Including the matched funding for the expenditure items reported above, our total Income was £77,460 against a budget of £56,875. The net overspend was £15,434 against the projected overspend of £14,662. The General Fund carries forward £16,822 into 2026, which compares with £32,256 brought forward.

It must be noted that we have not made any allowance in our accounts for the anticipated proceeds from the sale of the Manse as we had no notification of when we might receive these.

Wood Legacy Fund: The estimated value of our investments at the end of 2025 was £90,074, a slight increase during the year. No drawdowns were made during the year.

Commitment for Life Fund: Commitment for Life income is received from direct gifts, and from tax recovered on gift aided offerings. The total paid over to URC in London was £475, a slight increase from the £389 paid in 2024. We held a Commitment for Life Service during the year to inform our congregation about where these Funds go, and we hope this may result in increased contributions.

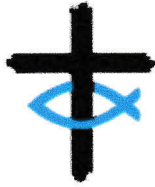
Once again, our gratitude goes to all our congregation and friends for the continuing support of our church, both financial and pastoral. My personal thanks also go to the Elders and the members of the Finance & Property committee for their invaluable work and support. Special thanks again go to our Examiner of Accounts, for availing us of his time and expertise.

Jean Barr
February 2026

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1178326

Accounts



**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
POTTERGATE, ALNWICK**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO

31ST DECEMBER 2024

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ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST December 2024**

	Notes	2024			Total 2024 £p	2023 Total 2023 £p
		Unrestricted Fund General Fund £p	Restricted Funds Flower Fund £p	Commitment For Life £p		
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming Resources from generated funds:						
Voluntary Income	2	63,106	-	389	63,495	53,848
Activities for Generating funds	3	17,539	-	-	17,539	14,570
Investment Income	4	26,789	-	-	26,789	55
Other Income	5	808	-	-	808	430
Total: Incoming Resources		108,242	-	389	108,631	68,902.51
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Charitable Activities:						
Ministerial Costs	6	35,485	-	-	35,485	35,441
Costs of Church Activities/Refurbishments	7	59,171	37	-	59,208	41,183
Donations for Specific Purposes and Restricted Funds passed on	8	17,215	-	389	17,604	6,059
Total: Resources Expended		111,871.64	37	389	112,298	82,682.24
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(3,629)	(37)	-	(3,666)	(13,780)
Less: Investment Drawdown to Income		(26,500)	-	-	(26,500)	-
Add: Increase in Investment Value during year		5,779	-	-	5,779	10,331
		(24,350)	(37)	-	(24,387)	(3,449)
Total funds b/fwd 1 January 2024		143,184	333	-	143,518	146,967
Total funds c/fwd 31st December 2024		118,834	296	-	119,131	143,518

The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

		2024			2023
		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds		Total 2023
		General Fund £p	Flower Fund £p	Commitment For Life £p	Total 2024 £p
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	9	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and Accruals	10	-	-	-	-
Bank and Cash Balances		32,686	296	-	37,505
Investment at current Market Value		86,874	-	-	107,595
		<u>119,560</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>145,101</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors payable within one year	11	726	-	-	1,583
		<u>726</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,583</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	12	118,834	296	-	143,518
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>118,834</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143,518</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Income Funds:		118,834	-	-	143,184
Restricted Income Funds		-	296	-	333
		<u>118,834</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143,518</u>
		Held in Investment, Current and Deposit A/C's			

APPROVED by the Trustees Meeting held on 26.03.2025

32,256

and signed on its behalf by Elizabeth Spence and Julie Wightman Elm. Spence

Date: 26.3.2025 J. Wightman

The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued by the Charity Commission and the United Reformed Church guidance. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted where deemed relevant and the principal accounting policies set out below have been applied.

1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant.

1c Tangible Fixed Assets

Property: The church and manse premises are not included in the balance sheet because reliable cost information is not available and valuation would incur significant costs which would be onerous compared with the additional benefit gained by the user of the Accounts. A note of the insurance valuation is shown in Notes to the Accounts - No 9.

Furniture and Equipment: The contents of the premises are not capitalised in the accounts because expenditure incurred on the property was written off in the year it was incurred. See again Notes to the Accounts - No 9

1d Incoming Resources

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received. For purposes of clarification, tax refunds claimed from gift aided donations have been recognised as income when the refund of tax is received. Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified. All other income is generally recognised when it is received, including VAT which may be recoverable under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. Increase or Decrease in Market Value of Investments is taken from the report provided by our Fund Manager at 31st December in the current year.

1e Resources Expended

The URC Ministry & Mission Fund contribution is paid regularly and is included in the financial statements for the year to which it relates. Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

1f Taxation

As part of the United Reformed Church, the church is an excepted charity within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly, it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

	2024			Total 2024 £p	2023
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds			£
	General Fund £p	Flower Fund	Commitment For Life £p		
2 VOLUNTARY INCOME					
Offerings	32,131	-	-	32,131	35,500
Legacies and Funeral Gifts	486	-	-	486	-
Donations	2,087	-	-	2,087	3,496
Specific Charitable Causes - Collections	17,587	-	389	17,976	5,351
Warkworth URC Shared Costs	-	-	-	-	517
HMRC - Gift Aid Recovered	7,591	-	-	7,591	7,611
URC Northern Province - Reimbursements	3,225	-	-	3,225	1,373
	63,106	-	389	63,495	53,848
3 Activities for Generating Funds					
Fundraising Activities / Events	185	-	-	185	774
Use of Premises	17,344	-	-	17,344	13,796
Sale of Book - History of St James's	10	-	-	10	-
	17,539	-	-	17,539	14,570

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

4 Investment Income

The charity holds current and deposit accounts with Lloyds Bank, Bondgate, Alnwick
 Drawdown from Legacy Investment
 Bank Interest

	26,500			26,500	-
	289	-	-	289	55
	26,789	-	-	26,789	55

5 Income Resources from Other Charitable Acts

Weddings and Funerals
 Sundry income

	305	-	-	305	100
	503	-	-	503	330
	808	-	-	808	430

Total Income

	108,242	-	389	108,631	68,903
--	----------------	---	------------	----------------	---------------

6 Ministerial Costs

Ministry & Mission Fund

The church contributes to the central URC costs of training and providing ministers (including the centralised payment of stipends, pension contributions and other benefits for ministers), running the denomination and the wider missions of the national church. Total unrestricted expenditure in 2023 was £26.6m, 81% of which related to ministry costs. The major funding is provided through the Ministry & Mission contributions from local churches.

Ministry & Mission fund	33,606	-	-	33,606	30,551
Minister's Car Allowance	455	-	-	455	1,366
Manse Costs	1,424	-	-	1,424	3,524
	35,485	-	-	35,485	35,441

7 Costs of Church Activities

Church and Halls Costs:

Cleaning, Kitchen and Event Supplies	5,689	-	-	5,689	5,689
Heat, Light & Telephone	10,299	-	-	10,299	8,306
Insurance and Council Tax and Water	6,392	-	-	6,392	5,828
Repairs & Renewals, Planned Mntnce	28,262	-	-	28,262	12,467
Office Expenses and Booking Software	191	-	-	191	274
Printing, Photocopying and Publicity	672	-	-	672	1,845
Bank Charges	146	-	-	146	142
	51,651	-	-	51,651	34,551

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	2024			Total 2024 £p	2023
	Unrestricted Fund	Flower Fund	Restricted Fund		2023 £p
	General Fund £p		Commitment For Life £p		
Worship and Teaching Costs					
Worship, Licences and Music	2,616	37	-	2,653	2,620
Pulpit Supply	874	-	-	874	933
	<u>3,491</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,528</u>	<u>3,553</u>
Other Programmes					
Outreach and Other Donations	-	-	-	-	48
Ignite	-	-	-	-	825
Shelter					825
Taxi Fund	1,985				589
	<u>1,985</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,287</u>
Other Expenses					
Wedding & Funeral fees	100	-	-	100	-
Sundry Expenditure	1,532	-	-	1,532	524
Subscriptions	110	-	-	110	110
Carbon Footprint Offset - Americas Portfolio	303	-	-	303	158
	<u>2,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,045</u>	<u>791</u>
8 Specific Donations and Restricted Funds Passed On					
In 2024, for C for L we are supporting Israel & Palestinian Territories					
Commitment for Life Payment	-	-	389	389	700
Northern Synod Ignite Donation	15,000	-	-	15,000	3,750
Specific Causes - Payments	2,215	-	-	2,215	1,610
	<u>17,215</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>17,604</u>	<u>6,059</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>111,872</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>110,313</u>	<u>82,682</u>

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Premises:

For the reasons stated in Accounting Policy note 1c, the church and manse buildings are not evaluated in Tangible Fixed Assets.

For information, the church building's insurance valuation is £ 8,58,8188. The Manse insurance is covered in the Northern Synod Trust Block Policy

10 Investments

Balance brought forward	107,595			107,595	97,264
Drawn down 2024	(26,500)			(26,500)	-
Net unrealised investment gain 2024	5,779			5,779	10,331
Balance carried forward	<u>86,874</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>86,874</u>	<u>107,595</u>

Investments comprise the balance of The Gordon Wood Legacy, invested in a Standard Life Elevate General Investment Account. Within that account, the principal holding (c99%) is in a Liontrust Sustainable Future Managed Income Fund. The balance of the account is held as cash in a money market account.

11 Debtors and Accruals

Accrual has been made for the following income	£	£	£	£	
None accrued					-
					-
					-

12 Current Liabilities and Provisions

Provision has been made for the following expenditure

Reimbursement of Overpayment from N Synod	£	240	£	-	£	240
Payment of Expenses (Various		276				276
Shelter and Crisis Christmas Collections		210				210
		<u>726</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>726</u>

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

12 Restricted Funds

The church accounts include two Restricted Funds, where the monies can only be used for the specific purpose for which they were entrusted to the church. These monies are not at the disposal of the Church Meeting for any other purpose:

- 1) Commitment for Life Fund - the church takes part in the URC initiative to support specific projects on an on-going basis. Income for the full year is usually paid over to the URC on an annual basis at the beginning of the following year
- 2) Flower Fund - Bequest of £500 was received during 2012.

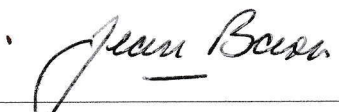
The movements in the Restricted Funds during the year were:

	2024			2023
	Flower Fund	Commitment For Life	Total 2024	£
Balance b/fwd	333	-	333	413
Direct Giving	-	389	389	491
Gift Aid Income	-	-	-	136
Total Income:	<u>333</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>722</u>	<u>1,041</u>
Restricted Funds Passed On	37	-	37	708
Accrued Expenditure - Specific Causes	-	389	389	-
Accrued Income	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure:	<u>37</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>426</u>	<u>708</u>
Balance to carry Forward	<u>296</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>333</u>

**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 - 6 for the year ended 31st December 2024

Signed: 
Jean Barr

Date 26th March 2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

St James's Alnwick URC Charity

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1089954

Set out on pages

1 - 6

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2023.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

26/3/25

Name:

JOHN WRIGHT

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

ACIB ACII

Address:

ABBAY DORE, Y STEPPY LANE.
LESBURY ALNWICK
NORTHUMBERLAND NE66 3PU

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners)

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the majority of the page's width and height. It is intended for the user to provide details as requested in the text above.

ST. JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
Pottergate, Alnwick, Northumberland



Charity Registration Number: 1178326

TRUSTEES REPORT 2024

Structure, Governance & Management:

Trustees who have served between 1st January 2024 and the date of this Report:

Minister and Chair: Rev Joan Grindrod-Helmn (until 30th April 2024)

Church Coordinators

And Secretary: Liz Spence and Julie Wightman

Church Treasurer: Jean Barr

Elders: Henry Crosier
Kay Hetherington
Madeline Russell
Wade Sherman
David Wilkinson
Margaret Wilkinson

St James's Alnwick is a member church of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain which was established by the 1972 United Reformed Church Acts. The church has its own Constitution and Governing Documents as approved by the Church Meeting.

The Church Meeting of St James's Alnwick URC elects the Trustees (serving Elders). Management decisions are taken by the Trustees' Meetings and formally ratified by the Church Meeting. All management decisions are approved by consensus or majority at properly constituted meetings.

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.

To meet this objective, the Charity supports the wider councils of the United Reformed Church through giving and participation. The Charity also provides regular acts of worship, promoting Christian teaching which is in accordance with the traditions of the United Reformed Church. The Charity recognizes the importance of working with other faith communities on an ecumenical basis and is an active member of Christians Together in Alnwick.

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and believe that this requirement is met by the activities set out in the reports below.

Further and more detailed, information on the activities of the Charity may be found in the extracts below, taken from Reports provided by the Church Co-Ordinator and Joint Church Secretary and the Treasurer.

31st December 2024



Church Centre Coordinator Annual Report (Extract)
Year Ending 31st December 2024
Office Bearer Liz Spence
Joint Church Secretary Julie Wightman

Report

We were very sad to bid farewell to Joan, our Minister, at the end of April. She had been in Alnwick for 22 years and had supported this congregation from the major change in developing our building to become fit for purpose to the national changes of modern society and the effects of the Covid epidemic. She was also supportive to the Alnwick Community including Churches Together in Alnwick and the Northern Synod and was ably supported for many years of her ministry here by Monty, her husband who sadly died a few years ago. We all wish her well in her retirement.

While Joan had worked hard to prepare us for the vacancy, the reality of being without a minister has been a steep learning curve and the Trustees have worked together to make things happen. The URC strategy to bring the six churches of North Northumberland together to form a new pastorate with one minister for all the churches has now been formally accepted as the North Northumberland Pastorate and the group continues to develop a strategy for integration for 2026. Part of the URC Northern Synod's current Manse Strategy is to sell Manses that are surplus to requirements as ministers can now choose where they might wish to live. St James's Manse has become surplus to requirements and will go up for sale soon.

Our Membership sits at 74 members and about 30 friends. Unfortunately, as we have many members in the older age group, we have had some deaths of both members and friends. However, we were delighted to celebrate the marriage of one of our young members and the baptism of her daughter.

Following Joan's retirement, we are pleased that attendance has not fallen but has remained steady with an average of 45 in the morning and 12 at the two evening services a month. We thank our Pulpit Supply Secretary and also the Worship Group, who have been most supportive in filling pulpit supply on a regular basis.

The Alnwick Quakers hold their worship meeting weekly in the church. We are also a venue for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and other denominations have held prayer vigils.

The Church Premises continue to be well used for a wide variety of uses. We host the Christians Together in Alnwick meetings, Open the Book groups (taking Bible Stories into schools), Lenten Lunches and Ecumenical Coffee Mornings as well as many other community groups, Training and social groups. We have been aware of the increase in the confidence of people meeting again since the pandemic and that is reflected in the increase in revenue from the halls from £12000 last year to £17000 this year.

Our costs have increased. Heating is a continuing high cost and this year, following several repairs to old lighting, we replaced the lighting with LED fittings.

The roof has been a cause of major expenditure as a minor leak led to a major repair to protect the stonework and that led to the discovery of damage caused by subsidence! Unfortunately, this meant that we had to use invested funds.

We thank our Newsletter Editor for his continued editing of Pilgrim Ways. It is now published fortnightly and emailed out or posted out to those without electronic support. This keeps everyone up to date with Church and Synod news.

We are going through many changes and next year will not be easy, but, with the help of the congregation, and the support of the Elders and the Church groups, we hope that St James's will continue to be proactive and responsive to need. We shall work together to continue God's work in this community.



CHURCH TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT (Extract)

Office Bearer: Jean Barr

Year ending: 31st December 2024

General Expenditure: In common with other URC churches, we pay an annual sum to the URC Trust to sustain Ministry & Mission in the wider church, this being our biggest item of expenditure. Our contribution, at £33,606 for 2024, remained similar to 2023 (£30,501). While Northern Synod Trust have taken over Manse Insurance payments, we continue to be responsible for the maintenance of our Manse. We were very sad to see the retiral in April of our minister of 22 years, Revd Joan Grindrod-Helmn, who will be very much missed by all our congregation. While we do not yet know when we will be allocated a new Minister, we have been informed that we will share this minister with several other churches in north Northumberland. Together with Northern Province Trust, the decision has been taken to sell our current Manse. Income from this will be split between our church and the Trust. In due course, it is hoped that a suitable Manse will be purchased by the Trust to service all congregations within our Pastorate.

While many areas of our expenditure once again stayed close to or within budget, the notable exceptions were Utilities, Roof Repairs and General Maintenance costs. Rising Electricity and Gas costs remain a concern, and we continue to monitor those. Making repairs to repair our leaking roof cost £15,793. We also upgraded our lighting at a cost of £6,168 towards which we were grateful to receive a grant from our Synod Trust of £2,450. A drawdown of £20,000 from our Legacy Fund went towards these costs.

While no Legacy Grants were made in 2024, we received £15,000 from our Northern Province Trust to pass on as funding for Ignite, a local Christian charity who focus on youth and schools' work. Other donations and outreach funding made were also covered by matching income. Including the above, total expenditure in 2024 was £112,298 against a budget of £72,072.

General Income: Our main Income comes from our Offertory. Until 2024, this has remained reasonably steady, but it has fallen slightly this year from our 2023 level (£35,500) to £32,131. Halls income, at £17,344, exceeded budget, as did Donations and Gift Aid income. Including the matched funding for the expenditure items reported above, and a drawdown from investments, our total Income was £108,631 against a budget of £58,900. Net Expenditure was (£3,666) and the General Fund carries forward £32,256 into 2025, which compares with £35,922 brought forward from 2023.

Wood Legacy Fund: The estimated value of our investments at the end of 2023 was £107,595, from which we drew down a total of £26,500 to cover charity payments made from General Fund in 2022 (£6,500) and repair costs in 2024 (£20,000). The estimated value of the Fund at the end of 2024 was £86,874.

Commitment for Life Fund Commitment for Life income is received from direct gifts, and from tax recovered on gift aided offerings. The total paid over to URC in London has been decreasing over recent years. In 2024 it was £389. We have invited a Commitment for Life representative to visit our church in 2025 to inform our congregation about where these Funds go.

Once again, our gratitude goes to all our congregation and friends for the continuing support of our church, both financial and pastoral. Continued thanks also go to our Minister, now retired, and the members of the Finance & Property committee for their invaluable work and support. Special thanks go to our Examiner of Accounts, for availing us of his time and expertise.

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1178326

Accounts

ST. JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
Pottergate, Alnwick, Northumberland

Charity Registration Number: 1178326



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Trustees who have served between 1st January 2023 and the date of this Report:

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Church Coordinators

And Secretary: Liz Spence and Julie Wightman

Church Treasurer: Jean Barr

Elders: Henry Crosier
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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.

To meet this objective, the Charity supports the wider councils of the United Reformed Church through giving and participation. The Charity also provides regular acts of worship, promoting Christian teaching which is in accordance with the traditions of the United Reformed Church. The Charity recognizes the importance of working with other faith communities on an ecumenical basis and is an active member of Christians Together in Alnwick.

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and believe that this requirement is met by the activities set out in the reports below.

Further and more detailed, information on the activities of the Charity may be found in the extracts below, taken from Reports provided by the Minister, the Church Co-Ordinator and Secretary and the Treasurer.



MINISTER'S ANNUAL REPORT (EXTRACT)

Year Ending: 31.12.23

Office Holder: Rev. Joan Grindrod-Helmn

Aims: To oversee the workings of the church and provide both practical and spiritual care for those in need.

Activities: To lead worship and have oversight of all worship events.

To provide pastoral care for those in need.

To encourage and nurture the faith.

To support those who volunteer their services in the church.

To represent the church in the community and the wider church.

REPORT: I always seem to start AGM reports writing that many things haven't changed since last year and what should I say that isn't a repeat, but this year is a bit different. This year, because this will be my last annual report, has led me to think back over not just last year, but the past 22 years. So, if you'd indulge me, a bit of reflection on 22 years.

What have been the "highs"? There have been many. Obviously, the redevelopment in 2007/08. When we redeveloped there were many changes and we all adapted and even thrived. We shared space with the congregation at St. Paul's and a special relationship was formed. Redevelopment gave us a functional building that is well used by the community, a part of our vision for the future. I am thankful for the people of vision that designed and oversaw that project but also all of you for the tireless efforts of fundraising and support that made it happen. The ecumenical friendship of the churches and their clergy has been amazing.

But, of course, there are also "lows", which are natural and how we can recognise the "highs" when we have them. There are 22 years of familiar faces that are no longer with us and yet so many that I remember with fondness. There are even churches now closed that I remember. We currently don't have an organised Mission/Outreach programme - we cannot become inward looking in these challenging times. Some things have a life and need to be reinvented; some things fail. But that doesn't mean we never try again.

You may be thinking, certainly COVID was a "low". Yes, it was. We lost many things due to COVID. But we also learned many things, too. When change was forced upon us it was amazing how quickly we adapted and moved on. It was surprising to see the numbers of people try things like Zoom and find they could do it. Despite lockdowns, we stayed connected to each other. COVID, for all its negatives, gave us space and permission to do things differently.

Throughout 22 years the biggest "high" for me has been all the people who have been and are currently associated with this church. There is amazing talent here, but even more important there is amazing faithfulness here. Over 22 years I have been blessed with Elders and many others who work so hard, mostly behind the scenes. I give thanks particularly to our Church Secretaries and Treasurer, who shoulder so much of the work, but they do so knowing that if they ask for help it will be forthcoming. I give thanks for the gifts we have in music and worship leadership. To our Organists, many thanks for your music that lifts our spirits. To the worship group, thanks for being courageous and creative! We have a growing tech team, well done for getting us over our phobia of screens! To our Junior Church Leaders, thanks for your gifts with the young people each week and thanks to all the helpers. I give thanks for our Newsletter Editor and his brilliant work on the Pilgrim Ways as well as general techie knowledge when needed, he has been a blessing to the whole church. There are so many people whose small efforts keep this place going, I am so lucky to have so many willing hands to get the work done. Thank you all. For your support, for your friendship, for your good humour, for your patience, for your forgiveness. I have been blessed with you all.

2024 will see this church go into vacancy for the first time in 22 years. There are many changes to come. There will be “highs”, there will be “lows” and there will be everything in between. One thing I am sure of, this church will rise to whatever challenges it faces. The church is much, much more than its minister. The church is all of you, caring for each other and sharing the load for each other. So, I leave this church in good hands. Upheld by God’s grace, with the strength of Christ and the daily encouragement of the Spirit, all will be well. Don’t be afraid, turn your face to the future and get stuck into the next chapter of God’s story in this place.



Church centre Coordinator Annual Report (EXTRACT)

Year Ending: 31st December 2023

Office Bearer: Liz Spence

Joint Church Secretary: Julie Wightman

REPORT: 2023 has been a year of preparing for change. Two major changes affecting us will be Joan’s retirement in April 2024, which will be a sad time for everyone and the proposed changes to ministry in North and Mid Northumberland due to come in April 2025.

Preparing for a vacancy is never easy and we are very aware of how hard Joan works. It is 20+ years since St James’s was in vacancy and we now have a much smaller membership, so the workload will be greater. It will be important to work together to support each other.

The URC strategic change to have one minister for the whole of North and Mid Northumberland from 2025 has involved us being part of a group meeting with the other Mid and North Northumberland churches (Wooler, Amble, Rothbury, Longframlington and Glanton), getting to know each other better and to develop a model of working together for the future. This work is still ongoing, but the changes are unlikely to happen before 2026.

We are aware that our congregation is aging, and this is reflected in our membership numbers this year (down from 79 to 75) but Worship attendance has stayed at a similar level as last year with an average of 38 in the morning and 12 at the two evening services a month. We wish to thank our Pulpit Supply Secretary for her diligence in providing pulpit supply on a regular basis (as well as all the other roles she plays) and the Worship Group for their valuable support.

We had no weddings or baptisms this year, but unfortunately, had several funerals of church members and friends that included one non-serving Elder.

St James’s has always been active within the community, and we provide a venue for many Christians Together in Alnwick and Ignite meetings. We are also the venue for the Ukraine Homing Group and the Guides, Brownies, and Rainbow group.

Our building is very well used. We have noticed a reduction in corporate users but an increase in charity and community use, which means that we don’t generate the income as before the pandemic, but we are pleased to provide subsidised rates to local charities and the community.

As it is 15 years since the redevelopment of St James’s when all our equipment was new, some items of equipment are needing major repairs or replacement, which is reflected in our expenditure. We are planning a phased project to become eco-friendlier and more cost efficient.

Our newsletter has gone out by email and post all year and, for those that wish to receive it, the snail mail version includes the URC Sunday Devotion. We thank our Editorial and Printing team for their work.

Next year will be a difficult one for our congregation. We shall have to adjust to the changes ahead of us, which will not be easy, but we have been assured of support from the Northern Synod. Our Church family has always pulled together and I know that you will continue to support the Elders with action and prayer.

As our Minister Joan prepares for her retirement in April 2024, we thank her for her ministry, support, and guidance over the last 22 years. Nothing was too much trouble and, her unwavering support for St James's through the good times – and the bad are much appreciated. She will be missed, but we wish her a happy and healthy retirement.



CHURCH TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT (EXTRACT)

Office Bearer: Jean Barr

Year ending: 31st December 2023

General Expenditure: We welcomed a reduction in our Ministry & Mission payments to the URC Trust from £34,118 in 2022 to £30,501 in 2023 and appreciated the reimbursement from URC Northern Province for the cost of Manse Insurance. Going forward, NP Trust will cover our Manse Insurance in their Blanket Policy. While most areas of our expenditure stayed close to or within budget, the notable exceptions were Utilities, Audio Visual Equipment and Maintenance costs. Rising Electricity and Gas costs continue to be a concern and we intend to monitor those in 2024. In 2021, we made the decision to invest in new Audio-Visual equipment to facilitate and improve our worship and the final payment was made this year. Our Lift is now 15 years old and essential repairs in 2023 cost £2,250. Ongoing technical and plumbing problems with our commercial dishwasher proved expensive and the decision was taken to replace this.

While no Legacy Grants were made in 2023, Church Meeting agreed to make donations of £500 to a local Community Centre and £825 each to Ignite and Shelter. We also paid over £3,750 in funding for Ignite, a local Christian charity who focus on youth and schools' work, this funding having originated from URC Northern Province Trust. Other donations and outreach funding made were also covered by matching income. Including the above, total expenditure in 2023 was £82,682 against a budget of £70,846.

General Income: Thanks to the continuing support of our congregation, our Offertory Income, at £35,500, remained close to budget and similar to 2022. Halls income, at £13,796, exceeded budget, as did Donations and Gift Aid income. Including the matched funding for the expenditure items reported above, our total Income was £68,903 against a budget of £58,965. Net Expenditure was (£13,780) and the General Fund carries forward £35,922 into 2024.

Wood Legacy Fund: While 2022 saw a decrease in the value of our investments, 2023 has seen an increase from £97,264 brought forward to £107,595 which we will carry forward to 2024.

Commitment for Life Fund Commitment for Life income is received from direct gifts, and from tax recovered on gift aided offerings. The total paid over to URC in London in 2023 was £700. We have chosen to support Israel & Palestinian Territories from this fund.

Once again, our gratitude goes to all our congregation and friends for the continuing support of our church, both financial and pastoral. Our thanks go once again to our Minister, the Elders and the members of the Finance & Property committee for their invaluable work and support. Special thanks also go to our Examiner of Accounts, for availing us of his time and expertise.



**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
POTTERGATE, ALNWICK**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO

31ST DECEMBER 2023

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ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST December 2023

	2023				2022
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds			
	General Fund £p	Flower Fund £p	Commitment For Life £p	Total 2023 £p	2022 £p
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming Resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary Income	2 53,221	-	628	53,848.19	64,024
Activities for Generating funds	3 14,570	-	-	14,570.13	13,490
Investment Income	4 55	-	-	54.59	3
Other Income	5 430	-	-	429.60	1,166
Total: Incoming Resources	68,275	-	628	68,902.51	78,682
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Activities:					
Ministerial Costs	6 35,441	-	-	35,440.53	38,868
Costs of Church Activities/Refurbishments	7 41,175	8	-	41,182.68	48,753
Donations for Specific Purposes and Restricted Funds passed on	8 5,360	-	700	6,059.03	3,756
Total: Resources Expended	81,974.73	8	700	82,682.24	91,378
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)	(13,700)	(8)	(72)	(13,780)	(12,696)
Net gain (Loss) on revaluation of investments	10,331	-	-	10,330.72	(25,783)
	(3,369)	(8)	(72)	(3,449)	(38,479)
Total funds b/fwd 1 January 2023	146,553	341	72	146,967	185,446
Total funds c/fwd 31st December 2023	143,184	333	-	143,518	146,967

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

		2023			2022
		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds		
		General Fund £p	Flower Fund £p	Commitment For Life £p	2023 £p
					2022 £p
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	9	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and Accruals	10	-	-	-	761
Bank and Cash Balances		37,172	333	-	51,050
Investment at current Market Value		107,595	-	-	97,264
		<u>144,767</u>	<u>333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>149,076</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors payable within one year	11	1,583	-	-	2,110
		<u>1,583</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,110</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	12	143,184	333	-	146,967
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>143,184</u>	<u>333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,967</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Income Funds:		143,184	-	-	146,553
Restricted Income Funds		-	333	-	413
		<u>143,184</u>	<u>333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,967</u>
		Held in Investment, Current and Deposit A/C's			

APPROVED by the Trustees Meeting held on 21.3.24

and signed on its behalf by the Revd J Grindrod-Helmn (Chair)

The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements.

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued by the Charity Commission and the United Reformed Church guidance. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted where deemed relevant and the principal accounting policies set out below have been applied.

1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant.

1c Tangible Fixed Assets

Property: The church and manse premises are not included in the balance sheet because reliable cost information is not available and valuation would incur significant costs which would be onerous compared with the additional benefit gained by the user of the Accounts. A note of the insurance valuation is shown in Notes to the Accounts - No 9.

Furniture and Equipment: The contents of the premises are not capitalised in the accounts because expenditure incurred on the property was written off in the year it was incurred. See again Notes to the Accounts - No 9

1d Incoming Resources

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received. For purposes of clarification, tax refunds claimed from gift aided donations have been recognised as income when the refund of tax is received. Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified. All other income is generally recognised when it is received, including VAT which may be recoverable under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. Increase or Decrease in Market Value of Investments is taken from the report provided by our Fund Manager at 31st December in the current year.

1e Resources Expended

The URC Ministry & Mission Fund contribution is paid regularly and is included in the financial statements for the year to which it relates. Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT. (See also note 1d above). They are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate.

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

1f Taxation

As part of the United Reformed Church, the church is an excepted charity within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly, it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

	2023			Total 2023 £p	2022
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds			£
	General Fund £p	Flower Fund	Commitment For Life £p		
2 VOLUNTARY INCOME					
Offerings	35,500	-	-	35,500	35,880
Legacies and Funeral Gifts	-	-	-	-	5,000
Donations	3,496	-	-	3,496	1,028
Specific Causes - Collections and Income	4,860	-	491	5,351	3,743
Insurance Reimbursements	-	-	-	-	9,196
Warkworth URC Shared Costs	517	-	-	517	1,248
HMRC - Gift Aid Recovered	7,475	-	136	7,611	7,167
Grants Received:	-	-	-	-	-
URC Northern Province - Reimbursements	1,373	-	-	1,373	761
	53,221	-	628	53,848	64,024
3 Activities for Generating Funds					
Fundraising Activities / Events	774	-	-	774	914
Use of Premises	13,796	-	-	13,796	12,410
Sale of Book - History of St James's	-	-	-	-	166
	14,570	-	-	14,570	13,490

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

4 Investment Income

The charity holds current and deposit accounts with Lloyds Bank, Bondgate, Alnwick

Bank Interest	55	-	-	55	3
	<u>55</u>	-	-	<u>55</u>	<u>3</u>

5 Income Resources from Other Charitable Acts

Weddings and Funerals	100	-	-	100	200
Sundry income	330	-	-	330	966
	<u>430</u>	-	-	<u>430</u>	<u>1,166</u>

Total Income	<u>68,275</u>	-	-	<u>68,903</u>	<u>78,682</u>
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6 Ministerial Costs

Ministry & Mission Fund

The church contributes to the central URC costs of training and providing ministers (including the centralised payment of stipends, pension contributions and other benefits for ministers), running the denomination and the wider missions of the national church. Total unrestricted expenditure in 2022 was £19.4m, 84% of which related to ministry costs. The major funding is provided through the Ministry & Mission contributions from local churches.

Ministry & Mission fund	30,551	-	-	30,551	34,128
Minister's Car Allowance	1,366	-	-	1,366	1,366
Manse Costs	3,524	-	-	3,524	3,375
	<u>35,441</u>	-	-	<u>35,441</u>	<u>38,868</u>

7 Costs of Church Activities

Church and Halls Costs:

Cleaning, Kitchen and Event Supplies	5,689	-	-	5,689	5,464
Heat, Light & Telephone	8,306	-	-	8,306	5,276
Insurance & Rates	5,828	-	-	5,828	5,654
Repairs & Renewals, Planned Mntnce	12,467	-	-	12,467	17,940
Office Expenses and Booking Software	274	-	-	274	224
Printing, Photocopying and Publicity	1,845	-	-	1,845	3,173
Bank Charges	142	-	-	142	108
	<u>34,551</u>	-	-	<u>34,551</u>	<u>37,838</u>

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	2023			Total 2023 £p	2022 £p
	Unrestricted Fund	Flower Fund	Restricted Fund		
	General Fund £p		Commitment For Life £p		
Worship and Teaching Costs					
Worship, Licences and Music	2,612	8	-	2,620	2,440
Pulpit Supply	933	-	-	933	761
Junior Church	-	-	-	-	23
	3,545	8	-	3,553	3,224
Other Programmes					
Outreach	48	-	-	48	-
N Northumberland Day Hospice	-	-	-	-	2,000
Ignite	825	-	-	825	2,000
Shelter	825	-	-	825	-
Gallery Youth	-	-	-	-	1,000
Pottergate Centre	-	-	-	-	1,000
Taxi Fund	589	-	-	589	213
	2,287	-	-	2,287	6,213
Other Expenses					
Wedding & Funeral fees	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry Expenditure	524	-	-	524	1,126
Subscriptions	110	-	-	110	110
Carbon Footprint Offset - Americas Portfolio	158	-	-	158	242
	791	-	-	791	1,478
8 Specific Donations and Restricted Funds Passed On					
In 2023, we are supporting Israel & Palestinian Territories					
Commitment for Life Payment	-	-	700	700	809
URC Northern Synod - Ignite Donation	3,750	-	-	3,750	-
Specific Causes - Payments	1,610	-	-	1,610	2,948
	5,360	-	700	6,059	3,756
Total Expenditure	81,975	8	700	82,682	91,378

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Premises:

For the reasons stated in Accounting Policy note 1c, the church and manse buildings are not evaluated in Tangible Fixed Assets. For insurance purposes, the sums insured are: church buildings - £8,066,920 (2022 - £7,456,04); manse £684,183 - (2022 -£563,420)

10 Investments

Balance brought forward	97,264			97,264	123,047
Drawn down 2023	-			-	-
Net unrealised investment gain/(Loss)	10,331			10,331	(25,783)
Balance carried forward	107,595	-	-	107,595	97,264

Investments comprise the balance of The Gordon Wood Legacy, invested in a Standard Life Elevate General Investment Account.

Within that account, the principal holding (c99%) is in a Liontrust Sustainable Future Managed Income Fund. The balance of the account is held as cash in a money market account.

11 Debtors and Accruals

Accrual has been made for the following income

	£	£	£	£
No Accrued Income	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

12 Current Liabilities and Provisions

Provision has been made for the following expenditure

	£	£	£	£
St Cloud State University - Recharges March to Dec	1,200			1,200
Balance of Christmas Donations to Shelter and Crisis	50		-	50
Connor Weightman - Plumbing	333			333
	1,583	-	-	1,583

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

12 Restricted Funds

The church accounts include two Restricted Funds, where the monies can only be used for the specific purpose for which they were entrusted to the church. These monies are not at the disposal of the Church Meeting for any other purpose:

- 1) Commitment for Life Fund - the church takes part in the URC initiative to support specific projects on an on-going basis. Income for the full year is usually paid over to the URC on an annual basis at the end of each year
- 2) Flower Fund - Bequest of £500 was received during 2012.

The movements in the Restricted Funds during the year were:

	2023			2022
	Flower Fund	Commitment For Life	Total 2023	£
Balance b/fwd	341	72	413	1,341
Direct Giving	-	491	491	815
Gift Aid Income	-	136	136	66
Total Income:	341	700	1,041	2,222
Restricted Funds Passed On	8	700	708	1,000
Accrued Expenditure - Specific Causes	-	-	-	809
Accrued Income	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure:	8	700	708	1,809
Balance to carry Forward	333	-	333	413

**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 - 6 for the year ended 31st December 2023

Signed: Jean Barr
Jean Barr

Date 1st March 2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

St James's Alnwick URC Charity

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1089954

Set out on pages

1 - 6

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2023.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

7/3/2024

Name:

JOHN WRIGHT

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

ACIB, ACII

Address:

ARBOYDENE 7 STEPPY LANE,
LESBURY, ALNWICK,
NORTHUMBERLAND NE66 3PU

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners)

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the central portion of the page. It is intended for the user to provide details as requested in the text above.

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1178326

Accounts

ST. JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
Pottergate, Alnwick, Northumberland



Charity Registration Number: 1178326

TRUSTEES REPORT 2022

Structure, Governance & Management:

Trustees who have served between 1st January 2022 and the date of this Report:

Minister and Chair: Rev Joan Grindrod-Helmn

Church Coordinators

And Secretary: Liz Spence and Julie Wightman

Church Treasurer: Jean Barr

Elders: Sandra Baker (to April 2022)
Henry Crosier
Maureen Fortune (to April 2022)
Kay Hetherington
Madeline Russell
Wade Sherman
David Wilkinson
Margaret Wilkinson

St James's Alnwick is a member church of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain which was established by the 1972 United Reformed Church Acts. The church has its own Constitution and Governing Documents as approved by the Church Meeting.

The Trustees (serving Elders) are elected by the Church Meeting of St James's Alnwick URC. Management decisions are taken by the Trustees' Meetings and formally ratified by the Church Meeting. All management decisions are approved by consensus or majority at properly constituted meetings.

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.

To meet this objective, the Charity supports the wider councils of the United Reformed Church through giving and participation. The Charity also provides regular acts of worship, promoting Christian teaching which is in accordance with the traditions of the United Reformed Church. The Charity recognizes the importance of working with other faith communities on an ecumenical basis and is an active member of Christians Together in Alnwick.

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and believe that this requirement is met by the activities set out in the reports below.

Further and more detailed, information on the activities of the Charity may be found in the extracts below, taken from Reports provided by the Minister, the Church Co-Ordinator and Secretary and the Treasurer.



MINISTER'S ANNUAL REPORT (EXTRACT)

Year Ending: 31st December 2022

Office Holder: Rev. Joan Grindrod-Helmn

Aims: To oversee the workings of the church and provide both practical and spiritual care for those in need.

Activities: To lead worship and have oversight of all worship events.
To provide pastoral care for those in need.
To encourage and nurture the faith.
To support those who volunteer their services in the church.
To represent the church in the community and the wider church.

REPORT:

2022 has been a year for us and for the church of finding our voices again after COVID took them away, literally and figuratively. We were back to worship, but it seemed different with masks and no singing, sitting apart, no coffee after the service, no hugs or handshakes. So many said that they were surprised by how much they missed these small things that had such a big impact on their lives. But we accepted it, adapted and waited patiently for restrictions to be lifted. Eventually they were and we started to find our voices again, though they seemed strange and different after such a long silence. Some things we were glad to return to and some things we remain wary about. Some things we are grateful to leave in the past and some things we learned we are excited to expand and embrace.

2022 was also the "Jubilee year" for the URC, celebrating 50 years of existence. The concept of Jubilee is one of giving thanks and allowing rest and restitution. I think for us that came about a year early, when we were forced to rest and give thanks during COVID lockdowns. But what has come out of that time? When we were in it, we were hearing about the "New Normal", we were looking forward to it, though we didn't really know what to expect. We are now in the "New Normal". We will never forget that time when we were silenced, it will leave many memories both good and bad. But it also leaves us with opportunities, like the Jubilee year, to give thanks and start again. What does our "New Normal" look like now that we have found our voices again? Do we want it to look and be just like the old normal or do we want something more, something that embraces the future and gives us opportunities for growth? We may not know the answers to this now, it may take some more time to allow the fear and the pain of those hard days to fade. But we will need to figure it out and work together in the coming year to plan for the future.

2023 will inevitably bring more changes and we will experience both sadness and joy, for that is life. Life always moves us forward and calls us to create a new normal every day; not just for ourselves, but for those we share life with, in church, in Alnwick, in the UK and around the world. We are still finding our voice after the silence but find it we must, for there are many silent ones who are counting on us to speak for them until they can speak for themselves.

I give thanks for so many in our church who work so hard to keep St. James's the special place that it is. You ALL are a part of it, no matter what you are able to contribute. I thank all of our Elders for their hard work. Our Office holders, who go above and beyond consistently. Our Jr. Church leaders and helpers, the Sunday tech teams, our wonderful musicians (and a choir!), the creatives with the

Newsletter, the folks doing the practical things with the building, the folks offering their time to others for coffee, chat, and friendship, our many worship leaders for their different worship experiences... we are truly blessed!



CHURCH CENTRE COORDINATOR ANNUAL REPORT (EXTRACT)

Year Ending	31 st December 2022
Office Holder	Liz Spence
Assistant Church Secretary	Julie Wightman
Assistant Church Centre Manager	Joyce Spencer

REPORT:t

It is only when you look back over the year that you realise how much the pandemic has affected the Church and the Centre. We are still trying to maintain a safe environment for all. Although many restrictions have been lifted, we are still ensuring that safe practice continues. We have been monitoring our Covid safety over the year and changed the signage as required.

We have also continued our work with Policies and the Web site. Each change to the Covid regulations required a rewrite of the church risk assessments. New guidelines on Safeguarding and the recruitment of volunteers have also meant a rewriting of policy and the hard work to ensure that we are compliant in each of these areas is much appreciated. The website has been maintained, making changes as required. We are now able to receive bookings for the halls through the web site.

Our major project this year has been to upgrade the sound and vision facilities for both worship and users of the Centre and we are now able to enhance the use of zoom by using a camera to give variable views during worship. We have improved internet access, and sound and vision facilities throughout the building. This includes a new 75" screen on a mobile stand and better microphones. We are hoping that a team will be formed who will understand the system and wish to help with worship.

The kitchen has been showing its age, needing attention to the cupboards and the walls. We decided to have the kitchen upgraded, using a firm who removed the peeling vinyl and painted the doors and surrounds and freshened up the area by painting the walls. What a difference this has made.

We have been able to Worship in person all year and have an evening service twice a month. Attendance at both services is similar to before the pandemic with an average of 38 in the morning and 15 at the evening services. The serving of Communion was modified to ensure safe participation. We are grateful to Worship Leaders when the minister is not here and to the Worship Group for their support to lead worship over the year.

Zoom continues to be used at most morning services and church meetings and the minister has continued the Sunday Evening reflection on Face Time. We shall continue to assess our Technology needs so that we remain up to date and provide access for all.

We very much appreciate our Newsletter Editor, who has continued editing the weekly Pilgrim Ways newsletter, which appears to have been well received as indicated by the positive comments received. Some of those, unable to come to church in person or without the technology, are receiving a "snail mail" edition

and some also receive the order of Service for the URC Sunday Devotion. We thank all those involved in ensuring that these are sent out weekly.

Membership stands at 79 and 60 friends. Unfortunately, there have been 8 deaths of members or friends which included 3 former elders. Our thoughts and prayers go to their families.

We had one wedding this year and no baptisms.

The use of the building by a wide variety of clients increased over the year and is now almost back to the pre-Covid levels. We succeeded in meeting the budget we had set for income. However, we have had to raise the charges from January 1st, 2023, to support the rise in heating costs. We are also aware that some of our *equipment is getting older and problems will become more frequent.*

This year was the 50th Anniversary of the URC and we celebrated it with a Jubilee Service. Unfortunately, the London celebrations had to be postponed, not because of the pandemic, but because of a rail strike. If it wasn't one thing, it was another.

During this year we have started to think about the changes to come to Mid and North Northumberland in 2025 as proposed by the Northern Synod. This involves all the churches in the group to work together to prepare for when there will only be one minister for the whole area.

As always, our thanks go to our minister for her ministry, guidance, and support to everyone and also to our Trustees for their diligence.

The last year has been difficult for all and despite all the problems both in the UK and the World, the people of St James' have supported this church and its community with generosity of giving and practical support. We thank you all so much.



CHURCH TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending 31st December 2022

Office Holder Jean Barr

REPORT:

General Expenditure: With some notable exceptions, much of our General Expenditure has been as expected and remained close to budget. Some of these exceptions, where expenditure was unusually high, came as a result of the effects of Storm Arwen which occurred in November 2021. Damage to both our Church and the Manse resulted in repair costs of over £9,000. Although we have been very fortunate in being able to offset this expenditure against income in the form of reimbursements from our Insurers, the claims also resulted in higher than anticipated insurance costs in 2022.

Equipment and Maintenance costs this year have been high, caused mainly by the purchase of a new computer to support our audio-visual system, some much needed refurbishment of our kitchen and some exceptional repairs to kitchen equipment and to the lift.

Our Church Meeting had hoped to make donations to local charities from our Wood Legacy Fund (see below). However, the global financial situation meant that fund has not been performing well and, instead, we took the decision to make these outreach donations from our General Fund bank account.

A total of £6,000 in donations was shared between to Ignite (formerly known as Contagious), the North Northumberland Hospice, Gallery Youth, and the Pottergate Centre

Excluding Special Collections paid out to other charities, our General Expenditure came in at £ 87,620 against a budget of £67,820.

General Income: Our higher than budgeted income partially offsets the increased expenditure. The aforementioned Insurance reimbursements accounts for £9,000 of this. We also received a generous legacy of £5,000 from one of our members – no restrictions were placed on the use of this legacy.

Offertory saw a slight drop from £36,450 in 2021 to £35,880 in 2022 but Gift Aid recovery increased from £6,470 in 2021 to £7,100, partially as a result of increased Gift Aided Small Donations, which had been adversely affected during the Pandemic when there were fewer church services and lower attendance.

Gratifyingly, income from the Use of our Premises came in over budget at £12,410 (£3,410 in 2021). This reflected, at least partially, the much hoped for return to “some kind of normal” as well as the hard work and dedication of our Church Centre team, who keep our premises in such good condition.

Excluding Special Collections paid out to other charities, our General Income came in at £75,250 against a budget of £59,800.

Wood Legacy Fund: The background: In 2018, St James’s church received a legacy of £138,714. Gordon Wood, our benefactor, placed no restrictions on the use of his legacy. At the 2019 AGM, the Church Meeting resolved to give up to 10% of the monies currently held in the invested fund each year to good causes and projects in Alnwick, with the proviso that when large funds are needed to maintain the church, the Wood Legacy Fund may be used. A committee was set up to oversee this Fund and make recommendations but all expenditure is authorised by the Church Meeting.

While charitable donations were made in earlier years, none had been made in 2021 when possible local beneficiaries were either closed during the pandemic or reported that that they were not in need at that time. Global financial problems saw the value of the Legacy fund fall sharply from £123,047 at the end of 2021 to around £95,000 at its lowest point in 2022. Taking advice from our Investment Consultant, we agreed to leave the funds intact and not make any withdrawals in 2022. Instead, we made donations from our General Fund (see above) with the intention to make recompense if and when our investments recover. The invested funds ended 2021 with a value of £97,264.

Commitment for Life Fund Commitment for Life income is received from direct gifts and from tax recovered on gift aided offerings. The total gathered in 2022 was £809, which compares with £692 in 2021. We have chosen to support Israel & Palestinian Territories from this fund.

Once more, our gratitude goes to all our congregation and friends for their continuing support of our church, both financial and pastoral. Our thanks go once again to members of the Finance & Property committee for their invaluable work and support. Special thanks also go to our Examiner of Accounts, for availing us of his time and expertise.



Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jean Barr".

Date: 27th March 2023



**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
POTTERGATE, ALNWICK**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO

31ST DECEMBER 2022

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ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST December 2022

	2022					2021	
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds			Total 2022	Total 2021	
Notes	General Fund £p	Kitchen Fund £p	Flower Fund £p	Commitment For Life £p	£p	£p	
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Incoming Resources from generated funds:							
Voluntary Income	2	63,143	-	-	881	64,024	58,575
Activities for Generating funds	3	13,490	-	-	-	13,490	3,702
Investment Income	4	3	-	-	-	3	5
Other Income	5	1,166	-	-	-	1,166	513
Total: Incoming Resources		77,801	-	-	881	78,682	62,794
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Charitable Activities:							
Ministerial Costs	6	38,868	-	-	-	38,868	37,547
Costs of Church Activities/Refurbishments	7	47,753	1,000	-	-	48,753	60,608
Donations for Specific Purposes and Restricted Funds passed on	8	2,948	-	-	809	3,756	1,776
Total: Resources Expended		89,569.00	1,000	-	809	91,378	99,932
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(11,768)	(1,000)	-	72	(12,696)	(37,138)
Net gain/(Loss) on revaluation of investments		(25,783)	-	-	-	(25,783)	17,061
		(37,551)	(1,000)	-	72	(38,479)	(20,077)
Total funds b/fwd 1 January 2022		184,105	1,000	341	-	185,446	205,523
Total funds c/fwd 31st December 2022		146,553	-	341	72	146,967	185,446

The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021

FIXED ASSETS

Tangible Fixed Assets

		2022				Total 2022 £p	2021 Total 2021 £p
		Unrestricted Fund General Fund £p	Kitchen Fund £p	Flower Fund £p	Commitment For Life £p		
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CURRENT ASSETS							
10	Debtors and Accruals	761	-	-	-	761	215
	Bank and Cash Balances	50,637	-	341	72	51,050	60,237
	Investment at current Market Value	97,264	-	-	-	97,264	145,987
		<u>148,663</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>149,076</u>	<u>206,438</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES							
11	Creditors payable within one year	2,110	-	-	-	2,110	915
		<u>2,110</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,110</u>	<u>915</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS							
12		146,553	-	341	72	146,967	205,523
TOTAL NET ASSETS							
		<u>146,553</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>146,967</u>	<u>205,523</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY							
	Unrestricted Income Funds:	146,553	-	-	-	146,553	205,182
	Restricted Income Funds	-	-	341	72	413	341
		<u>146,553</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>146,967</u>	<u>205,523</u>

Held in Investment, Current and Deposit A/C's

APPROVED by the Trustees Meeting held on

23RD MARCH 2023

and signed on its behalf by the Revd J Grindrod-Helmn (Chair)



The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued by the Charity Commission and the United Reformed Church guidance. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted where deemed relevant and the principal accounting policies set out below have been applied.

1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant.

1c Tangible Fixed Assets

Property: The church and manse premises are not included in the balance sheet because reliable cost information is not available and valuation would incur significant costs which would be onerous compared with the additional benefit gained by the user of the Accounts. A note of the insurance valuation is shown in Notes to the Accounts - No 9.

Furniture and Equipment: The contents of the premises are not capitalised in the accounts because expenditure incurred on the property was written off in the year it was incurred. See again Notes to the Accounts - No 9

1d Incoming Resources

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received. For purposes of clarification, tax refunds claimed from gift aided donations have been recognised as income when the refund of tax is received. Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified. All other income is generally recognised when it is received, including VAT which may be recoverable under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. Increase or Decrease in Market Value of Investments is taken from the report provided by our Fund Manager at 31st December in the current year.

1e Resources Expended

The URC Ministry & Mission Fund contribution is paid regularly and is included in the financial statements for the year to which it relates. Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT. (See also note 1d above). They are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate.

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

1f Taxation

As part of the United Reformed Church, the church is an exempted charity within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly, it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

	2022				Total 2022 £p	2021 £
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds				
	General Fund £p	Flower Fund	Kitchen Fund	Commitment For Life £p		
2 VOLUNTARY INCOME						
Offerings	35,880				35,880	36,450
Legacies and Funeral Gifts	5,000				5,000	500
Donations	1,028				1,028	2,179
Specific Charitable Causes - Collections	2,928			815	3,743	1,678
Insurance Reimbursements	9,196				9,196	-
Warkworth URC Shared Costs	1,248				1,248	1,133
HMRC - Gift Aid Recovered	7,101			66	7,167	6,588
Grants Received:						
Northumberland Estates	-				-	1,000
Listed Places of Worship	-				-	4,303
URC Mission Grant	-				-	4,453
URC Northern Province - Pulpit Supply	761				761	290
	63,143	-	-	881	64,024	58,575
3 Activities for Generating Funds						
Fundraising Activities / Events	914				914	285
Use of Premises	12,410				12,410	3,104
Sales of Book	166				166	
	13,490	-	-	-	13,490	3,389

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

4 **Investment Income**

The charity holds current and deposit accounts
with Lloyds Bank, Bondgate, Alnwick
Bank Interest

	3	-	-	3	5
	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

5 **Income Resources from Other Charitable Acts**

Weddings and Funerals
Sundry income

	200			200	245
	966			966	268
	<u>1,166</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,166</u>	<u>513</u>

Total Income

	<u>77,901</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>881</u>	<u>78,682</u>
	<u>77,901</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>881</u>	<u>78,682</u>

6 **Ministerial Costs**

Ministry & Mission Fund

The church contributes to the central URC costs of training and providing ministers (including the centralised payment of stipends, pension contributions and other benefits for ministers), running the denomination and the wider missions of the national church. Total unrestricted expenditure in 2021 was £20.2m, 81% of which related to ministry costs. The major funding is provided through the Ministry & Mission contributions from local churches.

Ministry & Mission fund	34,128			34,128	33,356
Minister's Car Allowance	1,366			1,366	1,366
Manse Costs	3,375			3,375	2,826
	<u>38,868</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,868</u>	<u>37,547</u>

7 **Costs of Church Activities**

Church and Halls Costs:

Cleaning, Kitchen and Event Supplies	5,464			5,464	3,630
Heat, Light & Telephone	5,276			5,276	3,744
Insurance & Rates	5,654			5,654	4,803
Repairs, Renewals, Planned Mntnce	16,940	1,000		17,940	40,236
Office Expenses and Booking Software	224			224	172
Printing, Photocopying and Publicity	3,173			3,173	420
Bank Charges	108			108	96
	<u>36,838</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>37,838</u>	<u>52,680</u>

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	2022					Total 2021 £p
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds			Total 2022 £p	
	General Fund £p	Flower Fund	Kitchen Fund	Commitment For Life £p		
Worship and Teaching Costs						
Worship, Licences and Music	2,440				2,440	2,999
Pulpit Supply	761				761	290
Junior Church	23				23	705
	<u>3,224</u>	-	-	-	<u>3,224</u>	<u>3,994</u>
Other Programmes and Donations						
West End Refugee Centre, Newcastle					-	700
St Oswald's Hospice, Newcastle					-	350
N Northumberland Day Hospice	2,000				2,000	350
Ignite	2,000				2,000	-
Gallery Youth	1,000				1,000	-
Pottergate Centre	1,000				1,000	-
Taxi Fund	213				213	-
	<u>6,213</u>	-	-	-	<u>6,213</u>	<u>1,820</u>
Other Expenses						
Wedding & Funeral fees	-				-	45
Sundry Expenditure	1,126				1,126	408
Memorial Bench	-				-	455
History of St James's- Printing and Costs	-				-	787
Subscriptions	110				110	210
Carbon Footprint Offset	242				242	210
	<u>1,478</u>	-	-	-	<u>1,478</u>	<u>2,114</u>
8 Specific Donations and Restricted Funds Passed On						
Commitment for Life Income is passed on to Commitment for Life Central Fund at URC, London. In 2022, we are supporting Israel & Palestinian Territories						
Commitment for Life Payment	-	-		809	809	692
Specific Causes - Payments	2,948				2,948	1,084
	<u>2,948</u>	-	-	<u>809</u>	<u>3,756</u>	<u>1,776</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>89,569</u>	-	<u>1,000</u>	<u>809</u>	<u>91,378</u>	<u>99,832</u>

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Premises:

For the reasons stated in Accounting Policy note 1c, the church and manse buildings are not evaluated in Tangible Fixed Assets. For insurance purposes, the sums insured are: church buildings - £7,456,043 (2021 - £6,240,150); manse - £563,420 (2021 £562,295)

10 Investments

Balance brought forward	123,047				123,047	145,987
Drawn down	-				-	(40,000)
Net unrealised investment gain/(loss)	(25,783)				(25,783)	17,061
Balance carried forward	<u>97,264</u>	-	-	-	<u>97,264</u>	<u>123,047</u>

Investments comprise the balance of The Gordon Wood Legacy, invested in a Standard Life Elevate General Investment Account. Within that account, the principal holding (c99%) is in a Liontrust Sustainable Future Managed Income Fund. The balance of the account is held as cash in a money market account.

11 Debtors and Accruals

Accrual has been made for the following income	£	£	£	£	£
URC Northern Synod Pulpit Supply	761				761
	<u>761</u>	-	-	-	<u>761</u>

12 Current Liabilities and Provisions

Provision has been made for the following expenditure

Provision has been made for the following expenditure	£	£	£	£	£
Reform Subscription	207				207
Insurance Damage Repairs to be invoiced	80				80
Kitchen Refurbishment - Painting to be invoiced	195				195
Estimated Newsletter Printing Costs	1,500				1,500
Christmas Donations Paid Out	128				128
	<u>2,110</u>	-	-	-	<u>2,110</u>

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

12 Restricted Funds

The church accounts include three Restricted Funds, where the monies can only be used for the specific purpose for which they were entrusted to the church. These monies are not at the disposal of the Church Meeting for any other purpose:

- 1) Commitment for Life Fund - the church takes part in the URC initiative to support specific projects on an on-going basis. Income for the full year is usually paid over to the URC on an annual basis at the beginning of the following year
- 2) Flower Fund - Bequest of £500 was received during 2012.
- 3) Kitchen Fund - Grant of £1,000 from Northumberland Estates was received during 2021

The movements in the Restricted Funds during the year were:

	2022				2021
	Flower Fund	Kitchen Fund	Commitment For Life	Total 2022	£
Balance b/fwd	341	1,000	-	1,341	341
Grant	-	-	-	-	1,000
Direct Giving	-	-	815	815	575
Traidcraft	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid Income	-	-	66	66	118
Total Income:	341	1,000	881	2,222	2,034
Restricted Funds Passed On	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Accrued Expenditure - Specific Causes	-	-	809	809	692
Accrued Income	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure:	-	1,000	809	1,809	692
Balance to carry Forward	341	-	72	413	1,341

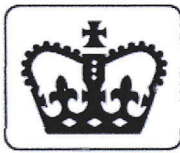
**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 - 6 for the year ended 31st December 2022

Signed: *Jean Barr*
Jean Barr

Date *1st March 2023*



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

St James's Alnwick United Reformed Church Charity

On accounts for the year ended

31st December 2022

Charity no (if any)

1178326

Set out on pages

2-6

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

1/3/2023

Name:

JOHN WRIGHT ACIA ACII

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

ACIA/ACII

Address:

ABBEYDORE 7 STERCY LANE, LESSBURY

ALNICK NE66 3PU

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1178326

Accounts

ST. JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
Pottergate, Alnwick, Northumberland



Charity Registration Number: 1178326

TRUSTEES REPORT 2021

Structure, Governance & Management:

Trustees who have served between 1st January 2021 and the date of this Report:

Minister and Chair: Rev Joan Grindrod-Helmn
Church Secretaries: Liz Spence and Julie Wightman
Church Treasurer: Jean Barr
Elders: Sandra Baker
Henry Crosier
Maureen Fortune
Kay Hetherington
Grace Pollard (to April 2021)
Madeline Russell
Wade Sherman
David Wilkinson
Margaret Wilkinson

St James's Alnwick is a member church of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain which was established by the 1972 United Reformed Church Acts. The church has its own Constitution and Governing Documents as approved by the Church Meeting.

The Trustees (serving Elders) are elected by the Church Meeting of St James's Alnwick URC. Management decisions are taken by the Trustees' Meetings and formally ratified by the Church Meeting. All management decisions are approved by consensus or majority at properly constituted meetings.

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.

To meet this objective, the Charity supports the wider councils of the United Reformed Church through giving and participation. The Charity also provides regular acts of worship, promoting Christian teaching which is in accordance with the traditions of the United Reformed Church. The Charity recognizes the importance of working with other faith communities on an ecumenical basis and is an active member of Christians Together in Alnwick.

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and believe that this requirement is met by the activities set out in the reports below.

Further and more detailed, information on the activities of the Charity may be found in the Reports below, provided by the Minister, the Church Secretary and the Treasurer.



MINISTER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending: 31.12.21

Office Holder: Rev. Joan Grindrod-Helmn

Aims: To oversee the workings of the church and provide both practical and spiritual care for those in need.

Activities: To lead worship and have oversight of all worship events.
To provide pastoral care for those in need.
To encourage and nurture the faith.
To support those who volunteer their services in the church.
To represent the church in the community and the wider church.

REPORT:

2021 has certainly been a trying year. We have been "trying" to get our worship, programmes, and activities back to some semblance of normal, with only limited success. We were open, we were closed, we were open, we were closed...it seemed changes in regulations were as fluid as the sea. And yet, we are still here. We have gotten used to masks and distancing and sanitizer and they have become second nature to us. In many circumstances now it seems strange to shake hands or hug. We so often take a step back if someone gets too close. We still aren't ready to travel far and are finding it strange to be in a crowded room. Last year we longed to be back to "normal", this year we have accepted that this "new normal" is now a part of our lives. We are, for the most part, comfortable where we are and it is the unknown that we are hesitant about. That's normal, not just of humans but of most animals as well. I can risk life and limb (well fingers at least!) to wrestle a seal into a crate and yet when the cage door is opened (sometimes even the top of the crate removed) the seal prefers to stay where it is and has to be coaxed or even dumped out onto the beach. New things, even sort of familiar things, are not our default setting. And yet, life is all about change. The church is not supposed to be an exception to this rule. Change is inevitable and we can't escape it, as hard as we try. Thank goodness we have each other to help when we want to stay in the crate! Each in our own ways we were created to flourish and that usually happens when we are a part of something larger than ourselves. Are you flourishing? Is this church flourishing?

AGMs are always about looking back and remembering, which we are not terribly good at doing. But when I look back I remember those things for which I am grateful, and I give thanks for each of them. That means you! In this past "trying year" we have been blessed with the service and enthusiasm of so many, and in many different ways!

We are thankful for...

Paul, Doreen, Jolanda and the gifts of music we receive each week.

Liz, Joyce, Julie and the gifts of organization and administration that keep up functioning.

Jean and her gift of dealing with bills and insurance and accounts, all with her quiet sense of calm.

John and Wade for their gift of creativity and production of the weekly news sheet.

Our Elders for their gifts of care and decision making.

Willie, Sheila, Julie and their gifts with new technology and their teaching of others.

Alasdair for his gift of understanding and creatively connecting the dots with our history in the past 50 years.

Our Jr. Church leaders and helpers for their gifts of time and energy with our young people.

Our worship leaders who bring the gift of themselves to each service they offer.

The stewards, readers, cleaners, cooks, coffee makers, flower arrangers, and so many others for your gifts of service that we so often take for granted.

ALL of you, and the gifts you bring in your presence to us all!

In 2022 the URC celebrates its 50th anniversary. Many of you who have been involved for a number of years have seen great changes over these 50 years. We have been reminded of the changes, in the URC and even in this church in "Stories of Our Journey" that has been published recently. In the coming few

years there will be many more changes in the URC, Northumberland and at St. James's. How can we, despite our age, embrace change both in individuals and as a church so that all may flourish? It can be done and I have faith we will do so. We will not find ourselves huddling in the crate but enjoying the wonderful gifts and opportunities that God gives us each day.



CHURCH CENTRE COORDINATOR ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending 31st December 2021
Office Holder Liz Spence
Deputy Church Secretary Julie Wightman
Deputy Centre Manager Joyce Spencer

REPORT:

This has been my first year as Church Secretary and I have been so grateful to Julie and Joyce for all their help. Being the Church Centre Coordinator combines the roles of Church Secretary and Church Centre Manager Julie and Joyce. not only made the role possible by taking on specific tasks for the Centre Management and Church Secretary duties but have also been a major support.

Julie has taken on responsibility for ensuring that all Policies have been defined, refined and approved – a huge task. You will see from her own report the amount of work that was required. We all thought last year was challenging but this year has been one of uncertainty and change. The Risk Assessments alone required updating every time there was a change to the regulations. She has also taken on the re- formulation and management of the website, working with the URC team to produce a very comprehensive and professional communication tool for St James's – another major achievement. I would encourage everyone to go and have a look and see the amount of information now available. www.stjamesalnwick.org.uk

Joyce has ensured that there is practical support for users of the halls with ensuring signage sanitisation and information is available and her research and knowledge for the changes has been invaluable.

The beginning of the year it was confirmed that our heating system was not fit for purpose. Following its installation in 2016, it had caused problems and was, not only unreliable, but costing a lot of money. The church decided to cut our losses and renew. The heating system was renewed in May 2021 by a local firm who have been more accessible. We keep our fingers crossed.

After the second (or was it the third?!) lockdown ended in May, at the beginning of June, we were, once again able to worship in person, the use of Zoom made a difference to those who wish to be part of church worship from home. To do this, we had to modify parts of the sound system. This led us to review the existing sound and vision systems (that had been installed in 2007) and, to identify the costs to modernise the technology for both worship and users of the Centre. Both projects were funded by the a transfer from the Wood Legacy.

Zoom has been a very useful tool this year. Not only being used for worship but for all church meetings, discussion groups, prayer meetings and several members have participated in training. The minister has continued her Sunday Evening reflections on Facebook. Technology is certainly being used more widely.

Our weekly Newsletter, Pilgrim Ways continues to inform and communicate with all members and friends by e mail or by post. We thank John for continuing to edit the Newsletter and Wade Sherman for its distribution.

We have been so pleased that our Sunday morning church attendances have had an average of 38 people each week. From September, we have had a fortnightly Sunday evening service which has also been well attended. Our church membership is now reduced to 85 with 62 friends. Sadly, we lost two members of the congregation, Annice Waddell and Alan Green who had both been elders and had served St James's for many years. We thank Jean for her diligence finding Worship Leaders for the Sundays when the minister is at away or at Warkworth. The pandemic has made this a particularly difficult task and we are also grateful for the formation of a new Worship Group to lead worship when needed.

The use of the church building has been intermittent over the last year and the second half of the year saw some groups return. People have been very diligent in maintaining social distancing and following the regulations, but it does mean that our income from hirings will take some time to recover. We now have a new Hall booking system that is internet/web based and allows clients to book using the web site as well as on a personal basis.

2022 will be the 50th Anniversary of the URC and we are so pleased that Alasdair undertook a commitment to produce a book "Footsteps on our journey" commemorating the history of the last 50 years at St James's. This continues the history from 1972 and used stories and anecdotes from members and friends. Our thanks go to Alasdair and the team who produced a very readable and fascinating narrative enjoyed by many.

As always, our thanks go to our minister, Joan, for her ministry, guidance and support to all and to Jean for her excellent support as Treasurer as well as all the other tasks that she is involved in. Despite all the events over the couple of years, the people of St James's have continued to support this church with generous giving and practical input. We cannot thank you all enough.



CHURCH TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending 31st December 2021
Office Holder Jean Barr

REPORT:

For a second year, our church's finances have been greatly affected by the Covid-19 Pandemic. That we have come through this year with our finances at a reasonable level, is in no small measure due to our members' continuing commitment and also to funds drawn down from the Gordon Wood Legacy fund.

General Expenditure: Much of our General Expenditure - over £43,000 - is out of our control to any great extent. This includes Ministry & Mission, Council Tax, Insurances and, to a lesser degree, Utilities. We have been lucky to keep up our normal planned, essential maintenance, including cleaning services although these were adjusted during closed periods. Major problems with our boiler which had been installed in 2016 had to be addressed. The Church Meeting agreed to replace this at a cost of some £26,000 and to invest in new Audio-Visual equipment to facilitate and improve our worship. The bulk of the expenditure on the latter fell in 2021 with some to come in 2022. While no Legacy Grants were made in 2021, our Faith in Life group made smaller donations to West End Refugee Service, North Northumberland Hospice Care and St Oswald's Hospice. Total expenditure in 2021 was £99,239, against a budget of £75,786.

General Income: Thanks to the continuing support of our congregation, our Offertory once again exceeded budget. As we expected, our income during 2021 from Use of Premises was nowhere near the heights of some recent years, coming in at £3,100 against an already cautious budget of £5,000. We have been unsuccessful in an application for Covid19 grant support – having failed to meet their main business rates criteria. However, Northumberland Estates have awarded us £1,000 towards future kitchen refurbishment; Listed Places of Worship have awarded £4,300 to reimburse the VAT expended on the new boiler system; and Synod Mission Fund provided £4,450 towards the Audio-Visual equipment. We are very grateful for this funding. Excluding a transfer from investment, we ended the year with total general income of £62,102 against a budget of £52,715. Over and above this, we transferred £40,000 from our Wood Legacy investment to help fund the items discussed above in General Expenditure – again this was as agreed by the Church Meeting.

Wood Legacy Fund: To recap: In 2018, St James's church received a legacy of £138,714. Gordon Wood, our benefactor, placed no restrictions on the use of his legacy. At the 2019 AGM, the Church Meeting

resolved to give up to 10% of the monies currently held in the invested fund each year to good causes and projects in Alnwick, with the proviso that if large funds are needed to maintain the church, the Wood Legacy Fund may be used. A committee was set up to oversee this Fund and make recommendations but all expenditure is authorised by the Church Meeting.

Charitable contributions were made in 2019 and 2020 and, after a year of good performance, £145,987, was carried forward into 2021. During 2021, The Wood Group looked at local organisations who might need grants but they were either closed during the pandemic or reported that they were not in need at that time. The Church Meeting agreed to defer making any Legacy Fund grants in 2021 but to transfer some £40,000 to our general fund to help cover some major expenditure (see above). During 2021, the Fund had again performed well and after the above transfer, the value at 31st December stood at £123,047. We must be very aware that the value of investments and any gains can go down as well as up and are not guaranteed. This is particularly relevant in these politically troubled times.

Commitment for Life Fund Commitment for Life income is received from direct gifts, from tax recovered on gift aided offerings and from our share of Fair-Trade income. No Fair-Trade income was possible in 2021 because of Covid restrictions. The total gathered in 2021 was £692, which compares with £915 in 2020 and £665 in 2019. This has now been paid over to the URC in London. We have chosen to support Israel & Palestinian Territories from this fund.

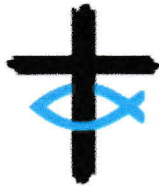
Once more, my gratitude goes to all our congregation and friends for your continuing support of our church, both financial and pastoral. During 2021, I continued to receive Freewill Offering Envelopes and cheques to my door when the church was closed and I have enjoyed many supportive phone calls. Many more of you have taken the opportunity to make your offertory direct to bank.

My thanks go once again to members of the Finance & Property committee for their invaluable input and support. Special thanks also go to John Wright, our Examiner of Accounts, for availing us of his time and expertise.



Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Date:



**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
POTTERGATE, ALNWICK**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO

31ST DECEMBER 2021

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ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST December 2021

		2021				2020		
		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds					
Notes		General Fund £p	Kitchen Fund £p	Flower Fund £p	Commitment For Life £p	Total 2021 £p	Total 2020 £p	
INCOMING RESOURCES								
Incoming Resources from generated funds:								
	Voluntary Income	2	56,883	1,000	-	692	58,575	59,986
	Activities for Generating funds	3	3,702	-	-	-	3,702	8,467
	Investment Income	4	5	-	-	-	5	19
	Other Income	5	513	-	-	-	513	681
	Total: Incoming Resources		61,102	1,000	-	692	62,794	69,153
RESOURCES EXPENDED								
Charitable Activities:								
	Ministerial Costs	6	37,547	-	-	-	37,547	39,150
	Costs of Church Activities/Refurbishments	7	60,608	-	-	-	60,608	38,648
	Donations for Specific Purposes and Restricted Funds passed on	8	1,084	-	-	692	1,776	1,852
	Total: Resources Expended		99,239.63	-	-	692	99,932	79,650
	Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(38,138)	1,000	-	-	(37,138)	(10,497)
	Net gain on revaluation of investments		17,061	-	-	-	17,061	25,987
			(21,077)	1,000	-	-	(20,077)	15,489
	Total funds b/fwd 1 January 2021		205,182	-	341	-	205,523	190,034
								-
	Total funds c/fwd 31st December 2021		184,105	1,000	341	-	185,446	205,523

The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021

		2021				Total 2021 £p	Total 2020 £p
		Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds				
		General Fund £p	Kitchen Fund £p	Flower Fund £p	Commitment For Life £p		
FIXED ASSETS							
Tangible Fixed Assets	9	-	-	-	-	-	
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors and Accruals	10	290		-	-	290	
Bank and Cash Balances		60,767	1,000	341	-	62,108	
Investment at current Market Value		123,047		-	-	123,047	
		<u>184,105</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185,446</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES							
Creditors payable within one year	11	-			-	-	
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>915</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS	12	184,105	1,000	341	-	185,446	
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>184,105</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>205,523</u>	
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY							
Unrestricted Income Funds:		184,105	1,000	-	-	185,105	
Restricted Income Funds		-		341	-	341	
		<u>184,105</u>		<u>341</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>205,523</u>	

Held in Investment, Current and Deposit A/C's

APPROVED by the Trustees Meeting held on

24 March 2022

and signed on its behalf by the Revd J Grindrod-Helmn (Chair)



The notes on pages 3 to 6 form part of these financial statements

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued by the Charity Commission and the United Reformed Church guidance. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted where deemed relevant and the principal accounting policies set out below have been applied.

1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant.

1c Tangible Fixed Assets

Property: The church and manse premises are not included in the balance sheet because reliable cost information is not available and valuation would incur significant costs which would be onerous compared with the additional benefit gained by the user of the Accounts. A note of the insurance valuation is shown in Notes to the Accounts - No 9.

Furniture and Equipment: The contents of the premises are not capitalised in the accounts because expenditure incurred on the property was written off in the year it was incurred. See again Notes to the Accounts - No 9

1d Incoming Resources

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received. For purposes of clarification, tax refunds claimed from gift aided donations have been recognised as income when the refund of tax is received. Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified. All other income is generally recognised when it is received, including VAT which may be recoverable under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. Increase or Decrease in Market Value of Investments is taken from the report provided by our Fund Manager at 31st December in the current year.

1e Resources Expended

The URC Ministry & Mission Fund contribution is paid regularly and is included in the financial statements for the year to which it relates. Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT. (See also note 1d above). They are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate.

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

1f Taxation

As part of the United Reformed Church, the church is an excepted charity within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly, it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

	2021				Total 2021 £p	2020 £
	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds				
	General Fund £p	Flower Fund	Kitchen Fund	Commitment For Life £p		
2 VOLUNTARY INCOME						
Offerings	36,450	-	-	-	36,450	37,601
Legacies and Funeral Gifts	500	-	-	-	500	-
Donations	1,724	-	-	-	1,724	980
Specific Charitable Causes - Collections	1,104	-	-	575	1,678	1,770
Donation for Memorial Bench	455	-	-	-	455	-
Warkworth URC Shared Costs	1,133	-	-	-	1,133	1,090
HMRC - Gift Aid Recovered	6,470	-	-	118	6,588	8,331
Grants Received:						10,000
Northumberland Estates	-	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Listed Places of Worship	4,303	-	-	-	4,303	-
URC Mission Grant	4,453	-	-	-	4,453	-
URC Northern Province - Pulpit Supply	290	-	-	-	290	215
	56,883	-	1,000	692	58,575	59,986
3 Activities for Generating Funds						
Fundraising Activities / Events	285	-	-	-	285	741
Use of Premises	3,104	-	-	-	3,104	7,726
Sale of Book - History of St James's	313	-	-	-	313	-
	3,702	-	-	-	3,389	8,467

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

4 **Investment Income**

The charity holds current and deposit accounts with Lloyds Bank, Bondgate, Alnwick

Bank Interest

5	-	-	5	19
5	-	-	5	26,005

5 **Income Resources from Other Charitable Acts**

Weddings and Funerals

Sundry income

245	-	-	245	400
268	-	-	268	281
513	-	-	513	681

Total Income

61,102	-	1,000	692	62,482	85,140
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6 **Ministerial Costs**

Ministry & Mission Fund

The church contributes to the central URC costs of training and providing ministers (including the centralised payment of stipends, pension contributions and other benefits for ministers), running the denomination and the wider missions of the national church. Total unrestricted expenditure in 2021 was £20.2m, 81% of which related to ministry costs. The major funding is provided through the Ministry & Mission contributions from local churches.

Ministry & Mission fund

Synod Assessment

Minister's Car Allowance

Manse Costs

33,356	-	-	33,356	33,290
-	-	-	-	910
1,366	-	-	1,366	1,826
2,826	-	-	2,826	-
37,547	-	-	37,547	39,150

7 **Costs of Church Activities**

Church and Halls Costs:

Cleaning, Kitchen and Event Supplies

Heat, Light & Telephone

Insurance & Rates

Repairs & Renewals, Planned Mntnce

Office Expenses and Booking Software

Bank Charges

3,630	-	-	3,630	4,324
3,744	-	-	3,744	6,870
4,803	-	-	4,803	4,695
40,236	-	-	40,236	5,672
172	-	-	172	237
96	-	-	96	-
52,680	-	-	52,680	21,799

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

	2021			Total 2021 £p	2020 £p
	Unrestricted Fund	Flower Fund	Restricted Fund		
	General Fund £p		Commitment For Life £p		
Worship and Teaching Costs					
Worship, Licences and Music	2,999	-	-	2,999	2,016
Pulpit Supply	290	-	-	290	215
Junior Church	705	-	-	705	132
	3,994	-	-	3,994	2,362
Other Programmes					
General Outreach Donations	-	-	-	-	50
Faith & Life Group Outreach:					
West End Refugee Centre, Newcastle	700	-	-	700	700
St Oswald's Hospice, Newcastle	350	-	-	350	350
N Northumberland Day Hospice	350	-	-	350	350
Donations from Wood Legacy:	-	-	-	-	10,000
Printing, Photocopying and Publicity	420	-	-	420	1,595
	1,820	-	-	1,820	13,045
Other Expenses					
Wedding & Funeral fees	45	-	-	45	25
Sundry Expenditure	408	-	-	408	720
Memorial Bench	455	-	-	455	-
History of St James's- Printing and Costs	787	-	-	787	-
Subscriptions	210	-	-	210	10
Carbon Footprint Offset - Americas Portfolio	210	-	-	210	686
	2,114	-	-	2,114	1,441
8 Specific Donations and Restricted Funds Passed On					
In 2020, we are supporting Israel & Palestinian Territories					
Commitment for Life Payment	-	-	692	692	915
Specific Causes - Payments	1,084	-	-	1,084	937
	1,084	-	692	1,776	1,852
Total Expenditure	99,240	-	692	99,932	79,650
9 Tangible Fixed Assets					
Premises:					
For the reasons stated in Accounting Policy note 1c, the church and manse buildings are not evaluated in Tangible Fixed Assets. For insurance purposes, the sums insured are: church buildings - £7,456,043 (2020 - £6,240,150) ; manse - £563,420 (2020 £562,295)					
10 Investments					
Balance brought forward	145,987	-	-	145,987	120,000
Drawn down 2021	(40,000)	-	-	(40,000)	-
Net unrealised investment gain	17,061	-	-	17,061	25,987
Balance carried forward	123,047	-	-	123,047	145,987
Investments comprise the balance of The Gordon Wood Legacy, invested in a Standard Life Elevate General Investment Account. Within that account, the principal holding (c99%) is in a Liontrust Sustainable Future Managed Income Fund. The balance of the account is held as cash in a money market account.					
11 Debtors and Accruals					
Accrual has been made for the following income					
	£	£	£	£	
Pulpit Supply Income from Northern Synod	290	-	-	290	
	290	-	-	290	
12 Current Liabilities and Provisions					
Provision has been made for the following expenditure					
	£	£	£	£	
Nil	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	

ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

12 Restricted Funds

The church accounts include three Restricted Funds, where the monies can only be used for the specific purpose for which they were entrusted to the church. These monies are not at the disposal of the Church Meeting for any other purpose:

- 1) Commitment for Life Fund - the church takes part in the URC initiative to support specific projects on an on-going basis. Income for the full year is usually paid over to the URC on an annual basis at the beginning of the following year
- 2) Flower Fund - Bequest of £500 was received during 2012.
- 3) Kitchen Fund - Grant of £1,000 from Northumberland Estates was received during 2021

The movements in the Restricted Funds during the year were:

	2021			2020
	Flower Fund	Kitchen Fund	Commitment For Life	Total 2021
Balance b/fwd	341		-	341
Grant		1,000		1,000
Direct Giving	-		575	575
Traidcraft	-		-	-
Gift Aid Income	-		118	118
Total Income:	341	1,000	692	2,034
Restricted Funds Passed On	-		-	-
Accrued Expenditure - Specific Causes	-		692	692
Accrued Income	-		-	-
Total Expenditure:	-	-	692	692
Balance to carry Forward	341	1,000	-	1,341

£

**ST JAMES'S ALNWICK URC CHARITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 - 6 for the year ended 31st December 2021

Signed:


Jean Barr

Date

17th February 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements of St James's Alnwick URC Charity, for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on pages 1 - 6.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report:

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act


Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I 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.

Signed by the Independent Examiner:


John Wright

Qualification or Professional Body

ACI ACIB

Date

17th FEBRUARY 2022

John Wright
Abbeydore
Steppey lane
Lesbury
Northumberland