

Registered Charity no. 1187165

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31st December 2023



Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

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Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Legal and Administrative Information

Reference

The Charity is called "Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street" and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) incorporated on the 31st December 2019.

Registered Charity Number	1187165
Registered Office	13 Runnymede Great Lumley Chester Le Street DH3 4LN
Date of Incorporation	31st December 2019
Church Website	www.redeemercls.com

The Trustee's

The trustee's who have served during the financial year until the date this report was approved are:

Nigel James Tree	<i>Appointed 31/12/2019</i>	<i>Resigned 10/01/2023</i>
Andrew William Oxley	<i>Appointed 31/12/2019</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
Susannah Mary Hart	<i>Appointed 31/12/2019</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
Alastair David Scott	<i>Appointed 31/12/2019</i>	<i>Chair</i>
Matthew Robert Cray	<i>Appointed 31/12/2019</i>	
Dr John David Nicholls	<i>Appointed 31/12/2019</i>	
Howard Andrew Bray	<i>Appointed 27/03/2023</i>	

Church Elders	Matthew Cray Alastair Scott (Lead Elder) Nathan Caughey
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Primary Bankers	The Co-Operative Bank P O Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
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Independent Examiner	Nigel Wyatt BSC FCA Wyatt & Co Chartered Accountants 125 Main Street Garforth Leeds LS25 1AF
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Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Trustee's Annual Report

Principal Objects

The principal objects of the charity are as follows:

Provision of worship, prayer and teaching services.

Encouraging and supporting individuals within the church and in the wider community.

Provision of services for children and young people.

Supporting through giving financial gifts to individuals and organisations that fulfil the charity's vision and values.

Achievements and Performance

The vision of the church is 'Revelling in Jesus, Restoring Lives, Reviving Communities'.

We have provided worship, prayer and teaching services on Sunday mornings at Park View School. Our normal attendance is around 60-70 adults and 30-35 children.

In April we successfully recruited two new part-time members of staff, a youth pastor and a children's pastor, to help to grow our existing work among the children in the church and to help us engage more with those in the local community. Since their arrival, they have established strong relationships with children and young people in the church, hugely supported our volunteer team in this area, and supported the work among families in the community, including the Make Lunch project tackling holiday hunger that happens at the Cornerstones community centre in the town.

We welcomed a steady flow of new people in the church community during the course of the year.

We started a number of new initiatives in 2023 to increase our engagement with and support of the local community. These included Redeemer Tots (a weekly toddler group), ETC (a weekly English language learning and support group for those new to this country) and a Redeemer Wellbeing Café (a weekly informal space for conversation and activities open to all, but particularly aimed at those who may feel isolated and/or struggle with their mental health). The latter was initiated as a follow-up to the Kintsugi Hope wellbeing group we ran in 2022.

We also held a highly successful family fun day on The Green in Chester-le-Street in the summer. This provided free BBQ food and activities for the community, including inflatables, face paints and sports. It was attended by over 600 people. Following the success of this, we have initiated a programme of four community events each year on The Green: a summer fun day, a Halloween light event, a Christmas brass band show, and an Easter egg hunt.

Our midweek community groups (between 8 and 16 in each) have provided a lifeline to some of the most vulnerable or isolated members of our community. This year we started a new group, which takes our total number to five. These groups provide pastoral support, bible study, prayer and opportunities for church participants to serve by taking responsibility for roles in these groups.

We continue to have a fortnightly intercessory prayer group, a weekly early morning prayer group and a weekly lunchtime prayer group, all meeting online.

We employed five people to further the work of the charity: an eldership team leader (full-time), a pastoral support worker (part-time), a church administrator (part-time), a youth pastor (part-time), and a children's pastor (part-time).

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Trustee's Annual Report

We continue to relate with and support our wider family of churches called Regions Beyond. We have done this this year both through regular and one-off gifts to support the work of churches we relate to around the world, and through prayer. Our eldership team leader has been able to support the wider family of churches by helping to run and teach on its Equip training course, leading the northern group of churches in the UK, and helping to lead a next generation global forum meeting monthly on Zoom.

We supported through giving financial gifts to individuals and the following organisations Regions Beyond (UK) (Charity number 1152827); Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF) (Charity number 306137); Stewardship (Charity number 234714); The Message Trust (Charity number 1081467)

Plans for the Future

In 2024, we hope to continue to increase the impact of the work of the church both among its existing members and among those in the local community that we serve. With this in mind, we will continue to provide worship services that help people grow in their faith and initiatives in the community that help people bring people together and decrease any sense of social isolation. With the recent employment of youth and children's pastors, we would also like to look into ways to expand our work to reach out to children who aren't currently part of our church.

Public Benefit Statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the advancement of the Christian faith through the provision of worship and teaching services and the relief of sickness, financial hardship and promoting good health. This has been achieved by the provision of funds, and services.

To advance the Christian faith principally in Chester le Street but also in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the charity trustees may from time to time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the CIO.

To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support.

Governance Structure

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The governance of the Charity is overseen by the trustee's of which there must be a minimum of five members on the board at one time per the constitution. The day to day running of the organisation is delegated to the Elders and Church Leadership team.

Trustee's meetings are held regularly throughout the year to give oversight and direction to the Charity.

Under the requirements of the constitution, in addition to the statutory powers of appointment, a new Trustee may be appointed by a resolution of the Trustees passed by a majority of the Trustees.

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Trustee's Annual Report

Reserves Policy

In line with good practice for charities, it is prudent to keep financial reserves to cover three months of operational costs. This is to ensure the continuation of the charity if income to the charity should markedly reduce. Due to the low-risk set-up of church operations and the unlikelihood of income suddenly reducing greater than 50%, the reserves are now set at £20K. This is deemed to be sufficient to meet ongoing commitments (that cannot be quickly reduced) for a minimum of 3 months. The staffing bill for three months at the end of 2023 is £19.5K.

Although £20K is the minimum reserve prudent, bank balances above this amount may be allocated as saving for future predicted expenditure which would not be met by current regular income received.

1. For any money held by the charity above the allocation of the reserve, the Elders have the responsibility for deciding how money is allocated/spent / gifted, and they can make these decisions without having to refer to the Trustees.
2. The treasurer reports to Trustees after each month's end how much money is in the bank above the reserves amount and any special funds (if any are decided to be created by the Elders).
3. The church partners are only asked for extra gifts if there is a specific cause that the Elders would like to support which can't be met from the excess held above the amount of the reserves
4. If the Elders would like to spend money that would reduce the reserve amount held, then the trustees should be consulted and be in agreement with such expenditure.

Financial Review

The activities of the Charity for the year ending 31st of December 2023 resulted in an income of £114,921 of which £13,525 was restricted income. The expenditure during the year was £123,490, of which £13,726 was restricted expenditure. The end of year deficit was of -£8,569.

The funds held at the end of the year were:

Unrestricted funds	36,223
Restricted funds	-
	<hr/>
Total funds held on 31st Dec 2023	36,223
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Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street


Year Ended 31st December 2023

Trustee's Annual Report

Going Concern

The Trustee's are satisfied that the Charity is a going concern and do not know of any uncertainties regarding the organisations ability to continue operating as a going concern.

Approved by the Trustees of Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Name of Trustee:	Andrew Oxley
Signed on behalf of the Trustees:	
Date of Approval:	06/08/2024

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Independent Examiners Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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 financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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.



Nigel Wyatt BSC FCA
Independent Examiner
125 Main Street
Garforth
Leeds
LS25 1AF

19/08/2024

Date:

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

		2023		2022
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	Note	£	£	£
Income				
Donations and legacies		98,177	12,091	110,268
Charitable activities		2,210	1,434	3,644
Other income		1,009	-	1,009
Total Income	2	101,396	13,525	114,921
Expenditure				
Charitable activities	3	109,764	13,726	123,490
Total Expenditure		109,764	13,726	123,490
Net Income / (Expenditure)		(8,368)	(201)	(8,569)
Net Income and Net Movement in Funds				
Total funds brought forward	10	44,791	-	44,791
Transfers	10	(201)	201	-
Total Funds Carried Forward	10	36,223	-	36,223

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Financial Position

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	7	1,079	1,198
		<u>1,079</u>	<u>1,198</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	5,310	5,887
Cash at bank and in hand		31,260	39,839
		<u>36,570</u>	<u>45,726</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	1,427	2,133
Net Current Assets		<u>35,143</u>	<u>43,593</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>36,223</u>	<u>44,791</u>
Net assets	11	<u>36,223</u>	<u>44,791</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds	10	36,223	44,791
Restricted funds		-	-
Total Charity Funds		<u>36,223</u>	<u>44,791</u>

Trustee Responsibilities

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue :

Andrew Oxley

Name of Trustee:

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Date of Approval:

06/08/2024

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP 2019 FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Assessment of Going Concern

Preparation of the accounts is on a going concern basis. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have set aside resources for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is probable that the resources will be received, and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

- All voluntary income from supporters are recognised as donations and are included in full, with associated Gift Aid receivable in the Statement of Financial Activities.
- Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of specific performance by the charity are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Income resources from charitable trading activities such as the letting of the building are accounted for when invoices are drawn up (as the point of entitlement).
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and the donation is material to the accounts.
- Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised.
- Volunteer time, the value of voluntary support for the work of the charity is not included in the accounts but is described in the accounts.
- Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable.

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Governance Costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of the trustees' meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Tangible Fixed Assets

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and at historic cost. Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is charged on furniture and equipment which is written off on a straight-line basis over time, estimated useful life of the asset.

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Operating Leases

Rental charges payable under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the terms of the lease.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

2 Analysis of Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Donations and Legacies			
Donations	79,738	9,443	89,181
Gift aid	18,439	1,509	19,948
Grants	-	1,139	1,139
	<u>98,177</u>	<u>12,091</u>	<u>110,268</u>
Charitable Activities			
Church weekend away	1,060	-	1,060
Conference ticket sales	-	1,434	1,434
Speaking gifts	600	-	600
Youth weekend away	550	-	550
	<u>2,210</u>	<u>1,434</u>	<u>3,644</u>
Investment Income			
Bank interest	1,009	-	1,009
	<u>1,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,009</u>
Total Income	<u>101,396</u>	<u>13,525</u>	<u>114,921</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Donations and Legacies			
Donations	72,898	350	73,248
Gift aid	16,893	88	16,981
Grants	-	-	-
	<u>89,791</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>90,229</u>
Charitable Activities			
Church weekend away	-	-	-
Youth weekend away	-	-	-
Honorariums	-	-	-
Youth weekend away	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Investment Income			
Bank interest	26	-	26
	<u>26</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26</u>

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

	26	-	26
Total Income	89,817	438	90,255

3 Expenditure on Charitable Activities by Expenditure Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Administration and communication	4,409	-	4,409
Building and premises	11,115	-	11,115
Church weekend away	1,400	-	1,400
Equipment	2,037	-	2,037
Event costs	-	2,974	2,974
Gifts and grants	8,400	2,089	10,489
Ministry costs	7,878	-	7,878
Staff salary costs	69,374	-	69,374
Staff related costs	4,057	-	4,057
Youth and childrens pastor related costs	-	8,663	8,663
Youth weekend away	1,094	-	1,094
	109,764	13,726	123,490

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Administration and communication	4,157	-	4,157
Building and premises	8,560	-	8,560
Church weekend away	-	-	-
Equipment	1,720	-	1,720
Event costs	389	-	389
Gifts and grants	16,565	438	17,003
Ministry costs	4,532	-	4,532
Staff salary costs	43,553	-	43,553
Staff related costs	2,953	-	2,953
Youth and childrens pastor related costs	-	-	-
Youth weekend away	-	-	-
	82,429	438	82,867

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Donations from the church have been made to the following organisations during the year:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Catalyst Network Ukraine	-	500
Heartwood Skills	-	3,585
Regions Beyond (UK) (Charity number 1152827)	7,164	5,238
Spirit of Africa	-	200
Stewardship (Charity number 234714)	2,400	-
Supporting foreign churches	-	5,000
The Message Trust (Charity number 1081467)	100	-
UCCF (Charity number 306137)	500	1,500
Other gifts	300	1,641
	<u>10,464</u>	<u>13,579</u>

4 Volunteers

The church benefits greatly from the voluntary contributions of time and money by its regular attendees. Please refer to the trustee's report for further detail about volunteer contributions in the organisation.

5 Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examination and preparation of the financial statements	1,022	960
	<u>1,022</u>	<u>960</u>

6 Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

2023	2022
£	£

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Wages and salaries	56,217	39,190
Social security costs	6,989	-
Employer contributions to pension plans	6,168	4,930
	69,374	44,120

The average head count of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Average head count	5	3

Staff Costs cont.

The number of employees that received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
More than £60,000	-	-

Key Management Personnel

The charity considers its key management personnel to be the lead elder. The total employee benefits received by key management were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Key management personnel employee benefit	37,226	35,869

7 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Furniture and Equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost as at 1st January 2023	1,438	1,438
Additions	121	121
Cost as at 31st December 2023	1,559	1,559
	-	-
Depreciation as at 1st January 2023	240	240
Depreciation charge	240	240
Depreciation as at 31st December 2023	480	480
	-	-
Net book value as at 1st January 2023	1,198	1,198
Net book value as at 31st December 2023	1,079	1,079

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

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Notes to the Financial Statements

8 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accrued gift aid	5,033	4,118
Prepayments	277	1,769
	<u>5,310</u>	<u>5,887</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	1,427	1,933
Deferred income	-	200
	<u>1,427</u>	<u>2,133</u>

10 Analysis of Charitable Funds

	1 Jan 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 Dec 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	44,792	99,786	(107,270)	(1,085)	36,223
Church Weekend away	-	1,060	(1,400)	340	-
Youth weekend away	-	550	(1,094)	544	-
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>44,792</u>	<u>101,396</u>	<u>(109,764)</u>	<u>(201)</u>	<u>36,223</u>
Restricted Funds					
Regions Beyond special offering	-	2,089	(2,089)	-	-
Together 2023	-	2,773	(2,974)	201	-
Youth and children's pastor special offering	-	8,663	(8,663)	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	<u>-</u>	<u>13,525</u>	<u>(13,726)</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>44,792</u>	<u>114,921</u>	<u>(123,490)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,223</u>

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

	1 Jan 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 Dec 2022 £
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	37,403	89,817	(82,429)	-	44,791
Restricted Funds					
Regions Beyond special offering	-	438	(438)	-	-
Total	37,403	90,255	(82,867)	-	44,791

Fund Description

Regions Beyond special offering Special offering donations made to Regions Beyond (Registered Charity 1152827) to help with supporting initiatives in church planting, training and projects supporting the poor around the world.

Together 2023 Together 23 is a Regions Beyond event to gather various churches in the north of England, organised by Redeemer Church.

Youth and children's pastor special offering Donations made by the church members to support a family as they moved from Dubai to the UK and take up employment with Redeemer Church

11 Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fixed assets	1,079	-	1,079
Current assets	36,571	-	36,571
Creditors less than 1 year	(1,427)	-	(1,427)
	36,223	-	36,223
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022

Redeemer Church Chester-Le-Street

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

	£	£	£
Fixed assets	1,198	-	1,438
Current assets	45,727	-	37,536
Creditors less than 1 year	(2,133)	-	(1,571)
	<u>44,792</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,403</u>

12 Trustee Expenses and Transactions

During the year four trustees were repaid for out of pocket expenses totalling £1,916 (2022:£1,341). The expenses were incurred on travel, training, and other day to day running costs of the church.

During the year the total aggregated donations made to the charity by the trustee's was £29,560 (2022: £22,909).

13 Related Party Transactions

During the year one trustee and one close family relative of a trustee received remuneration for their services to the charity as employees and not for their duties as trustees. The employment remuneration payments have been authorised by the remaining members of the trustee board and under the Charities Constitution.

	2023	2022
Employment remuneration:	£	£
Alastair Scott	37,226	35,869
Employment remuneration:	£	£
Claire Scott	3,065	2,688