

Woodstock Road Baptist Church

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 December 2025

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

WOODSTOCK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	Woodstock Road Baptist Church 198 Woodstock Road Oxford OX2 7NQ
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO Constitution dated 27 July 2021
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1195315
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	David Shaw (Pastor and Elder) Thomas Finerty (Elder) Benjamin Goldenberg (Pastor, Elder and Chair of Trustees) John Severn (Elder) James Wilkinson (Elder) Jenny Reid (Deacon and Joint Treasurer) Anna Coles (Deacon) Johnathan Davys (Deacon and Joint Treasurer) Richard Dorey (Deacon) Jonathan Rabbitt (Deacon)
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Hannah Clack Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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WOODSTOCK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Objects of the charity

The charity, which is a church, is governed by a constitution and is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation. The charity's principal objects, as set out in its governing document, are to advance the Christian faith by building up Christians and to seeking to bring others to know Jesus Christ.

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

To further the above objects and vision, the charity's main activities and achievements were as follows:

2025 was a year of gentle but encouraging growth. Our focus for the year was around growing in prayerfulness which the Lord graciously enabled us to do. We pray that these things would not drift from our mind in a new year.

The main activity of the church will always be the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ. Sunday-by-Sunday, that good news is proclaimed and celebrated as we gather for corporate worship. The good news of Jesus forms communities of people who worship Him and as a church, we have sought to intentionally foster that community as we gather together, whether on a Sunday, in midweek homegroups, or at other times. That community is called to be a community that cares for one another and we have continued to do that, albeit imperfectly, in both structured and unstructured ways. Finally, we have sought to continue to see this good news advance amongst those who would not call themselves Christians. We have done this through our regular Sundays ministry, along with midweek events like a toddler group and a community coffee shop. Individuals within the church have also been equipped to make Jesus known in their workplaces, households and neighbourhoods.

Overall, the year was filled with great blessings as we were able to continue our part in God's great plan for the world. Over the year, the church grew both in number (while saying goodbye to a number of cherished people over the year) and in maturity with a notable increase in ethnic diversity amongst us.

In planning the activities the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Financial review

During the year income increased notably but not dramatically from the previous year. This is despite Gift Aid relating to 2025 being held back from 2 quarters due to some due diligence work which has since been completed and so the money transferred in 2026. The overall income from general giving, our major income stream was £193,236 (up from £162,571 in 2024). Some of this extra income was used to refurbish the back hall of the church to make it a more usable space, both for the church and the wider community. At the year end, the church held cash of £59,631 (2024: £61,810), of which £31,768 is unrestricted and can be used for any charitable purpose.

Reserves policy

In line with the requirements of our mortgage covenant, the charity must always hold reserves of at least 20% of committed annual expenditure in our unrestricted general fund (i.e. amounts held in designated and restricted funds are excluded). This calculation is made annually using the following year's budgeted figures. So that we do not breach this covenant if there are unexpected costs, the trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £5,000 above the minimum required by the covenant. For 2026, that is £29,520 (being £24,520 plus £5,000). At the end of the year, we held unrestricted cash of £31,768 – above covenant requirement set.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Ben Goldenberg
Ben Goldenberg (Jun 2, 2026 14:05:19 GMT+1)
Ben Goldenberg - Chair of trustees
Date: Jun 2, 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
WOODSTOCK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Woodstock Road Baptist Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2025 on pages 5 to 8 following.

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 2011 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 2011 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 accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

Hannah Clack
Hannah Clack (Jun 3, 2026 15:46:13 GMT+1)

Hannah Clack
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Jun 3, 2026

WOODSTOCK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

		Unrestricted Funds				
	Notes	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Income receipts						
Donations		164,661	-	28,575	193,236	162,571
Gift aid receipts		14,978	-	648	15,625	29,183
Legacies		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities (including weekend away)		646	10,207	-	10,853	5,540
Letting premises (including flat)		7,014	14,400	-	21,414	19,628
Bank interest		1,491	-	-	1,491	2,280
		<u>188,790</u>	<u>24,607</u>	<u>29,222</u>	<u>242,619</u>	<u>219,202</u>
Total receipts		<u>188,790</u>	<u>24,607</u>	<u>29,222</u>	<u>242,619</u>	<u>219,202</u>
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	149,018	12,294	1,834	163,146	147,202
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	38,893	-	27,635	66,528	58,496
Mortgage payments		3,125	12,000	-	15,125	15,740
		<u>191,036</u>	<u>24,294</u>	<u>29,469</u>	<u>244,798</u>	<u>221,438</u>
Total payments		<u>191,036</u>	<u>24,294</u>	<u>29,469</u>	<u>244,798</u>	<u>221,438</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before		(2,246)	313	(247)	(2,179)	(2,236)
Transfers between funds	5	(3,886)	3,886	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(6,132)</u>	<u>4,199</u>	<u>(247)</u>	<u>(2,179)</u>	<u>(2,236)</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		35,534	-	26,276	61,810	64,046
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>29,402</u>	<u>4,199</u>	<u>26,030</u>	<u>59,631</u>	<u>61,810</u>

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these accounts.

WOODSTOCK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted funds	2025	2024
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds					
Cash in bank current accounts	29,402	4,199	(2,334)	31,267	15,695
Cash in bank deposit accounts	-	-	28,364	28,364	46,111
Petty cash and payment processing accounts	-	-	-	-	4
	<u>29,402</u>	<u>4,199</u>	<u>26,030</u>	<u>59,631</u>	<u>61,810</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	19,592	-	3,775	23,367	7,278
Deposit paid for 2025 church weekend	-	-	-	-	2,471
Premises letting fees owed	708	-	-	708	448
Deposit account interest due	92	-	-	92	180
	<u>20,391</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,775</u>	<u>24,166</u>	<u>10,377</u>
C Liabilities					
Falling due within one year					
Expense claims	137	-	-	137	68
Gas and electricity	829	-	-	829	1,216
Payroll taxes and pension contributions	1,352	-	-	1,352	1,626
Examiner's fee	2,400	-	-	2,400	2,400
Money received for 2025 church weekend	-	-	-	-	3,912
Mortgage repayments	12,000	-	-	12,000	12,000
	<u>16,718</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,718</u>	<u>21,222</u>
Falling due after one year:					
Equity linked loan from a church member	105,000	-	-	105,000	105,000
Mortgage repayments	136,691	-	-	136,691	143,143
	<u>241,691</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>241,691</u>	<u>248,143</u>
Total	<u>258,409</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>258,409</u>	<u>269,365</u>

One of the church's pastors (who is a trustee) and his wife have lent the charity £105,000 to help the charity purchase a house that he lives in. The loan represents 19.81% of the purchase price (excluding acquisition costs) and the amount repayable is 19.81% of the value of the property when any one of the events described in the loan agreement takes place or, if later, in 2053. The value of the property is not believed to have changed significantly since it was purchased and, at the balance sheet date, the fair value of the amount repayable is believed to be £105,000 (being the amount that was borrowed).

The mortgage is being repaid in monthly instalments and must be repaid in full by 2053. Interest is payable at a variable rate, which at the year end was 5.65%

D Assets retained for charity's own use

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost	Current value
		£	£
Church building and a related flat	Endowment	1,993,087	not known
Residential property used as a manse	Unrestricted	538,000	538,000
Fixtures, fitting and equipment	Unrestricted	-	8,973
		<u>2,531,087</u>	<u>546,973</u>

The trustees are not able to reliably estimate the current value of the church building and a related manse. The trustees do not believe that the value of the charity's other residential property has changed significantly since it was purchased in the previous year. Many of the charity's fixtures, fittings and equipment are quite old and the trustees have used a method to discount the cost of these assets to help assess their current value.

E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees

The outstanding balance on the charity's mortgage (which, in total, amounts to £148,691) is secured by way of a first charge on a residential property that cost £538,000 (see note D above). The equity link loan referred to in note C is secured by way of a second charge on the same property.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Ben Goldenberg
Ben Goldenberg (Jun 2, 2026 14:05:19 GMT+1)
Benjamin Goldenberg - Chair of Trustees

Jun 2, 2026

Date:

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these accounts.

WOODSTOCK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		General funds	Designated funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly						
<u>Ministry costs</u>						
Employment costs		89,421	-	-	89,421	84,335
Pastoral ministries		2,200	-	-	2,200	2,365
Local ministries		9,873	2,472	-	12,345	8,060
Retreats and camps		-	8,734	1,834	10,568	3,147
Equipment		4,015	-	-	4,015	3,735
<u>Property costs</u>						
Property expenses (including utilities, routine maintenance, insurance and cleaning)		36,974	-	-	36,974	38,214
Flat refurbishment		-	-	-	-	-
Property letting expenses		-	1,088	-	1,088	415
<u>Support costs</u>						
Professional fees		-	-	-	-	222
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts		2,400	-	-	2,400	4,200
Administration		4,135	-	-	4,135	2,508
		149,018	12,294	1,834	163,146	147,202

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

<u>Grants to other charities</u>						
Wycliffe Bible Translators	for mission	14,553	-	-	14,553	15,839
Release International	for mission	-	-	-	-	14,902
OMF	for mission	5,181	-	-	5,181	4,934
Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches	for mission	3,230	-	-	3,230	2,401
Friends International	for mission	-	-	10,111	10,111	-
Oxford Schools Chaplaincy	for mission	2,004	-	10,111	12,115	1,896
Christians Against Poverty (Oxford)	relieve poverty	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
South Central Gospel Partnership	for mission	750	-	-	750	750
Grants to institutions for less than £500 each	for mission	1,596	-	-	1,596	621
<u>Grants to individuals</u>						
For serving in mission	for mission	7,579	-	2,978	10,556	7,623
To help relieve poverty	relieve poverty	3,000	-	4,435	7,435	8,530
		38,893	-	27,635	66,528	58,496

WOODSTOCK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

4 Transactions with related parties

The trustees listed below received the following employment benefits (namely gross pay and employer's pension contributions) for serving as church leaders, not for serving as trustees, as permitted by the charity's governing document:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Benjamin Goldenberg	39,732	38,431
David Shaw	31,353	30,362
	<u>71,085</u>	<u>68,793</u>

In addition David Shaw was provided with a manse, which is customary for ministers, to help him better perform his duties.

The trustees, or those closely connected to them, also benefited from the following payments:

- a) to Wycliffe Bible Translators to support John and Lois Severn who serve with them; John Severn is a trustee of the charity.
- b) to Kathleen Callow, who is a retired missionary and John Severn's mother-in-law.

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred as agent, or incurred whilst undertaking employment duties, no other payments were made to the trustees or those closely connected to them.

5 Movement in funds

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
<i>General funds</i>	<u>35,534</u>	<u>188,790</u>	<u>(191,036)</u>	<u>(3,886)</u>	<u>29,402</u>
<i>Designated funds</i>					
Church Weekend	-	4,848	(8,734)	3,886	-
Coffee Shop	-	5,359	(2,472)	-	2,887
Flat Fund	-	14,400	(13,088)	-	1,312
	<u>-</u>	<u>24,607</u>	<u>(24,294)</u>	<u>3,886</u>	<u>4,199</u>
<i>Restricted funds</i>					
Mission support fund	-	2,978	(2,978)	-	-
Christmas Appeal fund	18,637	25,677	(20,223)	-	24,092
Church Weekend fund	1,266	568	(1,834)	-	-
Church Fellowship fund	6,373	-	(4,435)	-	1,938
	<u>26,276</u>	<u>29,222</u>	<u>(29,469)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,030</u>
Total funds	<u>61,810</u>	<u>242,619</u>	<u>(244,797)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,631</u>

The designated **Church Retreat** fund was created from donations received to help individuals attend a church retreat.

The designated **Coffee Shop Fund** represents resources related to the community coffee run by the church

The designated **Flat Fund** represents resources related to the flat owned by the church, which is currently let

The restricted **Mission Support** fund was created from donations received to help support mission both in the UK and overseas, principally through grant making.

The restricted **Christmas Appeal** fund was created from the proceeds of special appeals made each Christmas, normally to support mission both in the UK and overseas usually through grant making.

The restricted **Church Fellowship** fund was created from the proceeds of a Christmas appeal to help individuals and families in the church family facing hardship.