

# STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1197276

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2021-12-22

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Stanley Road Baptist Church  
Stanley Road  
Heysham  
Morecambe  
LA3 1UP

**Phone** 01524410015

**Email** [chrisbetteridge127@outlook.com](mailto:chrisbetteridge127@outlook.com)

**Website** [www.stanleyroad.org.uk](http://www.stanleyroad.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH ARE:-3.1.1 THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION.3.1.2 THE CHURCH MAY ALSO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND CARRY OUT OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND/OR OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

**Activities:** Stanley Road Baptist Church is a Baptist church based in the West End of Morecambe in Lancashire. Our activities include regular Christian worship and encouragement; social action activities to serve the community; and enabling our building to be used by other individuals and organisations in our community, in line with our ethos.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Lancashire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£92,851	£86,813	-	-
2024-03-31	£77,558	£78,112	-	-
2023-04-05	£40,651	£42,863	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev STEVEN DAVID HEWITT	Chair	2022-09-25
Andrew Sadler		2023-06-24
Christine Betteridge		2025-06-14
Dr ROBERT CHARLES WILLIAM HENDERSON MBE		2021-12-22
Gina Gao		2025-06-14
Jacqueline Harrington		2025-06-14
Matthew Bradley		2024-06-15
Matthew Dawson		2025-09-02
Rev Mark Simmons		2024-06-15
Robert Leslie Middleton		2022-09-25
SANDRA TODD		2021-12-21
Sarah Louise Middleton		2022-09-22
Stella Marie Walsh		2022-09-25

**STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1197276

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# Accounts

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2024-25



# STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

ANNUAL

# REPORT

INCLUDING ACCOUNTS

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

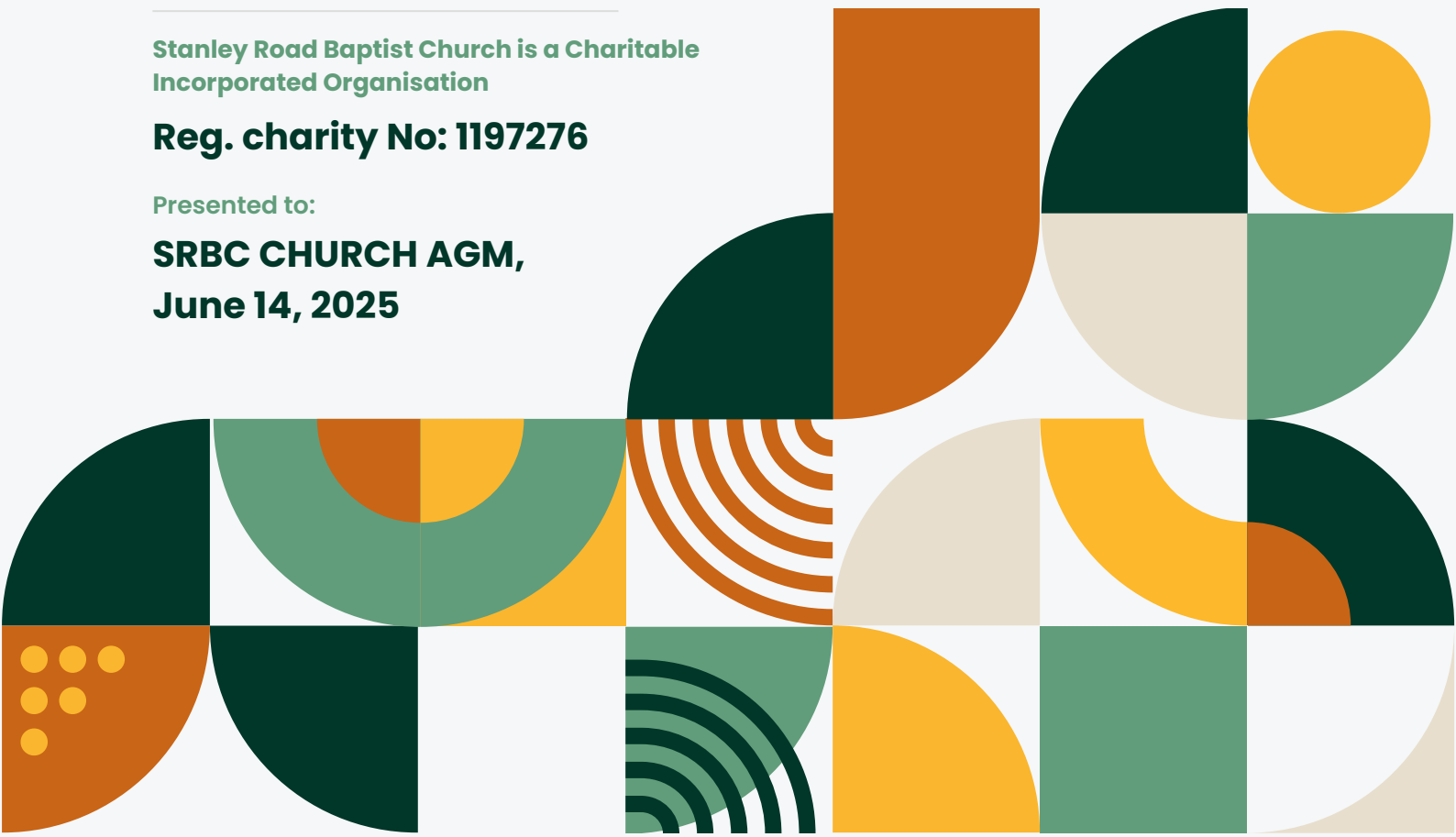
**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

Stanley Road Baptist Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

**Reg. charity No: 1197276**

Presented to:

**SRBC CHURCH AGM,  
June 14, 2025**





# Stanley Road Baptist Church

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

### Aims and purposes

The principal purpose of Stanley Road Baptist Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

### Objectives and Activities

The Trustees of the Church seek to encourage and enable people to know God and worship Him. Whilst we have regular attenders from outside Morecambe, our focus is on the community surrounding our church building. We aim to encourage a discipleship where faith grows and is put into practice, with regular opportunities for Bible study, teaching, prayer, and Communion. The Trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We particularly try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our local community through groups operating from church and drawn from all age ranges and catering for all abilities. To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the building fabric of Stanley Road Baptist Church.

### Achievements and Performance

#### Worship and Prayer

The church, its trustees and its members are keen to offer services, facilities and events through the year that are engaging, varied, meet individual needs and promote spiritual growth.

Our **Sunday morning gatherings** continue to be the highlight of our ministry as a church. We have seen a consistent number of worshippers through the year. As the ethnic diversity of Morecambe changes, this has been seen in our congregation, with regular worshippers now coming from China, Ghana, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. We have several **believers' baptisms** lined up for Easter 2025, so outside this annual report. We did conduct the baptism of Ian Smith in his care home, just before Christmas 2024.

The **teaching on Sundays** was led mainly by our pastor, Rev Steven Hewitt, with other members preaching on occasion. Several people shared short testimonies as part of the sermons. Various topics were covered, including Old Testament characters, Jesus' parables, 1 Thessalonians, and Mark's Gospel. Some of these series have linked with the SPACE (Sunday School) 'The Biggest Story' curriculum. **SPACE** now meet every Sunday, which is a real encouragement to us as a church, in particular those with children. We now have prayer ministry available after every service. We have introduced a contactless card machine too.

We held our second **Church weekend** in November 2024. We spent the Saturday at Heysham Golf Club with Friday and Sunday at church. For the first time, we invited a guest speaker, Pastor Ian Ellershaw, from Carnforth Free Methodist Church, who was well-received. The mix of worship, fun, and general time together made for a memorable weekend. The next Church weekend will be in Spring 2026.

There was a change to our Friday activities this year. Long-term leader of the **Prayer and Praise**, Gena Harrison, stood down due to ill health. Since January 2025, the programme has been shared around regular members and others in the church, and occasional guest speakers. It has been an opportunity for some to have their first experience of speaking. We have added a fortnightly prayer meeting beforehand, which is proving popular.

#### Specific groups

**What's What** is a monthly group, held on Sunday mornings, for adults with learning difficulties who regularly attend our services. We continue to be official partners with 'Count Everyone In', a charity experienced in this area of ministry, and its directors Pete and Christine Winmill led a training day for us in January 2025 and took our Sunday service. We held a special 'What's What Extra' at Christmas for the group and some visitors.

**The Boys' Brigade** has continued to meet each Friday in term time. In September 2024, the Junior section (ages 8-11) was added to the Senior/Company sections (ages 11-18) for the first time since the Covid pandemic. Again, the company had an excellent summer camp and produced an annual display for family and friends.

Our **Men's and Women's Ministries** continue and again had two successful Christmas meals. We now have an additional Bible study group (now named '**Growth Group**') start, in addition to the other three. These groups have been excellent places for new relationships; for growth in faith; and for some to learn leadership skills.

For our activities, we rely heavily on volunteers. We ensure there are up-to-date DBS checks for those working with children, young people and/or adults at risk. We take training seriously and have put on safeguarding sessions, reviewed our Safeguarding policy and continued to implement a clear 'appointment' procedure.

### Membership

All are welcome to engage with the life of the church. The estimated regular weekly attendance over the year is between 70 and 80. At the end of March 2025, there were 92 people in membership. In the past year, 10 new members were added (Barbara Jasper, Debbie Bowes, Sara Barkes, Brian and Joan Robinson, Roland and Mary Webster, Terry and Jayne Connor, Gina Gao); Three people were taken off the list, either because of resignation (Alan Parker, Margaret Parker) or as now attending another fellowship (Debbie Bowes); and another three members (Derek Stillings, Barbara Mann and Doreen Turner) died during the past year.

### Building maintenance and usage

We have continued to maintain and manage our **church building**. We hired external contractors to repair the kitchen roof and roof furniture. We took the significant financial step of buying a Defibrillator for use in the church. We have continued to discuss work on the church and hall, but have not moved forward significantly.

We continue to see the **foyer space** being used, by the church, mission partners and outside groups. There are the church prayer meetings; the LMDCDC client Christmas meal; and we hosted a visit from our BMS missionary, Genesis Acaye. We again hosted a NISCU prayer gathering and an inter-church gathering to support the Open Doors charity. We hosted a concert, raising money for Cancer Research, in July.

We continue to see a **number of community groups** hire our space. Two theatre groups use the church space for rehearsals, and several care agencies have held training sessions in the building. We also host occasional activities from BEE Unique, supporting families with neuro-diverse children. The local Christian Light and Life mission and The Dance Factory have now developed so they have their own buildings, but long-term users Slimming World, Dog Training, The Bay Singers and the Bridge group continue, as do birthday party bookings.

These bookings have brought benefit to our community as well as additional income. We aim to balance the bookings with the flexibility to use our space as we wish. Management of the building is led by the Trustees, with activity led by Karl Werner, our buildings manager. We employ two cleaners (one self-employed).

### Pastoral care

We continue to try to care for those connected to the church. There are several members who fulfil responsibilities such as Communion for those who are housebound; visiting those not able to gather for worship; and hospital visits. **House groups** (or 'Growth Groups') are also a key place for pastoral care and we are grateful to those who open their homes regularly and prepare studies to share with others.

We have taken some time this year to review how Pastoral care is delivered at Stanley Road. This review is ongoing but should lead to some results in summer 2025. We continue to use our pastoral fund to respond to crisis situations this year. We also were able to make gifts at times of celebration.

Our monthly **Communion services at Woodhill House** have continued. We are sometimes invited to give pastoral care to residents, including at times of end of life. This is a real privilege. We also work with Woodhill on a bi-monthly Carer's Café to support people who have, or have had, additional caring responsibility.

### Mission and Evangelism

The church continues to look outwards in various ways. We hosted three students from **Capernwray** during their outreach programme in March. This was a successful time, particularly with the chance to teach RE to each class at West End Primary School on one morning, and a popular 'Pancake Party' for local families.

Our **regular Wednesday café** continues to be an important part of our mission strategy. We have met people for the first time through this ministry who have gone on to worship regularly with us. It works very well as a space for members to meet one another and deepen their relationships. There is the option of joining the regular Growth Group and we have recently added a 'Craft Corner', which is proving popular.

**Easter and Christmas** are our key times for community engagement. We had a very busy Christmas Eve carol service this year, and our musicians in particular worked very hard with a wonderful programme of carols and performance songs. We also got our 'knitters' to make angels to give away as Christmas decorations.

Our schools continue to be central to life in our community and we seek to support them as best we can. The **Listening service** at West End Primary School continues. Our pastor helps with teaching of the religion curriculum at Sandylands, and both Sandylands and West End again sent classes to the church for a 'Walk Through Easter' workshop in March 2025, which went very well.

We keep in touch with Brian Robinson, who is a relatively new member, and is now teaching in the Far East with **Teach Beyond**. And we were blessed by a visit from our **BMS link missionary**, Genesis Acaye, from Uganda. He shared at a Saturday evening event as well as in a Sunday morning service. We keep in contact with our former assistant pastor, Mark Young, in his role with **The Lighthouse Community** in Llandudno.

As well as serving within the church, members have volunteered with various organisations, including LMDCDC, West End Impact and Safe Families UK.

Besides our own outreach programmes, the church supports several local charities through our regular giving. **NISCU (Northern Inter-Schools Christian Union)** helps local schools with teaching on the Christian faith. **Lancaster, Morecambe and District Churches Debt Centre** offers advice and assistance with debt-related issues. **Ambassadors Football** has an office in our building and their CEO, Martin Bateman, again came to share on a Sunday morning. Money was raised at Christmas for the **BMS Appeal** for maternity services in Chad.

### Churches Together Partnerships

Stanley Road Baptist Church is a member of the Baptist Union and the North Western Baptist Association. We hold occasional events with Caton and Lancaster Baptist churches. Our Pastor meets with other ministers in local and regional groups. He is part of the Morecambe Churches' Forum, which meets sporadically.

### Financial Review

#### **General Overview**

Our main source of **income** continues to be the regular gifts of members and friends of the church. In the accounting year, gifts and donations totalled some £43,958. This represents a small increase on the previous year. Reclaimed tax, under the **Gift Aid** Scheme amounted to £15,700. This figure has been somewhat 'inflated' as roughly half relates to the 23/24 year, but was been received into the accounts at the beginning of 24/25.

A significant income stream is provided by groups and organisations, paying **rental fees** for use of the premises, which saw a 34% increase on last year.

In addition to the General Fund, we have two '**Restricted**' funds. Appeals income was received and passed on to BMS, Boys Brigade and Christians against Poverty. Donations, continue to be received into the support fund for Mark Young and the Lighthouse Community Church. As of 31 March, the fund balance stands at £3,394. Prayer and Praise donated £200 from their fund, with £50 going to Samaritans, RNLI, Wolfwood and Macmillan.

Total **General expenditure** was £82,251. This represents an overall increase of 14% on last year. Admin and 'running' costs were higher, but include expenditure on the 'Church Weekend.' This outlay was largely matched by income received from attendees of the event, meaning there was minimal net cost. All building related costs, including utilities, repairs and renovations saw an overall 20% increase. This was mainly due to sky high utility bills - particularly gas. A new contract for gas supply commences on 1 April 2025 and should mean a significant reduction in our bills. Repairs to the kitchen roof came to just under £3,000.

**Assets:** The balance of accounts at March 31, 2025 were: NatWest Current and Savings Accounts £35,897; NatWest Cowan Bequest £2,857; Baptist Union Deposit £30,000. This gives total monetary assets of £68,754, represented by the fund balances below

**Funds:** The General Fund increased during the year from £60,594 to £65,324. The Restricted Funds balance increased from £2,122 to £3,430

**Reserves Policy:** We have a minimum reserve target of £30,000. Our policy is to maintain sufficient funds to facilitate six months' notice for our Minister and the settling of any other outstanding financial commitments, before an orderly closure of the church, should this ever become necessary.

**Summary:** The final 'cash' position at the end of March 2025, is encouraging. Again, we acknowledge the faithful and committed giving of members and friends. Use of the premises by outside groups, is something we welcome. Whilst providing significant, additional income, it means that community and family groups have access to good facilities. The Gift Aid Scheme continues to prove a great benefit to us. Looking ahead, the challenge posed by necessary repairs, renovations and improvements to our buildings, is very real and will almost certainly deplete our reserves in the next financial year. We are grateful to God for His faithfulness in providing for all our needs during the past year and so we press ahead, in faith and dependence on Him.

**Volunteers**

We would like to acknowledge that our church life is based largely on the dedication of volunteers who teach children, supply music, run the kitchen, maintain the building, attend to administration and finances, and oversee the pastoral care of our congregation. We thank each one of you for your love, dedication and service.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

The Trustees manage the church in accordance with our constitution (CIO adopted October 2021), and meet a minimum of 11 times a year. The average level of attendance was 92%.

Trustees include the Pastor, who chairs the meetings, with others appointed from the membership at the AGM of Church Members. The appointment of Trustees is public, clear and open, enabling members to prayerfully consider who should be appointed and with notice of forthcoming elections. Candidates are nominated, and elected by secret ballot of the church members. There is an opportunity for postal votes to be made in advance.

**Reference and Administrative details**

Stanley Road Baptist Church, Morecambe is situated in Stanley Road, Morecambe. The correspondence address is Stanley Road Baptist Church, Stanley Road, Morecambe, LA3 1UP

Trustee members serving within the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 are:

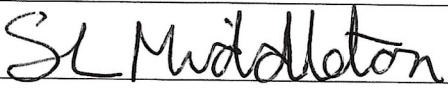
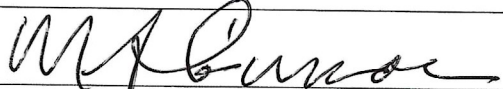
Minister: Reverend Steven Hewitt (Pastor, Chair)

Elected members: Mrs Stella Walsh (Secretary) Mr Andrew Sadler (Treasurer)  
 Mrs Denise Beal (until June 15, 2024) Mrs Rosie Lee (until June 15, 2024) Mrs Sandra Todd  
 Mrs Christine Betteridge (until June 15, 2024) Mrs Kath Johnson Mr Jason Palmer  
 Dr Robert Henderson Mr Robert Middleton Mrs Sarah Middleton  
 Mr Matthew Bradley (from June 15, 2024) Rev. Mark Simmons (from June 15, 2024)

**Declarations**

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

<b>Signatures</b>		
<b>Full name</b>	SARAH MIDDLETON	MARK ANDREW SIMMONS
<b>Position</b>	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE
<b>Date</b>	MAY 6 <sup>th</sup> 2025	MAY 6 <sup>th</sup> 2025

**STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO 1197276.**  
**RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING 31 MARCH 2025.**

**GENERAL FUND - UNRESTRICTED**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b><u>12 months to</u> <u>31/03/2025</u></b>	<b><u>12 months to</u> <u>31/03/2024</u></b>
Grant (LCC Warm Spaces)		£ 450.00	£ 450.00
Offerings		£ 43,958.20	£ 43,511.36
Donations & other income		£ 7,113.44	£ 7,237.10
Use of premises		£ 16,691.00	£ 12,451.96
Repayment from utilities (Solar Panels)		£ 1,737.42	£ 1,581.65
Ministry & Mission groups		£ 460.00	£ 868.07
Gift Aid & Small Donations	1	£ 15,700.07	£ 5,047.30
Bank & BU Corp Ltd interest		£ 1,321.10	£ 557.75
		<b>£ 86,981.23</b>	<b>£ 71,705.19</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>			
	<b>Notes</b>		
Ministry		£ 37,767.98	£ 35,632.44
Ministry & Mission		£ 5,073.74	£ 3,743.25
External Mission		£ 8,557.61	£ 7,895.77
Admin		£ 3,969.68	£ 2,755.65
Building renovations & upkeep		£ 26,882.12	£ 22,265.15
		<b>£ 82,251.13</b>	<b>£ 72,292.26</b>
Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)		£ 4,730.10	-£ 587.07
Balance b/f 1st April		£ 60,594.09	£ 61,181.16
Balance c/f		<b>£ 65,324.19</b>	<b>£ 60,594.09</b>

**APPEALS - RESTRICTED**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Donations		£ 545.00	£ 1,790.56
Gift Aid & Small Donations		£ 77.66	
		<b>£ 622.66</b>	<b>£ 1,790.56</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>			
BMS, Boys Brigade & Christians Against Poverty		£ 557.00	£ 1,819.97
Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)		£ 65.66	-£ 29.41
Balance b/f 1st April		-£ 29.41	
		<b>£ 36.25</b>	<b>-£ 29.41</b>

**LIGHT HOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH - M. YOUNG - RESTRICTED**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Donations & Legacies		£ 3,605.00	£ 3,660.00
Gift Aid & Small Donations	1	£ 1,642.49	£ 401.47
		<b>£ 5,247.49</b>	<b>£ 4,061.47</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>			
Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)		£ 1,242.49	£ 61.47
Balance b/f 1st April		£ 2,151.57	£ 2,090.10
Balance c/f		<b>£ 3,394.06</b>	<b>£ 2,151.57</b>

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>			
Unrestricted Cash Funds		£ 65,324.19	£ 60,594.09
Restricted Cash Funds		£ 3,430.31	£ 2,122.16
Non monetary assets	2	£ 2,609,475.00	£ 2,521,205.00
		<b>£ 2,678,229.50</b>	<b>£ 2,583,921.25</b>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>			

## NOTES.

1. Two Gift Aid/GASDS claims were made and received during the 2024/25 financial year. The first claim received in April 2024 was in respect of offerings received in the previous financial year. The second claim was in respect offerings received during the current financial year up to 01/03/2025.
2. Non monetary assets are reflected at their insured value as at 24th June 2024 and are comprised of buildings £2,514,470 and their contents £95,005.
3. Expenditure incurred in March but paid in April totalled £2146.36. One cheque of £150 was issued in March but presented in April. These transactions will only reflect in the 2025/2026 financials (Accrual accounting not employed).

The Receipts and Payments and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities were approved at a Trustees meeting held on May 6, 2025:

SIGNED.  (ANDREW SAKER - TREASURER)

## Notes to the Accounts.

1. The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments cash basis as permitted by section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 provided the Charity's income is not over £250 000, and the Charity Commissioner guideline CC16 for receipts and payments accounting has been applied.
2. The principal accounting policies are:
  - \* Income is recognized upon receipt of cash or cash equivalents to which the Charity has entitlement.
  - \* Expenditure, inclusive of irrecoverable VAT, is recognized upon payment of an invoice or claim for which the Charity has an obligation to settle. The Charity has not registered for VAT.
3. Fund accounting. General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity. 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.
4. The Trustees did not receive any remuneration.
5. The Independent Examiner was not paid for the examination.
6. No grants were received during the year.

## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Stanley Road Baptist Church.

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above Charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report.

As the Charity's Trustees, 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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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:



Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): MAAT MCIPS

Address: 8 Lake Grove, Morecambe, LA4 4LH

Date: April 28, 2025

**STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1197276

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# Accounts

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# Stanley Road Baptist Church

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

### Aims and purposes

The principal purpose of Stanley Road Baptist Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

### Objectives and Activities

The Trustees of the Church seek to encourage and enable people to know God and worship Him. Whilst we have regular attenders from outside Morecambe, our focus is on the community surrounding our church building. We aim to encourage a discipleship where faith grows and is put into practice, with regular opportunities for Bible study, teaching, prayer, and Communion. The Trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We particularly try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our local community through groups operating from church and drawn from all age ranges and catering for all abilities. To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the building fabric of Stanley Road Baptist Church.

### Achievements and Performance

#### Worship and Prayer

Trustees are keen to offer services, facilities and events through the year that are engaging, varied, meet individual needs and promote spiritual growth.

Regular events are:

- Whole congregation worship, prayer and Bible teaching to develop a knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Smaller adult groups for more personal fellowship, Bible teaching and pastoral care.
- Children's groups on Sundays and midweek to teach Bible truth and develop relationships.
- Regular or occasional Café-style events for friendship and support.
- Community Café with good food available and a warm welcome of friendship and support.
- Missionary and outreach work directly and indirectly via local partners.

Our Sunday morning gatherings continue to be the highlight of our ministry as a church. We have been pleased that the number of regular worshippers has been consistent. It was a delight to celebrate living faith in the form of several **believers' baptisms**. Sarah Duff, Peter Kelly, Nina Gadsdon and Sara Barks. We continue to use the pop-up baptistery on loan from Lancaster Baptist Church.

The **teaching on Sundays** was led mainly by our pastor while other members of the church were able to preach on occasion too. Various topics were covered, including 1 Peter and Galatians, Genesis 1-3 and the seven 'I Am' sayings of Jesus. There was a short series looking at the characteristics of worship as part of our consideration of how to re-order the church space. We have introduced regular prayer for people in their life outside of Sunday, called 'This Time Tomorrow'. We have made prayer available after each Communion service too. We continue to integrate more musicians into our sung worship each week, which has been encouraging to see.

#### Specific groups

**Prayer and Praise** meet on a Friday for fellowship and a short spiritual talk, and again made several donations to local charities. These included Christians Against Poverty, North West Air Ambulance, St John's Hospice, SSAFA armed forces charity and Wolfwood wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. This group continues to be very committed, and gives the opportunity for occasional 'special' meetings such as when visitors from charities and mission agencies visit. **What's What** is a monthly group, held on Sunday mornings, for adults with learning difficulties who regularly attend our services. It was a joy to see another of the group baptized in December. Some members of the group were able to join in the 'Count Everyone In' teaching at the Keswick Convention in July, for the second year in a row. We became official partners with 'Count Everyone In', which is a charity

that works with adults with learning disabilities. We held a special 'What's What Extra' just before Easter when the group invited friends along.

It has been encouraging that our **SPACE group** for children on Sunday mornings has been able to move to every week, giving more of a consistent provision for families and children. This has been because of two new leaders joining. A new curriculum was started in January and this has been well-received.

**The Boys' Brigade** has continued to meet each Friday in term time, with the Senior/Company sections (ages 11-18). The company had an excellent camp in North Wales in the summer. The company have also taken part in inter-company competitions and a range of outdoor activities, especially in the summer.

Our **Men's and Women's Ministries** continue and again had two successful Christmas meals in December. Three Bible study groups continue, including one in church on a Wednesday morning.

For these groups, we rely heavily on volunteers. We ensure there are up-to-date DBS checks for those working with children, young people and/or adults at risk. We take training seriously and have put on safeguarding sessions this year, as well as reviewing our Safeguarding policy and instigating a clear 'appointment' procedure.

All are welcome to engage with the life of the church. At the end of March 2024, there were 88 people in membership. Seven new members were added (Pauline Shieldhouse, Sarah Duff, Heike Dacres, Matt and Laura Bradley, Nina Gadsdon and Mark Simmons); five people were taken off the list after a review (Jackqueline Beswick, Dominic Beswick, Dorothy Bowling, Isobel O'Neill and Stephen Peel); and member Terry McGrow died (June 2023). We conducted the marriage of Brendan and Natasha Lowry in August, and Peter and Dawn Kelly in November. Estimated regular weekly attendance over the year is between 70 and 80.

#### Key Trustee matters

Over the past year, we have aimed to build in a structure of regular review of our policies. This has included reviewing and updating our Safeguarding policy, with a new team set up to lead in this key area. We have also updated our Health and Safety policy, Food Safety policy and procedures and our Data Protection policy. We had two supplementary training sessions as Trustees in the areas of Data Protection and Fire Extinguisher use.

During this year, we took time as Trustees to consider our response to a consultation for the Baptist Union Council on whether it is appropriate or not for Baptist Union Accredited Ministers to be in a same-sex marriage. We discussed this at several meetings, and some Trustees attended teaching sessions at Capernwray Hall on issues of sexuality and identity. We responded to the survey, articulating our support for a traditional view on marriage. The result of the consultation was announced just before the end of this year with the Council deciding against changing the rules.

We are working on how we manage ourselves as Trustees. A small 'admin' group of Pastor, Secretary, Treasurer and Pastoral Secretary meet each month, in advance of the Trustees meeting to plan the agenda and check on progress of various matters. It is important that we use our time well to be efficient in our meetings. This has helped and we will aim to continue with this pattern.

#### Building maintenance and usage

We have continued to maintain and manage our church building, although we have not been able to move forward as quickly as hoped on certain projects. The stairwell was overhauled with new decoration and a de-clutter. Work on drainage at the front of church has helped keep the basement drier and new fascias etc. were installed on the hall and back wall. This was done by external contractors.

Issues especially relating to the **hall** need attention soon and discussions have been held with potential suppliers. We will need to move forward soon, especially as our current financial situation should enable us to pay for improvements. We have had a period of trialling a new layout in the **church** and we will need to move towards a final decision in the next financial year.

We continue to see the **foyer space** being used, by the church, mission partners and outside groups. Some events now happen regularly. There are the church Source prayer meetings; the LMDCDC client Christmas meal; and another visit from our BMS Link Missionary. We again hosted a NISCU prayer lunch, as well as the summer celebration for NISCU, attended by Christians from across the North Lancashire area.

We have seen a growth in the **number of community groups** with other educational and charitable purposes using the various spaces around our building. Two theatre groups have begun to use the church space for rehearsals, and there are now regular dog training classes in the hall. Two exercise groups made up of members of the local Polish community have begun. The local Christian Light and Life mission has grown and now has two meetings a week in our building. The relationship with The Bay Singers community choir grows and they were again a key supporter of our Christmas Fair, while The Dance Factory has also continued two afternoons a week. Another dance group, Panache, ceased using the hall due to lower numbers attending.

There are other less frequent, or one-off, hires, such as lantern workshops for the community BayLight event and we were the base for a cycling event. Another Baptist church used our facilities for an away day, and we have seen a continued growth in children's birthday parties. All of these bookings have brought benefit to our community as well as contributing income. We aim to balance these bookings with the flexibility to use our space for our own activities. Sometimes groups are reluctant to use our premises as we are a church, but we strive to be accommodating and welcoming to groups that work within our ethos and purpose as a church.

The management of our building comes under the Trustees, with activity led by Karl Werner, our buildings manager. We increased our cleaning provision this year in response to the increased usage of the building.

### Pastoral care

We continue to try to care for those connected to the church, although this is always a challenge given the situations that people are in. There are several members who fulfil responsibilities such as Communion for those who are housebound; visiting those not able to gather for worship; and hospital visits. **House groups** are also a key place for pastoral care and we are grateful to those who open their homes regularly and prepare studies to share with others.

After having to respond to several **emergency pastoral situations** last year, it was decided to set up a pastoral fund within the general account so that we can respond more effectively. This has worked well and we have been able to support several crisis situations, one that we were made aware of through our local primary school. We also were able to make gifts at times of celebration, and to friends connected to the church, such as one of our former Capernwray students, who has started Theology studies at university.

Our monthly **Communion services at Woodhill House** have continued and the relationship continues to be strong. We are often invited to provide spiritual and pastoral care to residents, including at times of end of life. This is a real privilege.

### Mission and Evangelism

Being concerned for, and helping, those in need is an expression of our faith. This year, we have further developed our café provision in the foyer space, initially on Tuesdays, but now on Wednesdays. We provide hot drinks, good baking and hot food. Numbers are reasonable, and it has been good to see relationships develop, especially with some people who have started to worship regularly with us. The café is an area for potential development in the coming year.

Easter and Christmas are our key times for community engagement. We had a busy Christmas Eve carol service this year, but we can improve our 'next steps' offer to those who come along. Integrating people into the church community so that they can explore their questions is a challenge.

Our schools continue to be central to life in our community and we seek to support them as best we can. The Listening service at West End Primary School, which we run alongside NISCU, has really bedded in this year and we hope to grow the team by at least one person next year. We gave a gift of books, including some Christian titles, to Sandylands School as they rejuvenated their library. Our pastor helps with teaching of the religion curriculum at Sandylands, and both Sandylands and West End sent classes to the church for a 'Walk Through Easter' workshop in March 2024, which went very well.

As well as serving within the church, members have volunteered with various organisations, including LMDCDC, West End Impact and Safe Families UK.

Besides our own outreach programmes mentioned above, the church supports several local charities through our regular giving. **NISCU (Northern Inter-Schools Christian Union)** helps local schools with teaching on the Christian faith. **Lancaster, Morecambe and District Churches Debt Centre** offers advice and assistance with debt-related issues. Their office is in our building. **Ambassadors Football** also have an office in our building and their CEO, Martin Bateman, again came to share on a Sunday morning.

As well as these charities, money was also raised at Christmas for Bible Society work in the Middle East, and at an Open Doors prayer event in February. Our charity calendar also raised funds for our mission partners.

We have **built up the relationships** with our mission partners. We had a visit from Matt, our BMS missionary, to a midweek prayer evening as part of his farewell tour as he and Julia came to the end of their time with BMS; We have since adopted a new BMS missionary, Genesis, from Uganda and hope he might visit us later this year.

The church continues to keep in contact with our former assistant pastor, Mark Young, in his new role with **The Lighthouse Community** in Llandudno. Mark has returned to Morecambe on several occasions and keeps us up to date with his ministry. Several members continue to give regularly to support Mark in his role and we are in the second year of our commitment to provide £4,000 in financial support for three years.

### Churches Together Partnerships

Stanley Road Baptist Church is a member church of the Baptist Union and the North Western Baptist Association. We hold occasional events with Caton and Lancaster Baptist churches. Our Pastor meets with other ministers in local and regional groups, both inside and outside the Baptist denomination. He is part of the Morecambe Churches' Forum, which meets sporadically.

## Financial Review

### **General Overview**

**Total income** received into the General Fund was £71,705, against expenditure of £72,292, leaving a small deficit of £587. The main source of income continues to be regular gifts of members and friends of the church. In the accounting year, gifts and donations totalled some £43,511. Reclaimed tax, under the Gift Aid Scheme amounted to £5,047. Further claims are pending, for the year, which will come into the 24/25 accounts.

**Rental Income** from groups and organisations using the premises amounted to £12,452. Other income from 'Charitable Activities' came to £8,105, including an insurance claim for £2,541. Other income was received from the use of solar panels, a Lancashire County Council 'warm spaces' grant, and interest on bank deposits.

In addition to the General Fund, we have two '**Restricted**' funds. Appeals income amounted to £1,791, which was passed on in full to the receiving organisations. Donations, including gift aid, of £4,061 were received into the support fund for Mark Young and the Lighthouse Community Church.

Total **General expenditure** was £72,292. Of this, some £35,632 was spent on **Ministry**. This figure includes stipend, pension costs, and other expenses. Regarding the pastor's stipend, the decision was taken by the Trustees and unanimously confirmed by the church members to work towards a higher level of 110% of 5/6 of the standard Baptist Union stipend, with this change being implemented over the next three years.

Regular work through the church's various ministry and mission groups accounted for £3,743. **Mission giving** to other organisations totalled £7,896, representing just under 11% of overall expenditure. Much of this was to our chosen mission organisations: BMS World Mission; the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund; Lancaster, Morecambe and District Churches Debt Centre and NISCU school workers. As already highlighted, donations to several charities were also made via Prayer and Praise. As in previous years, £1,200 was given to our Boys Brigade Company to support their work.

General admin and 'running' costs were £2,756, whilst all building related costs, including utilities, repairs and renovations amounted to £22,265. Also included in this figure are caretaking and cleaning costs.

**Assets:** The balance of accounts at March 31, 2024 were: NatWest Current and Savings Accounts £29,899; NatWest Cowan Bequest £2,817; Baptist Union Deposit £30,000. This gives total monetary assets of £62,716, represented by the fund balances below.

**Funds:** The General Fund decreased during the year from £61,370 to £60,594. The Restricted Funds balance increased from £2,090 to £2,122.

**Reserves Policy:** We have a minimum reserve target of £30,000. Our policy is to maintain sufficient funds to facilitate six months' notice for our Minister and the settling of any other outstanding financial commitments, before an orderly closure of the church, should this ever become necessary.

**Summary:** The accounting year has seen a fair consolidation of our assets. The final 'cash' position at the end of April 2024, is largely unchanged from the 2023 figure. This stability, despite the numerous calls on our resources, is largely down to faithful and committed giving. Utilization of the premises by outside groups, is expected to continue, providing significant, additional income. The imminent challenge posed by building work requirements, in the coming months and years, will necessarily deplete our reserves. We currently have a good 'buffer' to enable £30,000 to be earmarked for work on the buildings, but it may be desirable to replenish funds through special appeals and 'gift days.' We are grateful to God for all His provision for the church and look to Him, in faith, to meet our future needs.

### Volunteers

We would like to acknowledge that our church life is based largely on the dedication of volunteers who teach children, supply music, run the kitchen, maintain the building, attend to administration and finances, and oversee the pastoral care of our congregation. We thank each one of you for your love, dedication and service.

### Structure, Governance and Management

The Trustees manage the church in accordance with our constitution (CIO adopted October 2021), and meet a minimum of 11 times a year. The average level of attendance was 95%.

Trustees include the Pastor, who chairs the meetings, with others appointed from the membership at a Church Members' AGM. The appointment of Trustees is public, clear and open, enabling members to prayerfully consider who should be appointed and with notice of forthcoming elections. Candidates are nominated, and elected by secret ballot of the church members. There is an opportunity for postal votes to be made in advance.

### Reference and Administrative details

Stanley Road Baptist Church, Morecambe is situated in Stanley Road, Morecambe. The correspondence address is Stanley Road Baptist Church, Stanley Road, Morecambe, LA3 1UP

Trustee members serving within the period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024 are:

Minister: Reverend Steven Hewitt (Pastor, Chair)

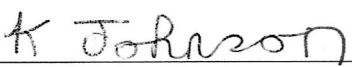
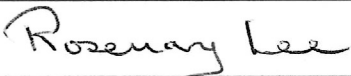
Elected members:

Mrs Stella Walsh (Secretary)	Mrs Dawn Warburton (Treasurer- <i>until June 24, 2023</i> )	
Mr Andrew Sadler (Treasurer – <i>from June 24, 2023</i> )		Mrs Rosemary Lee
Mrs Christine Betteridge	Mrs Sandra Todd	Mrs Denise Beal
Dr Robert Henderson	Mr Robert Middleton	Mrs Sarah Middleton
Mr Alan Parker ( <i>until June 24, 2023</i> )	Mr Jason Palmer ( <i>from June 24, 2023</i> )	
Mrs Kath Johnson ( <i>from June 24, 2023</i> )		

### Declarations

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

<b>Signatures</b>		
<b>Full name</b>	Kathleen Johnson	Rosemary Lee
<b>Position</b>	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE
<b>Date</b>	May 7, 2024	May 7, 2024

**STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO 1197276 –  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING 31 MARCH 2024.**

**GENERAL FUND**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b><u>12 months to 31/3/2024</u></b>	<b><u>7 months to 31/3/2023</u></b>
Grant (LCC Warm Spaces)		£ 450	
Offerings	5	£ 43,511.36	£ 23,846.63
Donations & other income	1	£ 7,237.10	£ 6,075.58
Use of premises		£ 12,451.96	£ 6,143.64
Repayment from utilities		£ 1,581.65	£ 1,400.52
Ministry & Mission groups		£ 868.07	£ 445.07
Gift Aid & Small Donations	2	£ 5,047.30	
Bank & BU Corp Ltd interest		£ 557.75	£ 35.19
		<b>£ 71,705.19</b>	<b>£ 37,946.63</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>			
	<b>Notes</b>		
Ministry		£ 35,632.44	£ 19,523.91
Ministry & Mission	5	£ 3,743.25	£ 2,458.80
External Mission		£ 7,895.77	£ 4,049.24
Admin		£ 2,755.65	£ 3,730.00
Building renovations & upkeep	5	£ 22,265.15	£ 12,100.73
		<b>£ 72,292.26</b>	<b>£ 41,862.68</b>
Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)		-£ 587.07	-£ 3,916.05
Balance b/f 1st April		£ 61,181.16	£ 65,097.21
Balance c/f		<b>£ 60,594.09</b>	<b>£ 61,181.16</b>

**APPEALS - RESTRICTED FUNDS**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>		
Donations		£ 1,790.56
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>		
Bible Soc, Open Doors & Baptist Mission Soc		£ 1,819.97
Deficit	3	<b>-£ 29.41</b>

**LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH - M. YOUNG RESTRICTED FUND**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Donations & Legacies		£ 3,660.00	£ 2,705.00
Gift Aid & Small Donations		£ 401.47	
		<b>£ 4,061.47</b>	<b>£ 2,705.00</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>		<b>£ 4,000.00</b>	<b>£ 1,000.00</b>
Surplus		£ 61.47	£ 1,705.00
Balance b/f 1st April		£ 2,090.10	£ 385.10
Balance c/f		<b>£ 2,151.57</b>	<b>£ 2,090.10</b>

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>			
Unrestricted Funds		£ 60,594.09	£ 61,370.36
Restricted Funds		£ 2,122.16	£ 2,090.10
Non monetary assets	4	£ 2,521,205.00	£ 2,325,835.00
		<b>£ 2,583,921.25</b>	<b>£ 2,389,295.46</b>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>			
		£	£ 189.20

## NOTES.

1. Includes a £2,541.32 insurance claim.
2. Gift aid was claimed, received and included in the 2023 financials for the period 1/01/2022 to 31/08/2022. Gift aid for the period 1/09/2022 to 31/03/2023 reflects in the 2024 accounts
3. "Appeals" have been separated from "Donations" to provide additional information.  
The deficit of £29.41 is explained by gift aid of £41.41 paid in advance to Open Doors and a November £12 donation to be paid to BMS in April 2024.
4. Non monetary assets are reflected at their insured value as at 2nd June 2023 and are comprised of buildings £ 2,429,414 and their contents £91,791.
5. As at 31/03/2024, unpaid sundry creditors £233.73 and an estimated £3,000 due to the gas supply company that has not been able to bill the Charity. A complaint has been filed. Unbanked receipts £551.70.

The Receipts and Payments and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities were approved at a Trustees meeting held on

SIGNED.  Andrew Sadler (Treasurer) May 7, 2024

## Notes to the Accounts.

1. The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments cash basis as permitted by section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 provided the Charity's income is not over £250 000, and the Charity Commissioner guideline CC16 for receipts and payments accounting has been applied.
2. The principal accounting policies are:
  - \* Income is recognized upon receipt of cash or cash equivalents to which the Charity has entitlement.
  - \* Expenditure, inclusive of irrecoverable VAT, is recognised upon payment of an invoice or claim for which the charity has an obligation to settle. The Charity has not registered for VAT.
3. Fund accounting. General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity. 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.
4. The Trustees did not receive any remuneration.
5. The Independent Examiner was not paid for the examination.
6. A single £450 "Warm Spaces Grant" was received from the Lancaster County Council.

## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Stanley Road Baptist Church.

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above Charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st March 2024.

## Responsibilities and basis of report.

As the Charity's Trustees, 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 all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

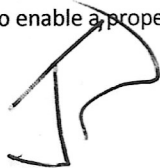
## Independent examiner's statement.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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:



Date: May 7, 2024

Name: John Pollard

Address: 8 Lake Grove, Morecambe, Lancashire, LA4 4LH

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any). MAAT MCIPS

**STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1197276

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# Accounts

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# Stanley Road Baptist Church

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

### Important explanatory note

This Annual Report covers the activities of two charities that have administered Stanley Road Baptist Church in the period January 1, 2022 until March 31, 2023. The two charities are 'Stanley Road Baptist Church, Morecambe', an excepted charity with the Charity Commission, and 'Stanley Road Baptist Church', a charitable incorporated organization (CIO) with the Charity Commission, registration number 1197276. The CIO was registered with the Charity Commission on December 22, 2021, but the assets and liabilities were not transferred from the excepted charity to the CIO until September 1, 2022. Therefore, the activities and finances from January 1, 2022 until August 31, 2022 came under the administration of the excepted charity, and from September 1 until March 31, 2023 came under the CIO. This explains why there are two sets of accounts, but the decision has been taken to have only one Trustee report for this period.

### Aims and purposes

The principal purpose of Stanley Road Baptist Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principle of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

### Objectives and Activities

The Trustees of the Church seek to encourage and enable people to know God and worship Him. While we have regular attenders from outside Morecambe, our focus is on the community surrounding our church building. We aim to encourage a discipleship where faith grows and is put into practice, with regular opportunities for Bible study, teaching, prayer, and Communion. The Trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We particularly try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our local community through groups operating from church and drawn from all age ranges and catering for all abilities. To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the building fabric of Stanley Road Baptist Church.

### Achievements and Performance

#### Worship and Prayer

The past 15 months have been significant for the church in a variety of areas, in particular in the development of leaders. Our Minister-in-Training Mark Young came to the end of his training with Cardiff Baptist College and took up a position as a pioneer minister in Llandudno from September 1. Mark was ordained at Stanley Road on July 2, 2022 in what is believed to be the first ordination in our church building. The ordination was carried out by Rev. Jonny Hirst, from the NWBA, with Rev. Dr. Ed Kaneen, co-principal Cardiff Baptist College, preaching. It was a wonderful celebration and especially seeing so many of Mark's family and friends, and the coach-full from Llandudno. Mark served as Assistant Pastor alongside Rev. Steven Hewitt, our Pastor, for three years and it is right to place on record our gratitude to Mark, Eve and their sons for all they brought to the church. The end of August was also when Steven Havelin finished his one-year internship with us and with Ambassadors Football. Again, we were blessed by his contributions and to see him grow and develop his ministry skills.

Trustees are keen to offer services, facilities and events through the year that are engaging, varied, meet individual needs and promote spiritual growth. As Covid restrictions ended, we met in more typical fashion.

Regular events are:

- Whole congregation worship, prayer and Bible teaching to develop a knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Smaller adult groups for more personal fellowship, Bible teaching and pastoral care.
- Children's groups on Sundays and midweek to teach Bible truth and develop relationships.
- Regular or occasional Café-style events for friendship and support.
- Winter soup kitchen for the local community to offer friendship and support.

- Missionary and outreach work directly and indirectly via local partners.

As Covid restrictions reduced, **our focus for worship** shifted more wholly to the in-person worship on Sunday mornings, and the decision was taken to no longer pre-record services to show online. This has meant it has been harder to keep contact with those unable, or unwilling, to attend worship. This may need reconsideration in the future. We have been pleased that the number of regular worshippers has been consistent, although we recognize the significant challenge we face in engaging with families and young adults.

It was a delight to celebrate living faith in the form of several **believers' baptisms**. Gena Harrison was baptized at Easter, 2022, the first baptism since 2018. At the end of August, we baptized Jean Grey, Danny Mitchell and Rachel Adamson, who Mark had led through a discipleship course. In February 2023, we baptized Heike Dacres, this time using a pop-up baptistery on loan from Lancaster Baptist Church due to leaking issues with our permanent baptistery. Heike's baptism was the culmination of our first **church weekend**, which was themed 'Connection' and was a great success with gatherings over the weekend at church and at The Clarendon Hotel. We used £1,000 gifted to the church from the family of Mary Fisher to cover the costs. We acknowledged the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a special service, with our own pop-up choir and joining the prom street party.

The **teaching on Sundays** was shared between Steven, Mark and Steven Havelin, until August 2022. Since then, Steven has begun work to develop a preaching team and during our Lent 2023 series on Confidence, there were five preachers, with two preaching at Stanley Road for the first time. Subjects covered over the last 15 months have included the Bible Society's 'Bible Series' course; and series' on 1 Peter and Jonah. The Bible Series material inspired a 'God created' exhibition with an array of exhibits from members of the church, and a 'Summer of Snapping' photo competition that led to a charity calendar, raising funds for our mission partners. We have tried to build a more committed pattern of **prayer** with Source prayer gatherings on Wednesdays every few months; restarting the pre-service prayer meeting and a 'Summer of Prayer' card of prayer points.

#### Specific groups

Most of our groups have returned to patterns similar to before the Covid pandemic. **Prayer and Praise** meet on a Friday for fellowship and a short spiritual talk, and again made several donations to local charities, including Mencap, Alzheimer's Society and the Royal British Legion. **What's What** is a monthly group, held on Sunday mornings, for adults with learning difficulties who regularly attend our services. This group grows from strength to strength and it was a joy to see three of the group baptized in August. Some of the group were able to join in the 'Count Everyone In' teaching at the Keswick Convention in July too. Our **SPACE group** for children has continued to be hard to maintain in this period, but we have been able to go from once a month to once a fortnight with specific activities for children. **The Boys' Brigade** has continued to meet each Friday in term time, with the Senior/Company sections (ages 11-18). Numbers and commitment have been encouraging and there has been a renewed commitment from church members to pray for this ministry. The company had an excellent camp in Clitheroe in the summer when Mark was able to attend as chaplain. The company have also been able to return to inter-company competitions and activities such as sailing. The minibus that the company now have, has been extremely helpful. Our **Men's** and **Women's Ministries** had a restart in the summer and aim to hold regular events, often on the same evenings, including two successful Christmas meals in December. Running all these groups is demanding. **These are all volunteer-led** with up-to-date DBS checks for those working with children, young people and/or adults at risk. As is often the case, what we are able to do is limited by the amount of resources and people that are willing to be involved. About 40 members of the church community took part in a gifts survey in summer 2022 and that has led to people serving in new areas. . We take training seriously and have put on sessions in Safeguarding and Food Hygiene with other training sessions in the pipeline. This is a sign of how we value those who volunteer in roles in the life of the church.

All are welcome to engage with the life of the church. At the end of March 2023, there were 90 people in membership. Nine new members were added (Terry McGrow,, Christine McGrow, Maxine Alexander, Andrew Sadler, Ruth Sadler, Jean Grey, Danny Mitchell, Rachel Adamson and Sharon Bulcock); eight people were taken off the list due to resignation, relocation or transfers (Tony Welch, Neil Scholes, Denise Scholes, Graham Liddy,

Rose Liddy, Harry Leeming, Brenda Leeming, Steven Havelin); and members John Smith (May 2022) and Irene Leeming (November 2022) died. We conducted the marriage of Lee and Vicky Gardner on July 23. The recorded weekly attendance in March 2023 was 73.

### Building maintenance and usage

We want our church to become a place that welcomes those in our community. We recognize that a building of our size, variety and age requires **consistent maintenance and attention**. This year was the first full year of employing Karl Werner as our buildings manager to oversee this. Karl has engaged professionals and helped move us forward in several areas. Following a visit from two fire officers, we installed a new fire door upstairs. Also upstairs, the previous partition wall was replaced by a fixed wall to provide better office space for Ambassadors Football and the CAP Debt Centre; the toilet was finished; and more insulation was placed in the roof space. Other areas have continued to be improved, including outside where the benches and planters are popular in the summer, and where the new bin store keeps things tidier. We had our **quinquennial survey** and this has presented areas to address. We recognize the hall and church space still need some work, especially in areas of heating, lighting, flooring and acoustics. We will need to move discussions forward on these areas.

We had two issues prompted by outside interference. Repeated incidents of youngsters climbing on the church roof led to anti-vandal paint being used, seemingly to good effect. The main door was damaged by a party hire, which caused disruption for several months, but this has been fixed under our insurance. These situations remind us that buildings cost money and damage is to be expected. We are conscious of this in our budget.

We continue to see the **new foyer space** being used, by the church, mission partners and outside groups. Examples include the church Source prayer meetings; Ambassadors Football staff training; LMDCDC client Christmas meal; we hosted a NISCU prayer lunch; and the Easter café for BMS World Mission was a big success.

There are a **number of community groups** with other educational and charitable purposes using the various spaces around our building. We were sad to see the long-standing Slimming World group stop as the consultant moved to a new job, and the Diddi Dance baby group stopped due to a lack of interest. But the relationship with two other dance groups is strong and continues while the link with The Bay Singers community choir is excellent. They were a key supporter of our Christmas Fair in November 2022. We helped the local Light and Life mission again with them using the building for several meetings. There are other less frequent, or ad hoc, hires and we are seeing an increased number of party bookings. All of these bookings have brought benefit to our community as well as contributing income. We aim to balance these bookings with the flexibility to use our space for our own activities. Sometimes groups are reluctant to use our premises as we are a church, but we strive to be accommodating and welcoming to groups that work within our ethos and purpose as a church.

The management of our building comes under the Trustees, and we are keen to see a strong Buildings team develop over the coming months, led by Karl Werner, our buildings manager.

### Pastoral care

With the fading of restrictions due to Covid, we have been able to re-establish more consistent levels of pastoral care. A **small team** is developing who fulfil responsibilities such as Communion for those who are housebound; visiting those not able to gather for worship; and hospital visits. **House groups** are also a key place for pastoral care and we are grateful to those who open their homes regularly and prepare studies to share with others. We will aim to improve the training and support of those serving in these key areas. Technology has made communication easier, but there are others who are not as technologically literate who we must not forget.

We had some **emergency pastoral situations** in the church this year, one in particular relating to a Ukrainian family in the church. The response of a small group was wonderful to see. We will build up a specific fund so that we can respond quickly and effectively to situations of hardship, or where it is appropriate to bless others.

**Hospitality Sunday** returned on two occasions with members encouraged to make an extra effort to invite people round for lunch. We will repeat this initiative as an encouragement for friendships. Another initiative that has restarted is our monthly **Communion services at Woodhill House**. The gifts survey led to the creation of a newer, larger team and we have had opportunities for worship and pastoral care of residents and staff.

### Mission and Evangelism

Being concerned for, and helping, those in need is an expression of our faith. Through winter 2021-22 and winter 2022-23, we opened the **foyer space on Monday mornings** for hot food and company. Numbers were not as high as wished, but (especially in 2022-23 when we joined the national 'Warm Welcome' campaign) that allowed space for conversations. In Easter 2022, we opened the foyer space as a **café in Holy Week** to raise money for BMS World Mission and their Ukrainian refugee support campaign. We raised more than £1,000 and welcomed a good number of people, some of whom came to the services we held in church each day.

Besides our own outreach programmes mentioned above, the church supports several local charities through our regular giving. **NISCU (Northern Inter-Schools Christian Union)** helps local schools with teaching on the Christian faith. **Lancaster, Morecambe and District Churches Debt Centre** offers advice and assistance with debt-related issues. Their office is in our building. **Ambassadors Football** also have an office in our building.

We have **built up the relationships** with our mission partners. We had a visit from Robert, our BMS missionary, to a midweek prayer evening; we hosted the commissioning service for Martin Bateman, from Ambassadors Football, as he became chaplain of Morecambe FC. We worked with Martin to run a football team in a local 5-a-side league. Martin spoke at a Sunday service, as did representatives from NISCU and LMDCDC CAP Debt Centre. More people have volunteered with organisations, including LMDCDC and **Safe Families UK**; and, in a significant step, a team of volunteers work with NISCU to run a pastoral listening service in a primary school. We are pleased to work with local schools in various ways. Our pastor helps with teaching of the religion curriculum, and our two local primary schools visited the church for a 'Walk Through Easter' workshop in March 2023, which went very well. We also welcomed a local Beaver Scout group for a tour of the church.

The church have begun to develop a partnership with **The Lighthouse Community** in Llandudno where our former assistant pastor, Mark, is the pioneer minister. Several members pledged to give to support Mark in his role and we have committed to provide £4,000 in financial support for three years.

### Church Together Partnerships

Stanley Road Baptist Church is a member church of the Baptist Union and the North Western Baptist Association. We have begun to hold occasional events with Caton and Lancaster Baptist churches. Our Pastor meets with other ministers in local and regional groups, both inside and outside the Baptist denomination. He is part of the Morecambe Churches' Forum, which meets sporadically.

### **Financial Review**

*The figures in this report cover the 15 months from January 1, 2022 until March 31, 2023. There are two sets of accounts to cover this period. When figures are referenced, the first figure will be a combined figure for the 15 months, with figures for January to August 2022, then September 2022 to March 2023, in brackets.*

For the 15 months, **the income was £93,551.46 (55,604.82 and £37,946.63)**. This is an average income per month of £6,237 over the period. The income in 2021 was £5,657.88 per month. **The total expenditure for the 15 months was £99,816.85 (£57,954.17 and £41,862.68)**. This is an average expenditure per month of £6,654. The expenditure in 2021 was £6,519.30 per month. Therefore, the accounts show a **deficit figure over 15 months of £6,265.39 (£2,349.34 and £3,916.05)**, a figure of £417.69 deficit per month.

The regular giving decreased in comparison to 2021. In 2022-23, £53,758.75 (£29,912.12 and £23,846.63) was received in offerings, compared to £45,731.27 over the 12 months of 2021. We place on record here sincere thanks to all those who give regularly to the work of the church. In 2022-23, regular and planned giving through envelopes and bankers' orders accounts for 57% of the overall funds. In 2021, it was 67%.

We continue to benefit from Gift Aid claimed on both specific, regular donations, and money given through the Small Donations scheme that allows Gift Aid to be claimed on donations under £30, up to a £2,000 limit. The Gift Aid income tax refund was £13,702.71, but this was to cover 17 months, not 12 (so £806 per month). Because of the change of charitable status, a Gift Aid claim was made in September 2022 with the next one due in May 2023. It will include £145 on donations made to the General Fund between April and August 2022;

and £20 on donations made to the TLC fund between April and August 2022. The main claim covers donations made between September 2022 and March 2023: £4,344.98 on donations to the General Fund; £627.43 under the Gift Aid Small Donations scheme; and £378.75 for the TLC fund. This is a total of £5,516.16.

The continued use of our premises by outside organisations is important to our finances. In 2022-23, £13,928.10 (£7,784.46 and £6,143.64) was received for use of premises, an average of £928 per month, compared to £565 per month in 2021 when we were still dealing with Covid restrictions for part of the year.

The church's gift week in December 2022 was not very successful as it raised £830, compared to £1,880 in 2021 and £4,240 in 2020. Gift weeks will need some thought as to how they are advertised in the future.

There are factors behind the deficit over this period. We continued to have the increased ministry costs of having a Minister-in-Training until the end of August. As in previous years, most of the costs of having a MiT were covered by the £33,696.26 legacy left by Joyce Cowen in 2019.

In 2022-23, a total of £55,151.23 (£35,627.32 and £19,523.91) was spent on stipends, pension contributions, utilities and other pastors' expenses, which is 55% of total expenditure. We no longer have a MiT, but a number of members have pledged giving towards Mark's ministry in Llandudno and this led the church to commit to give £4,000 a year, for three years, from January 2023. This is seen in the TLC Mark Young Restricted Fund.

We gave £10,434.66 to external mission, which is 10.5% of overall expenditure. Much of this was to our chosen mission organisations: BMS World Mission; the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund; Lancaster, Morecambe and District Churches Debt Centre; NISCU schools workers. Contributions from our Easter café were donated to BMS World Mission refugee appeal. Donations to several charities were also made via Prayer and Praise. As in previous years, £1,200 was given to our Boys Brigade Company to support their work.

We saw a rapid rise in utility prices, especially gas. We had to move contracts and even with following expert advice, our bill has risen extremely significantly. The impact of utility price rises is hard to judge at this stage, but with prices unlikely to drop soon, we will need to take this into account. Our hire charges to outside groups were raised in January 2023, but we need to maintain a balance to avoid groups being unable to use our facilities. The ongoing repairs of the building continue to be a significant expense too.

Areas of note in expenditure were £438.60 to Anthony Collins Solicitors for the transition to CIO status; £800 for a coach to Llandudno for Mark's induction service; £1,440 for the quinquennial building survey; and £750 to cover a hardship situation, the money given at short notice by members.

However, during 2022-23, it was announced that a solution had been found to the Baptist Pension Scheme deficit problems, as it outlined in the footnotes. This means that we no longer have to pay a monthly fee towards the deficit, which had been in the region of £250 per month, instead we pay £1 a month.

The balance of accounts at March 31, 2023 were: NatWest General Account (CIO) £24,231.91; NatWest General Account £10,251.99; NatWest Saving Account £198.61; the NatWest Cowan Bequest £3,777.95 and £25,000 in our Baptist Union Account, totalling £63,460.46. Of this, £2,090.10 is in the TLC Mark Young Fund.

Following unusual years with the Covid disruption and additional staff, this period is one where we can begin to see more clearly the expected level of income and expenditure. While the financial position is not precarious, there are challenges ahead with inflation pushing up costs in a number of areas, and the need to try to meet these costs through regular, reliable income. We thank God for his financial blessings for this year.

### **Reserves policy**

We reviewed our Reserves Policy in January 2023 in accordance with Charity Commission guidelines and set a minimum reserves target of £20,000 which is the cost of an orderly closure of the church. Whilst we do not expect to close, this reserve also allows us to withstand short term fluctuations in income. At the end of the financial year our general unrestricted reserves were £61,181.16.

### **Volunteers**

We would like to acknowledge that our church life is based largely on the dedication of volunteers who teach children, supply music, run the kitchen, maintain the building, attend to administration and finances, and oversee the pastoral care of our congregation. We thank each one of you for your love, dedication and service.

### Structure, Governance and Management

As was made clear in the introduction, over this period the church operated as an unincorporated charity until August 31, 2022 and as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation from September 1, 2022. The Trustees manage the church in accordance with our constitution (unincorporated charity adopted March 2009, CIO adopted October 2021), and meet a minimum of 11 times a year. The average level of attendance was 95%.

Trustees include the Pastor and (until September 2022) the Assistant Pastor, who chair the meetings, with others appointed from the membership at a Church Members' AGM. The appointment of Trustees is public, clear and open, enabling members to prayerfully consider who should be appointed and with notice of forthcoming elections. Candidates are nominated, and elected by secret ballot of the church members.

### Reference and Administrative details

Stanley Road Baptist Church, Morecambe is situated in Stanley Road, Morecambe. The correspondence address is Stanley Road Baptist Church, Stanley Road, Morecambe, LA3 1UP

Trustee members serving within the period January 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 are:

#### CHURCH (excepted, unincorporated charity)

Minister: Reverend Steven Hewitt (Pastor, Chair (shared))  
Minister-in-Training: Mr Mark Young (Asst Pastor, Chair (shared) (until 9/2022))  
Elected members:  
Mrs Mandy Hartley (Treasurer (until 3/2022)) Mrs Dawn Warburton (Treasurer (from 4/2022))  
Mrs Christine Betteridge (Secretary (until 3/2022), then Trustee)  
Mrs Stella Walsh (from 3/2022) Mrs Denise Beal (from 3/2022)  
Mr Steven Havelin (from 3/2022, until 9/2022) Mrs Marcia Burrow (until 3/2022)  
Mrs Rosemary Lee Mrs Sandra Todd Mr Alan Parker Dr Robert Henderson

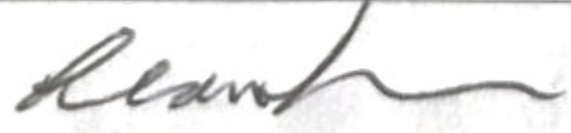
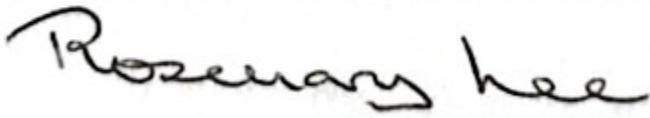
CIO (Original Trustees all resigned in line with constitution at the first AGM on September 22, 2022. The following were elected at that meeting).

Minister: Reverend Steven Hewitt (Pastor, Chair)  
Elected members:  
Mrs Stella Walsh (Secretary) Mrs Dawn Warburton (Treasurer) Mrs Rosemary Lee  
Mrs Christine Betteridge Mrs Sandra Todd Mr Alan Parker Mrs Denise Beal  
Dr Robert Henderson Mr Robert Middleton Mrs Sarah Middleton

### Declarations

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signatures		
Full name	ALAN PARKER	ROSEMARY LEE
Position	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE
Date	JUNE 6, 2023	JUNE 6, 2023

**STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH ACCOUNTS FOR THE 8 MONTHS ENDING 31 AUGUST 2022. The church registered as a CIO on 22/12/21 and ran a set of books as an 'Excepted Charity' to 31st August 2022 and a second set as a CIO from 1st September 2022.**

**UNRESTRICTED FUNDS**

	'EXCEPTED CHARITY' 8 MONTHS 1/1/22 to 31/8/22	CIO 4 MONTHS 1/9/22 TO 31/12/22. NOT examined. See note 3	12 months 'Excepted charity' & CIO 1/1/22 to 31/12/22.	'Excepted Charity' only 1/1/21 to 31/12/21
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Weekly offerings	29,912.12	13745.73	43,657.85	45,731.27
Donations & other income	3,435.17	4880.08	8,315.25	2,823.25
Use of premises	7,784.46	3086.00	10,870.46	6,785.00
Repayment from utilities	315.95	1211.70	1,527.65	1,467.55
Ministry & Mission groups	242.50	158.50	401.00	63.00
External mission	50.00		50.00	
Gift Aid & Small Donations	13,702.71		13,702.71	10,772.50
Bank & BU Corp Ltd interest	161.92	26.29	188.21	252.02
	<b>55,604.83</b>	<b>23,108.30</b>	<b>78,713.13</b>	<b>67,894.59</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Ministry	35,627.32	10157.59	45,784.91	52,227.20
Ministry & Mission	2,354.65	364.26	2,718.91	688.38
External Mission	6,385.42	2095.34	8,480.76	6,766.18
Admin	2,496.65	2952.11	5,448.76	4,638.44
Building renovations & upkeep	11,090.13	5954.01	17,044.14	10,111.49
Loan repayments			-	3,800.00
	<b>57,954.17</b>	<b>21,523.31</b>	<b>79,477.48</b>	<b>78,231.69</b>
Deficit	- 2,349.34	1,584.99	- 764.35	- 10,337.10
Balance b/f 1st Jan 2021	67,446.55	65,097.21	67,446.55	77,783.65
Balance c/f	<b>65,097.21</b>	<b>66,682.20</b>	<b>66,682.20</b>	<b>67,446.55</b>

**TLC MARK YOUNG RESTRICTED FUND**

	'EXCEPTED CHARITY' 8 MONTHS 1/1/22 to 31/8/22	CIO 4 MONTHS 1/9/22 TO 31/12/22. NOT examined. See note 3	12 months 'Excepted charity' & CIO 1/1/22 to 31/12/22.	'Excepted Charity' only 1/1/21 to 31/12/21
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
	385.10	1305.00	1690.10	
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Surplus	385.10	1305.00	1690.10	
Balance b/f 1st Jan 2021		385.10		
Balance c/f	<b>385.10</b>	<b>1690.10</b>	<b>1690.10</b>	

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES**

	31/08/2022	31/12/22	31/12/21
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Unrestricted Funds	65,097.21	66,682.20	67,446.55
Restricted Funds	385.10	1,690.10	
Non monetary assets	2,325,835.00	2,325,835.00	2,060,000.00
	<b>2,391,317.31</b>	<b>2,394,207.30</b>	<b>2,127,446.55</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Pension deficit. See Note 5.			31,400.00
	-	-	<b>31,400.00</b>

**Notes.**

1. With registration as a CIO, the church's financial year end changed from 31st Dec to 31st March
2. This is the last set of accounts for the unincorporated 'excepted' charity.
3. The CIO figures for the 4 months 1st September to 31st December are included so that comparisons can be drawn between 2011 and 2022. The CIO figures will only be examined when the CIO's accounts for 12 months ending 31st March 2023 are examined.
4. Non monetary assets are reflected at their insured value as at 31st August 2022 and are comprised

of buildings £ 2,241,157 & their contents £84,678.

5. Extract from a Baptists Together, Baptist Pension Scheme communication dated 29th July 2022.

"We are very pleased to announce that we have signed an agreement with the insurance Just Group ("Just") to secure DB Plan members' pension benefits. This agreement is referred to as a 'buy-in policy.' Just are now providing financial backing for all DB pensions provided through the Scheme's DB Plan."

The effect of the 'buy-out' by Just is that Just takes over the risk and the defined pension benefits and therefore the 'pension scheme deficit' reflected in previous annual financials is expunged.

**The Receipts and Payments and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities were approved at a Diaconate meeting held on 31st January 2023.**

**Signed:**



**Name:** DAWN WARBURTON  
(Treasurer)

**Date:** 31/1/2023

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Stanley Road Baptist Church.**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stanley Road Baptist Church ("the Trust") for the 8 months ending 31st August 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').

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

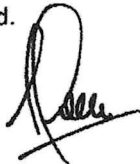
**Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records

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:**



**Name:**

Stephen Green

**Date:**

11-Mar-23

**Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any):**

n/a

**Address:** 16 Shireshead Crescent, Lancaster LA1 4LD

**STANLEY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH ACCOUNTS FOR THE 7 MONTHS ENDING 31 MARCH 2023. The church registered as a CIO during the year and ran a set of books as an 'Excluded Charity' to 31/8/22 and a second set as a CIO from 1/9/22. The year end changed from 31st December to 31st March.**

**GENERAL FUND**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>	<b><u>Notes</u></b>	
Offerings		£ 23,846.63
Donations & other income		£ 6,075.58
Use of premises		£ 6,143.64
Repayment from utilities		£ 1,400.52
Ministry & Mission groups		£ 445.07
Gift Aid & Small Donations	2	
Bank & BU Corp Ltd interest		£ 35.19
		<b>£ 37,946.63</b>
		<b>£ 37,946.63</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>	<b><u>Notes</u></b>	
Ministry		£ 19,523.91
Ministry & Mission		£ 2,458.80
External Mission		£ 4,049.24
Admin		£ 3,730.00
Building renovations & upkeep		£ 12,100.73
		<b>£ 41,862.68</b>
		<b>£ 41,862.68</b>
Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)		-£ 3,916.05
Balance b/f 31st August 2022		£ 65,097.21
Balance c/f		<b>£ 61,181.16</b>
		<b>£ 61,181.16</b>

**TLC MARK YOUNG RESTRICTED FUND**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>		£ 2,705.00
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>		£ 1,000.00
Surplus		£ 1,705.00
Balance b/f 31st August 2022		£ 385.10
Balance c/f		<b>£ 2,090.10</b>
		<b>£ 2,090.10</b>

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**ASSETS**

Unrestricted Funds		£ 61,370.36
Restricted Funds		£ 2,090.10
Non monetary assets	3	£ 2,325,835.00
		<b>£ 2,389,295.46</b>
		<b>£ 2,389,295.46</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Accounts payable		£ 189.20
Pension scheme deficit	4	
		<b>£ 189.20</b>
		<b>£ 189.20</b>

**NOTES.**

1. With registration as a CIO, the church's financial year end changed from 31st Dec to 31st March. A set of accounts for the 8 months ending 31/08/22 was examined and signed without qualifications by an independent examiner.
2. Gift aid was claimed and received and included in the financials for the period 1/01/2022 to 31/08/2022. Gift aid for the period 1/09/2022 to 31/03/2023 will reflect in the next set of accounts.
3. Non monetary assets are reflected at their insured value as at 31st August 2022 and are comprised of buildings £ 2,241,157 & their contents £84,678.
4. Extract from a Baptists Together, Baptist Pension Scheme communication dated 29th July 2022. "We are very pleased to announce that we have signed an agreement with the insurance Just Group (Just) to secure DB Plan members' pension benefits. This agreement is referred to as a buy in policy. Just are now providing financial backing for all DB pensions provided through the Scheme's DB plan." The effect of the 'buy out' by Just is that Just takes over the risk and the defined pension benefits

The Receipts and Payments and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities were approved at a trustees' meeting held on

SIGNED.



NAME.

DG Warburton

DATE.

JUNE 6, 2023

TREASURER

#### Notes to the Accounts

1. The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments cash basis as permitted by section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 provided the charity's gross income is not over £250,000, and the Charity Commission guideline CC16 for receipts and payments accounting has been applied.
2. The principal accounting policies are:
  - Income is recognised upon receipt of cash or cash equivalents to which the charity has entitlement.
  - Expenditure, inclusive of irrecoverable VAT, is recognised upon payment of an invoice or claim for which the charity has an obligation to settle. The Charity is not registered for VAT.
3. Fund accounting: General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. 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.
4. Trustees did not receive any remuneration.
5. The Independent Examiner was not paid for the examination.
6. There were no government grants during the year.

#### Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Stanley Road Baptist Church CIO # 1197276 (the Charity) for the seven months ended 31 March 2023.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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.

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:



Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): MAAT MCIPS

Address: 8 Lake Grove, Morecambe, Lancashire. LA4 4LH

Date: 1/6/23