

THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING HOPE

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

**ANNUAL REPORT AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

CHARITY REG. NO: 1197334

The Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

CONTENTS

Page 3	Legal and Administrative Information
Page 4	Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
Page 5 to 8	Trustees' Report
Page 9	Statement of Receipts and Payments
Page 10	Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Pages 11 to 13	Notes to the Accounts

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1197334

START OF FINANCIAL YEAR 1st January 2024

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR 31st December 2024

TRUSTEES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>
Andrew Bookless	Ex Officio
Allison Johnstone	Chair
Linda Lewis	
Janet Llewellyn	
Graham Andrew	
Lucy Mackenzie	From 01/01/2024
Derek Kozel	Treasurer until 10/01/2024
Lucy Mackenzie	Treasurer from 11/01/2024

The Trustees appoint any new trustees following the provisions laid out in the Charity's governing instrument.

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT Constitution of The Church of the Living Hope, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation since 04/01/2022

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS 14 Gleneagles Close
Hubberston, Milford Haven
Pembrokeshire
SA73 3SG
e-mail: ahbookless@gmail.com
website: www.thechurchofthelivinghope.co.uk

BANKERS Barclays Bank

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Sylvia Davey.
Milner Cottage.
Herbrandston.
Milford Haven.
SA73 3TD

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act), and that there is no requirement in the governing document or constitution of the Charity for the conducting of an audit. As a consequence, the trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for an independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and;
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

I conducted my examination in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales in relation to the conducting of an independent examination, referred to above. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and of the accounting systems employed by the Charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of the Charities legislation and that the financial statements comply with the SORP, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the trustees of all material matters.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and

✓ accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Everything in perfect order.

S.M. Davey.

S.M. Davey.

Dated: 10-8-2025.

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the Charity are the advancement of the Christian faith, for the benefit of the public especially but not exclusively within Milford Haven and the surrounding county of Pembrokeshire, and such charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity Trustees, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with The Church of the Living Hope's Statement of Faith and Theological Position.

In order to fulfill these Objects, the Trustees this year –

1. Agreed that The Church of The Living Hope would Affiliate to The Anglican Convocation in Europe

This decision was made by the Trustees following extensive discussion, which also involved the Leadership Team and an indicative vote at the church AGM. It was decided that it would be in the best interests of the Charity to do this, not least because of the support, oversight and connection with other churches that this arrangement brings. This new arrangement replaces the previous oversight that the church had received, which had also been beneficial while it was in place.

2. Developed further the policies and procedures of the Charity

During 2024, the Safeguarding Policy for the church was updated and a Bullying and Harassment Policy was agreed and added to the existing policies.

3. Continued to support the work of the Church Minister (Rev Andy Bookless), and the Church Leadership Team, as they guided forward the worship life and outreach of the church.

The notes from Leadership Team meetings continued to be reviewed by the Trustees, in order to ensure that all church activities were carried out safely and responsibly, and that adequate finance was available.

4. Continued to monitor the Church's finances in the light of their annual Budget, seeking to ensure that money was spent in a way that is consistent with the Objects of the Charity.

The charity remains in a healthy financial mission with no pressing financial concerns.

5. Sought to ensure that the church remains a welcoming and outward-looking church that is accessible to people of all ages and backgrounds within the wider community.

In making decisions this year we have kept "the advancement of the Christian faith, for the benefit of the public" at the forefront of our priorities. We are grateful for the guidance of The Charity Commission in regard to Public Benefit.

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Achievements and Performance

Development of the Church

Leadership Team

A small Leadership Team, led by the church Minister - Rev Andy Bookless continued to plan and guide forward the worship life and outreach of The Church of The Living Hope. The team remained unchanged during 2024, and included four other people - Helen Bookless, Linda Lewis, Shirley Harrison and Graham Andrew, although Graham Andrew decided to stand down at the end of the year. The team meets regularly to pray, discuss activities and plan the way forward.

Sunday Worship

The general pattern for Sunday worship continued unchanged during 2024, with weekly meetings on both Sunday mornings and evenings, although one initiative that was launched at the start of the year was the plan of having a monthly "Come and See Sunday", for which church members were especially encouraged to invite new people to come and join us for worship for the first time on these Sundays. A small number of new people did come along on weeks when this occurred

We also had some variations in our Sunday morning pattern, which aims to be especially accessible to young families, including a pancake morning, which went well, and the showing of two family friendly films. We also benefited once again from the input of a number of visiting speakers, mainly at the evening service, among them Rob Jones and Julian Richards who continued to provide us with oversight for much of the year.

A highlight in terms of our Sunday evening worship was a Welcome Service on Sunday 17th November, when we were joined by members of other Pembrokeshire churches and Bishop Stuart Bell preached and welcomed us into the Anglican Convocation in Europe.

Midweek Meetings / Prayer

This year, we continued to have a variety of Midweek meetings in people's homes for Bible Study and Prayer. These included two "Growth Groups", and also a weekly prayer meeting. At one stage, the Growth Groups were paused to give people the opportunity to participate in a course entitled "Life on the Frontline", which focused on encouraging church members to live out their faith wherever they were, including in their work and home settings.

We also focused this year on strengthening our life of prayer. We had been holding some occasional longer prayer times, but this year we took the decision to have a monthly pattern which included longer times for worship and prayer each month, based in a church member's home. In addition to this, some people started doing regular Prayer-walking in the community, and a new WattsApp group was started, focused on prayer for the community.

Towards the end of the year, the Leadership Team made a decision to pause the Growth Groups, and instead to have some fortnightly midweek meetings in which church members came together to think about our Beliefs, Values and Culture as a church and to strengthen our unity and identity, as we seek to reach out to others. It was planned to begin these meetings at the start of the new year.

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Membership

The number of "Church Members" of The Church of the Living Hope (technically known as Associate Members) increased during 2024 from 32 to 35. This is consistent with a steady year on year increase that has been taking place since the church started.

Outreach to the Community

One major new initiative that was part of our outreach this year, was the fact that we began to run some "Healing Cafes", based in Pembrokeshire Yacht Club, to which people were invited to come along to for refreshments and to receive Healing prayer. In preparation for this, a group of church members had done some video-based training, produced by New Wine Cymru. These Healing Cafes have attracted some people who aren't currently part of the church congregation, as well as some others who could be described as on the fringe of the church. As well as this, we did on occasions offer healing prayer and hand out some leaflets outside some local shops.

We also again took part in the Milford Haven Carnival, an extremely well-supported community event, and continued to run the "Little Fishes" Parent and Toddler Group, based in Hubberston Community Centre. This group enables the church to serve young families and their children within our community, while also building links with them and communicating the Christian message in a simple and gentle way.

The church continues to see both its work with children and young people and its more general outreach to the local community as real priorities. In the light of this, we began planning at the end of 2024 towards starting a new group for teenagers, aimed initially at church young people and their friends, to be launched in January 2025.

We continue to publicise our outreach activities through our online presence, which includes a Website and Facebook page, through personal invitation, and on occasions through leaflets and posters.

Policy on Grant making

Although we do not make formal grants, we adhere to the principle of "Tithing", which means that we plan to give 10 % of our income to other charities and Christian groups, whose activities are consistent with our objectives. In making these gifts, we do not look to receive anything in return. For example, we give to Tearfund, a charity whose purpose is the relief of poverty and suffering in some of the poorest parts of our world and New Wine Cymru - a Welsh interchurch network, encouraging church leaders in their mission.

Contribution made by volunteers

As Trustees, we are very conscious that many aspects of church life are dependent on having a committed team of volunteers, working together so that the church can grow and flourish. In the Church of the Living Hope, there are volunteers who play a part in many different roles, in working with children and young people, as musicians, in providing refreshments, in hosting church activities, in welcoming others, in providing practical and administrative help and as members of our Leadership Team, and Trustees.. We are grateful to all those who support and contribute to the life of the church in these and other ways.

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Charities Act 2011 require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

Signature(s)

Name

Linda Lewis

Position(s)

Chair of Trustees

Date

21/8/2025

[Signature]

Treasurer

21/08/2025

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
INCOME & ENDOWMENTS FROM : -						
Donations & Legacies	2a	23,030	0	0	23,030	22,869
Other Trading Activities	2b	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable Activities	2c	0	0	0	0	0
Other Income	2d	0	0	0	0	0
Income from Investments	2e	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL RECEIPTS		23,030	0	0	23,030	22,869
EXPENDITURE ON : -						
Raising Funds	3a	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable Activities	3b	-22,444	0	0	-22,444	18,863
Other Expenditure	3c	0	0	0	0	50
TOTAL PAYMENTS		-22,444	0	0	-22,444	18,913
NET GAINS (LOSSES) on Investments		0	0	0	0	0
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		586	0	0	586	3,956
TRANSFERS between Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Gain (losses) on Revalued Assets		0	0	0	0	0
NET Movement in FUNDS		0	0	0	0	0
Balances Brought Forward		17,392	0	0	17,392	13,436
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		17,978	0	0	17,978	17,392

The notes on pages 11 to 13 form part of these accounts.
All operations are continuing operations.

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		YE 31 DEC 2024 Total £	YE 31 DEC 2023 Total £
ASSETS			
Cash Funds:	Notes		
Current		17,978	17,392
Savings		0	0
		<u>17,978</u>	<u>17,392</u>
Represented by:			
General Funds (Unrestricted)		17,978	17,392
Restricted Funds	4	0	0
		<u>17,978</u>	<u>17,392</u>
Non-cash assets			
Gift Aid unclaimed for 2023-24		0	2,046
Small Donations Scheme Gift Aid unclaimed re 2023-24		0	1,405
		<u>0</u>	<u>3,451</u>

The CIO had given no pecuniary guarantees and had incurred no debts or other liabilities at 31 December 2024

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities which are set out on pages 10 to 11.

The Trustees declare they have approved the financial statements above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

Signature(s)
Full Name(s) *Hinda Lewis*
Position(s) Chair of Trustees
Date 21/8/2025

[Signature]
Treasurer
21/08/2025

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared under the "Receipts and Payments" basis and in accordance with FRS 102 SORP

2. RECEIPTS

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
a) Donations & Legacies					
Voluntary Receipts & Donations	4	23,030	0	23,030	22,869
Grant: Grace Church West Wales (Reg.No. 1186689)		0	0	0	0
Legacies		0	0	0	0
		23,030	0	23,030	22,869
b) Other Trading Activities (incl. Fundraising)					
Fundraising Events Incomes		0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
c) Income from Charitable Activities					
Unrestricted Donations from Charitable Activities		0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
d) Other Income					
Other Incomes		0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
e) Income from Investments					
Interest Income		0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3. PAYMENTS	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
a) Expenditure on Raising Funds		£	£	£	
Fundraising Events Expenses		0	0	0	0
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
b) Expenditure on Charitable Activities (incl.Governance Costs)					
Charitable Operations Facilitation		-4,247	0	-4,247	3,813
Personnel Costs		-14,136	0	-14,136	10,641
Outreach Expenses		-385	0	-385	428
Designated Expenditures		0	0	0	407
Gift and Grants	4	-3,055	0	-3,055	2,030
Aministration & Governance		-621	0	-621	1,544
		<u>-22,444</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-22,444</u>	<u>18,863</u>
c) Other Expenditure					
Other		0	0	0	50
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>50</u>

Church of the Living Hope
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-24 £	Income £	Expenditure	Balance 31-Dec-24 £
Benevolent Fund Restricted	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

The restricted funds are explained in note 6 of the accounts.

The restricted funds are wholly represented by cash reserves of the charity.

5. PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND DONATIONS BY TRUSTEES

£652 expenses were claimed by a Trustees in regard to Trustee duties (Last year: £280).

One Trustee was employed by the charity and was paid a total of £10,764 (Last year: £9427).

Expenses waived by trustees were (immaterial).

6. DESCRIPTION OF FUNDS

All money given by donors to a Restricted Fund is used for that purpose. Where there are expenses incurred in the delivery of goods or services in an area covered by a Restricted Fund, money may be drawn from this Restricted Fund to cover the relevant expenses in delivery of the service covered by that Fund. An explanation of the different Funds follows.

Financial review

Year End financial position

The Charity was founded in January 2020. In the past year it has received a mixture of one off donations and regular giving from members of the Church congregation.

The ongoing operational budgets have been set to ensure that operational costs are kept below the level of the regular monthly giving resulting in a surplus of £17,392 at the end of 2024. Of this sum £7,000 has been allocated as reserve funding.

Reserves Policy

Based on current operations level, the Church of the Living Hope holds a reserve of £7,000

Our income is primarily based on the freewill giving of church members. The reserve is therefore available for use in the event of a significant drop in our income, whether long or short-term. It would be used to cover outstanding commitments including hall hire and Minister's salary. It is also kept for use if the charity were to close for unforeseen reasons. In that event it would enable us to wind down gradually, over a period of 6 months so that members can come to terms with the situation and find another church.

Given the financial oversight by the Trustees there is no current risk of the Charity not being able to continue as an ongoing concern.