



**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements of
Sutton HongKongers' Church
For the Year Ended 31st August 2024
Registered Charity No.: 1203464**



Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Aim and Purposes

Sutton HongKongers' Church (SHKC) is committed to advancing the Christian religion in and around Sutton for the benefit of the public, primarily, though not exclusively, for new Hong Kong migrants and their surrounding communities.

Objectives and Activities

The vision for SHKC is to fulfil God's calling by becoming a vibrant Christian community that loves God with one accord, shines and inspires others, and makes impact through four key areas:

- 1) Worship - We seek to manifest the love of the triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - through regular public worship, prayers, preaching, testimonies, singing, thanksgiving, and financial contributions. Our worship reflects our love for God and His teachings.
- 2) Discipleship - We aim to lead and equip our congregation in a deeper understanding of their faith by following Jesus Christ. Through Bible study, Sunday school, teaching, training and spirituality, we foster Christian characters that enable individuals to relate to God and to one another in Christ's love, both individually and collectively.
- 3) Ministry - We focus on learning to serve one another and God's creation with mutual love and respect, thereby building up the body of Christ for the benefit of the world.
- 4) Mission - We are committed to sharing and advancing the good news of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

These elements shape the Christian way of living for everyone involved in our community.

In planning our activities for the year, SHKC has taken into account the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, particularly the specific guidance regarding 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

This year, we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities across various aspects of our ministries to fulfil our mission:

Worship

Objective:

- To hold weekly Sunday worship services for the congregation to praise the Lord and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ

Activities:

- Conducted training for worship leaders and the worship team;
- Organised Christmas events, such as the Christmas Carol Service, to celebrate the birth of Christ and share God's grace with the community.

Discipleship and Fellowship

Objective:

- To enhance our congregation's development in discipleship and fellowship

Activities:

- Established rules and guidelines for small group leader shepherding and small group gatherings;
- Nurtured and trained small group leaders;
- Encouraged small group members to be rooted in the Church through discipleship and learning;
- Organised monthly welcome gatherings for newcomers to help them settle into the Church community.

Children's Ministry

Objectives:

- To create an environment for children to form meaningful friendships with one another through shared experiences and encourage deeper connections as they collaborated on creative and interactive projects;
- To offer engaging and enjoyable activities that allow children to explore their faith in an informal and joyful atmosphere;
- To foster a sense of belonging among the children, encouraging them to take an active role in the church and in their faith community.

Activities:

- Organised weekly Sunday school for children to bond through worship, Bible study, and group activities, complemented by special events such as the *Summer Messy Church*;
- Offered engaging activities such as the *Easter Gospel Magic Show*, *Children's Choir* (on Christmas and Mother's Day), *Summer Holiday Club* and *Christingle Service*, designed to create a fun and interactive learning and worship experience;
- Used the *Energizer* study materials weekly, guiding children through their spiritual journey from a basic understanding of Christianity to a deeper connection with their faith;

- Provided opportunities for children to participate in church events like *Family Nativity Drama* to deepen their sense of belonging and service to the community.

Youth Ministry

Objective:

- To provide a space for youth to praise the Lord and deepen their understanding of Christianity

Activities:

- Held weekly Sunday gatherings for youth to worship and engage in Bible study;
- Organised activities that promote close relationships and encourage youth to serve the church and the community, deepening their sense of belonging.

Outreach and Community Engagement

Objectives:

- To cultivate a welcoming and inclusive community that extends beyond the church walls with the engagement of individuals from diverse backgrounds;
- To provide our congregation with the opportunities for spiritual growth, social connection, and community service.

Activities:

- Established three groups (brotherhood, elderly, and sports) to provide accessible entry points for individuals seeking spiritual guidance, companionship, and recreational activities;
- Collaborated with local organisations, including Sutton Chancellors, Methodist churches, and other faith-based groups, to strengthen community ties and share resources;
- Participated in outdoor activities, such as picnics with Trinity Church Sutton, and engaged in community service projects like preparing lunch for those in need;
- Offered badminton coaching to children and teenagers, promoting physical health and social skills;
- Fostered relationships with organisations like the food bank and the Japanese church through joint activities, including carol singing and seasonal celebrations.

Achievements and Performance

In the past year, SHKC has made significant strides in fostering spiritual growth, community engagement, and inclusive worship experiences. Through regular worship services, discipleship initiatives, and vibrant ministries for children and youth, we have strengthened our congregation's bond while reaching out to the wider community. Notable initiatives included inviting the renowned Hong Kong Association of Christian Missions (HKACM) for worship training, hosting a well-attended Christmas carol service and enhancing our small group structure to nurture deeper connections within our congregation. Our outreach programmes have also fostered strong relationships with the local community, ensuring we remain a supportive presence to individuals of all faiths and none.

Worship

- Regular weekly Sunday worship services have been carried out with the aid of projection and audio control. Our worship leaders have facilitated praise and worship, leading into scripture reading, sermons, prayers of intercession, offerings, notices and closing hymns, culminating in blessings. Worship songs are sung in Cantonese, Mandarin and English.
- HKACM was invited to provide worship training and lead a Sunday service in May 2024, which was highly appreciated by our congregation and the worship team.
- In December 2023, a Christmas carol service was held at Trinity Church Sutton, where over 100 attendees, including our congregation and neighbours, enjoyed singing traditional Christmas songs celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ.

Discipleship and Fellowship

- Through mutual discussions, all small group leaders have recognised their important role in the pastoral care of their group members, leading Bible study and fostering spiritual growth.
- Monthly meetings held among small group leaders have facilitated relationship-building and teamwork while providing training in both spiritual and practical aspects.
- This year, a total of 5 training sessions were organised and well received by current and prospective small group leaders.
- Currently, there are 10 established small groups, with most congregation members participating in monthly gatherings. In these groups, members engaged in studying God's word, caring for each other, walking together in faith and practising the four guides of the church: worship God, learn to be disciples, serve life, and preach the gospel) for becoming faithful Christians who are willing to serve the local community.
- The monthly welcome gatherings for newcomers have effectively acquainted with each other and the church, fostering a sense of hospitality from the Church and a better understanding of the Church before they decide to join a small group.

Children's Ministry

- The regular Sunday gatherings and group activities have fostered an inclusive and supportive environment, allowing lasting friendships to form. Feedback from children participants and tutor's observation highlighted a safe space for sharing their faith journeys and personal experiences.
- Children have expressed enthusiasm and enjoyment during activities such as the *Gospel Magic* show and choir performances. These events were well-attended and received positive feedback from participants and their families.
- Participating in church services and events by children has stabilised, with more congregation members volunteering to assist in organising events and taking leadership roles in the ministry.

Youth Ministry

- Through regular weekly gatherings combined with study materials, *Energize*, our youth have been guided from a basic to a deeper understanding of the Christian faith systematically.
- The bi-monthly singing group practices have helped youth learn to worship and serve through music while fostering teamwork.
- Weekly gatherings, along with board game time afterward, have effectively built peer relationships and mutual support among youth.
- Over the past year, the youth have actively participated in various church events, such as charity sales, and community service activities, like litter clean-up in local parks. All these activities have deepened their sense of belonging to both the church and the community.

Outreach and Community Engagement

- We have cultivated strong relationships with Sutton Council, fostering mutual understanding and collaboration.
- Interfaith Partnerships have been established with local churches and volunteer groups, creating a supportive and inclusive environment.
- Our church has successfully guided individuals towards spiritual growth, providing support for newcomers and those facing personal challenges.
- Financial and emotional assistance have been offered to individuals in need, connecting them with necessary resources and spiritual guidance.
- Our outreach programme, particularly in badminton, engaged families and promoted physical and mental well-being among children and teenagers.

Financial Review

In our first financial year, total receipts on unrestricted funds were £138,456 of which £597 was bank interest income. A total £72,141 was spent to support worship and other activities, with the primary expenses being venue hire and pastor stipends.

We are pleased to report that donations from the congregation nearly covered total expenditures.

Looking ahead, the year-end balance of £74,653 is carried forward to the next year, which will be allocated towards additional pastoral resources and anticipated increase in venue hire costs.

Reserve Policy

It is SHKC policy to maintain a balance in unrestricted funds (if possible) that equates to at least three months unrestricted payments, amounting to £30,000. This reserve is intended to cover any emergency situations that may arise. The year-end balance of £74,653 in unrestricted funds exceeds this target.

Volunteers

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers whose dedication and hard work contribute to the lively and vibrant community of SHKC. Over the past year, our volunteers have dedicated over 3,120 hours of service, valued at a minimum of £35,700.

A special thanks goes to our small group leaders and conveners of the missionary groups, whose tireless efforts enrich our ministries. We also appreciate Mr Kee Fai Wut, our Treasurer, for his invaluable assistance in helping us understand the church's accounts and finances. We acknowledge members of the congregation for their significant contributions in keeping the church thriving.

Structure, Governance and Management

The procedures for admitting new members and appointing trustees of SHKC are outlined in our Constitution. SHKC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern, including the approval of financial budgets. The trustees manage the affairs of SHKC, drawing on their unique knowledge or experience to fulfil their roles. Each member and trustee is obligated to exercise their powers in good faith, ensuring their actions align with the objectives of SHKC.

To address its diverse responsibilities, SHKC has established several missionary groups, each focusing a specific aspect of ministry. These groups - encompassing worship, discipleship, children, youth, and outreach and community engagement - are accountable to SHKC and provide regular updates on their activities and progress. This structure ensures that all efforts align with the church's mission and objectives, fostering a collaborative environment for ministry work.

Administrative Information

SHKC previously held its worship services at Trinity Church Sutton and Sutton United Football Club. As of July 2024, our regular worship venue has moved to Nonsuch High School for Girls. Our correspondence address is 124 City Road, London EC1V 2NX.

SHKC has been registered as a charitable organisation with the Charity Commission since 8th June 2023.

The trustees serving from 8th June 2023, until the approval of this report are as follows:

- Rev. Kan Wing-Chit Yu (ex-officio trustee)
- Ching Keung Chiu
- Kee Fai Wut
- Tsz Fai Chan
- Cheuk Man Chung
- Suet Yin Cherie Chu
- Man Yee Tse
- Ming Ngai

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

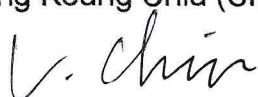
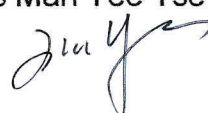
The charity trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Under the law governing charities in England and Wales, the trustees must prepare financial statements each year that provide a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, including its incoming resources and the application of those resources. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles outlined in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, disclosing any material departures in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its business.

Additionally, the trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that accurately reflect the charity's financial position and ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and take reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the SHKC trustees/stewards on 31st October 2024 and signed on their behalf by Mr Ching Keung Chiu (SHKC Chairman) and Ms Man Yee Tse (Secretary).

Handwritten signature of Mr Ching Keung Chiu.Handwritten signature of Ms Man Yee Tse.

Financial Statements

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 14TH MAY 2023 TO
31ST AUGUST 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £	Prior year funds £
Incoming resources			
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	137,234	137,234	8,338
Charitable activities	625	625	-
Investments	597	597	-
Total	138,456	138,456	8,338
Resources expended			
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	72,141	72,141	-
Total	72,141	72,141	-
Net income/(expenditure)	66,316	66,316	8,338
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	8,338	8,338	-
Total funds carried forward	74,653	74,653	8,338

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014.

Approved by the SHKC stewards on 19th October 2024 and signed on their behalf by Mr Ching Keung Chiu (SHKC Chairman) and Mr Kee Fai Wut (SHKC Treasurer).



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees and Members of Sutton HongKongers' Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts pages 1-18 and trustees report pages 1-10 of SHKC for the year ended 31st August 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.

Mark Kelly ACMA GCMA
109 Taybridge Road
London SW11 5PX