

The Annual Robert Stewart Memorial United Reformed Church 2024 Report

This year the funds have remained healthy despite an incredible price rise in energy bills. The 5 year agreement we had in place with much lower tariffs has protected us especially over the last two years. Our new three year contract was agreed in the light of continued global uncertainty and the prospect of ongoing increases. The knowledge of the increase and request for users of the building to be aware and be as frugal as they can be has helped with efficiency. The changing of all lighting to LED has helped the building efficiency as has the changing of the windows to double glazing too. The cost of gas has increased by £600 over the year.

Over the year the biggest spend was on maintenance and repairs on the building, including: damp treatment in the caretakers flat, emergency lighting, LED lighting installation, pointing and roof repairs to mend a leak on the minor hall roof, and emergency lighting installation.

In January we paid for the upgrade of the AV system to enable recording and the organ tuned for the Dementia Christmas Service that was broadcast at Christmas. February saw the installation of the memorial seating into the memorial garden. More roses were planted into the raised beds during March with further planting of bedding plants into fresh compost in May.

March was a time of repointing at higher levels of the building with repairs to the roof and dormer windows. The Scouts were supported with new independent lighting fed through to the hut and the mould and damp in the Caretakers flat were dealt with and eradicated effectively.

In June we enjoyed afternoon tea at Doxford Hall, meeting a number of past members from Edinburgh, Morpeth and Newcastle . A great day out was had by all.

In July the church sanctuary was painted with the internal and external entrance painted and weather proofed in September. During the summer , whilst most lettings were on holiday the safety checks eg PAT tests, fire extinguishers, alarm tests etc, emergency lights and the remaining lights that weren't LED were changed. The issue with the central heating boiler was repaired, a new circuit board being required.

In November we had a trip to Low Hauxley instead of visiting the Christmas tree exhibitions. The final costs of organ check and streaming camera upgrade were completed in time for the funeral of a well loved past member .

In summary, the support of the worship groups and community users has enabled the reserve to be increased to £10,000 and with no extreme expenses the balance has healthily remained stable. We are supporting SEARCH groups; West end friends, Tea and Tech, Singing for the Brain and seated dance at no cost for letting.

Thanks to Keith and Pauline Miller for auditing the accounts.

ROBERT STEWART MEMORIAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER 2024

INCOME	2023	2024
Loose offering	1,824.80	2,058:61
Envelope offering	6,275.00	8,565:00
Gift aid gifts	2,500.00	E.Wallis, R.Morris
Gift Aid tax refund	2,910.52	applied for
Miscellaneous gifts	3,057.00	470:00
Total gifts	16,567.32	11,168.61
Coffee	119.30	186:33
Coin a day	14.00	nil
Gift Day	nil	410:00
Building maintenance	567.28	nil
Disaster appeals	97.00	nil
Bequest	20,904.64	D.Broomfield nil
Total 'other' giving	21,702.22	596.33
Ethiopian congregation	nil	
Romanian congregation	3,693.00	4,084:50
Congolese congregation	3,190.00	2,945:00
Total Christian congregations	6,883.00	7,029.50
Bowls	1,400.00	1,400:00
WI	255.00	140:00
Little band	1,760.00	1,400:00
Sewing class	1,050.00	2,650:00
Scouts	1,500.00	1,000:00
Inspire Youth	2,000.00	1,311:00

Other room users, rentals, etc	1,035.00	1,500:00
Total room users	9,000	9,401.00
Christmas Fair	997.34	976:95
Pulpit Supply support		80:00
		1,056,95
TOTAL NON-GRANT INCOME	55,149.88	29,252.39

GRANTS RECEIVED SHOWN BELOW under 'Improvements'

Synod property grant (windows)	2,242.00	NIL
Synod property grant (kitchen window)	441.00	
Synod property grant (Sanctuary glazing)		4,874.22 Feb
Synod property grant (Kitchen and prep room)		1,813.00
	9,370.22	

	EXPENDITURE	2023	2024
Ministry and Mission	8,283.96		8,526:00
Pulpit supply	550.00		269:19
Community Worker expenses	836.37		600:00
Total 'service' provision	9,670.33		9,395.19
Disaster Appeal (Turkey)	97.00		NA
Energy Electric	1,933.28 (5 yr contract)		
1,901.58			
Energy Gas	2,311.82		2,921:24
Water	200.05		254:74
Insurance	3,507.70		3,582:30
Caretaker (wages)	1,040.00		1,040:00
Caretaker flat Council Tax	1,447.68		1,520:03
Caretaker flat gas	0.00		NA
Repairs and maintenance	30,262.21		18,362:83
Cleaning materials	339.07		324:21
Broadband	652.80		3,127:20
Total buildings costs	41,791.61		33,034.13
Admin/other expenditure	4,592.61		1,207:66
TOTAL NON-GRANT EXPENDITURE	56,054.55		43,636.98

FUNDS - BALANCE SHEET

Opening balances 1st January 2024

Main Bank **46,419.21**

Reserve Building Fund held within main account (**10,000)**

Plus Total non-grant income **29,252.39 + 46,419.21 = 75,671.60**

Less Total non-grant expenditure **43,636.98**

Closing balances (excluding grants)

31st December 2024

Main Bank **32,034.62**

TOTAL

NOTE:

The drop in income from last year was due to an extraordinarily large bequest in the previous year. Significant repairs were undertaken with a new reinforced path with no steps to the front door, and repairing damp in the caretakers flat. LED lights throughout the premises and boiler repairs account for the major other spend and no grants were applied for due to extensive provision in the previous year.

The Accounts have been checked and declared accurate by Keith Gavin Miller June 2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

ROBERT STEWART MEMORIAL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

DECEMBER 2024

Charity no
(if any)

233569

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/12/2024

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").

Independent
examiner's statement

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have
come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection
with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a
proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

7TH JUNE 2025

Name:

KEITH GAVIN MILLER

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

14 BOLBEC RD. FENHAM.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

NE4 9EP