

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024
for
First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

Lanham and Company Limited
Chartered Accountants
9 Great Chesterford Court
London Road
Great Chesterford
Essex
CB10 1PF

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

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**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

It is stated on the title page of the By-Laws of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Cambridge, that:

"Its object is to maintain and spread the Truth as set forth in the Bible, and interpreted in Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science." The missionary work and pastoral care implicit in the above statement are for the benefit of the public, and are manifested in our church activities. In carrying out these activities we do our best to maintain Christian standards of integrity and brotherly love.

The worldwide Christian Science Church, of which the Cambridge Church is a Branch, is "designed to commemorate the word and works of our Master [Christ Jesus], which should reinstate primitive Christianity and its lost element of healing." (Church Manual, page 17).

ACTIVITY OF THE CHARITY

Since passing Mrs S M Barker the Church was left without the second reader and unfortunately has to stop running the services.

Our Sunday School also closed its doors in early 2024.

The Church maintains a public Reading Room at 96 Regent Street Cambridge which currently opens once a week for enquiries and the sale or study of the Bible, authorized Christian Science literature and related materials. Visitors can borrow books and CDs, use the Reference Library, and use the Reading Room computer to explore www.christianscience.com and other Christian Science websites. The Reading Room also has a quiet area for visitors to study and pray, and the duty assistant welcomes enquiries about Christian Science.

Although members and friends are now able to meet at the reading Room, business meetings continue to be held on Zoom.

Our Church activities are open to everyone and all who wish to share in them are warmly welcomed. Currently the Reading Room remains open to the public to attend zoom prayer session on Sundays between 11:00-12:00
Every one welcome to attend them

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity. This Report of the Trustees demonstrates our Church's provision of public benefit.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Going concern

The trustees have reviewed the charity's financial position and are confident that it remains solvent and able to meet all liabilities before closure. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on the basis that the charity is in the process of winding up.

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

FUTURE PLANS

During the year, the trustees reviewed the charity's work and future direction. After careful consideration, we decided that the charity should close, as the number of followers and readers has continued to decline and it is no longer possible to achieve our aims effectively.

The charity is now in the process of winding up. The closure will be completed once the charity's building has been sold and all outstanding matters have been settled. The trustees are committed to ensuring that this process is carried out properly and in accordance with charity law and our governing document. Any remaining funds after closure costs will be applied to charitable purposes consistent with the charity's objectives.

The Trustees have decided to distribute the funds, including "Restricted" funds equally between

11th Church London
1st Church Newcastle upon Tyne
The Christian Science Trust

The Trustees have also notified the Charities Commission on its intention to wind up and distribute the funds, as per above on 20 June 2025.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The trustees would like to thank everyone who has supported the charity over the years - including our readers, donors, and volunteers. Your contributions have been greatly valued. While this decision marks the end of the charity's work, it has been taken with care and responsibility to ensure that all remaining assets are used for proper charitable purposes.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

The governing documents of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Cambridge, are its By-Laws and the Manual of The Mother Church by Mary Baker Eddy. Article 1 of the By-Laws states: "The control of the Church is vested in the members. An Executive Board shall transact the business of the Church."

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The members of the Executive Board are also the Charity Trustees of the Church. The members of the Board and Charity Trustees for the year under review were: Mrs S M Barker, Ms Galen Goldsmith, Mrs Aileen Hewett and Mrs Judith Gordon

Mrs Judith Gordon did receive remuneration for manning the Reading Room

STRUCTURE

The organisational structure of this charity, First Church of Christ, Scientist, Cambridge, is set out in the Church By-Laws.

ELECTION

The Executive Board is elected annually and these members are continuing to serve: Mrs S M Barker (deceased Feb 2024), Ms G Goldsmith, Mrs Judith Gordon and Mrs A Hewett.

CORRESPONDENT AND TREASURER

Mrs Hewett is correspondent for the Charity Trustees and Clerk to the Executive Board. Treasurer duties are shared between Mr Arman Baroyan and Mrs S M Barker/Mrs Judith Gordon.

A financial report has been submitted to the Board of Charity Trustees each month in accordance with the Church By-Laws (Article 2, Section 5). Cheques and online payments require two signatures, being any two of Mr Baroyan, the Treasurer, the Clerk, and other Board members.

HOLDING TRUSTEES

The Holding Trustees (Church By-Laws, Article 7) are: Mrs S M Barker, Mrs Hewett, Mrs J Gordon and Ms Goldsmith. The method of election of Holding Trustees is in accordance with the Church By-Laws, Article 7, Section 2.

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

CHARITY AS PART OF A WIDER NETWORK

The Church is a Branch of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. The governing document of The Mother Church is the Church Manual by Mary Baker Eddy. Each Branch Church follows the Rules and By-Laws in the Church Manual as applicable to Branches, and within this framework establishes its own By-Laws. The Church Manual states, in the first section of Article XXIII, page 70:

Local Self-government. SECTION 1. "The Mother Church of Christ, Scientist, shall assume no general official control of other churches, and it shall be controlled by none other. Each Church of Christ, Scientist, shall have its own form of government."

The Church Manual further states, in Section 10 of Article XXIII, page 74:

"In Christian Science each branch church shall be distinctly democratic in its government, and no individual, and no other church shall interfere with its affairs."

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

239590

Principal address

58 Panton Street
Cambridge
Cambridgeshire
CB2 1HS

Trustees

Mrs S M Barker (deceased 19.2.24)
Mrs A Hewett
Ms G L Goldsmith
Mrs J M Gordon (appointed 20.2.24)

Independent Examiner

Lanham and Company Limited
Chartered Accountants
9 Great Chesterford Court
London Road
Great Chesterford
Essex
CB10 1PF

Solicitors

Astons' Legal
Chequers House
77-81 Newmarket Road
Cambridge
CB5 8EU

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
3 Sidney Street
Cambridge CB2 3BU

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Other Addresses

Christian Science Reading Room
96 Regent Street
Cambridge CB2 1DP

Email

cscambridgeuk@btconnect.com

Websites

www.christianscience-cambridge.org.uk
www.colc.co.uk/page/christsci.html

SUMMARY

The furtherance of the Church's objects and activities relies on the shared support, insight and enthusiasm of its members. Our aim, as a Board of Charity Trustees, is to support and co-operate with the other members in enabling and undertaking the activities of the Church. We meet regularly to transact the business of the Church in an appropriate and prudent manner. In this we are enjoined by Mary Baker Eddy to uphold standards of "wisdom, economy, and brotherly love." (Church Manual, page 77).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under charity law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and The Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs A Hewett - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of First Church of Christ, Scientist Cambridge

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of First Church of Christ, Scientist Cambridge (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 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').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Preparation

I draw attention to the accounting policies note in the financial statements, which explains that the accounts have not been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have taken the decision to wind up the charity and the accounts have been prepared accordingly. My examination did not identify anything that gives me cause to believe that this basis is inappropriate.

Andrew Ireland FCCA

Lanham and Company Limited
Chartered Accountants
9 Great Chesterford Court
London Road
Great Chesterford
Essex
CB10 1PF

20 October 2025

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		-	-	-	3,634
Other trading activities	2	10,207	-	10,207	10,385
Investment income	3	18,564	-	18,564	17,422
Total		<u>28,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,771</u>	<u>31,441</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		24,026	-	24,026	28,614
Charitable activities					
Church		<u>3,616</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,616</u>	<u>1,317</u>
Total		<u>27,642</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,642</u>	<u>29,931</u>
Net gains on investments		<u>83,557</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,557</u>	<u>50,295</u>
NET INCOME		84,686	-	84,686	51,805
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>786,163</u>	<u>12,017</u>	<u>798,180</u>	<u>746,375</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>870,849</u></u>	<u><u>12,017</u></u>	<u><u>882,866</u></u>	<u><u>798,180</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	6	869,826	-	869,826	786,269
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		1,023	12,017	13,040	12,411
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	-	-	-	(500)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,023</u>	<u>12,017</u>	<u>13,040</u>	<u>11,911</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>870,849</u>	<u>12,017</u>	<u>882,866</u>	<u>798,180</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>870,849</u>	<u>12,017</u>	<u>882,866</u>	<u>798,180</u>
FUNDS	8				
Unrestricted funds				870,849	786,163
Restricted funds				12,017	12,017
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>882,866</u>	<u>798,180</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 20 October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

G L Goldsmith - Trustee

A Hewett - Trustee

J M Gordon - Trustee

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011 except as set out below.

The financial statements have not been prepared on a going concern basis - the trustees made the decision on 27th January, 2025 to wind down and close the charity on a voluntary basis, because of falling attendance numbers. As the planned closure date is anticipated to be within the next year, the trustees consider it no longer appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, given this decision has been made. The trustees consider it appropriate to keep stakeholders informed about the planned closure, and the financial statements depart from accounting standards and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), to the extent necessary to give a true and fair view.

In practice, there are no significant changes relating to the planned closure included within the financial statements.

Income

The charity's accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, all income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has received the income.

Expenditure

The charity's accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, expenditure is accounted for when payment is made and are classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they are allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The Church is a registered charity and as such is not liable to taxation on its activities.

Fund accounting

Resources are allocated to Restricted Funds according to the limitations on their use specified by the donors or other providers. Funds received in the direct operation of the Charity are treated as unrestricted income funds.

Other resources received without external restriction may be designated by the Trustees for particular purposes as deemed appropriate.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Investments

Investments are included at closing mid-market value at the balance sheet date. Any gains or loss on revaluation is taken on the Statement of Financial Activities.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Room hire	9,792	9,912
Reading room income	415	473
	<u>10,207</u>	<u>10,385</u>

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examination fee of £620 (2023: £600) and a fee for the assistance with the accounts preparation of £622 (2023: £468).

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Investment income	18,564	17,422
	<u>18,564</u>	<u>17,422</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Trustees' remuneration paid in the year was £1,700 (2023: £nil).

Trustees' expenses

One trustee was reimbursed for expenses paid in the year (2023: nil), totalling £120 (2023: £nil).

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	3,634	-	3,634
Other trading activities	10,385	-	10,385
Investment income	17,422	-	17,422
Total	<u>31,441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,441</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	28,614	-	28,614
Charitable activities			
Church	1,317	-	1,317
Total	<u>29,931</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,931</u>
Net gains on investments	50,295	-	50,295
NET INCOME	51,805	-	51,805
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	734,358	12,017	746,375

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>786,163</u>	<u>12,017</u>	<u>798,180</u>

6. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2024	786,269
Revaluations	<u>83,557</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>869,826</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2024	<u>869,826</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>786,269</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
Other creditors	<u>-</u>	<u>500</u>

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	786,163	84,686	870,849
Restricted funds			
Saffron Walden Trust Fund	3,600	-	3,600
Bequest from EM Swann	<u>8,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,417</u>
	<u>12,017</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,017</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>798,180</u>	<u>84,686</u>	<u>882,866</u>

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	28,771	(27,642)	83,557	84,686
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>28,771</u>	<u>(27,642)</u>	<u>83,557</u>	<u>84,686</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	734,358	51,805	786,163
Restricted funds			
Saffron Walden Trust Fund	3,600	-	3,600
Bequest from EM Swann	8,417	-	8,417
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,017	-	12,017
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>746,375</u>	<u>51,805</u>	<u>798,180</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	31,441	(29,931)	50,295	51,805
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>31,441</u>	<u>(29,931)</u>	<u>50,295</u>	<u>51,805</u>

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	734,358	136,491	870,849
Restricted funds			
Saffron Walden Trust Fund	3,600	-	3,600
Bequest from EM Swann	8,417	-	8,417
	<u>12,017</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,017</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>746,375</u>	<u>136,491</u>	<u>882,866</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	60,212	(57,573)	133,852	136,491
	<u>60,212</u>	<u>(57,573)</u>	<u>133,852</u>	<u>136,491</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>60,212</u>	<u>(57,573)</u>	<u>133,852</u>	<u>136,491</u>

Saffron Walden Trust Fund

To restrict the principal in accordance with the wishes of the donors; to apply the interest for the furtherance of the work of the Christian Science Church in Cambridge.

The assets of the Saffron Walden Trust Fund form part of the Lloyds Deposit account balance.

Bequest from E M Swann

This former member left a bequest of £8,617 to the Church. While a particular purpose for the gift wasn't specified, the members voted to restrict the money pending a decision on an appropriate use of the money in memory of E M Swann.

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**First Church of Christ, Scientist
Cambridge**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

10. LAND AND BUILDINGS

The charity owns a building in Panton Street, Cambridge which it is currently the subject of negotiations with a third party with a view to achieving a private sale. The current value is uncertain however due to the unusual nature of the building and hence no value has been included on the balance sheet.