Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	01	2025		31	12	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	German Church Newcastle
Other names charity is known by	Martin Luther Kirche
Registered charity number (if any)	
Charity's principal address	Clarence St, Shieldfield,
	Newcastle upon Tyne
Postcode	NE2 1YH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Angela Deverick		2024	
2	Lutz Lemmer		2017	
3	Ursula Hall		2011	
4	Oliver Heidrich		2013	
5	Anna Unger		2019	
6				
7				
8				
9				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Constitution via Congregational Assembly and Church Council, approved by Synod of the German-speaking Lutheran, Reformed and United Congregation in Great Britain
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by Church Council upon election by the members at the AGM

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The charity is working together with the other parts of the extended parish of Scotland and the North-east England (PAB), which is itself a member of the Synod of the German-speaking Lutheran, Reformed and United Congregation in Great Britain.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	The name of the congregation is German Church Newcastle. The purpose of the charity is the promotion of the Christian religion. We offer religious services in German language and commit to the proclamation of the Gospel in pastoral care, congregational activities and social services to all German speaking people residing permanently or temporarily within its area.
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)	Worship Services and AGM Regular Meetings Community Events Our Constitution (2024) and Congregational Concept (2023-2026) do provide more details on our activities and plans.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

After a busy and eventful 2024, we were able to catch our breath somewhat in 2025 and enjoy our renovated premises. We were able to celebrate several new and regular gatherings, congregational events, festivals, and worship services and, whenever possible, enjoy a relaxed coffee and tea together.

Worship Services and Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Regular worship services were held as usual on the fourth Sunday of each month at 4:00 pm and were announced in good time through the newsletter and by email and on social media. Some special occasions were Easter, the Summer Barbecue, St Martin's, and Christmas. These events attracted many visitors (between 15 and 50 participants), while regular services generally welcomed between 7 and 16 attendees. The AGM took place on 30 March 2025.

Regular Meetings by the Church Council
The Church Council (KGR) met twice in person (8 February and 30 August) and now also meets regularly via Zoom on a monthly basis.

The Toddler Group (ages 0-5) has returned to meeting in the Martin Luther Kirche building. Between five and twelve children attend almost every Saturday morning from 10:00 to 11:30 am.

The German Saturday School (DSS) now meets every two weeks on Saturdays. Classes are organised by teachers and the children's parents. There are six regular primary school participants (ages 6-12) and seven regular secondary school participants (ages 12-16). Parents and children also contribute in many other areas, such as building renovations, event organisation, cleaning the premises, and helping develop the congregation's new strategic concept.

Community Events
1 Community Weekend Away (21-23 March)
The congregational weekend retreat was supported by the Schroder 1905 Trust. Once again, it took place at the youth hostel in Wooler, Northumberland, with 13 adults and 19 children attending. The youth hostel proved to be an ideal venue, offering a large common room and garden where the children could play freely.

2. Community Markets
There were two community markets in 2025.On 17 May, attendance of 50 people (32 adults and 18 children). On 29 November, 62 people attended (35 adults and 27 children), These events introduced new people to our congregation and continue to be a wonderful community

Section D Achievements and performance

activity.

3. Summer Barbecue
The barbecue took place on 14 June and was once again an enjoyable gathering of more than 120 attendees.

4. St Martin's Celebration
Around 50 people attended the St Martin's lantern procession (26 adults and 24 children). Pastor Kaffka also led a family service, which was very well attended.

5. St Nicholas Celebration
The St Nicholas celebration on 7 December was attended by 26 adults and 17 children. The event was organised by members of the congregation together with the Toddler Group and Saturday School families. It was a lively occasion, and we are reviewing the format going forward.

6. PAB Congregational Outing
Unfortunately, the planned PAB congregational outing did not take place. We will need to consider whether and how such an event might be organised in the future.

7. Family-Friendly Events
The many family-friendly events continue to be a tremendous enrichment to congregational life and provide valuable inspiration for our community. Please continue to get involved and support them.

Membership and Finances
We welcomed several new members and now have 40 voting members and 21 children (as of January 2026).

As reported by the Treasurer, the congregation's financial resources continue to decline, and we are drawing on our reserves.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	The charity holds two unrestricted designated reserve funds: One to provide for the repairs and maintenance of the building, church and church hall, meeting rooms and pastor accommodation, the second to cover 2 years' worth of contributions to the Synod of the 16 German-speaking Protestant congregations in England, Scotland and Wales. The Synod is the employer for the pastor and the Synod contribution covers the costs for employment of the pastors, administration, organisational and spiritual support and guidance.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about: • the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); • how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.	The principal sources of funds are donations from the charity's members and the wider community, and community events like the annual summer German Grillfest and table-top sales. The letting of the church building and hall to other community groups does provide regular donations that help cover the costs for the upkeep of the buildings. The financial situation remains challenging and requires a sustainable long-term solution. Additional income and donations are needed to avoid reducing the savings. In particular, the expenditure in the last two years to renovate the church hall, kitchen, and update the electrical installation did cost a lot of money. However, we can continue to provide the room and facilities for our German-speaking church community to meet, celebrate and spread the word of the bible. Other local groups and individuals are also welcome to use the buildings for occasional or regular events and meetings, namely Potters House Church. We also celebrate the German culture and traditions with local families throughout the seasons, build community relations and promote the German language by hosting a German-speaking playgroup and the German Academy for children.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Oliver Heidrich	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of the Church Council	

Date	26/10/2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
German speaking church Newcastle	241652

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01.01.2025		31.12.2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	4,498	-	-	4,498	7,095
small anonymous donations	1,224	-	-	1,224	1,491
fundraising from events	1,296	-	-	1,296	1,870
rental income	17,619	-	-	17,619	11,334
reimbursements	-	-	-	-	35
grants received	1,635	-	-	1,635	1,154
giftaid	-	-	-	-	1,367
capital yield	441	-	-	441	456
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	26,713	-	-	26,713	24,801
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
sale of shares	-	-	-	-	642
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	642
Total receipts	26,713	-	-	26,713	25,443
A3 Payments					
synode contribution	17,550	-	-	17,550	16,200
insurance	2,945	-	-	2,945	3,174
repairs and renovations	12,569	-	-	12,569	16,551
utilities	5,305	-	-	5,305	1,119
maintenance, office	1,927	-	-	1,927	1,429
organist	1,020	-	-	1,020	650
travel costs	613	-	-	613	270
church events and activities	1,017	-	-	1,017	979
charitable giving	584	-	-	584	615
Sub total	43,532	-	-	43,532	40,989
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	43,532	-	-	43,532	40,989
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 16,819	-	-	- 16,819	- 15,546
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	20,000
A6 Cash funds last year end	27,926	-	-	27,926	23,472
Cash funds this year end	11,107	-	-	11,107	27,926

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Lloyds Bank account	11,107	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	11,107	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	NS&I savings account	45,487	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	CCLA ethical investment fund	unrestricted	-	15,013
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	AMDeverick	Angela Deverick	08/10/2026

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the German speaking Church Newcastle,

charity No 241652

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the **German speaking Church Newcastle** for the year ended 31.12.2025.

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 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 Trust 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: Anke Neibig

Name: ANKE NEIBIG

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): N/A

Address: 3 BELL AVENUE, NEWCASTLE, NE6 5DG

Date: 13/09/26