

Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland

Scotland · Charity number SC002467

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	Unincorporated association
Part of	The Church of Scotland (SC011353)
Registered	1959-05-27
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	Rannoch Road Perth PH1 2HH
Website	www.lethamstmarks.org.uk

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of religion'

What the charity does: The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It cooperates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: The advancement of religion.

Geography

- **Main operating location:** Perth And Kinross
- **Geographical spread:** A specific local point, community or neighbourhood

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£179,142	£177,537	-	3
2024-12-31	£209,819	£199,998	-	3
2023-12-31	£192,519	£143,907	-	3
2022-12-31	£154,481	£151,034	-	3
2021-12-31	£150,221	£130,161	-	3
2020-12-31	£117,097	£124,471	-	3

Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland

Scotland - Charity number SC002467

Accounts

Letham St Mark's

The church in the community



Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland

Congregation No: 281676

Scottish Charity Number: SC002467

**Trustees' Report
and
Financial Statements**

For the year ended 31st December 2025

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2025**

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**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2025**

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Charity Registration Number: SC002467
Congregation Reference Number: 281676
Contact Address: Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Rannoch Road
Perth
PH1 2HH

Principal Office-Bearers

Minister: Rev Jim Stewart BD DipMin
Pastoral Care Assistant: Lynn McKay
Session Clerks: James Leslie, Irene Wilkie
Treasurer: Gillian Forsyth
Church Centre Manager: Tracey White

Trustees

The following is a list of those who served as trustees during the year ended 31st December 2025 and up to and including the date of approval of these financial statements:

Kirk Session	Notes
Rev Jim Stewart BD DipMin	Chairman
James Leslie	Joint Session Clerk
Irene Wilkie	Joint Session Clerk
Kenny Barclay	
Gill Kaye	
Jennifer Knak	
Ruth Gunn	
Maggie Symon	
Claire Cahalin	
Alan Mason	
Alison Wilson	
David Forsyth	

Independent Examiner

Tracy Borland FCCA, CIPFA (Affil)
c/o Morris and Young Chartered Accountants
6 Atholl Crescent
Perth PH1 5JN

Principal Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue,
Kings Hill, West Malling,
Kent ME19 4JQ

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
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Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is a registered charity (SC002467) and is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form) and is subject to the acts and regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are Elders of the Church and are chosen from those members of the Church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The Minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery.

Organisational Structure and Changes during the year

The Kirk Session, which is responsible for both the spiritual and temporal affairs within the Church, meets in ordinary course on seven occasions in the year and on as many other occasions as may be necessary to fulfil its responsibilities. The Kirk Session is chaired by the Minister and the Session Clerk is responsible for all administrative aspects of the operation of Session.

The congregation meets in General Meeting on at least one occasion during the year to transact the business of an Annual Stated Meeting. Additional General Meetings of the congregation are convened as and when necessary to attend to urgent, unplanned business.

There were no changes in the structure of the charity during the year.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every Parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland ("the Church") is the Church within the community of Letham, Perth. It is the amalgam of two former Church of Scotland congregations (St Mark's Church and Letham Church).

Our Vision Statement

Who We Are:

We are a Christian church which loves Jesus and serves the community.

What We Believe:

We believe in a God who loves the world so much that He gave His only Son Jesus Christ for us.

We believe that in accepting Jesus we have forgiveness, peace with God and eternal life.

We believe that it is our responsibility to share this good news with our community.

We believe that the Bible is God's Word and we live our lives in obedience to it.

What We Do:

We worship God.

We encourage people in prayer and discipleship.

We engage with our community and wider world in mission.

We serve our community in Christ's name.

Achievements and Performance

Minister

In October, the Church celebrated 20 years of the "new" building with a special service and lunch. We had much to give thanks for and I am pleased to say that the witness of Letham St Mark's is still being carried out with great faith, hope and diligence. Over the last year we have seen an increase in numbers at Sunday worship and at all the activities we are engaged in with the community. I am very grateful to the Church staff, Kirk Session and the large and dedicated group of volunteers without whom we could not function.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Minister (continued)

After a period of interviewing prospective candidates for the youth worker role, it was decided that we would seek a different direction as a suitable candidate could not be found. As a Church we have moved to engage with the Growing Young movement which is an intergenerational approach to building a strong fellowship with an emphasis on children, families and young people. A team was formed and the Church signed up to a 2 year Growing Young course which includes webinars and face to face summits. The team has so far used its learning to include personal invites to Messy Church and Christmas events to the periphery organizations that use Letham St Mark's facilities. In 2026 the Church will employ Neil Slowman for one day a week to serve the Growing Young team, using some of the restricted youth funds to that end (with the permission of the donors). As a Church we are still open to filling the youth worker role in the future.

Rev Karlien Becker completed her familiarisation placement at Letham St Mark's. As well as leading services, taking funerals and visiting members of the congregation, she got involved in the schools and organised a reflective walk around Dunkeld. On 9th September, many of the congregation travelled to Maybole, where Karlien was inducted as the Minister of North Carrick Parish in South Ayrshire.

Session Clerk

2025 was another year with good attendances, and our live-streamed services continued to generate good viewing figures.

The number of members on the roll at the start of 2025 was 362. 4 members were removed by death and 5 admitted by certificate, resulting in a roll of 363. The Minister conducted 11 Funerals and there were 4 Weddings. There were no baptisms.

Our Staff Team continued to meet every Wednesday (Thursday before May) to liaise with one another and plan the week ahead. The Church Centre Manager also met quarterly with the Minister to plan ahead for the diary and regularly with the HR person to ensure wellbeing within her employment.

Our Church Cleaner retired in September after 19 years faithful service and a new cleaner was appointed who had been weekly deep cleaning the kitchen since 2022 and therefore was very familiar with the Church building.

On the social side, in April, 18 ladies headed up to the Cairngorm Christian Centre for a weekend of fellowship, prayer, worship, laughter, relaxation, good food and beautiful scenery. The following month 12 men also journeyed to the Cairngorm Christian Centre for relaxation, fellowship and coffee!

At Harvest Time, the Church had a Foodbank Appeal and 94kg of food items were donated.

Prayer

Prayer meetings continued as before with an open invitation to all in the congregation. There were two times of prayer:

- 1) monthly on the last Sunday of the month from 9 until 9.45am and
- 2) monthly on first Saturday of the month at 8.30 for breakfast (optional) and then 9 until 10am for intercessional prayer with a thought for the day led by different people each month. An average of 10 attended on the Sundays and 20 on the Saturdays. Each month, prayer topics for every day of the week were printed out and were also available online.

Pastoral Care

At the time of writing there are currently 21 members or adherents on the Pastoral Care List with 13 members on a secondary list. Most people are on the list because of mobility issues or transport issues that prevent them from attending church on a regular basis. The secondary list comprises of members who have not returned to regular worship since Covid or are recovering from health issues. A few on this list may be moved to the main pastoral care list throughout the year. Sadly, 2025 saw 1 member pass away and another moved out of the area to be closer to family.

From January to December 2025 the pastoral care assistant carried out approximately 93 visits, covering home, hospital and care homes. If face to face visits were not possible there were numerous telephone calls and text messages to keep in touch. All the visits were warmly received and over the

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

Pastoral Care (continued)

year good relationships were maintained. At Christmas, some ladies in the church put together gifts for those on the Pastoral Care List.

The pastoral assistant oversaw a pastoral team of 5 volunteers. The volunteers each had a named person or persons to visit at least 3 to 4 times a year, or as required. This ensured all members on the Pastoral Care List had access to several visits throughout the year.

Discipleship

Eight Home Groups, each with between six and nine people, continued to meet fortnightly. One morning group and two afternoon groups met in the Tay Room in the church building whereas all the evening groups were held in homes around the parish. There was some movement between groups to better suit individuals' diaries and some new people joined and took the place of one or two who had moved away.

All groups used an illustrated study book from a Middle East charity for a six-session Lent course, and over the summer, some groups chose topics to suit themselves, while others took a break. The autumn sessions were an 8-week series of videos on prayer from the organisation 24/7 Prayer.

Relationships have been formed and strengthened within the groups. This was confirmed at a meeting of the leaders at the end of the year, where leaders were able to share their concerns and positives with one another, and discuss future plans. Whilst most leaders felt their group could benefit from one or two more members, attendance had been generally good, and Home Groups were felt to be fulfilling their purpose of promoting discipleship, friendship, shared prayer and mutual support.

Children and Youth Activities

Creche

The creche met most weeks with on average two but with a potential of four children.

Sunday Club

The club, for primary aged children, met fairly regularly during the Church Service. The numbers and age range varied each week. A team of six on a rota taught the Bible, played games, did crafts and at times watched videos!

The Church in the Community

LSM Connections Café

It has been a great year for our café. We were open for 50 of the 52 weeks in the year with a well-deserved break at Christmas. The number of customers we welcomed was 4,798, which was slightly down from 2024. However, it was still an amazing amount of people and we are very grateful to each of our loyal customers.

Two Fairview pupils joined us on Tuesdays throughout the year on work placement. These amazing young people, who were ably helped by their support teacher, worked very hard and both learned new skills and grew in confidence. We also welcomed 4 pupils from Letham Primary School during the year who joined us on Wednesdays. They also grew in confidence and improved in social skills, numeracy and language. They were all lovely children and were a credit to their schools

We continued to give free teas/coffees along with a food item to vulnerable adults and families who struggle within our community of Letham. This was done very quietly by our staff with love and respect for the people who come into our café, are struggling and just need some help.

We held a special Café in May to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. In addition to our usual menu, we served victoria sponge and jam tarts. Music from the 30s and 40s era played in the background and a wartime quiz was on the café tables. We were loaned some wartime memorabilia including ration books, newspapers and identity cards by Viewlands P.S. Nearly 50 customers joined us on the day, which was great. We also held a Christmas Café on the last week before Christmas which was well attended by folks from church and community.

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

The Church in the Community (continued)

Babies and Toddlers

In 2025, the group continued to run weekly during the school term. The carers – parents, aunts, and grandparents - appreciated being able to relax and chat while the toddlers were exploring toys and making first steps in social interaction. Overtime, several parents have established important friendships with other group members, and one group of four has become so close they go on holiday together and rely on one another for childcare during illness or emergencies. However, this group and others were always willing to chat to newcomers, and most people felt the sessions were relaxing and easy to join. Adults were appreciative of the range of toys and play equipment for small children. In the middle of the session, we managed almost every week to have an informal 15-minute Singing Time, which was many children's favourite part of the session. The lunch was also very popular.

Over 90 different families came along to the group during the year with around 10 families attending regularly. One baby was born an hour after his mother rushed from the group! The numbers each session did not exceed what we could cope with due to toddlers reaching the age at which they are offered a place at school nursery. The average age of children has fallen steadily, with the majority now being around 12 months old.

There has been some encouraging spillover from the Toddlers' group into Warm Spaces, where families can bring along friends and neighbours with older children. One or two have attended church on a Sunday, and a handful have come along, and brought others, to Messy Church. This would be our main desire for the coming year, that more families with babies would be drawn into the life of Letham St Mark's.

SUPA Club (Scripture Union for Primary Age)

The Club, for children in P6 and 7 and from Easter also P5, continued to meet weekly in term time in Letham Primary School. We met in the school Library during the lunch hour with an average of 15 children coming along each week. We played games, did crafts and taught Christian values using the Bible. Each year we raise the amount of money needed to take all of P7s to Lendrick Muir (S.U.'s outdoor centre) for a day away. The Soutar Trust helped us with the cost of the bus and for this we were very grateful. The school staff were very supportive.

Messy Church

During 2025 we ran 8 Messy Church events at Letham St Mark's on Sundays from 4 to 5.45pm. Our theme for this season has been "Encounters with Jesus" where we shared about Jesus' meetings with people and the transforming effects of these encounters.

Our Messy Church team included about 20 volunteers with a dozen or so being available to support each event. An advertising team took care of social media advertising and distributed approximately 600 flyers locally each time. On the day, we had core people who made up a welcoming team, a word and music team, a craft team, and a food team. These teams were supported by the wider volunteer network as required.

During the course of 2025 we had anywhere between 20 and 60 guests for each event. Our guests were mostly drawn from the Baby and Toddler and Warm Space groups although there were also a number of people who came only and specifically for Messy Church.

Warm Space

During 2025 we ran a Warm Space at the Church from 1 – 6pm every Thursday except the 2nd January and 25th December. We also took a break during July and August to give everyone a rest and time to do summer holiday things.

Between 4 and 6 volunteers supported the running of the group and worked very hard keeping the tea, coffee, juice and biscuits flowing, providing an inexhaustible supply of hot soup and bread, engaging with families, entertaining the children who attended and then finishing off with the never-ending cleaning and tidying up to leave our building set for the following day. It's always a busy, enjoyable, life filled, noisy afternoon.

Usually, we had around 40 people attending our Warm Space from the ages of 0 to mid 80s. Some brought knitting or crocheting, while others just brought themselves or their children and enjoyed the

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Achievements and Performance (continued)

The Church in the Community (continued)

social interactions of the afternoon. Occasionally, we had guests from other local organizations who came along to highlight the community support they offer locally.

July Bus Trips

Each Wednesday during the month of July we borrowed the community minibus from Letham4All which is a SCIO running within 100 meters of Letham St Mark's. L4A lent us their minibus for free with the only requirement being we return it clean and tidy and full of fuel just as we receive it from them in the morning. This is a great support to us and a wonderful help to keep our connections with families throughout the summer. We had 5 trips during July to beaches, towns, and playparks. All were fully booked and usually 2 or 3 cars also came along to enable everyone to take part.

Letham Primary School Lunch Club

In summer 2025 we heard from the local primary school that they were looking for support from local organizations to offer breaktime or lunchtime input to help ease the strain a little on staff who are challenged with the whole day care of the school children. Working alongside Letham4All, we offered a weekly lunch club where we spent time with around a dozen 8- and 9-year-olds. We enjoyed listening to their life stories, offering snacks, and doing some kind of basic craft with the children each week. This has been going well, is well attended, and appears to be enjoyed by the young people who come along.

Use of Building

Over the past year 67 groups, including 3 new ones, used our building.

We hosted or supported a number of larger events including the Cornhill Memorial Service and Children's Memorial Service both held in March and a Saturday coffee morning run by the Guides to raise funds for their trip to London. Christian Aid held their annual quiz night in the building in September and in November, we hosted the Prisoners Week Launch Service, a great afternoon where lots of church folks worked together to provide a lovely lunch for everyone attending. Perth Strathtay Harriers met several times over the year and also held two events, one of which was a children's presentation night which was well attended by the children, their coaches, teams and family. As a church we held a fellowship meal in between Christmas and New Year which was very well attended and enjoyed by everybody who came.

The Perth Care Van workers continued to fill up their water flasks at the church on Mondays, allowing them to provide hot drinks from the van to folks in Letham who are struggling.

There were 28 church groups who met over the year including our Prayer Breakfast, our three Home Groups who meet in the church fortnightly and Tea and Sympathy which our Minister led in November. Locally, there were 10 groups from the area who used our building, including Rainbows, Brownies and Guides who meet weekly, pupils/staff from Perth Academy who also meet weekly and Goodlyburn Primary School.

Property

During the year we had to replace the water boiler in the kitchen. The new boiler is bigger and more efficient. We also upgraded the cabling to the café screens and a new sound desk was installed in the Church Sanctuary, complete with new radio mics and handheld mics.

The property team continued to look after the manse and the building, with a new ground maintenance team supporting them. The maintenance team has done various tidy-ups over the year, including laying new stones around the Church perimeter.

Wider Mission

The Church once again took part in the 2025 Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal appeal handing in 167 shoeboxes which were delivered to Odessa in Ukraine.

Future Plans

To progress the Growing Young programme by providing spaces and running events where people from all generations can relax, have fun and develop friendships.

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Financial Report

In 2025 there was a decrease of 15% in total income compared with 2024 (2024 - 9% increase). Most of this is due to there being increased income in 2024 in the restricted funds for the building work, youth worker (now Growing Young) and replacement projector. However, the principal source of income, namely regular unrestricted giving by church members and adherents (including Gift Aid) plus visitor donations has also decreased albeit by a negligible amount (2024 - 13% increase). Only offerings given by standing order have seen an increase. Unrestricted giving by church members and adherents (including Gift Aid) plus visitor donations has risen to 69% of total income compared with 59% in 2024.

There has been a 6% drop in charitable activities income. Café income, which makes up over 60% of this income category, has fallen due to an 8% drop in the number of customers. With use of premises, there has been a 20% decrease in income. However, although there were slightly more groups meeting in 2024 compared to 2025, the income of groups which continued to meet both years increased so there's a balancing out effect. Most of the decrease can be attributed to the income from the two elections in the 2024 total. The large increase in other charitable activities income was due to the men's and ladies' weekends away and a first aid course.

The Church was grateful to receive a restricted grant from Letham4All for £1,045 for Warm Space, covering the period October 2025 to March 2026 and a grant of £2,500 from the Gloag Foundation for the Growing Young programme. Two generous restricted donations were received, one of which covered the cost of the new sound desk and associated work and the other was to go into the Growing Young fund. Perth Radio Taxis gave a donation before Christmas to be used for gifts to the community and for the Fellowship meal between Christmas and New Year. As it had already been announced that there was going to be a small charge for the meal, the attendees were invited, if they wanted, to give this amount anyway and it would be passed on to Teen Ranch, a local charity. £169 was raised and passed on.

Although total expenditure appears to have fallen 11% from 2024, (2024 - 39% increase), the main reason for this was of course the building work and when £29K is removed from the 2024 total, there is a 4% increase in expenditure. Most Charitable Activity categories saw increases in cost although there were decreases in some. Large items of expenditure included the sound desk (just under £8K for which a generous donation was received), the kitchen water boiler (just over £2K) and further remedial electrical work to complete the EICR carried out in 2024 (£2K).

So, although there was negligible increase in unrestricted expenditure (£162K in 2025 and 2024), the unrestricted income has failed to match this amount resulting in a loss for the year of £10,213.

The unrestricted funds with a total of £13,135 are used for day to day activity while the restricted funds with a total of £83,793 have specific, donor related conditions attached to their management. In particular £73,369 is being held for the provision of a youth outreach worker/Growing Young programme.

Reserves Policy

It is the trustees' policy to hold reserves of between one- and two-month's expenditure excluding designated funds. At the year end the Church held unrestricted funds of £13,135. However, for reasons of necessity within the life of the Church and in the light of activities which are ongoing and financially independent, £3,409 of these funds have been designated for particular congregational and charitable purposes. The remaining balance of £9,726 is less than the level of expenditure which the trustees consider to be adequate to meet their current and future liabilities. The trustees will be addressing this shortfall in 2026. The Church also held £83,793 of restricted funds which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 2.

Also as a result of the sale of 1 Anderson Drive, former manse of St Mark's Church, over £20,000 is held by the general trustees (as shown in the appendix) to be used for fabric expenditure.

Statement of Trustees Responsibility

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

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Statement of Trustees Responsibility (continued)

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that financial period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates which are reasonable and prudent;
- Observe the method and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

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 ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Regulations Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information on the congregation's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf.



**James Leslie
Session Clerk**

Date 26/03/2026

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2025**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 12 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Tracy Borland

Tracy Borland FCCA, CIPFA (Affil)
c/o Morris and Young Chartered Accountants
6 Atholl Crescent
Perth PH1 5JN

Date: 31/03/2026

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2025**

**Perth:Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Year ended 31 December 2025**

		Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Endowment Funds 2025	Total 2025	Total 2024
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>						
Donations	3	122,801	19,047	-	141,848	159,854
Grants		-	3,545	-	3,545	13,500
Legacies		-	-	-	-	500
Charitable Activities	4	29,021	-	-	29,021	31,029
Bank & Deposit Interest		212	864	-	1,076	1,294
Investment Income		-	-	3,652	3,652	3,642
<u>Total Receipts</u>		<u>152,034</u>	<u>23,456</u>	<u>3,652</u>	<u>179,142</u>	<u>209,819</u>
<u>Payments</u>						
Costs of Generating Funds	5	139	-	-	139	87
Charitable Activities		162,077	14,443	-	176,520	199,063
Governance Costs		390	-	-	390	360
Other Payments		-	-	488	488	488
<u>Total Payments</u>		<u>162,606</u>	<u>14,443</u>	<u>488</u>	<u>177,537</u>	<u>199,998</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers						
		(10,572)	9,013	3,164	1,605	9,821
Transfers						
	2	359	2,805	(3,164)	-	-
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year						
		<u>(10,213)</u>	<u>11,818</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,605</u>	<u>9,821</u>

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
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**Perth:Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Statement of Balances
At 31 December 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 Note	Restricted Funds 2025	Endowment Funds 2025	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Bank & Deposit Balances</u>					
Bank & Deposit balances brought forward	23,348	71,975	-	95,323	85,502
Movement in year:					
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year	(10,213)	11,818	-	1,605	9,821
Bank & Deposit balances carried forward	<u>13,135</u>	<u>83,793</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>96,928</u>	<u>95,323</u>
<u>Investments at market value</u>					
(Cost £67,402; (2024 - £66,913))	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>186,544</u>	<u>186,544</u>	<u>172,509</u>
<u>Assets</u>					
Gift Aid Receivable	<u>4,248</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,263</u>	<u>5,686</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session on 3/3/26

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session.

*Scott
Letham*

Gillian C Forsyth

Session Clerk

Treasurer

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2025**

**Perth:Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Notes to the Accounts**

1 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year, the Minister received reimbursement of expenses incurred, totalling £6,610. (2024 - £8,145) This was split as follows :- manse council tax £3,335; (2024 - £3,064) travel expenses in the form of car mileage £1,786; (2024 - £3,679) manse phone £1,489; (2024 - £1,362) other £0. (2024 - £40)

No trustees or their relatives received any payments, expenses or benefits in respect of work done or services provided. Other payments made to trustees and their relatives were confined to reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the charity.

2 Movements in Funds

	At 1 Jan 2025	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	At 31 Dec 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	18,001	151,772	(160,406)	359	9,726
Designated Babies & Toddlers Fund	335	211	(65)	-	481
Designated Special Projects Fund	5,012	51	(2,135)	-	2,928
	<u>23,348</u>	<u>152,034</u>	<u>(162,606)</u>	<u>359</u>	<u>13,135</u>
Restricted funds					
Babies & Toddlers Fund	470	-	(470)	-	-
Floral Fund	1,624	8	(388)	-	1,244
Hill Bequest Benevolent Fund	2,308	28	-	56	2,392
Hill Bequest Sunday School Fund	2,038	24	(99)	379	2,342
Mission Fund	236	514	(546)	-	204
Sage/Hill Bequest Choir Fund	-	-	(2,370)	2,370	-
Special Projects Fund	65,299	22,882	(10,570)	-	77,611
	<u>71,975</u>	<u>23,456</u>	<u>(14,443)</u>	<u>2,805</u>	<u>83,793</u>
Endowment funds					
Edgar Sage Bequest Fund	-	2,479	(488)	(1,991)	-
Arthur Cramond Bequest Fund	-	36	-	(36)	-
Hill Bequest Choir Fund	-	379	-	(379)	-
Hill Bequest Sunday School Fund	-	379	-	(379)	-
Hill Bequest Benevolent Fund	-	379	-	(379)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,652</u>	<u>(488)</u>	<u>(3,164)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>95,323</u>	<u>179,142</u>	<u>(177,537)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>96,928</u>

Purposes of Designated Funds

Babies & Toddlers Fund: This is an organisation

Special Projects Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for special projects

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Babies & Toddlers Fund: This is a fund to provide toys

Floral Fund: This is a fund to provide flowers for display during services of worship then distribution.

Sage, Cramond, Hill Bequests: These are funds for the purposes described below.

Mission Fund: This is a fund to allow children to attend Scripture Union Events

Special Projects Fund: This is a fund for a Youth outreach worker plus any other special projects

Purposes of Endowment Funds

Income from the Edgar Sage Bequest is to go towards the minister's stipend ie used to reduce Giving to Grow Payments.

Income from the Arthur Cramond Bequests is to go towards general congregational purposes.

Income from the Hill Bequest Choir is to be used to provide music resources.

Income from the Hill Bequest Sunday School is to be used to provide Sunday Club materials

Income from the Hill Bequest Benevolent is to be used to provide for benevolent purposes.

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2025**

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
3 Analysis of Donations					
Envelopes	7,494	-	-	7,494	8,369
Standing Orders	65,940	-	-	65,940	64,738
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	24,630	-	-	24,630	24,773
Other Offerings, Donations etc	3,767	16,183	-	19,950	27,586
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations	20,970	2,864	-	23,834	34,388
	<u>122,801</u>	<u>19,047</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>141,848</u>	<u>159,854</u>
4 Analysis of Charitable Activities Income					
Café	18,256	-	-	18,256	19,535
Use of Premises (including catering)	8,100	-	-	8,100	10,069
Funerals and Weddings	100	-	-	100	520
Other	2,565	-	-	2,565	905
	<u>29,021</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,021</u>	<u>31,029</u>
5 Analysis of Payments					
Costs of generating funds					
Offering Envelopes	139	-	-	139	87
Charitable activities					
Giving to Grow Allocation	66,384	1,990	-	68,374	68,575
Presbytery Dues	2,228	-	-	2,228	2,169
Minister's Expenses	3,275	-	-	3,275	5,081
Ministerial Assistance	5,051	-	-	5,051	4,411
Pulpit Supply	150	-	-	150	50
Other Staffing Costs	36,027	-	-	36,027	34,636
Fabric Repairs, Maintenance and Contracts	10,578	-	-	10,578	38,685
Non-office Equipment	3,369	8,756	-	12,125	10,421
Council Tax	3,335	-	-	3,335	3,064
Heat and Light	10,105	1,154	-	11,259	10,932
Insurance	2,379	-	-	2,379	2,198
Church Office Expenses	4,884	-	-	4,884	4,130
Music	642	379	-	1,021	1,277
Café Expenses	7,981	100	-	8,081	7,564
Other Expenses	5,689	2,064	-	7,753	5,870
	<u>162,077</u>	<u>14,443</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176,520</u>	<u>199,063</u>
Governance costs					
Independent Examiner's Fees	390	-	-	390	360
Other payments					
Purchase of Investments	-	-	488	488	488

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2025**

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

6 Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £32,433 and the maximum stipend (in the 5th and subsequent years of service) was £39,856.

	2025	2024
	£	£
7 Collections for Third Parties		
Karlien Becker Leaving Collection	1,185	-
Christian Aid (Christmas Eve)*	586	690
Teen Ranch (Fellowship Lunch)	169	-
	<u>1,940</u>	<u>690</u>

* £1,006 was collected for Christian Aid in May 2025 and was paid directly.

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2025**

APPENDIX

FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION

BY THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL TRUSTEES

	2025	2024
	£	£
<u>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	<u>23,090</u>	<u>23,090</u>
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	<u>23,090</u>	<u>23,090</u>
 <u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balance at 31 December	<u>4,903</u>	<u>4,018</u>

Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland

Scotland - Charity number SC002467

Accounts

Letham St Mark's

The church in the community



Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland

Congregation No: 281676

Scottish Charity Number: SC002467

**Trustees' Report
and
Financial Statements**

For the year ended 31st December 2024

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

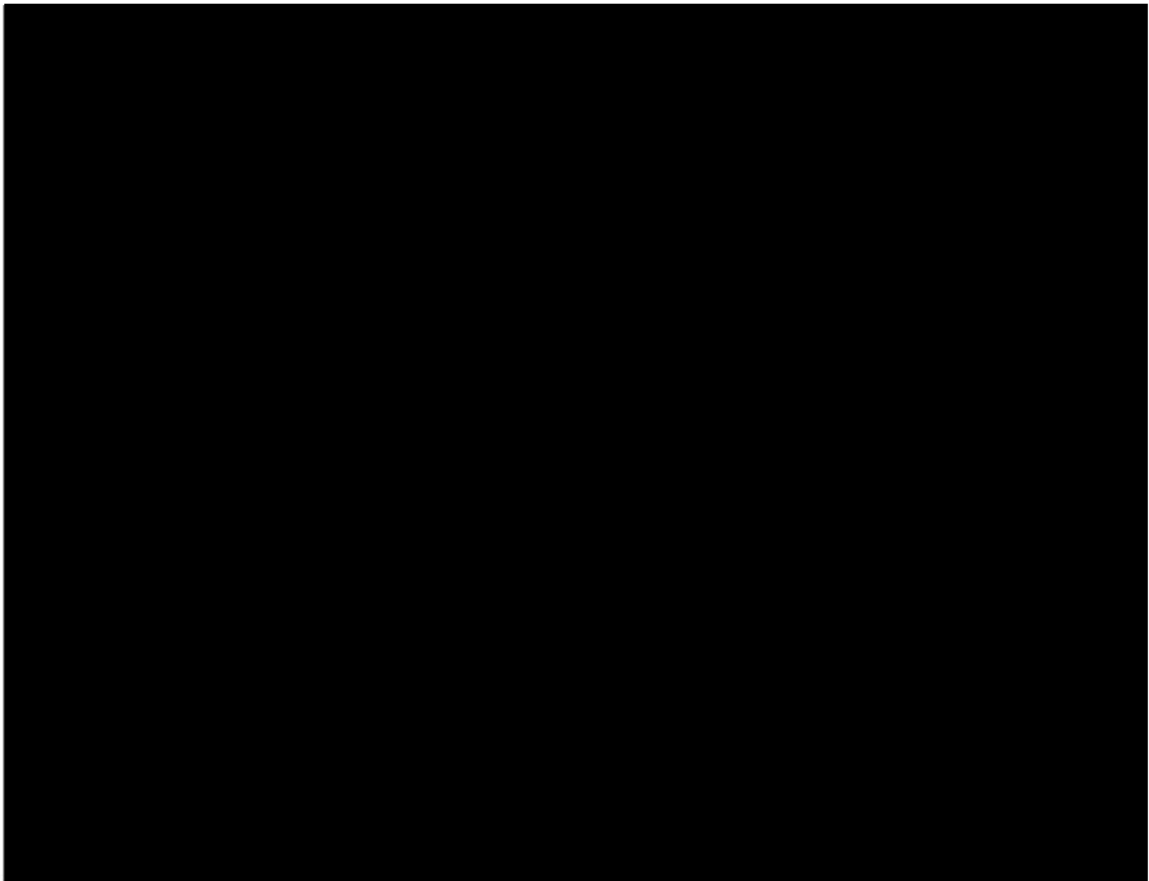
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**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Charity Registration Number: SC002467
Congregation Reference Number: 281676



Independent Examiner

c/o Morris and Young Chartered Accountants
6 Atholl Crescent
Perth PH1 5JN

Principal Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue,
Kings Hill, West Malling,
Kent ME19 4JQ

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is a registered charity (SC002467) and is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form) and is subject to the acts and regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are Elders of the Church and are chosen from those members of the Church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The Minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the Congregation and inducted by Presbytery.

Organisational Structure and Changes during the year

The Kirk Session, which is responsible for both the spiritual and temporal affairs within the Church, meets in ordinary course on seven occasions in the year and on as many other occasions as may be necessary to fulfil its responsibilities. The Kirk Session is chaired by the Minister and the Session Clerk is responsible for all administrative aspects of the operation of Session.

The Congregation meets in General Meeting on at least one occasion during the year to transact the business of an Annual Stated Meeting. Additional General Meetings of the Congregation are convened as and when necessary to attend to urgent, unplanned business.

There were no changes in the structure of the charity during the year.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every Parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland ("the Church") is the Church within the community of Letham, Perth. It is the amalgam of two former Church of Scotland Congregations (St Mark's Church and Letham Church).

Our Vision Statement

Who We Are:

We are a Christian church which loves Jesus and serves the community.

What We Believe:

We believe in a God who loves the world so much that He gave His only Son Jesus Christ for us.

We believe that in accepting Jesus we have forgiveness, peace with God and eternal life.

We believe that it is our responsibility to share this good news with our community.

We believe that the Bible is God's Word and we live our lives in obedience to it.

What We Do:

We worship God.

We encourage people in prayer and discipleship.

We engage with our community and wider world in mission.

We serve our community in Christ's name.

Achievements and Performance

Minister

I am pleased to say that the mission of Letham St Mark's is being carried out with great faith and diligence. Over the last year we have seen a steady increase in the numbers at Sunday worship and all the activities we are engaged in with the community, i.e., Babies and Toddlers, Messy Church, Connections Cafe and Warm Spaces. I am also pleased with the work of the staff at Letham St Mark's and how they are engaged in their roles. We also have a large and dedicated group of volunteers without whom we could not function. The Kirk Session is also functioning well under the leadership of myself and the session clerks. We are looking to lead and guide the congregation through some

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Minister (continued)

difficult times as the denomination cuts back on churches and ministries. David Forsyth has come back onto the kirk session and has become our HR person changing the line management structure for the Church Centre Manager which has been well received. We continue to be part of a much larger presbytery as the planning comes into effect. I foresee some challenges ahead but I am also confident that our faith in Christ will help us navigate this period of time and allow us grow God's Kingdom in Letham.

Following some investigations into the challenges faced by young people in the community with particular emphasis on Perth Academy (the secondary school attended by young people of Letham), a role profile has been developed by a team from the Church with input from staff at Perth Academy with a dual purpose of discipling the youth of the Church and supporting young people on the edge of mainstream education. Successful applications to funders together with donations and pledges from the congregation have enabled us to commence recruitment as full funding (c£90k) is now in place. The 4-year part-time Youth Outreach Worker vacancy has been publicised through social media and the Good Moves (Voluntary Sector recruitment) website since June. Although there have been a number of applications and interviews, the recruitment process is ongoing.

██████████ a South African minister, joined the Church on 1st June to undertake her familiarisation placement for a year as she transitions from the Dutch Reformed Church to the Church of Scotland. ██████████ has been leading services, taking funerals and visiting members of the congregation as well as providing support to the Minister.

Session Clerk

2024 was an encouraging year. Services were well attended and there was a regular online audience for our live-streamed services. Whilst we still lack a praise band leader, the praise band continued to lead worship using Worship Lyric Videos. Our monthly communion services were well attended, with a pool of volunteers serving communion.

The number of members on the roll at the start of 2024 was 391. 29 members were removed by death. The Minister conducted 29 Funerals and there was 1 Wedding. There were 2 baptisms.

One unplanned cost during the year resulted from the unexpected failure of the main overhead projector and screen. As this is a vital part of the service, we moved quickly to replace it. We had one Sunday service using the screen at the back of the Sanctuary before the new projector and screen were installed.

The newly-established Tay Room (previously the creche) has become the main venue for Tuesday morning Church Service.

Prayer

The prayer life of the congregation continued as before with;

- i. encouragement to pray privately either in church or at home;
- ii. monthly prayer topics - one for each day of the week - were provided online or by hard copy;
- iii. monthly prayer meeting from 9-9.45am on the last Sunday of the month;
- iv. monthly prayer breakfast on the first Saturday of the month, meeting for breakfast from 8.30-9am and from 9-10am for prayer when the prayer topics for the month were mentioned followed by a "thought for the day" led by different volunteers, before a time of open prayer. An average of 20 attended.

Pastoral Care

Our dedicated Pastoral Assistant continued to lead the pastoral team supporting our congregation.

At the time of writing there are 23 members or adherents on the Pastoral Care List with 11 members on a secondary list. Most people are on the list because of mobility issues or transport issues that prevent them from attending church on a regular basis. The secondary list comprises of members who have not returned to regular worship since Covid or are recovering from health issues. A few on this list will be moved to the main pastoral care list in 2025. Sadly, 2024 saw 3 members pass away.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Pastoral Care (continued)

During 2024 the pastoral assistant carried out approximately 111 visits, covering home, hospital and care homes. All the visits were warmly received and over the past year good relationships have been formed. There have also been regular telephone calls when in-person visits are not possible.

There are 6 volunteers on the pastoral team. The volunteers each have a named person or persons to visit at least 3 to 4 times a year, or as required. This ensures all members on the Pastoral Care List are visited several times throughout the year.

Between Christmas and New Year, the Church Centre Manager, Community Support Worker and the Pastoral Assistant organised a lunch at the Church providing people with an opportunity to share in fellowship during this quiet holiday period.

Discipleship

An Alpha Course and Youth Alpha ran at the start of the year.

Home Groups, which had been in abeyance since lockdown, were re-launched in September 2024 with an evening gathering to present the new material and have fellowship over a supper. 46 people expressed interest, and initially seven fortnightly groups were set up, five in homes in the evening and two in the church building during the day. An eighth group was added, meeting in the afternoon.

All groups have become established and begun working through The Bible Course, a seven-session series of online videos and discussion questions from the Bible Society. Leaders have fed back that Home Groups are finding the course relevant, and useful for stimulating discussion on different levels. Establishment of Home Groups has benefited the congregation through widening the spread of the fellowship and expanding opportunities to pray for and minister to each other.

With the decision to restart Home Groups, it was decided to bring to an end the monthly gathering for fellowship and discussion called 'Table Talk.' This came to an end in April.

Children and Youth Activities

Creche

The creche met most weeks with on average two but with a potential of five boys. The refurbishment of the room proved to be a real asset as it was like having creche in someone's living room!

Sunday Club

Sunday Club continued to meet weekly during term time. There was a team of 6 who worked in a rota. The Smart TV has proved a useful asset, enabling the teaching of new songs and the playing of bible story videos. A variety of materials were used including "Cheeky Pandas" and the "Jesus Story Book Bible" videos. The aim was to present good bible outlines which could be adapted according to the ages of the children present.

Numbers have continued to be very variable with up to 12 each Sunday and a total of 25 different children (including visitors) throughout the year. It is important that children are made welcome to the church and there is appropriate teaching with activities for them.

The Church in the Community

Babies and Toddlers

The group ran weekly during the school terms, and some of the parents told us it's a 'life saver'. Adults appreciate being able to relax and chat while the toddlers are exploring toys and making first steps in social interaction. Several parents have established important friendships with people they met in the group.

Numbers rose steadily in the first half of the year, with 25 families attending most weeks, many bringing two siblings. After the summer holidays, the number attending was lower, in part due to many of our wee ones starting school nursery and the average age dropped. It also became a bit quieter towards the end of the year which allowed the volunteers more time to engage with the families.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

The Church in the Community (continued)

We had some different resources, including a new wooden children's kitchen and large wooden climbing blocks, courtesy of a donation from a children's resource which had closed. This enabled us to pass on our toy kitchen and other items for the families to take home. We also received outgrown toys from parents.

We had a busy couple of weeks after the October holidays. Owing to school closures due to strikes, some former toddlers, now at nursery, returned to join in the fun. On those two Tuesdays we had a team from Starcatchers, as part of the Love Letham project, who ran fun creative art sessions enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Connections Café

The café was open for 50 of the 52 weeks in 2024 with a well-deserved break for the team of 21 volunteers at Christmas. A total of 5,220 customers were welcomed throughout the year.

In addition to the volunteers, three Fairview pupils joined us on work placements each Tuesday, ably helped by their support teachers and we also welcomed four pupils from Primary 5 at Letham Primary over the year on Wednesdays. They all worked hard and grew in confidence in their social skills.

The new pantry has proved a great asset for the cafe providing storage for the many pots/pans, dishes and items we may use within the kitchen and our dried food items. Additionally, the new fridge freezer gives us more flexibility when catering. The play area has also been well used by the children of café customers.

We updated our menu and added some new items after the summer and these have proved to be popular among our customers. We also had a Christmas Café the last week before Christmas which was well attended by folks from church and community.

We continued to give free teas/coffees along with a food item to vulnerable adults and families who struggle within our community of Letham. This is all done very quietly by our staff with love and respect for the people who come into our café for something to eat and drink who are struggling and just need a bit of help.

SUPA Club

For the last 18 years there has been a Supa Club (Scripture Union for Primary Ages) running in Letham Primary School led by people from Letham St Marks Church, North Church and the Perth Baptist Church.

This past year was one of encouragement. Since September there has been an equal number of boys and girls from primaries 5, 6 and 7. They have been both enthusiastic and attentive. Lessons from "One Big Story" have been used as well as one off lessons appropriate to the Christian Year.

Four children from P6 went to a residential camp at Alltnacriche near Aviemore in May. It was subsidised by 50% by people from the various congregations. There was also a "day away" to Lendrick Muir for Primary 7 in September. The school greatly appreciated this, considering it extremely beneficial, especially for children who usually cannot afford such an event. Letham St Marks and the Souter Trust provided funding for children to go free, and Scripture Union gave the activity sessions at a reduced price.

Community Development Worker

2024 has been another busy year with plenty of opportunities to build, develop and grow relationships with community partners and individuals.

Messy Church

Messy Church is a way of being church where the Gospel is shared interactively through, arts and crafts, music, bible message, and fellowship/chat over a hot meal. Over the course of 2024 we held 7 Messy Church events with anywhere between a dozen to fifty guests attending each session. Supported by up to 20 volunteers from the congregation, Messy Church has been a great opportunity to connect with, develop friendships, and share the good news of Jesus with our local community. There is a core group of guests who attend more or less every Messy Church and we also welcome first time visitors at most sessions.

Achievements and Performance (continued)

The Church in the Community (continued)

After School Clubs

Alongside Letham4All and Families Empowering Communities, which are 2 local community groups, we ran after school clubs for 8 – 12-year-olds at our 3 local primary schools. These clubs ran weekly over the course of 8 weeks for 90 minutes each session. The children got the opportunity to enjoy games, arts and crafts, and to prepare and eat food each week. The after-school group provided good opportunities to work with other local organisations and build friendships with local school staff and families.

Warm Space

In 2024 Warm Space ran from 2 until 7pm every Thursday from the beginning of September until the end of June, with the exception of Boxing Day. Warm Space is an opportunity for anyone of any age to use our ground floor facilities. The sanctuary is a space for quiet contemplation, the café area for tea, coffee, soup, and snacks, and the sports hall for games. We had ages from newborns to people in their 80s using this space for anything from knitting, crocheting, board games, to just catching up over a good blether and a cup of tea or bowl of soup. Again, this was supported weekly by a good handful of volunteers and in 2024 was funded by the PKC Warm Welcome initiative.

Easter and Summer Holidays

During the Easter and summer holidays, along with volunteers from our church and other local churches and organisations, I had the opportunity to support holiday clubs which ran from one of the local schools but where children from all three schools were welcome. It was great to see staff and volunteers from different schools, churches and organisations working together to provide this service. It was also good to see children from the three schools all in the one place, mixing well.

On the Wednesdays in July, we borrowed the Letham4All minibus and with additional cars took people of all ages from the community to places such as Lochore Meadows, Callander, Tentsmuir Forest and St Andrews.

Use of Building

Over the year, 62 groups used our building. A number of new groups started, including Al-Anon and Singing Mamas. We hosted various groups' committee meetings plus larger events such as the Cornhill Memorial Service and a free community theatre show presented by a theatre group called "What Moves You?" in the sanctuary during the October holidays, aimed at children and young families. The Prisoners Week Launch Service took place in November and this was a great day when lots of church folks worked together to provide a lovely lunch for everyone attending.

There were 25 church groups which met over the year including our Babies and Toddlers, our Prayer Breakfasts and the three new Home Groups who meet in the church fortnightly. We also held a Burns Supper and Ceilidh in January which was a great success, a Quiz Night was held during April to support one of our pupils who was going to Tanzania as part of a work party with the Vine Trust, a Home Group Supper Evening held in September and there was a Scottish Quiz Night in November.

Locally, there were 13 groups from Letham who used our building. These included Rainbows, Brownies and Guides which met weekly during term time, Love Letham which held a day event in June and Goodlyburn Primary School which held its end of term services.

Wider Mission

Throughout the year, as part of the revamped monthly Communion Services, several external speakers were invited to talk about the organisation they represent. These included Elaine Duncan, the Chief Executive of the Scottish Bible Society, [REDACTED] from Engineering Ministries International and [REDACTED] Head of Tearfund Scotland.

The church once again took part in the 2024 Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal appeal handing in 120 shoeboxes which were delivered to Ukraine

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Property

The property team has been busy during the year making sure the church is in a good state of repair. The main item of expenditure at the Manse was the replacement of the garden shed.

In April the work was completed to turn two recesses in the external wall into an under 5s play area, a pantry for the café, kitchen and other activities that take place within the church and a bin storage area.

The screens in the café had not been working due to obsolete software but those with technical expertise within the congregation were able to restore them to display information.

The room previously called the creche, and now called the Tay Room, was redecorated in autumn and refurbished with couches, chairs, cosy throws and cushions plus a screen. Originally the room was for use by Home Groups meeting in the church building but was quickly utilised for other smaller meetings including interviews.

Future Plans

- Appoint a Youth Outreach Worker to expand and lead our work with the young people of the church and community
- Engage in the Growing Young Programme

Financial Report

In 2024 there was an increase of 9% in total income compared with 2023 (2023 - 24% increase). The principal source of income, namely regular unrestricted giving by church members and adherents (including Gift Aid) plus visitor donations increased by 13% (2023 - 3% increase) due to new people coming along to worship. Offerings given by standing order and through the open plate have both seen an increase as has the increase in Gift Aid which was mainly due to a large backdated claim. Unrestricted giving by church members and adherents (including Gift Aid) plus visitor donations has therefore risen slightly to 59% of total income compared with 56% in 2023.

Restricted donations were given towards the building work (£15.5K), the youth Worker (£6.5K) and the replacement of the projector (£2.5K). (Additional donations for this were given in 2025). Gift Aid was claimed for the building work and Youth Outreach Worker eligible donations and the projector Gift Aid will be claimed in 2025.

There is no significant change in charitable activities income. A 9% drop in café income is partly due to a small drop in numbers plus there were more special café events in 2023. The Church was grateful to receive two restricted grants from Letham4All for £1,500 for Warm Space. The first covered the period October 2023 to March 2024 and the second October 2024 to March 2025. The church also received grants of £2,500 from the Gloag Foundation and £8,000 from Perth Presbytery both for the Youth Outreach Worker.

Total expenditure is 39% higher than in 2023. (2023 - 4% decrease). There are increases across virtually all categories of Charitable Activities. The usual contribution to the central funds, Giving to Grow, has increased by 13% (£8K). Otherwise, the main source of expenditure was the building work. The total cost including decoration and the fridge freezer for the pantry was £29,860. £28,159 was received in a grant and donations (2023 and 2024) and the shortfall was paid from the Special Projects Designated and General Funds. Other than the building work, under Fabric repairs, Maintenance and Contracts, the unrestricted cost has increased 8% from 2023 with major expenditure being electrical work in the church building amounting to £2,600.

An unexpected large expenditure item occurring towards the end of the year was the new projector and screen costing £6,684. Over half of the cost was covered by donations and the profit from the St Andrews Day Quiz meaning the cost to the general fund is just under £3K.

In addition, under Non-Office Equipment, £1,350 was spent transforming the former creche room including the purchase of a TV and Settees.

The outcome of the significantly increased expenditure in the unrestricted funds is that there is loss for the year of £6,783.

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

Financial Report (continued)

The unrestricted funds with a total of £23,348 are used for day to day activity while the restricted funds with a total of £71,975 have specific, donor related conditions attached to their management. In particular £65,398 is being held for the provision of a Youth Outreach Worker.

Reserves Policy

It is the trustees' policy to hold reserves of between one- and two-month's expenditure excluding designated funds. At the year end the Church held unrestricted funds of £23,348. However, for reasons of necessity within the life of the Church and in the light of activities which are ongoing and financially independent, £5,347 of these funds have been designated for particular congregational and charitable purposes. The remaining balance of £18,001 represents between one- and two-month's expenditure which the charity trustees consider to be adequate to meet their current and future liabilities. The Church also held £71,975 of restricted funds which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 2.

Also as a result of the sale of 1 Anderson Drive, former manse of St Mark's Church, over £20,000 is held by the general trustees (as shown in the appendix) to be used for fabric expenditure.

Statement of Trustees Responsibility

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and 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 which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that financial period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates which are reasonable and prudent;
- Observe the method and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

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 ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Regulations Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information on the congregation's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf.


Session Clerk

Date 4/3/2025

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 12 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

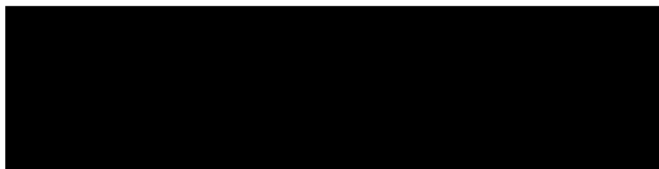
Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



c/o Morris and Young Chartered Accountants
6 Atholl Crescent
Perth PH1 5JN

Date: 24/3/25

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Year ended 31 December 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>						
Donations	3	122,961	36,893	-	159,854	147,146
Grants		-	13,500	-	13,500	10,000
Legacies		500	-	-	500	-
Charitable Activities	4	31,029	-	-	31,029	31,552
Bank & Deposit Interest		390	904	-	1,294	594
Investment Income		-	-	3,642	3,642	3,227
Total Receipts		154,880	51,297	3,642	209,819	192,519
<u>Payments</u>						
Costs of Generating Funds	5	87	-	-	87	136
Charitable Activities		161,750	37,313	-	199,063	142,542
Governance Costs		360	-	-	360	804
Other Payments		-	-	488	488	425
Total Payments		162,197	37,313	488	199,998	143,907
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers						
		(7,317)	13,984	3,154	9,821	48,612
Transfers						
	2	534	2,620	(3,154)	-	-
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year						
		(6,783)	16,604	-	9,821	48,612

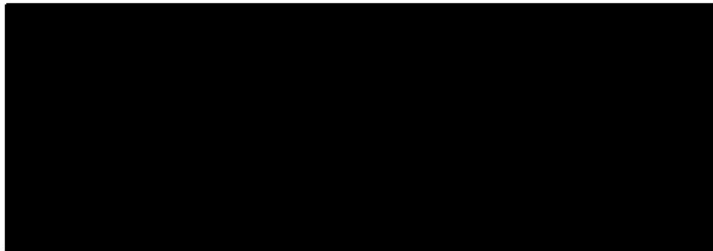
**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

**Perth:Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Statement of Balances
At 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 Note	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Bank & Deposit Balances</u>					
Bank & Deposit balances brought forward	30,131	55,371	-	85,502	36,890
Movement in year:					
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year	(6,783)	16,604	-	9,821	48,612
Bank & Deposit balances carried forward	<u>23,348</u>	<u>71,975</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,323</u>	<u>85,502</u>
<u>Investments at market value</u> (Cost £66,913; (2023 - £66,425))	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>172,509</u>	<u>172,509</u>	<u>157,177</u>
<u>Assets</u>					
Gift Aid Receivable	<u>3,798</u>	<u>1,888</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,686</u>	<u>17,238</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session on 4/3/25

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session.



Session Clerk

Treasurer

Perth:Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Notes to the Accounts

1 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year, the Minister received reimbursement of expenses incurred, totalling £8,145. (2023 - £7,793) This was split as follows :- manse council tax £3,064; (2023 - £2,994) travel expenses in the form of car mileage £3,679; (2023 - £3,121) manse phone £1,362; (2023 - £1,339) other £40. (2023 - £339)

No trustees or their relatives received any payments, expenses or benefits in respect of work done or services provided. Other payments made to trustees and their relatives were confined to reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the charity.

2 Movements in Funds

	At 1 Jan 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	At 31 Dec 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	24,140	154,088	(160,761)	534	18,001
Designated Babies & Toddlers Fund	273	227	(165)	-	335
Designated Mission Fund	13	215	(228)	-	-
Designated Special Projects Fund	5,705	350	(1,043)	-	5,012
	<u>30,131</u>	<u>154,880</u>	<u>(162,197)</u>	<u>534</u>	<u>23,348</u>
Restricted funds					
Babies & Toddlers Fund	537	-	(67)	-	470
Floral Fund	1,821	30	(227)	-	1,624
Hill Bequest Benevolent Fund	2,468	39	-	(199)	2,308
Hill Bequest Sunday School Fund	1,773	27	(141)	379	2,038
Mission Fund	88	360	(212)	-	236
Sage/Hill Bequest Choir Fund	-	-	(2,359)	2,359	-
Special Projects Fund	48,684	50,841	(34,307)	81	65,299
	<u>55,371</u>	<u>51,297</u>	<u>(37,313)</u>	<u>2,620</u>	<u>71,975</u>
Endowment funds					
Edgar Sage Bequest Fund	-	2,469	(488)	(1,981)	-
Arthur Cramond Bequest Fund	-	36	-	(36)	-
Hill Bequest Choir Fund	-	379	-	(379)	-
Hill Bequest Sunday School Fund	-	379	-	(379)	-
Hill Bequest Benevolent Fund	-	379	-	(379)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,642</u>	<u>(488)</u>	<u>(3,154)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>85,502</u>	<u>209,819</u>	<u>(199,998)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,323</u>

Purposes of Designated Funds

Babies & Toddlers Fund: This is an organisation

Mission Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for mission

Special Projects Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for special projects

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Babies & Toddlers Fund: This is a fund to provide toys

Floral Fund: This is a fund to provide flowers for display during services of worship then distribution.

Sage, Cramond, Hill Bequests: These are funds for the purposes described below.

Mission Fund: This is a fund to allow children to attend Scripture Union Events

Special Projects Fund: This is a fund for a Youth outreach worker plus any other special projects

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

2 Movements in Funds (continued)

Purposes of Endowment Funds

Income from the Edgar Sage Bequest is to go towards the minister's stipend ie used to reduce Giving to Grow Payments.

Income from the Arthur Cramond Bequests is to go towards general congregational purposes.

Income from the Hill Bequest Choir is to be used to provide music resources.

Income from the Hill Bequest Sunday School is to be used to provide Sunday School materials

Income from the Hill Bequest Benevolent is to be used to provide for benevolent purposes.

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
3 Analysis of Donations					
Envelope Giving Scheme	8,369	-	-	8,369	9,465
Standing Orders	64,738	-	-	64,738	61,840
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	24,773	-	-	24,773	18,189
Other Offerings, Donations etc	2,505	25,081	-	27,586	41,107
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations	22,576	11,812	-	34,388	16,545
	<u>122,961</u>	<u>36,893</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>159,854</u>	<u>147,146</u>

4 Analysis of Charitable Activities Income

Café	19,535	-	-	19,535	21,520
Use of Premises (including catering)	10,069	-	-	10,069	9,592
Funerals and Weddings	520	-	-	520	370
Other	905	-	-	905	70
	<u>31,029</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,029</u>	<u>31,552</u>

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
5 Analysis of Payments					
Costs of generating funds					
Offering Envelopes	87	-	-	87	136
Charitable activities					
Giving to Grow Allocation	66,595	1,980	-	68,575	60,572
Presbytery Dues	2,169	-	-	2,169	1,607
Minister's Expenses	5,081	-	-	5,081	4,799
Ministerial Assistance	4,411	-	-	4,411	3,640
Pulpit Supply	50	-	-	50	125
Other Staffing Costs	34,636	-	-	34,636	30,775
Fabric Repairs, Maintenance and Contracts	10,857	27,828	-	38,685	10,080
Non-office Equipment	6,482	3,939	-	10,421	523
Council Tax	3,064	-	-	3,064	2,994
Heat and Light	8,909	2,023	-	10,932	10,050
Insurance	2,198	-	-	2,198	2,063
Church Office Expenses	4,130	-	-	4,130	3,694
Music	898	379	-	1,277	1,216
Café Expenses	7,564	-	-	7,564	6,488
Other Expenses	4,706	1,164	-	5,870	3,916
	<u>161,750</u>	<u>37,313</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,063</u>	<u>142,542</u>
Governance costs					
Independent Examiner's Fees	360	-	-	360	804
Other payments					
Purchase of Investments	-	-	488	488	425

6 Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £31,642 and the maximum stipend (in the 5th and subsequent years of service) was £38,884.

	2024 £	2023 £
7 Collections for Third Parties		
Christian Aid (May Appeal) *	-	410
Christian Aid (Christmas Eve)	690	-
Perth Street Pastors (Christmas Eve)	-	502
	<u>690</u>	<u>912</u>

* £455 was collected for Christian Aid in May 2024 and was paid directly.

**Perth: Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements - Year Ended 31st December 2024**

APPENDIX

FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION

BY THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL TRUSTEES

	2024 £	2023 £
<u>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	<u>23,090</u>	<u>23,090</u>
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	<u>23,090</u>	<u>23,090</u>
 <u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balance at 31 December	<u>4,018</u>	<u>2,786</u>

