

The Church of Scotland
Laurieston Parish Church

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Congregation No: 221350

Charity No: SC 007383

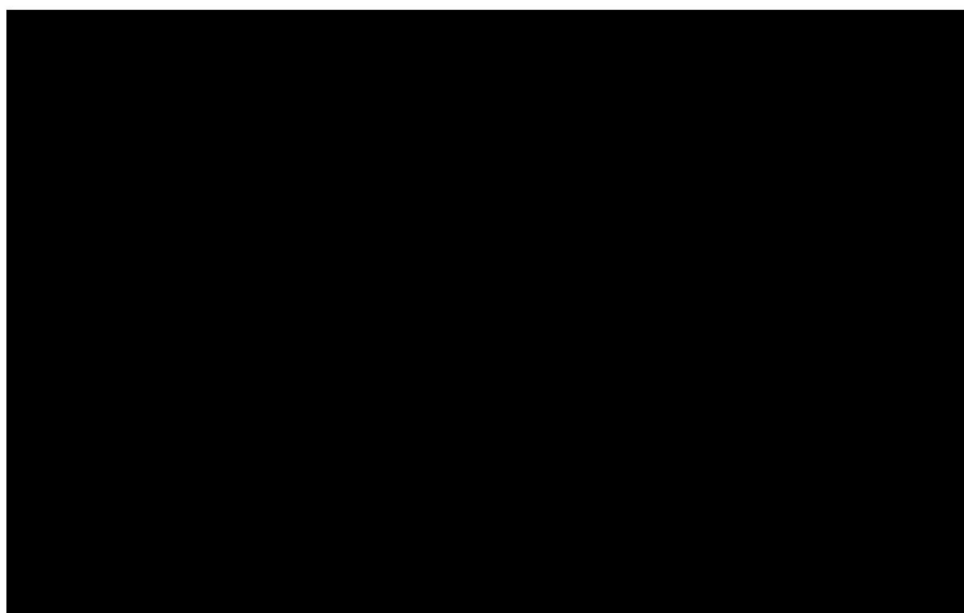
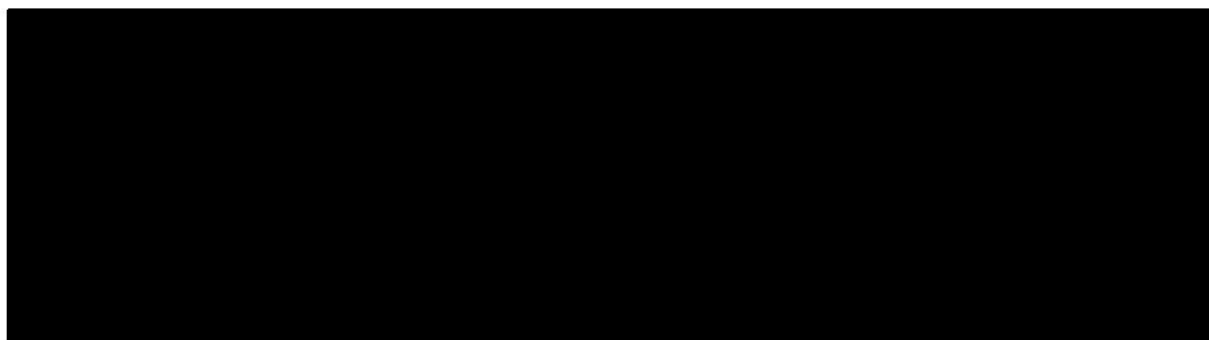
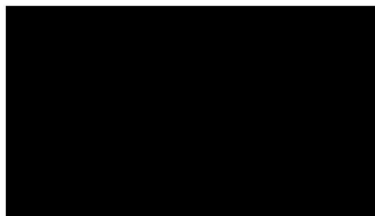
Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Laurieston Parish Church

Charity Registration Number: SC007383

Congregation Reference No: 221350

Contact Address:



Bankers

Bank of Scotland,
High Street,
Falkirk FK1 1NR

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Since 31 October 2019, when a new Deed was signed by the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly and the Law Agent of the Church of Scotland, the Church has been administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form).

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Since 31 October 2019 only Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. Following the retirement on 30th June 2020 of the [REDACTED] was appointed Interim Moderator and has joined the Kirk Session. The Kirk Session members are the elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills.

Organisational Structure

Following the change to the organisational structure of the Church to the Unitary Constitution, the Kirk Session has been responsible for both spiritual and temporal matters, with office-bearers and working groups accountable to that body.

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.

In ordinary course: services of worship are held each Sunday at 10.00am; Holy Communion is celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of January, April, June and October; Joint Services are held with other churches in the "Braes" area during Holy Week; the Guild meets each Tuesday from October to June; and the Kirk Session meets as and when required throughout the year.

Following a decision not to call a minister, the linked charge has passed into Guardianship. As already stated the [REDACTED] was appointed Interim Moderator; and the Congregation is delighted to have the [REDACTED] continue as our Locum.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)

Year ended 31 December 2024

The year has been dominated with re-organisational changes in particular the identification of our "cluster" - Laurieston, Polmont and Redding & Westquater. The three congregations have been getting to know each other by continuing the practice adopted in 2022 of holding joint services throughout the year. These have been well received. Despite continuing uncertainty at Presbytery level it is anticipated that ministerial and other support will be announced in early 2025, and that in the first instance representatives from each Church will be appointed - probably as a standing committee - to manage its proposed delivery in our local area prior to the formation of a new Kirk.

Achievements and Performance

During 2019 the refurbishment of the Church Hall began and a team of volunteers has since undertaken an extensive range of minor works both inside and outside of the building whilst major works were undertaken by outside contractors including replacing in the main hall both the heating system and wooden window frames which had rotted with the passage of time. No further work, except essential emergency work, will be undertaken until the re-organisation is in place. It became necessary to remove a tree from within the Church grounds as a result of storm damage. This cost £2,010 and was funded by a grant from the General Trustees of £2,000.

Financial Review

The principal source of finance continues to be WFO envelopes augmented by Gift Aid receipts from HMRC. In addition hall lets, which fell into abeyance during the pandemic, have resumed and generated receipts of £12,370 in 2024.

Following advice from the General Trustees/Law Dept. and the Presbytery, the Manse remains unoccupied and the Session is not actively looking for a tenant. Nonetheless it is a significant drain on our financial resources and consideration has to be given to its retention.

The Giving to Grow requirement for 2024 was met.

Reserves Policy

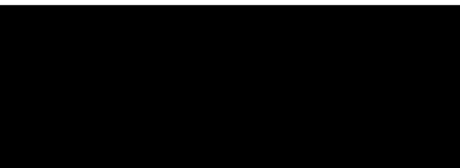
It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately six months expenditure. At the year end the Church held cash funds of £11,370.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont)
Year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session / Congregational Board must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session / Congregational Board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This must be done 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 Church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,



Date : 9th January 2024 S\

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Laurieston Parish Church

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

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 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

An 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 9 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.

Name

Address:

Date

24/03/2025

Laurieston Parish Church
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Receipts</u>	Note					
Donations	3	24,308	3,707	0	28,015	30,289
Legacies		0	0	0	0	0
Activities for Generating Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Bank & Deposit interest		0	0	0	0	0
Investment income		0	0	0	0	0
		<u>24,308</u>	<u>3,707</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,015</u>	<u>30,289</u>
Rental of premises		12,370	0	0	12,370	7,380
Sale of assets		0	0	0	0	0
Sale of investments		0	0	0	0	0
Grants		0	0	0	0	0
Receipts from General Trustees		0	2,000	0	2,000	0
Transfer of Union Balance		0	0	0	0	0
Other Receipts	4	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Total Receipts</u>		<u><u>36,678</u></u>	<u><u>5,707</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>42,385</u></u>	<u><u>37,669</u></u>
<u>Payments</u>	5					
Costs of generating funds		235	0	0	235	230
Charitable activities		44,393	2,818	2,296	49,507	54,107
Governance costs		0	0	0	0	0
<u>Total Payments</u>		<u><u>44,628</u></u>	<u><u>2,818</u></u>	<u><u>2,296</u></u>	<u><u>49,742</u></u>	<u><u>54,337</u></u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers		-7,950	2,889	-2,296	-7,357	-16,668
Transfers		0	0	0	0	0
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		<u><u>-7,950</u></u>	<u><u>2,889</u></u>	<u><u>-2,296</u></u>	<u><u>-7,357</u></u>	<u><u>-16,668</u></u>

Laurieston Parish Church
Statement of Balances
At 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment		
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
Note	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Bank & Deposit Balances</u>					
Bank & deposit balances brought forward	-17,725	15,397	20,955	18,627	35,295
<u>Movement in year:</u>					
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year	-7,950	2,889	-2,296	-7,357	-16,668
Bank & deposit balances carried forward	<u>-25,675</u>	<u>18,286</u>	<u>18,659</u>	<u>11,270</u>	<u>18,627</u>
<u>Investments at market value</u>					
(cost £ xxxxx)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Assets</u>					
Gift Aid Receivable	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Cost of repair not yet billed	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session on 9th January 2025

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session

Session Clerk

Treasurer

Laurieston Parish Church

Statement of Balances

Notes to the Accounts

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1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year.

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

2. Movements in Funds

	At 1 Jan 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	At 31 Dec 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	-17,725	36,678	-44,628	0	-25,675
	-17,725	36,678	-44,628	0	-25,675
Restricted funds					
Fabric Fund	15,397	5,707	-2,818	0	18,286
	15,397	5,707	-2,818	0	18,286
Endowment funds					
The McGregor/Black Legacies	20,955	0	-2,296	0	18,659
	20,955	0	-2,296	0	18,659
Total funds	18,627	42,385	-49,742	0	11,270

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Fabric Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for the maintenance of the Church property

Purposes of Endowment Funds

Income from the McGregor/Black Legacies is to be used for the maintenance of the Church property

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total	Total
2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
£	£	£	£	£

3. Analysis of Donations

WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	2,880	0	0	2,880	2,882
Gift Aid Donations	14,970	0	0	14,970	15,778
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations	4,798	0	0	4,798	5,248
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	1,660	0	0	1,660	1,707
Other Offerings, Donations etc	0	3,707	0	3,707	4,674
	<u>24,308</u>	<u>3,707</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,015</u>	<u>30,289</u>

4. Analysis of Other Income

Rental of Premises	12,370	0	0	12,370	7,380
Receipts from General Trustees	0	2,000	0	2,000	0
	<u>12,370</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,370</u>	<u>7,380</u>

5. Analysis of Payments

Costs of generating funds

Offering envelopes	235	0	0	235	0
	<u>235</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>235</u>	<u>0</u>

Charitable activities

Giving to Grow allocation	10,066	0	0	10,066	13,500
Presbytery dues	506	0	0	506	674
Minister's expenses	0	0	0	0	30
Pulpit supply	8,860	0	0	8,860	7,136
Other staffing costs	2,385	0	0	2,385	2,430
Fabric repairs & maintenance	3,201	2,010	2,296	7,507	11,123
Heat and light	16,156	0	0	16,156	10,572
Insurance	2,786	0	0	2,786	2,390
Other building costs	0	0	0	0	3,719
Printing, stationery and postage	433	0	0	433	907
Other expenses	0	808	0	808	1,626
	<u>44,393</u>	<u>2,818</u>	<u>2,296</u>	<u>49,507</u>	<u>54,107</u>

Governance costs

Independent examiner's fees	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Other payments

Purchase of assets	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

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 national scales. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £xx,xxx (2023 £30,135) and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years) £xx,xxx (2023 £37,032).

7. Collections for Third Parties

Scottish Bible Society

Christian Aid

Etc

2024	2023
£	£
0	0
0	0
0	0
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

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	=====	=====
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	=====	=====
<u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balance at 31 December	=====601=====	=====601=====
<u>TEMPORARY ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balance at 31 December	=====	=====