

The Church of Scotland

**Coatbridge Blairhill Dundyvan Parish
Church of Scotland**

**ANNUAL REPORT and
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**

Congregation No: 171091

Charity No: SC 009704

Year ending 31 December 2024

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Coatbridge Blairhill Dundyvan Parish Church of Scotland
Charity Registration Number: SC009704
Congregation Reference No: 171091
Contact Address: 18 Alberta Avenue
Coatbridge ML5 1QL

Trustees

KIRK SESSION

Interim Moderator: [REDACTED]

Session Clerk: [REDACTED]

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD

Kirk Session plus the following Elected Members [REDACTED]

Principal Office-Bearers

Interim Moderator:
Session Clerk:
Clerk to the Board:
Church Treasurer:

Independent Examiner

Bankers: Royal Bank of Scotland
Main Street, Coatbridge ML5 3DZ

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session and the Congregational Board are the charity trustees. 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. The Minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery. The Congregational Board is appointed from within the congregation and members of the congregation are invited to nominate individuals, who are believed to have the skills and commitment to contribute to the management affairs of the Church, to become members of the Board. Board members are then appointed at the Stated Annual Meeting and serve for a period of three years, after which they must seek re-election at the next Stated annual Meeting.

Organisational Structure

The Congregational Board meets several times in a year. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the Finance Committee and the Property Committee as appropriate. The Kirk Session meets several times a year, and also when necessary (in emergency) and is responsible for spiritual affairs within the Church.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in policy. It exists to glorify God and to work for 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.

Achievements and Performance 2024

General

The Cluster Group comprising of representative of the six churches in the Coatbridge area held several meetings throughout the year to plan a way forward for the Mission Plan approved by Presbytery. The main place of worship will be New St Andrews with alternative services in Blairhill Dundyvan. A regular attendance of 50 members enjoys a traditional format. The service lasts just under an hour with worship and praise coming from CH4 hymnal and from time-to-time hymns from other sources. The organist included musical items and the choir sang anthems. We follow the Christian year with special services for different festivals and some are attended by the Youth Organisations. Easter services are held in conjunction with the churches in Coatbridge. In terms of the Basis of Linkage with Middle Church, we continued the joint services as agreed, and towards the latter part of the year the Cluster Group decided to hold joint communion services involving the six Coatbridge churches. Two adults and one child baptisms were conducted during the year. Youth Organisations are Guides and Boys Brigade with adult Organisations the Choir and the Guild. The Organisations have visiting elders who maintain links with the Kirk Session on a regular basis. For Harvest Appeal members were asked to donate goods for Coatbridge Foodbank. Other retiring collections throughout the year benefitted The Moira Anderson Foundation, Poppy Scotland, St Andrews's Hospice and The People's Pantry. Our halls are also used during the week by the organisations and provide a avenue for coffee afternoons and social events, whilst also providing facilities for a Lunch Club, Self- Help group and a Line Dancing Class.

Action Plan

- To increase the involvement of children and young people in worship. Consider how to include the youth organisations in services. Continue to send invitations to special services.
- Discuss with organist/musical director how to utilise more music in services. New choir music items have been prepared again this year. This has proved very successful with the congregation, The choir regularly sing anthems
- Church magazine. The new format has been received well by the congregation. We will also produce flyers/newsletters to keep in touch with the congregation.
- Consider how the congregation can become more engaged with the organisations through family services, youth organisations. Ask to help with door duty or serve teas/coffee at social events
- Facebook Page. This has been set up but the website has remained as it was and still needs to be revamped. To be reviewed next year.
- To extend our audio/visual system to be able to show our services in the hall if needed.
- To continue with the 60+ Lunch Club and Line Dancing Classes which bring in people from other denominations. Over the year the clubs have attracted new members enjoying meals, fellowship and exercise
- To continue giving help to less fortunate people through charities The People's Pantry and the Coatbridge Foodbank. The congregation has greatly supported both charities and also donated to different overseas charities.
- To continue a sponsorship through the efforts of the Guild.
- Consider how to ensure the succession of key workers in the future by training understudies.

Organisation Reports

Pastoral Care

There are seven members on Pastoral Care who are housebound, ill in hospital, and recovering from illness, who are visited, usually on a monthly basis, by five team members. Cards and flowers were delivered at Easter and, at Christmas, poinsettias and cards. All greatly appreciated.

Guild

The Guild meet every second Monday from beginning of October until March / April. We have 14 members who attend on a regular basis. Throughout the session we have various speakers, opening and closing socials, summer trips, Christmas night out dinner and panto. Through Compassion UK the Guild sponsor two young boys with education. Alvaro from Columbia has completed his studies and is doing well. Our sponsor child at present is from Bangladesh and working hard at his studies.

Line Dancing

The Line Dancing class has attracted new members and now there is a regular attendance of 34 enjoying the class. During the year we donated funds to the Church and Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity. The Guild meet every second Monday from beginning of October until March / April. We have 14 members who attend on a regular basis. The class meets on a Wednesday evening from 7.30 – 9 pm and are always looking to welcome new members.

60+ Lunch Club

The lunch club continued to provide food and fellowship with over 30 regular attendees. Christmas Lunch provided by Caterers was again well received

15th Coatbridge Boys' Brigade

The Company section won the Squad Drill Competition and the Battalion Cross Country Competition. February, the juniors took part in the 5-a-side tournament and did really well. With so many Boys we entered two teams of eight. They also entered Bible Knowledge and Mind & Creativity Comp's, not placed but they did their best. Company section also had their Scripture Knowledge (5th) Vaulting Comp, where they finished 2nd having won last year.

April is a quiet time for the company as some companies in the area have finished for the session. We continue each week with our own meeting nights and in preparation for the Display.

May was our annual Display and Prizegiving and was standing room only for some parents, a full church hall saw the Boys put on some entertainment and at the end of the evening the main awards were presented. The Company finished the session with 19 AB regularly attending, 7 were promoted to the Juniors. We had 34 Juniors with one of those promoted to the Company Section and 11 Company Section Boys.

At the Display the company section was presented with the Battalion Challenge Trophy for top achieving company across all aspects, parades, competitions, officers attending meetings etc. Now the 2nd year in a row we have won this and was a fantastic achievement. Also in May the company had the honour to represent Lanarkshire Boys brigade as Guard of Honour at the General Assembly to Prince Edward as he attended the Assembly in Edinburgh.

August saw the Junior and Company sections as well as staff go to our Annual Camp at Bonaly Scout centre Edinburgh, 34 people went and had a good time. August had the Company return on the last Friday of the month. September has all three sections running and all new Boys ordering uniform, In total we have six new members to the company across AB and JS. October is when things settle down and those Boys who wish to stay do so and, unfortunately we lose a few as it's not quite to their liking. Fortunately for those six that left we have since gained three new members once started back. Our numbers as a group continue to be high compared with others, 58 Boys coming through those doors every week, almost 50 of those Boys have Perfect Attendance. This highlights the great work and fun that's happening here.

The JS & CS took part in their respective Top Team comps, We had a Battalion parade at the end of October. The CS took part in the PT Comp (cartwheels, handsprings etc) and came 2nd again, 5 years in a row.

November continues with competitions. All attended the Remembrance Parade. All sections took part in the Battalion fun run. This takes place at Drumpellier Lochs and is for everyone including families, pets etc all walking or running around the lochs to raise sponsorship for their companies. It's a wonderful sight to see about 3-400 BB people gathered together to do something and is an important fund raiser for the Company.

December brings the calendar year to a close, but still a busy month for the Company, JS took part in the PA Comp (3rd), CS took part in Elementary Drill and came a very impressive 2nd.

Overall, an amazingly successful year, in terms of the local battalion competitions that we entered. This is what interests the Boys and keeps them practising and trying. We also, on a weekly basis, offer the usual BB activities of life skills badge work, spiritual lessons both at start of evening and as a class. Physical work is a large part of what we do as Boys get bored or restless unless exerting energy and giving them a place to do this safely keeps them off the streets, and in an environment where we can shape their lives and futures.

We started and finished the year as the largest (membership) BB Company in the area. With regards finance the company is self-sustainable, we have slightly more funds available than this time last year, due mainly to the increased membership. We are always well supported in the two main fundraising activities we do, the Fun Run and a Race Night. This year we also had two new adult leaders join, but sadly lost three, so still in need of more help.

14th Coatbridge Guide Unit

The Guides enjoyed participating in the church Thinking Day service with the BB Company and several of the guides were presented with Skills Builder badges. Each week the guides progressed with their badges, which lead to them gaining the 'Gold Award'. This award gives each guide the opportunity to put everything that has been learned through the guide programme into practice and take part in a new outdoor activity. To earn the Gold Award guides complete six Theme Awards and then complete the final challenge. In June, to draw the session to an end, we held an outdoor picnic in the church grounds. We resumed our meetings in August with current and some new guides at our revised time of 6.30 - 8pm. During the summer the guides had chosen to continue working on their own on their guide badges and these were awarded early in the new session. As Girlguiding evolves to meet girls' ever-changing needs the unit meets this by providing activities that relate to things that matter to them. We ensure that through fun and friendship the unit offers each guide an equal sense of belonging. Girlguiding is more than an after school activity, but in our relaxed and encouraging atmosphere each guide can be herself, no pressure, no judgement. Led by the unit's qualified volunteers, through challenging and adventurous activities, guides can find their voice and be inspired to discover the best in themselves and make a positive difference in the community. With this confidence the guides hostess their fundraising Beetle Drive, to which family, friends, Church family and wider community were invited. This was followed by a Halloween party. November was a busy month as the Guides enlisted the support of the Church Choir for an enchanted quiz night fundraising event. North Lanarkshire County Girlguiding offers unit leaders the opportunity to keep their skills and qualifications current and the "First Response" modular course was passed in November by a unit leader. The guides enjoyed participating in the Youth Dedication and Remembrance Services along with the BB company. During the Youth Dedication several of the guides were presented with badges, as well as the new guides. On Thursday nights the guides are progressing with their badges, which are leading them to gain their Gold Award, Girlguiding's highest award. The Odeon cinema group is promoting itself to give special memories to Girlguiding Scotland by selecting films which have a strong female lead. In December we took advantage of this to see the film "Moana 2" at the Odeon Quay, Glasgow prior to the guides and leaders going carol singing.

Financial Review

The deficit for the year amounts to £3,743 and is £7,816 less than the surplus for 2023 of £4,073. Although income is £2,911 greater than last year, expenditure is £10,727 greater than 2023: giving to grow (formerly ministries and mission allocation) £1,855 more; locum costs £3,036 more; fabric £2,218 more and heat and light £2,989 more, being major movements.

We as trustees have a duty to maintain the buildings wind and watertight. Fabric expenditure was £2,818 for the year and whilst we are permitted to draw down essential repair cost from the Consolidated Fabric Fund, the £1,239 fabric drawdown was in respect of repair to the boilers.

The manse was let in July 2016, and as it is owned by The Church of Scotland General Trustees in Edinburgh, rental income is paid directly to the General Trustees and is held on our behalf in a Consolidated Fabric Fund to be utilised in respect of major fabric expenditure. Financial transactions are detailed in the note 7 to the accounts and at the year-end £55,491 was held on our behalf.

At the year-end we have a balance of £72,823 in our deposit account with the Church of Scotland Investors Trust in Edinburgh compared to £69,205 held on our behalf as at 31 December 2023. The only transaction being interest received £3,618.

Income from WFO scheme (non-gift aid) and Gift Aid Donations amounted to £31,394 compared to £32,668 for 2023, a reduction of 3.9 %. The number of members donating via Gift Aid has decreased from 54 for the quarter ended 31 December 2023 to 50 for the quarter ended 31 December 2024. The number of standing

orders in place has remained at 35 in both December 2023 and December 2024 and the average donation from this source of income has increased from £475 to £496.

As at 31 December 2024 we had unrestricted funds which amounted to £74,933 and restricted funds amounting to £1,997. Giving to Grow Contribution for 2024 amounted to £25,580 and was met in full. Giving to Grow Contribution for 2025 amounts to £34,420 and is being paid by monthly standing order of £2,000 per month commencing February 2025, with the balance still owing when the union occurs being met by a transfer from Investors Trust account. This agreement reached with Stewardship and Finance Department at 121 George Street, Edinburgh is to assist monthly cash flow.

Note the increase in Giving to Grow Contribution £8,840 is mainly due to the fact that from 2025 the allowance for vacant congregations has been removed, (2024 vacancy allowance £8,569) however we should not incur any locum costs which will be met by the national church.

As a congregation we are aware of the benefits that arise from a stewardship campaign asking members to review their commitment in terms of time, talents and money. Due to the continuing uncertainty in respect of the Presbytery Plan a stewardship campaign was not undertaken in 2024, and we anticipate that a major campaign will be undertaken in 2025 when all Coatbridge churches become one.

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves which will be available to be utilised (if required) in the medium term (up to five years) to assist with the financing of day to day running costs, in addition to meeting the cost of essential fabric maintenance of the Church's properties. At the year end the Church held unrestricted funds of £74,993 and £1997 of restricted funds which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 2.

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 Trustees 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.


Session Clerk

Date: 25 March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Blairhill Dundyvan Parish Church

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 9-14.

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 Trustees 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

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
 - a. To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Account Regulations; and
 - b. 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:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Date:

25 March 2025

**BLAIRHILL DUNDYVAN PARISH CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
		2024	2024	2024	2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations	3	40,670	-	40,670	41,476
Legacies		-	-	-	-
Contributions from Congregational Organisations		1,150	-	1,150	350
Bank & Deposit Interest		3,618	-	3,618	2,449
		45,438	0	45,438	44,275
Rental of premises		1,950	-	1,950	1,320
Other Receipts		3,040	1,179	4,219	3,822
Total Receipts		50,428	1,179	51,607	49,417
Payments	4				
Costs of generating funds		273	-	273	267
Charitable activities		53,898	-	53,898	43,177
Other payments		-	1,500	1,500	1,000
Total Payments		54,171	1,500	55,671	44,444
Excess of Payments over Receipts for the year		-3,743	-321	-4,064	4,073

**BLAIRHILL DUNDYVAN PARISH CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 - COMPARATIVE**

		Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Note			
Receipts				
Donations	3	41,476	-	41,476
Legacies		-	-	-
Contributions from Congregational Organisations		350	-	350
Bank & Deposit Interest		2,449	-	2,449
		<u>44,275</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,275</u>
Rental of premises		1,320	-	1,320
Other Receipts		1,922	1,900	3,822
Total Reciepts		<u>47,517</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>49,417</u>
Payments	4			
Costs of generating funds		267	-	267
Charitable activites		43,177	-	43,177
Other payments		-	1,000	1,000
Total Payments		<u>43,444</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>44,444</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		4,073	900	4,973

BLAIRHILL DUNDYVAN PARISH CHURCH
STATEMENT OF BALANCES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Bank & Deposit Balances					
Bank & Deposit Balances Brought Forward		78,676	2,318	80,994	76,021
Excess of Payments over Receipts for the year		-3,743	-321	-4,064	4,973
Bank & Deposit Balances Carried Forward		74,933	1,997	76,930	80,994
Investments at Market Value					
		-	-	-	-
Assets		1,700	-	1,700	1,857
Liabilities		1,605	1,000	2,605	2,174

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session and Financial Board on 25 March 2025

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Financial Board

Session Clerk

Treasurer

BLAIRHILL DUNDYVAN PARISH CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

Interim Moderator's expenses are in respect of 50% travel expenses as paid directly by the Church of Scotland, and amounted to £nil (2023 £nil)

No other trustee received any remunerations 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 January 2024	Receipts	Payments	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds				
Pastoral Care	32	-	-	32
Line Dancing	2,286	1,179	1,500	1,965
	2,318	1,179	1,500	1,997
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	78,676	50,428	54,171	74,933
Total Funds	80,994	51,607	55,671	76,930

	At 1 January 2023	Receipts	Payments	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds				
Pastoral Care	32	-	-	32
Line Dancing	1,386	1,900	1,000	2,286
	1,418	1,900	1,000	2,318
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	74,603	47,517	43,444	78,676
Total Funds	76,021	49,417	44,444	80,994

Pastoral Care: This is a fund to communicate by post with housebound members of the congregation.

Line Dancing Funds are now held in Main Church account

Purposes of Designated Funds

General Fund: This fund is for general income and expenditure within the church and includes £500 from a legacy received in 2009 which has been designated for educational training purposes

BLAIRHILL DUNDYVAN PARISH CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
3 Analysis of Donations						
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	7,100	-	7,100	6,826	-	6,826
Gift Aid Donations	24,294	-	24,294	25,842	-	25,842
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	2,111	-	2,111	1,582	-	1,582
Other Offerings & Donations	400	-	400	400	-	400
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	6,765	-	6,765	6,826	-	6,826
	40,670	-	40,670	41,476	-	41,476
4 Analysis of Payments						
Costs of Generating Funds						
Offering Envelopes etc.	273	-	273	267	-	267
Charitable Activities						
Ministries & Mission Allocation	25,580		25,580	23,725	-	23,725
Presbytery Dues	1,008		1,008	958	-	958
Locum Costs	8,673		8,673	5,637	-	5,637
Interim Moderator's Expenses	-		-	-	-	-
Pulpit Supply	-		-	0	-	0
Other Staffing costs	6,360		6,360	6,360	-	6,360
Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	2,818		2,818	600	-	600
Heating & Lighting - Church	6,593		6,593	3,604	-	3,604
Insurance	624		624	609	-	609
Organ & Music	142		142	133	-	133
Printing, stationary and postage	-		-	-	-	-
Other expenses	2,100	1,500	3,600	1,551	1,000	2,551
	53,898	1,500	55,398	43,177	1,000	44,177
Governance Costs						
Independent Examiner's Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Payments	54,171	1,500	55,671	43,444	1,000	44,444

BLAIRHILL DUNDYVAN PARISH CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5 Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland Congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all minister's stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund.

Minister's 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 fifth and subsequent years of service) £38,884

6 Collections for Third Parties

		2024 £	2023 £
Good Friday Retiral	St Andrew's Hospice /People's Pantry	200	250
Harvest	Moirra Anderson Foundation/ Coatbank Foodbank	900	850
Remembrance Sunday	Poppy Scotland	200	100
Watchnight Service	People's Pantry /St Andrew's Hospice	400	250
		1,700	1,450

7 Funds held on behalf of the Congregation by The Church of Scotland General Trustees.

As of 31 December 2024 £ 55,491 was held by The Church of Scotland General Trustees in the Consolidated Fabric Fund:

This Represents:	£
Balance as of 1 January 2024	46,619
<u>Add: amounts added</u>	
Rent Received	12,000
Interest Received	2,307
	<u>60,926</u>
<u>Less: amounts drawn down</u>	
Fabric cost and admin charge	2,180
Insurance premium recovered	<u>3,255</u>
	5,435
Balance as of 31 December 2024	<u>55,491</u>