

**LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**ACCOUNTS**

**RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

**YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**Congregation No: 321930**

**Scottish Charity No: SCO14830**

**LAURECEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**The Trustees present their Annual Report and Accounts for  
Laurencekirk Church of Scotland for the Year ended 31 December 2024**

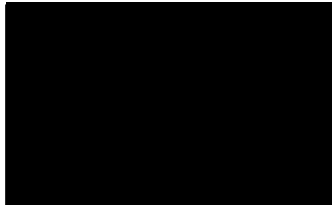
**Reference and Administrative Information:**

**Charity Name:** Laurecekirk Church of Scotland

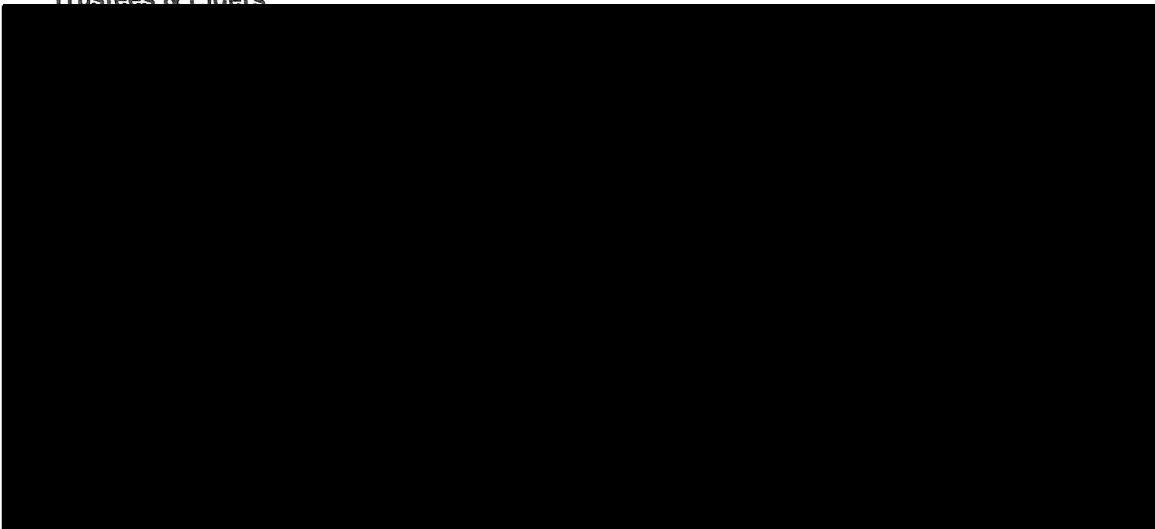
**Charity Registration Number:** SCO14830

**Congregation Reference No:** 321930

**Contact Address:**



**Trustees & Elders**



**Bankers:**

Virgin Money  
Montrose Branch  
114 High Street,  
MONTROSE  
DD10 8JE

## **LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 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 (Unitary Form). The Hall is administered in accordance with the 'Declaration of Modified Trust Purposes contained in Trust Disposition by Patrick Dickson to Kirk Session of the Parish Church of Laurencekirk.' dated 1st January 2000.

#### **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Members of the Kirk Session 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.

#### **Organisational Structure**

The Kirk Session which meets nine times a year is responsible for spiritual affairs within the church. There are meetings with the session of the Linked Charge, Aberluthnott Church of Scotland. The Kirk Session also delegates powers relevant to the Dickson Hall, to a Hall Management Committee, which is made up of 4 trustees and 3 others.

#### **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.

Services of worship are normally held every Sunday in Laurencekirk and occasionally at other times, including joint services with other local churches. Occasional events for fellowship and community outreach are held, such as concerts and festivals. The minister demitted office in September 2023. Due to restructuring, the congregation is not permitted to call a new minister and is exploring a union with Aberluthnott and West Mearns parishes. While that work takes place pulpit supply is being used to conduct Sunday worship. Numbers attending have remained steady.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

During the past year, weekly services have taken place in Laurencekirk Church, using pulpit supply following the demission of the minister. Members have been involved in assisting delivery of those services by reading, providing music and serving refreshments. During Covid several members moved to giving by bank transfer which has allowed for stability of regular income. Several fundraising activities have taken place and are planned, such as coffee mornings and concerts.

Attendance at Sunday services remains steady and the Kirk Session are actively working with Aberluthnott and West Mearns parishes to explore a union, development of mission plans and repairs and alterations to the fabric of the church building to make it a more multi-purpose venue. Ways of involving those who do not attend church are also being considered to make the building sustainable in the long term. A survey of the local community is planned to determine what changes should be made, influenced by what people see as potential uses for the Church building. Fundraising events are planned to generate more income.

LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

**Financial Review**

During the year a surplus on Unrestricted Funds of £3,190 was made. Whilst fundraising income was up by over £2,300 compared to the previous year, free-will offering was down by almost £1,000. Receipts from funerals have been shown under donations, rather than rental of premises, and the comparative figures for 2023 have been restated. The JP Morgan investment (part endowment fund and part unrestricted) was sold during the year and a donation to the Caim mission project of £2,639 was made out of the endowment fund.

**Reserves Policy**

It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately 6 months expenditure including designated funds. At the year-end, the Church held unrestricted funds of £9,079 which represents around 5 months of general fund expenditure. The Church also held restricted funds of £15,982 which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 2 (page 7).

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

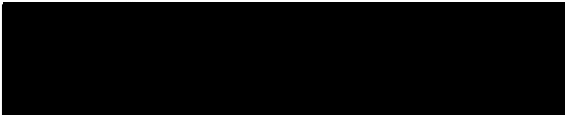
The members of the Kirk Session must prepare Financial Statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the 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(as amended) 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.

The Trustees are also responsible for the running of the Dickson Hall Trust (it was previously operated as part of Laurencekirk Parish Church).

The Charity number for the Trust is SC038643 and the contact address is: -



Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



Session Clerk

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH of SCOTLAND**

**I report on the Accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 10.**

**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 (as amended).

The charity's Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) 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 (as amended). 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 which -

1. 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 Accounts 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.



26<sup>th</sup> March 2025



LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Un- restricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endow- ment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Donations	3	19,526	-	-	19,526	21,114
Legacies		-	-	-	-	1,000
Activities for Generating Funds		4,011	-	-	4,011	1,662
Bank & Deposit Interest		196	686	-	882	595
Investment Income		24	-	46	70	103
		<u>23,757</u>	<u>686</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>24,489</u>	<u>24,474</u>
Rental of Premises		-	-	-	-	-
Grants		-	-	-	-	-
Other Receipts		-	-	-	-	2,685
Sale of investments		897	-	1,742	2,639	-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<u>24,654</u>	<u>686</u>	<u>1,788</u>	<u>27,128</u>	<u>27,159</u>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>	4					
Costs of Generating Funds		143	-	-	143	684
Charitable Activities		21,201	-	2,639	23,840	32,657
Governance Costs		120	-	-	120	200
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<u>21,464</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,639</u>	<u>24,103</u>	<u>33,541</u>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>		3,190	686	(851)	3,025	(6,382)
Transfer of Funds		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>3,190</u>	<u>686</u>	<u>(851)</u>	<u>3,025</u>	<u>(6,382)</u>

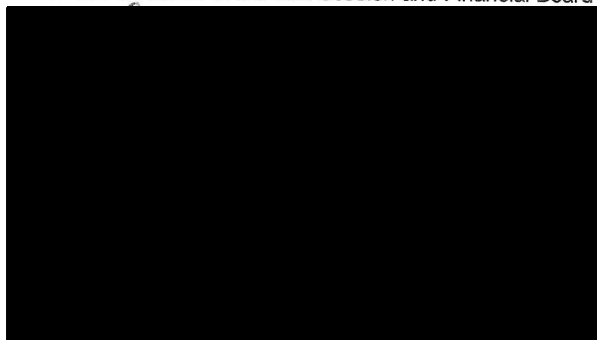
LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

STATEMENT OF BALANCES  
AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowments 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
<b>Bank &amp; Deposit Balances</b>					
Bank & Deposit Balances brought forward	5,889	13,425	2,722	22,036	28,418
<b>Movements in year</b>					
Excess of Receipts over Payments	3,190	686	(851)	3,025	(6,382)
<b>Bank &amp; Deposit Balances carried forward</b>	<u>9,079</u>	<u>14,111</u>	<u>1,871</u>	<u>25,061</u>	<u>22,036</u>
<b>Investments at Cost</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>750</u>
<b>Total Current Assets in Funds</b>	<u>9,079</u>	<u>14,111</u>	<u>1,871</u>	<u>25,061</u>	<u>22,786</u>
<b>Investments at Market Value</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,387</u>
<b>Assets</b>					
Gift Aid Receivable	<u>2,382</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,382</u>	<u>3,684</u>

The Accounts were approved by the Kirk Session and Financial Board on 23 March 2025

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Financial Board



# LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

### 1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

No Trustees received reimbursement of expenses.

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

	As at 1 Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Cost of Investments Sold	As at 31 Dec 2024
	£	£	£		£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	6,144	24,654	21,464	(255)	9,079
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Roof Reserve	13,125	686	-	-	13,811
TMTV	300	-	-	-	300
<b>Endowment Fund</b>	3,217	1,788	2,639	(495)	1,871
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>22,786</u>	<u>27,128</u>	<u>24,103</u>	<u>(750)</u>	<u>25,061</u>

#### Purpose of Restricted Funds:

##### Roof Reserve

This fund was initially restricted to roof repairs but was then extended to cover repairs to all of the church fabric. This fund will be used in full in 2025 for repairs to the North Gable.

##### TMTV

The Mearns TV Project was set up in collaboration with Mearns Academy with funding of £2,000 from the Novum Trust. £1,700 was spent on ipads for pupils. The Novum Trust have stipulated that the remaining £300 should be spent on outreach.

#### Purpose of Endowment Fund:

This fund originates from lots of small bequests, which were amalgamated into one fund and, given the purpose of the majority of the bequests was to benefit the poor of the Parish, is used for benevolent purposes.



LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Un- Restricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endow- ment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>3. Analysis of Donations</b>					
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	1,473	-	-	1,473	2,423
Gift Aid Donations	9,352	-	-	9,352	9,565
Tax Recoverd on Gift Aid Donations/S.D.S.	3,788	-	-	3,788	3,904
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	2,660	-	-	2,660	2,873
Weddings/ Funerals	2,115	-	-	2,115	1,986
Other Offerings, Donations	138	-	-	138	363
	<u>19,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,526</u>	<u>21,114</u>
<b>4. Analysis of Payments</b>					
Offering Envelopes	143	-	-	143	130
Other Fundraising Expenses	-	-	-	-	554
	<u>143</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>684</u>
<b>Charitable Activities</b>					
Giving for Growth	2,881	-	-	2,881	6,073
Presbytery Dues	743	-	-	743	251
Minister's Expenses	-	-	-	0	1,140
Pulpit Supply	2,785	-	-	2,785	1,299
Other Staffing Costs	4,742	-	-	4,742	3,615
Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	179	-	-	179	161
Council Tax	-	-	-	-	925
Heat & Light	4,842	-	-	4,842	3,100
Insurance	3,724	-	-	3,724	3,386
Organ & Music	248	-	-	248	731
Printing, Stationery & Postage	28	-	-	28	14
Other Expenses	465	-	-	465	499
Manse Upkeep	564	-	-	564	1,164
Shared Expenses (Recovered in 2024)	-	-	-	-	405
The Caim donation	-	-	2,639	2,639	-
Warm Hub Expenses/Refund of Grant	-	-	-	-	9,624
Projector	-	-	-	-	270
	<u>21,201</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,639</u>	<u>23,840</u>	<u>32,657</u>
<b>Governance Costs</b>					
Independent Examiner's Fees	120	-	-	120	200

**LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**5. Minister's Stipend**

All Church of Scotland Congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the cost of all ministers' Stipends and Employers 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 fifth and subsequent years) was £38,884. The Contribution to Ministries and Mission is shown net of Endowment Income.

**6. Collections for Third Parties**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Remembrance Day - Poppy Scotland	183	213
DEC Earthquake Appeal	-	215
Christian Aid	-	237
	<u>183</u>	<u>665</u>

LAURENCEKIRK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

APPENDIX

FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION BY  
THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL TRUSTEES

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Capital Account</b>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at Cost	<u>14,748</u>	<u>14,748</u>
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	<u>21,587</u>	<u>20,566</u>
 <b>REVENUE ACCOUNT</b>		
Credit Balance at 31 December	<u>8,643</u>	<u>7,542</u>
 <b>TEMPORARY ACCOUNT</b>		
Debit Balance at 31 December	<u>(1,229)</u>	<u>0</u>

# Laurencekirk Church of Scotland

## Budget 2025

<b>Analysis of Donations</b>	<b>Actual 2024</b>	<b>Budget 2025</b>
FWO	£1,473	£1,500
Gift Aid	£9,352	£9,500
HMRC Tax rebate	£3,788	£2,400
Open Plate	£2,660	£2,700
Weddings/ Funerals	£2,115	£2,000
Other Offerings	£138	£300
	<u>£19,526</u>	<u>£18,400</u>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Activities for generating funds	£4,011	£3,650
Investment Income	£952	£100
Sale of Investment	£2,639	£0
Rental of premises		
	<u>£27,128</u>	<u>£22,050</u>
<b>Analysis of Payments</b>		
Offering Envelopes	£143	£140
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Giving to Grow Allocation	£2,881	£7,550
Presbytery Dues	£743	£750
Ministers' Expenses	£0	£300
Pulpit Supply	£2,785	£0
Other Staff Costs ( organist, cleaner)	£4,742	£4,500
Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	£179	£200
Heat & Light	£4,842	£4,000
Insurance	£3,724	£3,500
Organ & Music	£248	£500
Manse Costs	£564	£300
Printing, stationery & Postage	£28	£40
The Caim Project ( Restricted Fund )	£2,639	£0
Other Expenses	£465	£400
	<u>£23,841</u>	<u>£22,040</u>
<b>Governance</b>		
Independent Examiners Fees	£120	£0
Surplus Deficit	<b>£3,025</b>	<b>(130)</b>

**Nothing has been included above for repairs to the Church Belfry, which are estimated at £33,000.**

**Grant assistance is to be sought to fund some of this cost.**