

John Knox Parish Church of Scotland, Stewarton

Scotland · Charity number SC015890

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	Unincorporated association
Part of	The Church of Scotland (SC011353)
Registered	1943-08-07
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	19 Kirkford Stewarton Kilmarnock Ayrshire KA3 5HY
Website	www.johnknox.org.uk

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of religion'

What the charity does: In addition to carrying out the regular functions of a Church of Scotland we aim to be a visible and active source of outreach in the community with emphasis on providing support for the mental health and wellbeing of the people in the town.

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

Objectives: The advancement of religion.

Geography

- **Main operating location:** East Ayrshire
- **Geographical spread:** A specific local point, community or neighbourhood

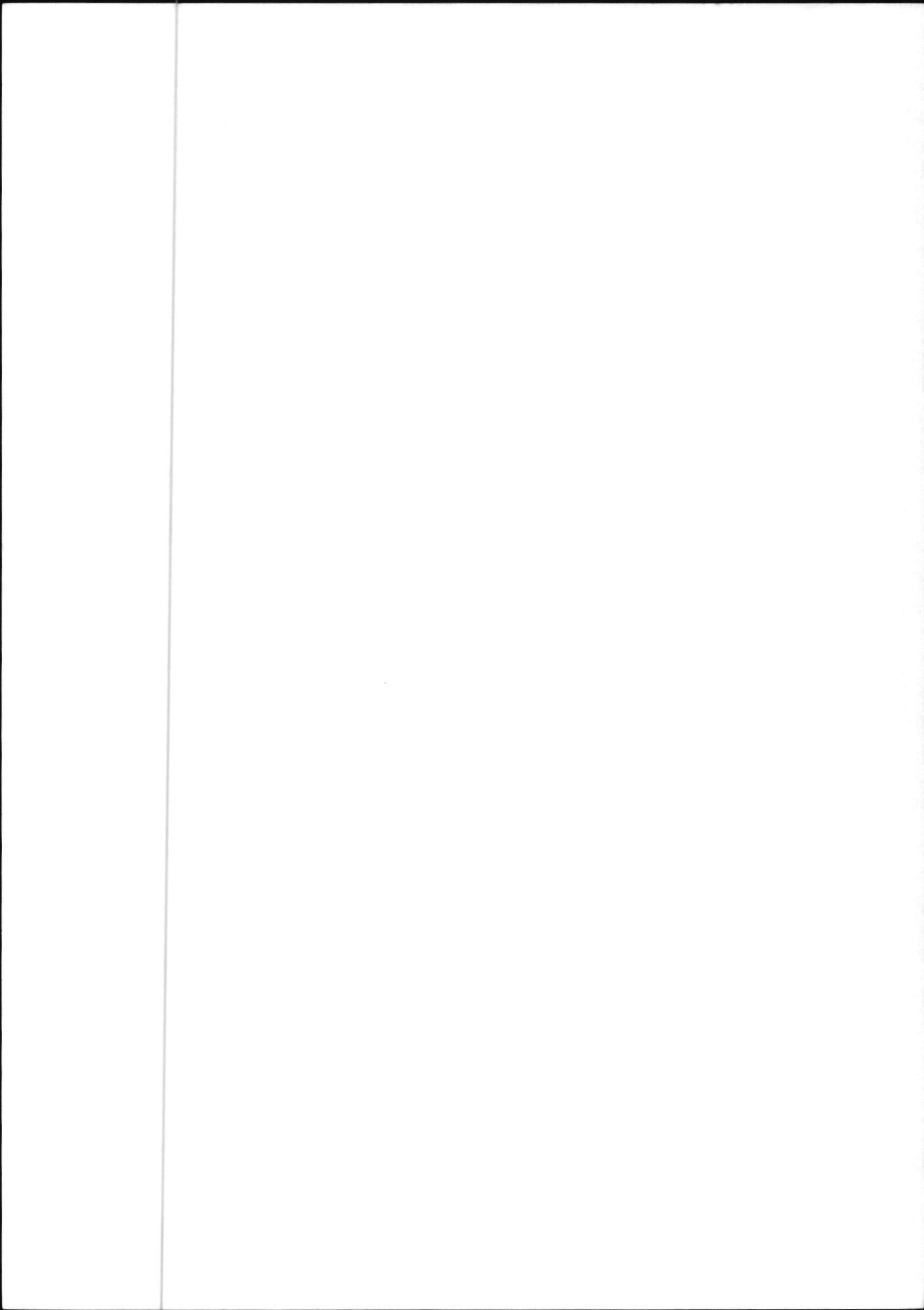
Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£239,866	£237,542	-	4
2024-12-31	£233,924	£244,374	-	4
2023-12-31	£189,815	£173,048	-	3
2022-12-31	£126,127	£128,969	-	3
2021-12-31	£103,224	£96,401	-	3
2020-12-31	£110,433	£109,096	-	2

John Knox Parish Church of Scotland, Stewarton

Scotland - Charity number SC015890

Accounts



SC015890.2025.1

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Congregation No: 110638
Scottish Charity No: SC015890**

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ending
31-Dec-2025**



**Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2025**

The trustees present the annual report and financial statements of John Knox Parish Church of Scotland Stewarton for the year ended 31 December 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the General Assembly Regulations for Congregational Finance, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

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.

The congregational organisations of John Knox Church include H2O and Trailblazers, which focus on promoting the teachings of Jesus Christ to the young people and children of the congregation respectively, the Guild, which fosters Christian fellowship amongst church members, the Cottage Group, which provides both friendship and pastoral support and a regular meeting place for the elderly and less able of the community, House Groups which provide other opportunities to promote friendship and increase the understanding of God's Word amongst church members, Alpha which seeks to bring new believers to the Church, and our new mission ministry, Thrive Stewarton, which looks to improve the mental health and wellbeing in the wider community. All groups are managed by church members who have been given the authority to do so by the Trustees. Other organisations which meet regularly at John Knox Church include the Mother and Toddlers Group, the Stewarton Historical Society, the Stewarton Gardening and Cycle Clubs and the Country Dance Class; all seek to serve the community in their diverse ways and at the same time all underline the importance of John Knox Church in providing a vibrant meeting place both to its members and to the town. The Stewarton Boys Brigade and the Stewarton Girl Guides and Rainbows are all closely associated with the Church although constituted as Town Companies. John Knox Church also plays its full part in all the activities and initiatives of Churches Together in Stewarton.

Achievements and Performance

On 29 June 2025 the John Knox Church congregation celebrated its 200th Anniversary at morning worship led by Rev Gavin Niven. This was followed by a display of some highlights over the years and a light lunch. 2025 was another year with much activity in the life of the church, Thrive Stewarton having an increasing impact in improving wellbeing in the local community and also with further improvements to church facilities. The usual meetings and activities of the church continued with the weekly Sunday service being livestreamed. Givings from church members using a monthly standing order means of payment have remained steady; the trustees are most grateful for this consistent level of support.

The trustees in 2025 continued their work in bringing into practice the Vision Statement for John Knox Church. The Vision Statement has content under the main headings of Mission, Knowing God, Reaching Out and Sharing with Others. 2014 saw the commencement of the Special Interest Group structure. The aim of the Special Interest Groups is to provide added focus, resource and interest in the management of each area. The Groups are Adult Education, Children and Youth Education, Communications, Community, Compliance and Facilitation, Finance, Pastoral, Prayer, Property, World Mission and Worship. Members of each SIG comprise both trustees and church members and each SIG reports to the trustees regularly. Sunday Service remains at the centre of John Knox life with a lively mix of both traditional and modern. The contribution of the praise band, organist and choir during every service is much appreciated and the presence of a good number of young people regularly attending church and taking part in our children and youth ministries is a great encouragement to the trustees and to all church members.

Thrive Stewarton, the pioneer ministry in the town led by Peter Anderson, grows encouragingly both in participants and activities. Youth Work led by Christina Ritchie continues and the trustees welcome her lead. Family Work led by Sarah McLachlan leads many initiatives for families, including monthly Bubble Church, with some now under the direction of and funded by the East Ayrshire Council Whole Family Welfare Fund. The two main fabric projects undertaken were repairs to the stability of the church ceiling and the installation of a new ramp enabling easy access for the disabled to the front door of the church. The trustees are grateful that the associated costs were largely met by grants received from The Church of Scotland General Trustees Central Fabric Fund and The Brownlie Bequest Fund, and East Ayrshire Council, respectively.

The fellowship provided by the house groups, the guild, the cottage, the toddlers and the women's ministry all contribute in their own way to the spiritual life of the church; Alpha and Youth Alpha courses continue. The trustees, led by the minister, continue to bring the ordinances of religion to the people of the parish as required by the Church of Scotland. During the year thirteen new members were added to the roll, five members died and one transfer out. There were five baptisms, thirteen funerals and two weddings.

**Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2025**

Financial Review

The General Congregational Fund reported a surplus of £1,210 for the year and the overall financial results for 2025, after including the results of the Designated Accounts and an uplift in year end valuation of investments, show a surplus for the year of £5,245; this compares to an overall deficit of £7,238 in 2024. In 2023 a new Designated Fund was created to control the financial transactions of Thrive Stewarton, a Presbytery Pioneer Ministry. In 2025 Thrive activity continued to grow and it reported a surplus of £451, (2024 deficit £4,442). Thanks to all who contribute to the various activities and all who support the project with much needed donations. Weekly Sunday offerings and givings made by standing order remained stable. A Gift Day Appeal held in September was well supported by the congregation and, excluding associated tax recovered on gift aided donations, raised a most welcome £8,684. Other generous donations totalling £6,772 were received from church members through the year and income from the hire of halls was £1,405; the trustees are grateful for this support. Regular expenses incurred through 2025 were generally in line with expectation and remain well controlled. Greater use of the buildings inevitably leads to greater running costs and everyone can help by being economical. One of the two main fabric projects undertaken through the year was the stabilising of the ceiling in the church. The trustees thank both Jim Lygate for managing the project and the grant support received from The General Trustees. The other was a disabled ramp at the front of the church and was fully funded through grant support from East Ayrshire Council. The project took longer than expected because of unforeseen delays over planning permissions. Both projects impacted on Sunday worship in the sanctuary for a time but that's now behind us. Trustees will continue their approach of trying to increase income streams, seek appropriate grant support, maintain tight controls over expenditure and when affordable uphold the church's vision in sharing resources. In summary, in 2025 the total income of £239,866 was greater than the total expenditure of £237,542 by £2,324, and this operating surplus was increased by a gain of £2,920 in investments market value, to £5,245. The above income and expenditure totals include the activities of the designated accounts, (Note 15 refers). As at 31 December 2025 the Unrestricted Funds totalled £67,140 being £5,230 greater than as at 31 December 2024 and the Restricted Funds totalled £5,498 being £15 greater than as at 31 December 2024. In 2008 the trustees appointed Alistair Bryce to the role of internal auditor. His role involves reviewing the financial records of the charity from time to time and reporting any issues of concern to the trustees for further investigation. No such issues were reported through 2025. The trustees also note at this time that the union with Stewarton St Columba's remains in a deferred state but that the John Knox Church building has been confirmed as the church building to be used in that union.

Risk Management

The trustees have reviewed and considered the major risks to which the Church is exposed covering personnel, infrastructure, child abuse and financial control and are satisfied that such risks are manageable given the review systems and reporting processes which have been put in place.

Reserves Policy

At the end of the year to 31 December 2025 the unrestricted reserves in hand were £48,864 in the General Congregational Fund plus £4,840 in Designated Funds and £10,516 in the Fabric Fund. The trustees consider the balance held in the Unrestricted Funds to be at a sufficient level; the trustees are very aware that costs generally continue to rise.

Structure, Governance and Management

The congregation is a registered charity, number SC015890, and is administered in accordance with the terms of the Unitary Constitution and is subject to the Acts and Regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The change to the Unitary Constitution from the Model Deed Constitution took place through 2018. The 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. Supporting the Kirk Session in their management of the church are eleven Special Interest Groups, (SIGs), who are populated by church members who possess the skills and interests appropriate to each SIG. Each SIG acts independently of the other SIGs and the leaders of all SIGs meet from time to time to co-ordinate and agree each SIG's plans and to review subsequent outcomes. The Kirk Session met six times through 2025. The Special Interest Group leaders met twice in 2025. The minister chairs all meetings of both the Kirk Session and the SIG leaders.

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2025**

Reference and Administrative Information

Trustees

The following served as Trustees during the year and, unless shown, up to the date of signing the accounts.
Retired members of Kirk Session are not listed.
There are in addition three associated members of Kirk Session, namely Anne McAllister, Cath Shaw and Kim Watt, but none are Trustees.

Kirk Session members

Gavin Niven	Louise Macpherson
Peter Anderson	Caroline McGhie
John Baxter	David Paterson
Catherine Bingham	Susan Quinn
Jim Bingham	Arlene Robertson
Ken Browne	James Robertson
Ian Campbell	John Robertson
Stewart Campbell	Mary Robertson
Christine Clark	May Smith
Gordon Clibborn	Brian Stewart
Sarah Jane Drummond	Carole Stewart
Sheena Erskine	Jenny Stockwell
Helen Farquhar	John Strathdee
Helen Hunter	Janette Wark
Maureen Justice	Graham Whitham
Sarah Kelly	

Principal office-bearers

Minister: Rev Gavin Niven
Session Clerk: Graham Whitham
Church Treasurer: John Baxter

Charity Name: John Knox Parish Church of Scotland Stewarton

Charity Registration No: SC015890

Congregation Ref No: 110638 - The Church of Scotland

Contact Address: 16 High Street
Stewarton
Ayrshire
KA3 5BZ

Independent Examiner: George Connell, C.I.M.A.; M.B.A.
18 Barnhill Drive, Glasgow, G77 5FY

Principal Bankers: Bank of Scotland,
30/34 King Street, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, KA1 1NP

**Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2025**

Statement of Trustees, Responsibilities

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). The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity 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 period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- * select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- * observe the method and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- * make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- * state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- * prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume 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 enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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,



Graham Whitham

Session Clerk

Date: 10-Feb-26



Gavin Niven

Minister

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

John Knox Parish Church of Scotland Stewarton

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of John Knox Parish Church Stewarton
Year ended 31 December 2025**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages 1 to 13.

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 Charity and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The charity 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 these accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination of the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025, 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)(c) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended), and
 - * to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended) have not been met, or
- 2 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended) have not been met, or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: George Connell
Professional Qualificatic C.I.M.A., M.B.A.
Address: 18 Barnhill Drive, Glasgow, G77 5FY
Date: 18-Feb-26



JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	1	176081	0	0	176081	166799
Charitable activities	2	1634	0	0	1634	1420
Activities for generating funds	3	1405	0	0	1405	1480
Investments	4	1672	221	0	1893	2747
Other	5	58854	0	0	58854	61478
Total Income		239645	221	0	239866	233924
Expenditure on:						
Raising Funds		86	0	0	86	82
Charitable activities		237250	206	0	237456	244292
Other		0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure		237336	206	0	237542	244374
Net Income before gains and losses on investments		2310	15	0	2324	-10450
Net gains/(losses) on investments		2920	0	0	2920	3212
Net Income		5230	15	0	5245	-7238
Transfers between Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		5230	15	0	5245	-7238
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		61912	5483	0	67393	74631
Total funds carried forward		67142	5498	0	72638	67393

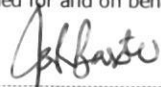
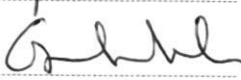

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2025

	Not	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Fixed Assets	9	0	0	0	0	0
Investments	10	40179	0	0	40179	37259
Total Fixed Assets		40179	0	0	40179	37259
Current Assets						
Debtors	11	6380				6233
Bank and Cash		49159				58161
Total Current Assets		55539				64394
Liabilities						
Creditors falling due within one year	12	23081				34262
Net Current Assets			32458			30133
Creditors falling due after more than one year			0			0
Net Assets			72638			67393
The funds of the charity:						
Endowment funds	15, 16		0			0
Restricted income funds			5498			5483
Unrestricted income funds			67140			61910
Total charity funds			72638			67393

The accounts were approved by the trustees on 10 February 2026.

Signed for and on behalf of the trustees

	J R. Baxter	Treasurer
	G Whitham	Kirk Session Clerk
	G Niven	Minister

Analysis of Net Assets Between	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0	0
Investments	40179	0	0	0	40179
Current Assets	45200	4840	5498	0	55539
Current Liabilities	-23081	0	0	0	-23081
Net Assets at 31 December 2025	62298	4840	5498	0	72638

Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently in the current and preceding year in dealing with items which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Fund Accounting

Funds are classified as either restricted funds, endowment funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows. Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the charity. Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the charity. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. From 2017 income tax recovered from Gift Aid donations and customarily claimed annually is recognised as an incoming resource when earned. In previous financial years that income was recognised when received in the year ending on the 31 December immediately following the end of the preceding tax year and so related only to the income tax associated with that preceding tax year.

Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) the general volunteer time of congregation members is not recognised. On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised as expenditure in the period of receipt.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as the liability is incurred.

Fixed assets

The charity has the right to occupy and use for its charitable objects certain tangible fixed assets, including the Church, halls and manse, vested in Church of Scotland Local Trustees. No consideration is payable for the use of these assets. Expenditure incurred on the repair and maintenance of these assets is charged as resources expended in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which the liability arises. There are currently no fixed assets having a value to the charity greater than one year other than the Church, halls and manse.

Investments

Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and market value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the market value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

Taxation

John Knox Parish Church, Stewarton is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Incoming Resources					
1 Donations and Legacies					
Offerings	80773	0	0	80773	81384
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	17860	0	0	17860	17913
Legacies	2000	0	0	2000	0
Contributions from Congregational Organisations	2050	0	0	2050	1825
Value of Donated Goods	0	0	0	0	0
Other	73398	0	0	73398	66676
	<u>176081</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>176081</u>	<u>167799</u>
2 Income from charitable activities					
Weddings and Funerals	1634	0	0	1634	1420
Other	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>1634</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1634</u>	<u>1420</u>
3 Income from other trading activities					
Regular Fundraising Events	0	0	0	0	0
Use of Premises	1405	0	0	1405	1480
	<u>1405</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1405</u>	<u>1480</u>
4 Investment income					
Dividends Received	788	0	0	788	788
Deposit Interest	883	221	0	1104	1958
	<u>1672</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1893</u>	<u>2747</u>
5 Other income					
Grants - East Ayrshire Council	58854	0	0	58854	61478
	<u>58854</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>58854</u>	<u>61478</u>
Total Income	<u>239645</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>239866</u>	<u>234924</u>
	Unrestricted	Restricted		Total	Total
	Funds	Funds		2025	2024
	2025	2025		£	£
6 Analysis of Expenditure					
Investment Manager's Fees	0	0		0	0
Offering Envelopes	86	0		86	82
	<u>86</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>86</u>	<u>82</u>
Giving to Grow	65897	0		65897	56883
Presbytery Dues	2219	0		2219	1548
Voluntary Additional Stipend	0	0		0	0
Minister's Expenses	1698	0		1698	1780
Ministerial Assistance	0	0		0	0
Pulpit Supply	315	0		315	315
Other Salary Costs	21440	0		21440	19013
Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	66370	0		66370	68235
Council Tax	2790	0		2790	2614
Other Buildings Costs	13454	0		13454	13150
Church Office Expenses	3625	0		3625	3650
Organ & Music	1146	0		1146	786
Other Expenses	58295	206		58501	76317
	<u>237250</u>	<u>206</u>		<u>237456</u>	<u>244292</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>237336</u>	<u>206</u>		<u>237542</u>	<u>244374</u>

Support costs have not been separately identified as the trustees consider there is only one charitable activity. Therefore support costs relate wholly to that activity and have not been separately identified.

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

7 Staff costs and numbers

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	24595	24595
Social security costs incl Workplace Pension	1626	1626
Total	26221	26221

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Ministerial support	2	1.3
Administration	0	0
Music staff	1	1
Premises maintenance	1	1
	4	3.3

No employee had benefits in excess of £50,000 (2024 nil).

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 fifth and subsequent year of service) £39,856.

8 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

Payments made on behalf of the minister, Rev Gavin Niven, consisted of £1,178 in respect of travel expenses, £520 in respect of telephone and £2,790 in respect of Council Tax for the manse.

No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of personal 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.

During the year a total of £34,580 was donated to the congregation by the trustees.

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Buildings	Office Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 January 2025	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0
At 31 December 2025	0	0	0
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 January 2025	0	0	0
Charge for year	0	0	0
Eliminated on Disposals	0	0	0
At 31 December 2025	0	0	0
Net Book Value			
At 31 December 2025	0	0	0
At 31 December 2024	0	0	0

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

10 Investments

The following investments are held as at 31 December 2024:
The Church of Scotland Investors Trust

	2025	2024		
	£	£		
Growth Fund:				
Market value at 31 December 2024	37260	34048		
Unrealised gain / (- loss) on Investments	<u>2920</u>	<u>3212</u>		
Market value at 31 December 2025	<u>40180</u>	<u>37260</u>		
Investments at Cost	<u>3284</u>	<u>3284</u>		
Deposit Fund:				
Fabric Fund (Organ)	3000	3000		
Robert Marshall Fund	5000	5000		
General Congregational Purposes	<u>22000</u>	<u>40000</u>		
	<u>30000</u>	<u>48000</u>		
Growth Fund:				
	Units	Cost of Units	31-Dec-25 Unit Price	31-Dec-25 Market Value
		£		£
Trustees	2420	1361.06	6.88	16650
General Purposes	2620	1473.55	6.88	18026
Miller Bequest Fund	800	<u>449.94</u>	6.88	<u>5504</u>
	<u>5840</u>	<u>3284.55</u>		<u>40180</u>

11 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prepayments	6380	6233
Other	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>6380</u>	<u>6233</u>

12 Creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals	23081	34262
Other	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>23081</u>	<u>34262</u>

13 Volunteers

In common with all congregations of the Church of Scotland the congregation benefits from the contribution made by volunteers who give their time and talents willingly for the benefit of the Church. The areas of congregational life which rely on the contribution of volunteers are many and varied and much of the activity would be unable to continue were it not for the commitment shown.

14 Contributions from Congregational Organisations

	2025	2024
	£	£
John Knox Guild	500	575
Country Dance Class	700	700
Stewarton Gardening Club	450	450
Stewarton Boy's Brigade	100	100
Mother and Toddler Group	200	0
Stewarton Rainbows	<u>100</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>2050</u>	<u>1825</u>

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

15 Movement in Funds	At 1 January 2025	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	At 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Endowment Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Restricted Funds					
The R. McK. Marshall Fund	5483	221	206	0	5498
	5483	221	206	0	5498
Unrestricted Funds					
The General Congregational Fund	47655	190716	186587	0	51784
The Fabric Fund	10384	132	0	0	10516
Designated Funds	3873	51717	50577	0	4840
	61910	242565	237164	0	67140
Total Funds	67393	242786	237370	0	72638

16 Summary of Funds

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total
2024	2024	2024	2024	2025	2025	2025	2025
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
61910	5483	0	67393	67140	5498	0	72638

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

R. Marshall Fund: to generate income to finance the purchase of bibles which are gifted to young people who are committed to joining the church and enable outreach.

Purposes of Unrestricted Funds:

Gen. Cong. Fund to administer the regular financial resources of the charity.

Fabric Fund: to facilitate all incomings and outgoings related to fabric which are deemed to have a period of relevance greater than twelve months. (Fabric incomings and outgoings deemed to have a period of relevance less than twelve months are included within the General Congregational Fund).

Designated Funds: to allow ease of administration of defined groups within the congregation. The groups are Thrive Stewarton (Presbytery Pioneer Ministry), The Guild, The Cottage, Trailblazers, H2O and JK Alpha.

Thrive Stewarton is most grateful for the grant funding it received in 2025 from the EAC CNCL Voluntary Organisation Fund, the EAC Anti Poverty Support Fund, Arnold Clark Community Support, The Cairn Movement, The Church of Scotland Seeds for Growth Fund, The Presbytery Mission Committee, and also all other kind donations. All groups ultimately are managed by trustees responsible for their activities.

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

17 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net movement in funds	5245	-7238
Add back depreciation charge	0	0
Deduct interest income	0	0
Deduct gains/add back losses on investments	-2920	-3212
Decrease (Increase) in debtors	-147	34
Increase (Decrease) in creditors	-11181	19079
Net cash decrease in operating activities	<u>-9003</u>	<u>8663</u>
	£	
Bank and Cash as at 31 December 2025	49159	
Bank and Cash as at 31 December 2024	<u>58161</u>	
Decrease in Bank and Cash through 2025	<u>-9002</u>	

18 Other Information at 31 December 2025

The insured values of the Congregation's properties were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Church, Halls and Cottage	4622975	4497056
Church Contents	332072	320433
Manse	868962	845294

The details of the Church Roll were as follows:

Communicant Members	252	245
Number of Members on Supplementary Roll	2	2
Adherents	3	3

19 Special Collections

The following Income from Special Collections for special purposes was received in 2025 and was disbursed as follows:

	£
Stewarton Foodbank	346
Welfare Fund/Nigeria	346
Christian Aid	10
	<u>701</u>

John Knox Parish Church of Scotland, Stewarton

Scotland - Charity number SC015890

Accounts

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Congregation No: 110638
Scottish Charity No: SC015890**

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ending
31-Dec-2024**



JK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present the annual report and financial statements of John Knox Parish Church of Scotland Stewarton for the year ended 31 December 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the General Assembly Regulations for Congregational Finance, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

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.

The congregational organisations of John Knox Church include H2O and Trailblazers, which focus on promoting the teachings of Jesus Christ to the young people and children of the congregation respectively, the Guild, which fosters Christian fellowship amongst church members, the Cottage Group, which provides both friendship and pastoral support and a regular meeting place for the elderly and less able of the community, House Groups which provide other opportunities to promote friendship and increase the understanding of God's Word amongst church members, Alpha which seeks to bring new believers to the Church, and our new mission ministry, Thrive Stewarton, which looks to improve the mental health and wellbeing in the wider community. All groups are managed by church members who have been given the authority to do so by the Trustees. Other organisations which meet regularly at John Knox Church include the Mother and Toddlers Group, the Stewarton Historical Society, the Stewarton Gardening and Cycle Clubs and the Country Dance Class; all seek to serve the community in their diverse ways and at the same time all underline the importance of John Knox Church in providing a vibrant meeting place both to its members and to the town. The Stewarton Boys Brigade and the Stewarton Girl Guides and Rainbows are all closely associated with the Church although constituted as Town Companies. John Knox Church also plays its full part in all the activities and initiatives of Churches Together in Stewarton.

Achievements and Performance

2024 was another year of much activity in church life and further improvements to the church facilities. In the church a new disabled toilet, new sliding glass doors at entry, new fire alarm system and sound boards were worthwhile features. The enhanced facilities made it more welcoming for groups to meet through the week to enjoy various activities aimed at boosting mental health and wellbeing in the community. A Shed was built at the end of the year and this will enable Thrive to offer a wider range of crafts and skills. The usual meetings and activities of the church continued with the weekly Sunday service being livestreamed. Attendances at the Sunday morning service remained stable. Unfortunately there has been a decline in cash offerings collected at Sunday services and consideration will now be given to providing the option of card terminals. Givings from church members using a standing order means of payment have remained steady. The trustees are most grateful for this solid level of support. The trustees in 2024 continued their work in bringing into practice the Vision Statement for John Knox Church. The Vision Statement has content under the main headings of Mission, Knowing God, Reaching Out and Sharing with Others. 2014 saw the commencement of the Special Interest Group structure. The aim of the Special Interest Groups is to provide added focus, resource and help in the management of each Group. The Groups are Adult Education, Children and Youth Education, Communications, Community, Compliance and Facilitation, Finance, Pastoral, Prayer, Property, World Mission and Worship. The Groups continue to work well and the regular reporting process to the trustees is also well established. The presence of a good number of young people attending our children and youth ministries is a great encouragement to all church members. Alpha and Youth Alpha courses continue and Thrive Stewarton, the pioneer ministry in the town led by [REDACTED], grows encouragingly both in participants and activities. Youth Work continued, led by [REDACTED], and the trustees welcome her lead with young persons both in the church and local schools. Additionally [REDACTED] now leads an initiative focusing on families. The church garden displays remain a visible focal point for outreach in the town. Sunday Service remains at the centre of John Knox life with a lively mix of both traditional and modern. The contribution of the praise band, organist and choir during every service is much appreciated. The fellowship provided by the house groups, the Guild, the Cottage and the women's ministry continue where possible and all contribute to the spiritual life of the church. The trustees, with the help of the minister, continue to bring the ordinances of religion to the people of the parish as required by the Church of Scotland. During the year fourteen new members were added to the roll, five members died and one resigned. There were five baptisms, fourteen funerals and three weddings.

**Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2024**

Financial Review

Although the General Congregational Fund reported a surplus of £3,809 for the year the overall financial results for 2024 show a deficit for the year of £7,238; this compares to an overall surplus of £19,278 in 2023. In 2023 a new Designated Fund was created to control the financial transactions of Thrive Stewarton, a Presbytery Pioneer Ministry. In 2024 Thrive reported a deficit of £4,442, (2023 surplus -£10,882), with the building of a Shed, at a cost of £38,767 to house future activities to aid mental health and wellbeing, a significant outlay. Thanks to all who planned and managed the project and supplemented welcome grant support with much needed donations. Weekly Sunday offerings and givings made by standing order remained stable. A Gift Day Appeal held in September was well supported by the congregation and, excluding associated tax recovered on gift aided donations, raised a most welcome £7,692. Other generous donations totalling £4,285 were received from church members through the year and income from the hire of halls was £1,480; the trustees are grateful for this support. Regular expenses incurred through 2024 were generally in line with expectation and remain well controlled. The enhancements to the church facilities, i.e., the disabled toilet, the fire alarm system and the sliding glass doors at the front door and new double glazed windows in the halls cost in total £59,654 and were wholly funded by grant support from East Ayrshire Council. Greater use of the church buildings through the week inevitably led to higher running costs, particularly utilities. The increase in market value of investments of £3,212 was timely. As a consequence there was an overall deficit for the year of £7,238. This has decreased the reserves held in the Congregational and Fabric Funds and this is described in the Reserves Policy below. Trustees will continue their approach of trying to increase income streams, seek appropriate grant support, maintain tight controls over expenditure and when affordable uphold the church's vision in sharing resources. In summary, in 2024 the total income of £233,924 was less than the total expenditure of £244,374 by £10,450, and this operating deficit was reduced by a gain of £3,212 in investments market value, to £7,238. The above income and expenditure totals include the activities of the designated accounts, (Note 15 refers). As at 31 December 2024 the Unrestricted Funds totalled £61,910 being £7,454 less than as at 31 December 2023 and the Restricted Funds totalled £5,483 being £216 more than as at 31 December 2023. In 2008 the trustees appointed Alistair Bryce to the role of internal auditor. His role involves reviewing the financial records of the charity from time to time and reporting any issues of concern to the trustees for further investigation. No such issues were reported through 2024. The trustees also note at this time that the union with Stewarton St Columba's remains in a deferred state but that the John Knox Church building has been confirmed as the church building to be used in that union.

Risk Management

The trustees have reviewed and considered the major risks to which the Church is exposed covering personnel, infrastructure, child abuse and financial control and are satisfied that such risks are manageable given the review systems and reporting processes which have been put in place.

Reserves Policy

At the end of the year to 31 December 2024 the unrestricted reserves in hand were £47,655 in the General Congregational Fund plus £3,873 in Designated Funds and £10,384 in the Fabric Fund. The trustees consider the balance held in the Unrestricted Funds to be at a sufficient level; the trustees are very aware that costs generally continue to rise.

Structure, Governance and Management

The congregation is a registered charity, number SC015890, and is administered in accordance with the terms of the Unitary Constitution and is subject to the Acts and Regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The change to the Unitary Constitution from the Model Deed Constitution took place through 2018. The 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. Supporting the Kirk Session in their management of the church are eleven Special Interest Groups, (SIGs), who are populated by church members who possess the skills and interests appropriate to each SIG. Each SIG acts independently of the other SIGs and the leaders of all SIGs meet from time to time to co-ordinate and agree each SIG's plans and to review subsequent outcomes. The Kirk Session met six times through 2024. The Special Interest Group leaders met twice in 2024. The minister chairs all meetings of both the Kirk Session and the SIG leaders.

**Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2024**

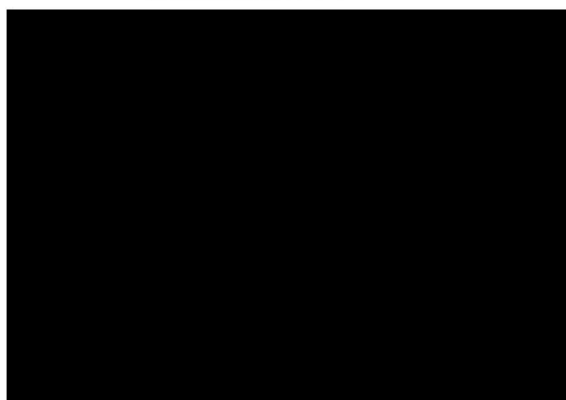
Reference and Administrative Information

Trustees

The following served as Trustees during the year and, unless shown, up to the date of signing the accounts.
Retired members of Kirk Session are not listed.

There are in addition three associated members of Kirk Session, namely Anne McAllister, Cath Shaw and Kim Watt, but none are Trustees.

Kirk Session members



Principal office-bearers

Minister:

Session Clerk:

Church Treasurer:



Charity Name: John Knox Parish Church of Scotland Stewarton

Charity Registration Number: SC015890

Congregation Reference Number: 110638 - The Church of Scotland

Contact Address: 16 High Street
Stewarton
Ayrshire
KA3 5BZ

Independent Examiner:



Principal Bankers: Bank of Scotland,
30/34 King Street, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, KA1 1NP

**Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2024**

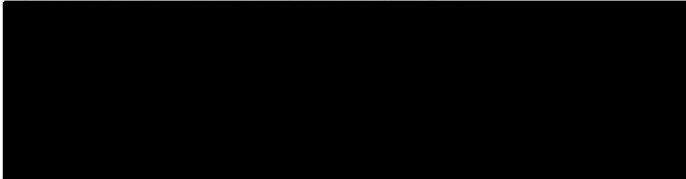
Statement of Trustees, Responsibilities

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). The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity 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 period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- * select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- * observe the method and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- * make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- * state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- * prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume 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 enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the names and signatures of the Session Clerk and Minister.

Session Clerk

Minister

Date: 24-Feb-25

John Knox Parish Church of Scotland Stewarton

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of John Knox Parish Church Stewarton
Year ended 31 December 2024**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 1 to 13.

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 Charity and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The charity 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

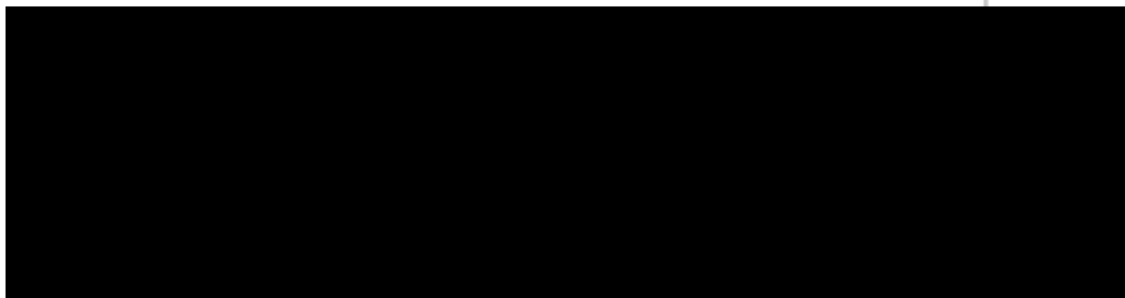
My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

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 these accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination of the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024, 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)(c) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended), and
 - * to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended) have not been met, or of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended) 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.



JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2024

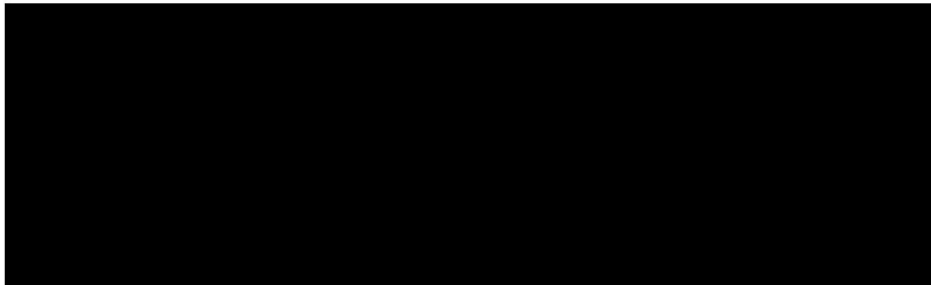
	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	1	166799	0	0	166799	150028
Charitable activities	2	1420	0	0	1420	490
Activities for generating funds	3	1480	0	0	1480	1137
Investments	4	2487	260	0	2747	1233
Other	5	61478	0	0	61478	36926
Total Income		233664	260	0	233924	189815
Expenditure on:						
Raising Funds		82	0	0	82	76
Charitable activities		244248	43	0	244292	172972
Other		0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure		244330	43	0	244374	173048
Net Income before gains and losses on investments		-10666	216	0	-10450	16768
Net gains/(losses) on investments		3212	0	0	3212	2511
Net Income		-7454	216	0	-7238	19278
Transfers between Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		-7454	216	0	-7238	19278
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		69365	5267	0	74631	55353
Total funds carried forward		61912	5483	0	67393	74631

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets	9	0	0	0	0
Investments	10	37259	0	0	37259
Total Fixed Assets		<u>37259</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>37259</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors	11	6233			6267
Bank and Cash		<u>58161</u>			<u>49498</u>
Total Current Assets		64394			55766
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	12	<u>34262</u>			<u>15183</u>
Net Current Assets			30133		40582
Creditors falling due after more than one year			<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
Net Assets			<u>67393</u>		<u>74631</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Endowment funds	15, 16		0		0
Restricted income funds			5483		5267
Unrestricted income funds			61910		69364
Total charity funds			<u>67393</u>		<u>74631</u>

The accounts were approved by the trustees on 24 February 2025.



Analysis of Net Assets Between Func	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total £
Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0	0
Investments	37259	0	0	0	37259
Current Assets	55038	3873	5483	0	64394
Current Liabilities	-34262	0	0	0	-34262
Net Assets at 31 December 2024	<u>58035</u>	<u>3873</u>	<u>5483</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>67393</u>

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently in the current and preceding year in dealing with items which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Fund Accounting

Funds are classified as either restricted funds, endowment funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows. Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the charity. Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the charity. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. From 2017 income tax recovered from Gift Aid donations and customarily claimed annually is recognised as an incoming resource when earned. In previous financial years that income was recognised when received in the year ending on the 31 December immediately following the end of the preceding tax year and so related only to the income tax associated with that preceding tax year.

Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) the general volunteer time of congregation members is not recognised. On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised as expenditure in the period of receipt.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as the liability is incurred.

Fixed assets

The charity has the right to occupy and use for its charitable objects certain tangible fixed assets, including the Church, halls and manse, vested in Church of Scotland Local Trustees. No consideration is payable for the use of these assets. Expenditure incurred on the repair and maintenance of these assets is charged as resources expended in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which the liability arises. There are currently no fixed assets having a value to the charity greater than one year other than the Church, halls and manse.

Investments

Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and market value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the market value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

Taxation

John Knox Parish Church, Stewarton is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
Incoming Resources	£	£	£	£	£
1 Donations and Legacies					
Offerings	80384	0	0	80384	72676
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	17913	0	0	17913	17822
Legacies	0	0	0	0	1000
Contributions from Congregational Organi	1825	0	0	1825	1770
Value of Donated Goods	0	0	0	0	0
Other	66676	0	0	66676	56760
	<u>166799</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>166799</u>	<u>150028</u>
2 Income from charitable activities					
Weddings and Funerals	1420	0	0	1420	490
Other	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>1420</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1420</u>	<u>490</u>
3 Income from other trading activities					
Regular Fundraising Events	0	0	0	0	0
Use of Premises	1480	0	0	1480	1137
	<u>1480</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1480</u>	<u>1137</u>
4 Investment income					
Dividends Received	788	0	0	788	701
Deposit Interest	1699	260	0	1958	533
	<u>2487</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2747</u>	<u>1233</u>
5 Other income					
Grants - East Ayrshire Council	61478	0	0	61478	36926
	<u>61478</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>61478</u>	<u>36926</u>
Total Income	<u>233664</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>233924</u>	<u>189815</u>
6 Analysis of Expenditure	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024		Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£		£	£
Investment Manager's Fees	0	0		0	0
Offering Envelopes	82	0		82	76
	<u>82</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>82</u>	<u>76</u>
Ministries and Mission Allocation	56883	0		56883	57831
Presbytery Dues	1548	0		1548	1673
Voluntary Additional Stipend	0	0		0	0
Minister's Expenses	1780	0		1780	1830
Ministerial Assistance	0	0		0	0
Pulpit Supply	315	0		315	300
Other Salary Costs	19013	0		19013	14961
Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	68235	0		68235	53519
Council Tax	2614	0		2614	2533
Other Buildings Costs	13150	0		13150	8491
Church Office Expenses	3650	0		3650	3240
Organ & Music	786	0		786	1016
Other Expenses	76274	43		76317	27579
	<u>244248</u>	<u>43</u>		<u>244292</u>	<u>172972</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>244330</u>	<u>43</u>		<u>244374</u>	<u>173048</u>

Support costs have not been separately identified as the trustees consider there is only one charitable activity. Therefore support costs relate wholly to that activity and have not been separately identified.

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

7 Staff costs and numbers

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	24595	14937
Social security costs incl Workplace Pension	1626	24
Total	<u>26221</u>	<u>14961</u>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Ministerial support	1.3	1
Administration	0	0
Music staff	1	1
Premises maintenance	1	1
	<u>3.3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employee had benefits in excess of £50,000 (2023 nil).

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 fifth and subsequent year of service) £38,884.

8 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

Payments made on behalf of the minister, ██████████ consisted of £1,091 in respect of travel expenses, £689 in respect of telephone and £2,617 in respect of Council Tax for the manse.

No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of personal 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.

During the year a total of £32,270 was donated to the congregation by the trustees.

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Buildings £	Office Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0
At 31 December 2024	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	0	0	0
Charge for year	0	0	0
Eliminated on Disposals	0	0	0
At 31 December 2024	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31 December 2024	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

10 Investments

The following investments are held as at 31 December 2024:
The Church of Scotland Investors Trust

	2024	2023
	£	£
Growth Fund:		
Market value at 31 December 2023	34048	31537
Unrealised gain / (- loss) on Investments	3212	2511
Market value at 31 December 2024	37260	34048
Investments at Cost	3284	3284

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit Fund:		
Fabric Fund (Organ)	3000	3000
Robert Marshall Fund	5000	5000
General Congregational Purposes	40000	20000
	48000	28000

			<u>31-Dec-24</u>	<u>31-Dec-24</u>
	Units	Cost of Units	Unit Price	Market Value
		£		£
Growth Fund:				
Trustees	2420	1361.06	6.38	15440
General Purposes	2620	1473.55	6.38	16716
Miller Bequest Fund	800	449.94	6.38	5104
	5840	3284.55		37260

11 Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	6233	6267
Other	0	0
	6233	6267

12 Creditors	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	34262	15183
Other	0	0
	34262	15183

13 Volunteers

In common with all congregations of the Church of Scotland the congregation benefits from the contribution made by volunteers who give their time and talents willingly for the benefit of the Church. The areas of congregational life which rely on the contribution of volunteers are many and varied and much of the activity would be unable to continue were it not for the commitment shown.

14 Contributions from Congregational Organisations	2024	2023
	£	£
John Knox Guild	575	500
Country Dance Class	700	470
Stewarton Gardening Club	450	450
Stewarton Boy's Brigade	100	100
Stewarton Historical Society	0	150
Stewarton Rainbows	0	100
	1825	1770

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

15 Movement in Funds	At 1 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Endowment Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Restricted Funds					
The R. McK. Marshall Fund	5267	260	43	0	5483
	5267	260	43	0	5483
Unrestricted Funds					
The General Congregational Fund	41364	190132	183841	0	47655
The Fabric Fund	10228	156	0	0	10384
Designated Funds	17773	46589	60489	0	3873
	69365	236876	244330	0	61910
Total Funds	74631	237136	244374	0	67393

16 Summary of Funds

Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Endowment Funds 2023	Total 2023	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
69364	5267	0	74631	61910	5483	0	67393

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

R. Marshall Fund: to generate income to finance the purchase of bibles which are gifted to young people who are committed to joining the church and enable outreach.

Purposes of Unrestricted Funds:

Gen. Cong. Fund to administer the regular financial resources of the charity.

Fabric Fund: to facilitate all incomings and outgoings related to fabric which are deemed to have a period of relevance greater than twelve months. (Fabric incomings and outgoings deemed to have a period of relevance less than twelve months are included within the General Congregational Fund).

Designated Funds: to allow ease of administration of defined groups within the congregation. The groups are Thrive Stewarton (Presbytery Pioneer Ministry), The Guild, The Cottage, Trailblazers, H2O and JK Alpha.

Thrive Stewarton is grateful for the grant funding it received in 2024 from the CNCLEA Voluntary Organisation Fund, the Hugh Fraser Foundation and the Screwfix Foundation, and also all other kind donations both large and small through the year. All groups ultimately are managed by trustees responsible for their activities.

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

17 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net movement in funds	-7238	19278
Add back depreciation charge	0	0
Deduct interest income	0	0
Deduct gains/add back losses on investments	-3212	-2511
Decrease (Increase) in debtors	34	11
Increase (Decrease) in creditors	19079	-133
Net cash increase in operating activities	8663	16645
	£	
Bank and Cash as at 31 December 2024	58161	
Bank and Cash as at 31 December 2023	49498	
increase in Bank and Cash through 2024	8663	

18 Other Information at 31 December 2024

The insured values of the Congregation's properties were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Church, Halls and Cottage	4497056	4324965
Church Contents	320433	292909
Manse	845294	816709

The details of the Church Roll were as follows:

Communicant Members	245	237
Number of Members on Supplementary Roll	2	2
Adherents	3	4

19 Special Collections

The following Income from Special Collections for special purposes was received in 2024 and was disbursed as follows:

	£
Tearfund (DEC Middle East Appeal)	239
Stewarton Foodbank	785
Welfare Fund/Nigeria	1500
Christian Aid	10
	2534

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

**Detailed Statement of General Congregational Fund
APPENDIX 1: for the year ended 31 December 2024**

INCOME	2024	2023
	£	£
Offerings		
WFO Scheme, (excl Gift Aid Donations)	14550	11487
Gift Aid Donations	58107	57085
Tax on Gift Aid Donations	17913	17822
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	7727	4104
Other Offerings, Donations, etc.	20087	25767
	118385	116265
Other Ordinary General Income		
Congregational Organisations	1825	1770
Grants Received	61478	36926
Weddings and Funerals	1420	490
Income from Investments	788	701
Interest from Deposits & Current Accounts	1543	243
Use of Premises	1480	1137
	68535	41266
Total Ordinary General Income	186920	157531
 EXPENDITURE		
National Ministry & Mission and Renewal		
Giving to Grow - Here	49996	50828
Less: Vacancy Allowance	0	0
Less: Endowment Income	-1077	-1093
Giving to Grow - Elsewhere/Shared Services	7964	8096
Presbytery Dues	1548	1673
	58431	59504
Local Staffing Costs		
Voluntary Additional Stipend & Employer's NI	0	0
Minister's Travelling Expenses	1091	1153
Minister's Telephone & Other Expenses	690	677
Ministerial Assistance (Salaries, NI & Expenses)	0	0
Pulpit Supply	315	300
Other Salaries, NI & Pensions	19013	14961
	21108	17090
Building Costs		
Fabric Repairs and Maintenance	68235	53519
Heating & Lighting	9698	5277
Water Charges & Insurance	3452	3214
Manse Council Tax	2614	2533
	83999	64543
Other Local Costs		
Outreach	5120	1000
Telephone, Posts, Printing, Stationery, Photocopying	3732	3316
Congregational Organisations	7167	6441
Other Expenses	4283	1157
	20302	11914
Total Ordinary General Expenditure	183841	153051
 GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL FUND SURPLUS	3079	4481

Note: This is stated before the inclusion of any gain/ (-loss) on revaluation of investments at the year end. At 31 December 2024 there was a gain of £3,211 (2023- gain of £2,511). It also excludes the financial activities of the Unrestricted Fabric Fund, the Restricted Robert Marshall Fund and the financial activities of the Unrestricted Designated Accounts.

JOHN KNOX PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STEWARTON

APPENDIX 2:

General Congregational Fund Budget for the year ending 31 December 2025

	Budget 2025		Actual 2024	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Offerings				
WFO Scheme, (excl. Gift Aid Donations)	15000		14550	
Gift Aid Donations	60000		58107	
Tax on Gift Aid Donations	18000		17913	
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	8000		7727	
Other Offerings, Donations, etc.	18850		20087	
		119850		118385
Other Ordinary General Income				
Congregational Organisations	1800		1825	
Grants	49000		61478	
Weddings & Funerals	1500		1420	
Income from Investments & Deposits	1350		2332	
Use of Premises	1500		1480	
		55150		68535
Total Ordinary General Income		<u>175000</u>		<u>186919</u>
EXPENDITURE				
National Ministries and Mission				
Giving to Grow - Here	57766		49996	
Giving to Grow - Elsewhere/Shared Services	9225		7964	
Less: Endowment Income	-1093		-1077	
Presbytery Dues	1602		1548	
		67500		58431
Local Staffing Costs				
Minister's Travelling Expenses	1200		1091	
Minister's Telephone & Other Expenses	800		690	
Ministerial Assistance (Salaries, NI & Expenses)	0		0	
Pulpit Supply	450		315	
Other Salaries, NI & Pensions	19550		19013	
		22000		21108
Building Costs				
Fabric Repairs and Maintenance	61000		68235	
Heating & Lighting	10100		9698	
Water Charges & Insurance	3900		3452	
Manse Council Tax	3000		2614	
		78000		83999
Other Local Costs				
Outreach	0		5120	
Telephone, Posts, Printing, Stationery, Photocopying	3800		3732	
Congregational Organisations	7500		7167	
Other Expenses	1200		4283	
		12500		20302
Total Ordinary General Expenditure		<u>180000</u>		<u>183841</u>
BUDGETED CONGREGATIONAL FUND (-DEFICIT/SURPLUS)		<u>-5000</u>		<u>3079</u>