

St David of Scotland Episcopal Church
Scottish Charity Number SC017258

Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended
30 September 2025



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Reference and administrative information

Charity Name	St David of Scotland Episcopal Church
Principal address	10 Royston Mains Place Edinburgh EH5 1LQ
Registered Charity number	SC017258
Trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rev. Colin Dickson – Priest-in-Charge• Mrs S Green – Lay Representative• Mrs S Mojisola• Mr P Pitkin• Mr D Green• Mrs S Richardson• Mr I Somerville (resigned June 2024)• Mrs R Boni - Secretary• Mr K Ludwick - Treasurer (resigned 15/12/24)• Mrs C Hilton – Treasurer (appointed 15/12/24)
Independent Examiner	P A McAlister, BA, CA 18 West Savile Gardens Edinburgh EH9 3AB
Bankers	Reliance Bank 23–24 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB

REPORT OF THE VESTRY (TRUSTEES' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements and independent examiner's report for the year to 30 September, 2025.

1. Structure, governance and management

1.1 Constitution

The Church is an unincorporated association governed by a Constitution dated 30 June 2024. For the purposes of charities law, the members of the Vestry are the Trustees of the Church.

1.2 Structure and governance

The church is a registered charity, and is a congregation of the Diocese of Edinburgh in the Scottish Episcopal Church. The Bishop of Edinburgh has pastoral oversight of all congregations within the diocese, and all congregations and their individual members are subject to Canon Law of the Scottish Episcopal Church. The Rector and the Lay Representative represent the Congregation at Diocesan Synod.

All of the church's affairs are governed by the Vestry.

1.3 Appointment of Vestry members

Vestry members are elected or appointed by Annual General Meeting established by Constitution and under Canon Law of the Scottish Episcopal Church. There is no formal induction programme, but ongoing guidance is given to ensure that Vestry members are familiar with the Church's values, aims and responsibilities as the designated trustees of a charity.

1.4 Administrative structure

The Rector is responsible for the spiritual affairs of the church. It is the duty of the Vestry to manage the temporal affairs of the congregation with responsibility for keeping the fabric and property of the church and rectory in good working order, and to look after the finances of the church. Members of the Vestry take responsibility for various aspects of church administration, and other functions are delegated to volunteer members of the Congregation.

1.5 Statement of risk

The Vestry keeps under review the major risks to which the Church is exposed and has established procedures to mitigate any risks identified in line with OSCR recommended practices. Vestry members are also aware of PVG practice in line with Scottish Episcopal Church guidelines.

2. Reference and administrative information

Reference and administrative details are presented on page 2.

3. Objectives and activities

The primary charitable purpose of the Church is the advancement of religion and to provide public benefit. The Vestry's objectives are to advance the mission of the Christian Church, through worship, service, and fellowship. These objectives are met through mission and pastoral activities.

The principal activities of the church are public worship in word, sacrament and prayer; Christian education; charitable work and fund-raising for local, national and international needs; and social meetings, predominantly of the youth, the elderly and community groups of all ages.

The Vestry is grateful for the time freely given by a number of volunteers, without whom many of the activities would be unable to operate.

4. Achievements and performance

St David's has been a significant part of the local Christian witness in Granton, Muirhouse and Pilton since its foundation in 1941. The Rev'd Colin Dickson (formerly Br Joseph Emmanuel SSF) was appointed as Priest-in-charge in October 2023 and St David's Friary (189 Crewe Road North) established at the same time. On leaving the Society of St Francis The Rev'd Colin Dickson became a Novice of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd taking the name Fr Joseph. He is now styled Fr Joseph Dickson nOGS. St David's remains committed to lay involvement in our community life at St David's.

4.1 Buildings

- The building is cared for and maintained by members, with repairs dealt with as they arise.
- A Quinquennial inspection was undertaken this year. The recommendations are being gradually implemented.

4.2 Worship

- Sunday worship last year saw average attendance of around 25. This increased markedly on special occasions such as Christmas (when 38 attended) and Easter (when 47 attended).
- The Eucharist is celebrated every day when possible and the Offices of Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer prayed in Church.
- On Thursdays the Eucharist is followed by lunch and is consistently attended by at least ten people.
- We continue to use PowerPoint for our services, enabling the use of images in worship and making worship more accessible.
- A local African congregation worship in Church on most Sundays and meet on other occasions.

4.3 Community

- We continue to support the Food Bank organised by Granton Baptist Church.
- Fr Joseph assists at the Granton Baptist Foodbank and the Community Food initiative based in St Salvador's Church in Stenhouse.
- We have begun a breakfast initiative where folk from the local community (and further afield) can come into Church on Saturday mornings for a bacon roll and cup of coffee.
- Unfortunately the baby weigh in ended because the NHS Insurance did not apply to non-NHS property.
- Fr Joseph volunteers at the Ferrywell Youth Project at which he participates in youth clubs, offers support to young people and helps with residential activities.
- The Vestry continues to support important social projects both locally and overseas.
- We are active Ecumenically within the area and have particularly strong links with Granton Baptist Church.

4.4 Diocesan support/ Team Development

- The Diocese continues to support the financing of a full-time ministerial post.
- Two individuals assist the current Treasurer (a book keeper and a Diocesan financial companion)
- The Vestry will continue their development in support of our clergy in mission and in caring for the needs of our congregation.

4.5 Future plans

- The Vestry looks forward to further developing the mission and ministry of St David's Church.

5. Financial review

5.1 Overview

St David's recorded a surplus of £15,483 of receipts over payments for 2025 (2024 - £844 deficit). Receipts rose by over £40,000, mainly due to receipt of a grant of almost £33,000 from the Diocese to support the remuneration of the Priest-in-Charge, but also due to increased donations and rental income. Payments rose by £27,000, with additional clergy costs of nearly £32,000 being offset by reductions in quota paid and donations made.

5.2 Receipts

Receipts rose from £29,749 in 2024 to £73,238 in 2025. While the diocesan grant contributed substantially to income more than doubling, other factors should be noted. Total giving from donations and Gift Aid rose due to a successful appeal for donations to meet the cost of new Stations of the Cross and a catch-up in Gift Aid reclaim; together, these masked a fall in planned giving, cash offerings and other donations combined, from £16,649 in 2024 to £15,429 in 2025. Rent from use of the church rose from £630 to £2,160; rent from the rental property also rose (from £9,507 to £16,200), but this rise is misleading as the 2024 figure is shown net of costs including letting agent fees, whereas the 2025 figure is the gross letting income before deducting any costs. The equivalent 2025 figure net of letting and repair costs was £9,920. (The gross income figure for 2024 was unavailable.)

5.3 Payments

Payments rose from £30,593 in 2024 to £57,593 in 2025. From January 2025, the church became liable for stipend and pension payments (previously paid by the Diocese), adding nearly £32,000 to payments. Repair costs continued to be incurred, including £4,239 for repairs to the rental property and £2,784 to replace the church Vestry floor. Diocesan Quota payments reduced to £2,311; the 2024 payment of £4,825 covered two years. Donations payments saw a marked reduction from £2,100 to £100; again, the 2024 figure included payments related to the previous year.

5.4 Future plans

While the church ended in the year in a much healthier financial position than previously, the Quinquennial Property inspection that has just taken place has identified many property issues that need attention. A major focus for the next year will be on resolving these issues while ensuring the church remains financially stable. Attention will also be paid to increasing congregational giving.

5.5 Reserves Policy

The Vestry has considered the reserves required and has considered its current and future liabilities. The Vestry aims to maintain an amount in unrestricted reserves equal to approximately one year's anticipated future charitable expenditure together with a 10% uplift to cover any unanticipated building repair. The Vestry therefore considers that reserves should be held at around £70,000. It believes that such a level will provide sufficient funds to maintain the mission of the Church for a reasonable period until replacement funding is obtained. Unrestricted reserves at 30 September 2025 amounted to £63,090 (2024 - £47,106). The Vestry recognises that this total was only achieved after receipt of significant funding from the Diocese, and will be considering over the coming months how the target level might be achieved.

6. Statement of Vestry members' (Trustees') responsibilities

The members of Vestry are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy and at any time, the financial position of the

church. Vestry members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Vestry on 23 November, 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Boni', written in a cursive style.

R Boni (Secretary)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of St David's Scottish Episcopal Church

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2025 which are set out on pages 8 to 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 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) (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 report

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Date 23/11/25

Patricia A McAlister, BA, CA
18 West Savile Gardens
Edinburgh EH9 3AB

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30 September 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations and Gift Aid	6	18,832	2,557	21,389	19,299
Grants	7	32,850	-	32,850	-
Bank interest		639	-	639	313
Rent from land and buildings	8	18,360	-	18,360	10,137
Total receipts		70,681	2,557	73,238	29,749
Payments					
Investment management costs: rental property	9	6,811	-	6,811	736
Payments relating directly to charitable activities:					
Clergy costs	10	31,950	-	31,950	58
Worship costs		865	-	865	1,126
Mission costs		907	-	907	88
Premises and Fabric costs	11	9,250	2,395	11,645	18,184
Diocesan Quota	12	2,311	-	2,311	4,825
Administrative & other costs	13	3,004	-	3,004	3,476
Donations and gifts	14	100	-	100	2,100
Total payments		55,198	2,395	57,593	30,593
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		15,483	162	15,645	(844)

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements

Statement of Balances for the year ended 30 September 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£
Bank and cash in hand					
Opening balance		47,106	-	47,106	47,950
Surplus/(deficit) for year		15,483	162	15,645	(844)
Bank and cash balances at end of year	16	62,589	162	62,751	47,106
Other assets					
Debtors & prepayments	17	2,169	-	2,169	1,883
Liabilities	18	187	-	187	-

Approved by the Trustees on 23 November, 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



C Hilton, Treasurer



Rev. Colin Dickson, Priest-in-charge

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2025

1. Basis of preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. Funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the Vestry in furtherance of the Church's objectives. A single unrestricted fund is maintained for the day-to-day running of the Church.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. During the year donations were raised towards the purchase of new Stations of the Cross and so were classed as restricted. A balance of £162 remained in this restricted fund at the year-end.

Details of restricted receipts and payments can be found in note 15.

3. Property

The heritable property of the church building and its surrounding land is vested in the Bishop of Edinburgh, the Dean, Chancellor and Registrar, all of the Diocese *ex officio*. It is considered to form part of the permanent endowment of the charity. Its cost is not known, and the Vestry believes it highly unlikely that the proceeds of any future sale would flow to the charity. No market valuation has therefore been sought. The insured value of the church building is £906,484.

The rental property is currently let on a commercial basis to a private tenant and is insured for £425,510. The Rectory (next door to this property) is insured for £387,500. No formal independent valuations have been obtained as the Trustees consider that the cost of obtaining such valuations would be disproportionate to any additional benefit derived by users of the accounts.

4. Change of status of Priest-in-Charge

Prior to this financial year, the priest-in-Charge, Rev. Colin Dickson (Br. Joseph Emmanuel SSF) was a member of the Society of St Francis (SSF). As a Franciscan Friar he received no stipend, simply a small allowance from SSF, and the Diocese of Edinburgh transferred to SSF the net stipend payments. In addition, the Diocese paid pension contributions into a scheme set up by SSF. In January 2025 the financial arrangements changed, so that St David's became responsible for paying stipend and pension contributions to SSF. In June 2025 the Priest-in-Charge was formally granted Leave of Absence from SSF. St David's began paying stipend directly to the Priest-in-Charge in July 2025, and pension contributions to the SEC Pension Fund.

5. Trustee remuneration, benefits and expenses

Except for the Priest-in-Charge, in the year ended 30 September 2025 no member of the vestry received remuneration or reimbursement of expenses other than reimbursement of purchases made on behalf of the church (2024 – nil).

The Priest-in-Charge during the financial year, Rev. Colin Dickson, was *ex officio* a member of the Vestry and therefore a trustee. From January 1, 2025 he received from St David's remuneration, benefits, and reimbursement of expenses in respect of services as a stipendiary cleric in line with scales determined by General Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church. (See note 4 above for further clarification.) Payment of remuneration is authorised under article 18 of the Constitution.

Amounts paid to the Priest-in-Charge during the year (or to SSF on his behalf) comprised stipend of £25,731 (2024 – nil) and pension contributions of £5,661 (2024 – nil). The Priest-in-charge occupied the Rectory, in respect of which the Vestry paid Council Tax.

6. Donations and Gift Aid received

	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Planned giving	12,242	-	12,242	12,680
Freewill & open plate offerings	1,979	-	1,979	3,669
Other donations	1,208	-	1,208	300
Special collections	-	2,056	2,056	40
Gift Aid reclaimed	3,403	501	3,904	2,610
Total	18,832	2,557	21,389	19,299

Restricted special collections, together with reclaimed gift aid, comprise funds raised towards the purchase of Stations of the Cross.

7. Grants received (Unrestricted fund)

Grants received of £32,850 (2024 - nil) comprises the total awarded to the church by the Diocese under its Investing in the Future initiative.

8. Rent from land & buildings (Unrestricted Fund)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Rental property rent	16,200	9,507
Church rent	2,160	630
Total	18,360	10,137

Rental property rent for 2025 is shown gross, before deduction of charges such as letting agent fees and repairs. The equivalent figure for 2024 is shown net of these charges; the gross figure is not available.

9. Investment management costs: rental property (Unrestricted Fund)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Letting agent fees	2,041	-
Rental property repairs & maintenance	4,239	-
Rental property insurance	531	736
Total	6,811	736

The comparable figures for letting agent fees and repairs for 2024 are not available; rental income was shown net of charges in the 2024 accounts.

10. Clergy costs (Unrestricted Fund)

	2025		2024
	£		£
Clergy stipend	25,731		-
Clergy pension	5,661		-
Clergy expenses	180		58
Payroll charges	378		-
Total	31,950		58

11. Premises & fabric costs

	2025 Unrestricted		2025 Restricted		2025 Total		2024 Total
	£		£		£		£
Non-routine church repairs/ renewals	5,314		2,395		7,709		-
Routine church maintenance	607		-		607		1,271
Heat & light	2,404		-		2,404		2,887
Council tax (Rectory)	925		-		925		-
Rectory refurbishment	-		-		-		4,760
Rectory & rental property repairs	-		-		-		8,919
Rental property electricity	-		-		-		347
Total	9,250		2,395		11,645		18,184

Non-routine church repairs/renewals comprise creation of a cupboard £1,180, replacement of the Vestry floor £2,784 and the Quinquennial Inspection fee £1,350, and in the restricted category £2,395 for new Stations of the Cross. Rectory council tax includes £655 paid in respect of summer 2023.

12. Diocesan Quota

Quota is paid by St David's to the diocese of Edinburgh to support the work of the Diocese and of the Scottish Episcopal Church as a whole. The amount of quota is set by Diocesan Synod each year and levied on each church in proportion to its income. Quota of £2,311 (2024 - £4,825) was paid in 2025; the 2024 comparative figure represents payment for 2024 and 2023.

13. Administrative & other costs (Unrestricted Fund)

	2025		2024
	£		£
Church insurance	983		1,122
Broadband (church & rectory)	497		927
Bank charges	182		126
Other costs: clergy conference, youth support, stationery, catering etc	1,342		1,301
Total	3,004		3,476

14. Gifts and donations made (Unrestricted Fund)

	2025		2024
	£		£
Bishop's retirement gift	100		-
Various charities	-		2,100
Total	100		2,100

In addition, during the year the following collections were taken for charities. These are not reflected in the accounts as they were simply passed on to the charities concerned and do not form part of St David's income.

	2025		2024
	£		£
Timboni School*	47		-
Aberlour*	100		-
Comic Relief	45		-
Bishop's Lent Appeal*	40		-
Total	232		-

*The collections for these charities were remitted after the year-end.

15. Restricted Fund – Stations of the Cross

	2025		2024
	£		£
Receipts			
Donations received	2,056		-
Gift Aid	501		
Total receipts	2,557		-
Payments			
Stations of the Cross	2,395		-
Total Payments	2,395		-
Surplus c/fwd 30/09/25	162		-

16. Bank balances

Bank balances at the year-end were held as follows:

	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total		2024 Total
	£	£	£		£
Reliance Bank Current account	26,782	162	26,944		11,938
Reliance Bank 35 day notice account	35,807	-	35,807		35,168
Total	62,589	162	62,751		47,106

17. Other assets – Debtors and prepayments

	2025		2024
	£		£
Gift Aid accrued on donations at year-end	1,478		1,783
Prepaid insurance on investment property	539		
September cash offerings	152		100
Total	2,169		1,883

18. Liabilities

The following charitable collections received during the year were remitted to the relevant charities after the year-end:

	2025		2024
	£		£
Timboni School	47		-
Aberlour	100		-
Bishop's Lent Appeal	40		-
Total	187		-