Scottish charity number: SC004487
Congregation number: 010102

St Stephen's Comely Bank Church of Scotland, Edinburgh

Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 December 2024

Cornerstone ACCOUNTING

St Stephen's Comely Bank Church of Scotland, Edinburgh

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St Stephen's Comely Bank Church of Scotland, Edinburgh

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present the annual report and accounts for St Stephen's Comely Bank Church, Edinburgh (SSCB) for the year ended 31 December 2024. The accounts are presented this year on the accruals basis due to an increase in income beyond the maximum permitted level for use of the receipts and payments basis. The prior year comparatives have also been restated.

Reference and administrative information

Charity name:	St Stephen's Comely Bank Church of Scotland, Edinburgh
Charity registration number:	SC004487
Congregation number:	010102
Contact address:	Church Office 10 Comely Bank Road Edinburgh EH4 1DW
Bankers:	Bank of Scotland 43 Comely Bank Edinburgh EH4 1AF

Constitution and governance

SSCB is a Church of Scotland congregation established under the unitary form of constitution.

The Elders serving on the Kirk Session are the trustees of the charity and have been chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery. The Kirk Session is responsible for the recruitment, appointment, induction and training of new trustees, when required.

The Kirk Session met formally seven times during the year, with meetings considering both the practical and spiritual matters of the church. Routine business is dealt with by circulation of papers.

The Trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Rev George Vidits	Minister/Moderator	(till 23 October 2024)
Rev Daniel Carmichael	Interim Moderator	(appointed 22 November 2024)
Alison Franks	Session Clerk Finance Convenor	(from 1 January 2024)
John Baggaley		
Veronique Chittleburgh		
Jacqueline Young		
Martin Bethell		(resigned 5 September 2024)
Cat Rawlinson-Watkins		(resigned 6 March 2024)
Timothy Pitt		(Session Clerk till 31 December 2023) (resigned 29 February 2024)

Day to day oversight for financial matters is delegated to the Finance Convenor and the Treasurer, Sarah Robertson, a member of the congregation who carries out the bookkeeping.

The Minister and Session Clerk hold title to both the church and the manse (see page 6) on behalf of the members.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

Objectives and activities

SSCB is an evangelical congregation of the Church of Scotland, with one objective: to make God's ways known to all.

This is done through our worship together each Sunday; meetings for prayer, encouragement and teaching; offering homegroups for small group ministry and discipleship; ministry to the older members of our community through our lunch club; youth ministry in our local schools and community; family outreach support for families in our community; the provision of meeting space for Guides, Scouts and other community groups; and special events.

Achievements and performance

This year, we have been working with our new Parish Grouping community pushing forward with a framework for us (Gorgie and Palmerston Place Church, Murrayfield Church and ourselves) to effectively work together. With a number of absences through ill-health and vacancies to fill, progress has been slower than we would have liked. But we are excited about the opportunities for this in the next 12 months.

Our Sunday services continue to be a place where church family meet together to share in worshipping the Lord and in fellowship with one another. Our Praise Band has blessed us at one service each month, the other services being covered by our technical team. The numbers of our church family involved in our services – reading the Word, leading in prayers, teaching our children and young people, looking after babies, welcoming people, serving coffee - continues to grow and we are grateful for the high proportion of our church family who actively serve each week. We are also blessed with lunch after our service once each month – always well attended.

We are thankful for our staff team.

- Our Minister, George Vidits, has had some periods of absence this year with health issues but we have been able to cover the preaching at our services from within the church staff and family, and with the support of Rev James Aitchison in November, Cat Rawlinson-Watkins in December and Martin Pearce from January 2025 until the date of this report.
- Our Youth Pastor, Kenny McCartney has continued to extend our reach into our local schools – Broughton High School primarily, but also in Flora Stevenson Primary School. This has included bringing Try Praying into the classrooms, leading at Assemblies and running weekly lunchtime clubs. Kenny ran a successful holiday club at Easter for primary aged children, supported by members of the church family who gave up their week to help. We have seen new seeds of growth in our Inspire group on a Sunday morning which now boasts 11 teenagers who regularly attend.
- We filled a new post this year when Pamela Macphee joined us as our Families Outreach Worker. Funded by the Pioneer Mission Fund, this role is to build a bridge between our church and families in our community, particularly those who require additional practical support. Building on our successful Thursday Baby and Toddler group, we have now started a monthly Comely Play on a Saturday morning which invites families into our halls for a time of play and bible stories. We have seen a growing group of families happy to join with us and were pleased by how many came to our Christingle service this year.
- Our cleaner of many years, Moira McLaren continues tirelessly with her love and care for our building – we are grateful for her service.

Prayer continues to be at the heart of what we do. As well as a prayer meeting before each Sunday service, we have a prayer ministry team who are available to pray with people after each service and a quarterly day of prayer where we cover prayer from 10am to 10pm on a Saturday. These days of prayer are held in the church and we now schedule them for the Saturday before our Communion Sundays as the sense of the Holy Spirit after these times of prayer has been such a 'felt' blessing in our Sanctuary.

Achievements and performance (continued)

Our Lunch Club (for retired people) and Baby and Toddler group (for young families) continue to be very well attended. These are authentic places of Christ-centred service where there is always a bible story or faith-based message. We pray that these will be outreaches which build a bridge into our worship community.

Our 4 homegroups continue to be a place for discipleship and care. We have a hope that as many from our church family as possible are part of one of these small groups as we believe it is such an important addition to Sunday morning worship in our journeys of faith.

At the end of the year, we again hosted the Bethany Christian Trust Christmas trees, along with jointly hosting a Christmas Fair with them in our church. We see this outreach as a real chance to engage with people in our local community who are coming to pick up their trees.

We finished the year with 111 members (2023: 111 members). In addition, we have around 26 children and young people who are part of our Inspire, Sunday Club and creche communities.

None of what we do at Church would be possible without the commitment of our faithful community of members who volunteer in so many ways to serve.

Financial review

Principal sources of funding

The Church is primarily funded by church members through their offerings and the Gift Aid thereon. This year, a generous legacy was left to the church by a dearly loved and missed member of our church family which has significantly improved our financial position. It should however be noted that we have an emerging trend of a decreasing number of high value givers as those members either move on elsewhere or reduce their giving due to changes in circumstances.

Results for the year

The Accounts for the year are set out on pages 6 to 14. They have been restated this year to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities 2019 which applies to all charities with income over £250k. This means that our figures for 2023 have also been restated on the same basis to provide comparability.

The Statement of Financial Activities on page 6 shows a surplus of £125,796 (2023: restated surplus of £16,187), comprising a deficit on general funds after transfers of £3,353 (2023: restated deficit of £3,171), a surplus on designated funds of £135,267 (2023: £nil) and a deficit on restricted funds after transfers of £6,118 (2023: surplus of £19,358).

The Church's funds totalled £975,330 (2023 restated: £849,534) at the end of the year and are divided between general funds of £18,818 (2023 restated: £22,171), designated funds of £935,267 (2023 restated: £800,000) and restricted funds of £21,245 (2023: £27,363).

Reserves

It is the policy of the church to maintain unrestricted funds of approximately three months of unrestricted expenditure. This allows sufficient funds to enable the ongoing work of the Church to be maintained. Per the Statement of Balances on page 7, the general fund at 31 December 2024 amounted to £18,818 (2023: £22,171) which falls short of this level. This shortfall will be addressed as part of the discernment process being undertaken by the Kirk Session on the appropriate use of the legacy received this year of £135,267. We have already agreed to a thanksgiving offering of 10% to be donated to Christian partners we work with in our community.

Risk assessment

The Trustees have assessed the risks to which the Church is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate those risks. The Kirk Session regularly discusses both financial and non-financial risks. The latter include those associated with occupying church buildings and employing staff, together with the risks associated with groups and individuals using our buildings.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

Charity law in Scotland requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 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 that 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 charity's financial position. The Trustees are also responsible for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the charity's assets and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information on the congregation's website.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 13 March 2025:

Alison Franks
Session Clerk/Trustee

St Stephen's Comely Bank Church of Scotland, Edinburgh

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 6 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's Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning 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 (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. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Helen m. White

Helen White CA
Director

Cornerstone Accounting Ltd
Chartered Accountants

11 Erngath Road
Bo'ness
EH51 9DP

Date: 28 March 2025

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	General fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	Restated General fund £	Restated Designated funds £	Restated Restricted funds £	Restated 2023 Total £
Income and endowments									
Donations and legacies	**2**	**81,154**	**135,267**	**39,854**	**256,275**	86,780	-	80,005	166,785
Income from charitable activities	**3**	**151**	**-**	**3,215**	**3,366**	1,145	-	3,253	4,398
Income from trading activities	**4**	**20,564**	**-**	**-**	**20,564**	13,944	-	-	13,944
Total income and endowments		**101,869**	**135,267**	**43,069**	**280,205**	101,869	-	83,258	185,127
Expenditure									
Expenditure on charitable activities									
Raising funds	**5**	**98**	**-**	**16**	**114**	16	-	21	37
Charitable activities	**6**	**104,168**	**-**	**50,127**	**154,295**	107,524	-	61,379	168,903
Total expenditure		**104,266**	**-**	**50,143**	**154,409**	107,540	-	61,400	168,940
Net income/(expenditure)		**(2,397)**	**135,267**	**(7,074)**	**125,796**	(5,671)	-	21,858	16,187
Transfers between funds	**10**	**(956)**	**-**	**956**	**-**	2,500	-	(2,500)	-
Net movement in funds		**(3,353)**	**135,267**	**(6,118)**	**125,796**	(3,171)	-	19,358	16,187
Total funds brought forward		**22,171**	**800,000**	**27,363**	**849,534**	25,342	800,000	8,005	833,347
Total funds carried forward		**18,818**	**935,267**	**21,245**	**975,330**	22,171	800,000	27,363	849,534
Represented by:									
General fund	**10**	**18,818**	**-**	**-**	**18,818**	22,171	-	-	22,171
Designated funds	**10**	**-**	**935,267**	**-**	**935,267**	-	800,000	-	800,000
Restricted funds	**10**	**-**	**-**	**21,245**	**21,245**	-	-	27,363	27,363
Total funds		**18,818**	**935,267**	**21,245**	**975,330**	22,171	800,000	27,363	849,534

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	General fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total	Restated General fund	Restated Designated funds	Restated Restricted funds	Restated 2023 Total
Fixed assets		**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	**7**	**-**	**800,000**	**-**	**800,000**	-	800,000	-	800,000
Total fixed assets		**-**	**800,000**	**-**	**800,000**	-	800,000	-	800,000
Current assets									
Debtors	**8**	**6,035**	**-**	**1,850**	**7,885**	5,180	-	-	5,180
Cash at bank and in hand		**16,675**	**135,267**	**19,395**	**171,337**	17,935	-	27,363	45,298
Total current assets		**22,710**	**135,267**	**21,245**	**179,222**	23,115	-	27,363	50,478
Liabilities									
Creditors: falling due within one year	**9**	**3,892**	**-**	**-**	**3,892**	944	-	-	944
Net current assets		**18,818**	**135,267**	**21,245**	**175,330**	22,171	-	27,363	49,534
Total assets less current liabilities		**18,818**	**935,267**	**21,245**	**975,330**	22,171	800,000	27,363	849,534
Net assets		**18,818**	**935,267**	**21,245**	**975,330**	22,171	800,000	27,363	849,534
Funds of the charity									
General fund	**10**	**18,818**	**-**	**-**	**18,818**	22,171	-	-	22,171
Designated funds	**10**	**-**	**935,267**	**-**	**935,267**	-	800,000	-	800,000
Restricted funds	**10**	**-**	**-**	**21,245**	**21,245**	-	-	27,363	27,363
Total charity funds		**18,818**	**935,267**	**21,245**	**975,330**	22,171	800,000	27,363	849,534

The financial statements on pages 6 to 14 were approved by the Trustees on 13 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Alison Franks

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Alison Franks, Session Clerk/Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, and in compliance with the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

St Stephen's Comely Bank Church of Scotland, Edinburgh meets the definition of a public benefit entity.

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis. The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties so the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Income and debtors

All income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to the income, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable.

Donated goods and services, principally the service of volunteers, have not been quantified for the purposes of the financial statements.

Debtors are valued at cost at the year-end and adjusted for any amounts considered to be irrecoverable.

Expenditure and creditors

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Creditors are valued at cost at the year-end and split between amounts due in less than one year and amounts due in more than one year.

Tangible fixed assets

All tangible fixed assets over £1,000 are capitalised at cost. Depreciation is provided at the following percentages on a straight-line basis to write off the cost or initial value, less residual value, of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives:

Land and buildings	0%

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit account.

Funds

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds or are placed within designated funds which can be used for purposes in agreement with its charitable objectives.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the charity and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income arising is used for the purpose defined in the objects of the charity.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. **Donations and legacies**	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2024 £**	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Offerings	**67,525**	**29,836**	**97,361**	69,151	53,200	122,351
Gift aid receivable	**13,629**	**6,668**	**20,297**	17,389	9,008	26,397
Grants	**-**	**3,350**	**3,350**	240	17,797	18,037
Legacies	**135,267**	**-**	**135,267**	-	-	-
	216,421	**39,854**	**256,275**	86,780	80,005	166,785

3. **Income from charitable activities**	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2024 £**	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising income	**-**	**-**	**-**	895	650	1,545
Ministry groups income	**151**	**3,215**	**3,366**	-	2,603	2,603
Weddings and funerals	**-**	**-**	**-**	250	-	250
	151	**3,215**	**3,366**	1,145	3,253	4,398

4. **Income from trading activities**	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2024 £**	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Hall letting income	**20,564**	**-**	**20,564**	13,944	-	13,944
	20,564	**-**	**20,564**	13,944	-	13,944

5. **Expenditure on raising funds**	**Unrestricted funds £**	**Restricted funds £**	**Total 2024 £**	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Card machine costs	**98**	**16**	**114**	16	21	37
	98	**16**	**114**	16	21	37

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total 2024**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Giving to Grow contributions	**60,735**	**-**	**60,735**	59,722	-	59,722
Presbytery dues	**1,102**	**-**	**1,102**	1,019	-	1,019
Gross salaries	**7,289**	**35,750**	**43,039**	18,090	26,649	44,739
Employer pension	**1,164**	**874**	**2,038**	-	-	-
Minister's expenses	**1,546**	**-**	**1,546**	1,511	-	1,511
Pulpit supply and worship expenses	**151**	**-**	**151**	638	-	638
Ministry and mission expenses	**367**	**-**	**367**	340	-	340
Ministry group expenses	**-**	**5,992**	**5,992**	-	7,223	7,223
Building redevelopment costs	**-**	**-**	**-**	-	27,418	27,418
Church repairs and maintenance	**2,836**	**4,834**	**7,670**	1,285	89	1,374
Manse repairs and maintenance	**864**	**2,376**	**3,240**	1,284	-	1,284
Manse council tax	**3,738**	**-**	**3,738**	3,638	-	3,638
Other building costs	**270**	**-**	**270**	123	-	123
Church utility and water costs	**11,129**	**-**	**11,129**	8,510	-	8,510
Insurance	**6,888**	**-**	**6,888**	6,425	-	6,425
Church office and IT costs	**3,402**	**301**	**3,703**	2,011	-	2,011
Licence costs	**1,392**	**-**	**1,392**	1,064	-	1,064
Catering, hygiene and cleaning costs	**895**	**-**	**895**	1,544	-	1,544
Donations	**-**	**-**	**-**	100	-	100
Independent examination	**144**	**-**	**144**	144	-	144
Other expenses	**256**	**-**	**256**	76	-	76
Total expenditure	**104,168**	**50,127**	**154,295**	107,524	61,379	168,903

Giving to Grow contributions are based on the level of our income each year and are used to fund ministry staff employed by the Church of Scotland and mission work of the wider Church.

Ministry group expenses include all expenses (excluding salaries) or our Youthwork, Families work, Lunch Club and Community Money Advice centre.

Support costs have not been separately identified as the trustees consider there is only one charitable activity.

The average number of staff during the year was 3 (2023:2). No employees were paid more than £60,000.

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which pays the employment costs of the Minister. Minister's stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale which is related to years of service. This year, the minimum stipend was £31,642 and the maximum (for more than 5 years' service) was £38,884.

There are no paid staff of the Church who fall within the definition of Key Management Personnel.

No accrual has been made for holiday pay at the year-end as unused holidays are not carried forward.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

7. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Total
	£	**£**
Cost		
At 1 January 2024	800,000	**800,000**
At 31 December 2024	800,000	**800,000**
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2024	-	**-**
At 31 December 2024	-	**-**
Net book value		
At 31 December 2024	**800,000**	**800,000**
At 31 December 2023	800,000	800,000

Land and buildings consist of the church manse at 8 Blinkbonny Crescent, Edinburgh, EH4 3NB. The manse is stated at a prudent estimate of valuation based on property sales of similar properties in the street over the last 5 years.

The Church building is also owned by the congregation but the Trustees have not sought a valuation of the building nor is an estimate considered to be sufficiently accurate to be meaningful.

8. Debtors

	General fund	Restricted funds	2024	2023
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Trade debtors	**220**	**-**	**220**	-
Gift aid recoverable	**5,286**	**-**	**5,286**	5,180
Other debtors	**529**	**1,850**	**2,379**	-
	6,035	**1,850**	**7,885**	5,180

9. Creditors: falling due within one year

	General fund	Restricted funds	2024	2023
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Trade creditors	**378**	**-**	**378**	-
Accruals and deferred income	**2,178**	**-**	**2,178**	944
Other creditors	**1,336**	**-**	**1,336**	-
	3,892	**-**	**3,892**	944

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

10. Funds movements

Current year

	Balance at 1 Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 Dec 2024
Unrestricted funds	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
General fund	22,171	101,869	104,266	(956)	**18,818**
Designated assets fund	800,000	-	-	-	**800,000**
Designated legacy fund	-	121,740	-	-	**121,740**
Designated tithe fund	-	13,527	-	-	**13,527**
Total unrestricted funds	**822,171**	**250,663**	**104,266**	**(956)**	**967,612**
Restricted funds					
Youthwork fund	1,034	28,340	32,810	3,436	**-**
Families Outreach fund	15,000	800	7,048	-	**8,752**
Lunch Club fund	544	2,188	1,920	-	**812**
Baby and toddler fund	84	1,687	510	(1,000)	**261**
Community Money Advice fund	921	1,204	645	(1,480)	**-**
Eco fund	1,561	-	-	-	**1,561**
Fabric fund	8,219	7,000	7,210	-	**8,009**
North Merchiston mission fund	-	1,850	-	-	**1,850**
Total restricted funds	**27,363**	**43,069**	**50,143**	**956**	**21,245**
Total funds	**849,534**	**293,732**	**154,409**	**-**	**988,857**

Prior year

	Balance at 1 Jan 2023	*Income*	*Expenditure*	*Transfers*	*Balance at 31 Dec 2023*
Unrestricted funds	***£***	***£***	***£***	***£***	***£***
General fund	*25,342*	*101,869*	*107,540*	*2,500*	*22,171*
Designated assets fund	*800,000*	*-*	*-*	*-*	*800,000*
Total unrestricted funds	*825,342*	*101,869*	*107,540*	*2,500*	*822,171*
Restricted funds					
Youthwork fund	*2,691*	*29,428*	*31,085*	*-*	*1,034*
Families Outreach fund	*-*	*10,000*	*-*	*5,000*	*15,000*
Lunch Club fund	*1,704*	*1,817*	*1,437*	*(1,540)*	*544*
Baby and toddler fund	*846*	*1,686*	*726*	*(1,722)*	*84*
Community Money Advice fund	*1,204*	*2,486*	*645*	*(2,124)*	*921*
Eco fund	*1,531*	*119*	*89*	*-*	*1,561*
Fabric fund	*(7,604)*	*7,875*	*(86)*	*7,862*	*8,219*
2020 fund	*7,633*	*1,422*	*7,704*	*(1,351)*	*-*
Gift Day fund	*-*	*28,425*	*19,800*	*(8,625)*	*-*
Total restricted funds	*8,005*	*83,258*	*61,400*	*(2,500)*	*27,363*
Total funds	*833,347*	*185,127*	*168,940*	*-*	*849,534*

Explanation of funds - overleaf

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

10. Funds movements

Explanation of funds

Unrestricted funds:

The General fund represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is designated or restricted.

The Designated assets fund represents the value of fixed assets held by the church which are not available as liquid funds on a day to day basis.

The Designated legacy fund represents a ring-fenced legacy received in the year to be used at the Kirk Session's discretion.

The Designated tithe fund represents 10% of the value of a legacy received in the year which the Kirk Session will distribute to charitable causes in 2025.

Restricted funds:

The *Youthwork fund* represents donations received to fund youth work in the church, including the salary of the Youth Worker.

The *Families Outreach fund* holds grants and donations received to fund a Families Outreach worker.

The *Lunch Club fund* represents donations received and payments made for the provision of the monthly lunch club. The transfer out in the year was a donation made from the Club to the Church.

The *Baby and Toddler fund* represents the income and expenses managed by our Baby and Toddler group. The transfer out in the year was a donation made from the Group to the Youthwork in the church.

The *Community Money Advice fund* represents the donations received and costs related to our Debt Advice Centre. The transfer out in the year was a donation made from the Centre to the Youthwork in the church.

The *Eco fund* represents donations received and payments made by the church Eco group.

The *Fabric fund* represents donations received and utilised for specific fabric projects.

The *North Merchiston mission fund* represents a grant received by the congregation for community outreach.

The *2020 fund* represents the completion and wind-down of our 2020 building project funds.

The *Gift Day fund* represents funding raised to pay for a fire detection/smoke alarm for the church. The balance remaining on that fund was transferred to the Families Outreach fund and the Fabric fund, with the permission of the donors.

11. Trustee and related party transactions

During the year, one Trustee (the Minister) received reimbursement of travel and broadband expenses totalling £1,546 (2023: £1,511) and benefitted from the payment of Council Tax on the manse of £3,738 (2023: £3,638). No other Trustees received remuneration or expenses, other than the direct reimbursement of items purchased on behalf of the church (2023: nil).

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pensions and housing and loan funds. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale which is related to years of service. For the year under review, the minimum stipend was £31,642 and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years) was £38,884.

Unrestricted donations by Trustees of the Charity amounted to £25,740 (2023: £40,951).

There were no other transactions with trustees or related parties during the year (2023: nil).

12. Pension commitments

The Charity operates an auto-enrolment pension scheme with NEST for all eligible employees. Employer contributions to the scheme are disclosed in note 6.

13. Volunteers

The Church benefits from the services of many volunteers from within the congregation: in supporting Sunday worship, in teaching at our children and youth based programmes on a Sunday and during the week, in helping with hospitality and administration and in volunteering on other outreach services we provide to our local community. We are indebted to all those who minister on our behalf in this way.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

14. Restatement of comparatives

The accounts have been restated this year from the Receipts and Payments basis to the Accruals method. This has resulted in the following adjustments to the comparatives this year:

2022 brought forward reserves

2022 reserves, as previously stated	29,168
Add:	
Fixed assets - church manse	800,000
Income due but not received	12,791
Deduct:	
Bills due but not paid	(8,612)
2022 reserves, restated	**833,347**

2023 surplus

2023 surplus, as previously stated	16,130
Add:	
Income due but not received	5,180
Bills from 2022 paid	8,612
Deduct:	
Bills due but not paid	(944)
Income due from 2022 received	(12,791)
2023 surplus, restated	**16,187**
Restated 2023 reserves carried forward	**849,534**