

HOMEWOOD ROAD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

ST ALBANS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER 2021

HOMEWOOD ROAD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2021

This report includes information required by the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting by Charities 2005.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Homewood Road United Reformed Church Charity is a local church of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain, and is a member Church of the Thames North Synod of the URC. It was registered on 28th November 2013 as Charity Number 1154798.

Homewood Road United Reformed Church is situated at Homewood Road, St Albans AL1 4BH. Tel No: 01727 899117, email: secretary@homewoodurc.org.

The members of the Elders' Meeting are recognised as the Charity Trustees. The current serving Elders are:

Pauline Blacket	Ray Fraser	Helen Griffiths	Martyn Macphee
Anne Goldsmith	Lesley King	Elizabeth & David Martin	Mary Steele
Richard Nunn	Jenny Graham & Robert Thomson	Susan Gray	

The Church building and the Manse at 2b Jersey Lane, St Albans, AL4 9AB, are vested in Thames North Synod Trust as trustees and held for the benefit of Homewood Road URC in accordance with the trusts applicable to URC properties.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The activities of Homewood Road United Reformed Church are overseen by the Elders' Meeting of the Church in accordance with the provisions of The Structure of the United Reformed Church determined by the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, and supplemented by the Rules of Homewood Road Church. The governing document of the registered charity is a statement adopted by the Church Meeting on 3rd November 2013.

The Elders' Meeting is responsible for the financial administration of the Church, and the care and maintenance of the Church premises and the Manse. The Church Meeting gives general guidance on the life and work of the Church.

The members of the Elders' Meeting are the St Albans Cluster Minister – Rev'd John Hardaker and the above 13 members of Homewood Road Church nominated and elected by the members of Homewood Road Church in Church Meeting. Elders serve for 3 years, retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election. There is no limit on the number of consecutive periods of service. The members of the Elders' Meeting are the trustees of the registered charity during their period as Serving Elders. Elders share with the Minister in the pastoral oversight and leadership of the local church, taking counsel together in Elders' Meetings, for the whole church. Each Elder has a group of members and friends particularly entrusted to their pastoral care.

The Elders' Meeting meets eleven times during the year. It is assisted in the administration of the Church and its property by the Business Committee. The Church Meeting meets three times during the year, with additional special meetings as required.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As a local congregation of the United Reformed Church, Homewood Road United Reformed Church seeks the advancement of the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the Scheme of Union of the United Reformed Church.

The Trustees are aware of the Church's charitable purposes, and endeavour to make decisions that benefit all. The Elders' Meeting believes that the Church provides benefit to the public by:-

"providing regular public worship for all, promoting the Christian faith, teaching the faith to all ages, providing training, nurture and activities for children and young people, serving the community, giving pastoral care and support to members and others in need, particularly those in sickness, distress and poverty, providing premises and resources for community groups and activities, providing religious activities for the general public and indeed all mankind."

RECORD OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2021

The Covid pandemic continued to represent a major challenge. The church was open for worship in line with prevailing Covid guidelines. At times during the year, the associated hall premises were also able to open; good liaison was maintained with regular hirers so that they could quickly resume their activities whenever possible. The elders continued to undertake a significant amount of pastoral care, particularly with those unable or unwilling to come to church while the risks remained high. Some services were conducted over Zoom from one of the three cluster churches by the Minister Rev John Hardaker, to allow wide participation across the cluster of churches. Taking account of the experience of Covid, Homewood Road went out to tender for a new audio visual system for the church with the potential to livestream services in the future, and a grant of £45,000 was awarded by Thames North Synod for the project. Contact was maintained with the church's young people and their families, although the Youth & Families Worker left during the year and has not yet been replaced.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

I am pleased to present the accounts for last year, which show an overall surplus of £53,825. The final estimated surplus was budgeted at £26,800, but did not take account of the grant of £45,000 received from Thames North Synod Trust or the initial deposit of £23,567 towards the new audio visual system.

Hall receipts are gradually increasing from the previous year end and, whilst still significantly below pre-covid levels, there is every reason to be optimistic for the future.

Overall, our expenditure is as expected and noticeably we have increased our contribution to Ministry and Mission to £49,800. This was greatly facilitated by a drawdown of funds from URC Thames North Trust, as indicated in Note 3.

Our Legacy and Memorial Fund now stands at £355,390, having paid out professional fees of £360 and has been credited with a further increase of £31,093 in the value of our COIF Investment.

Whilst economically the outlook for the current year gives cause for optimism, as far as the effect of COVID is concerned, the distressing events in Ukraine will inevitably impact negatively on global economies.

This report was approved by the Elders' Meeting on 21st April 2022.

Signed  Church Secretary

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Homewood Road United Reformed Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Homewood Road United Reformed Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Richard Hattrell

Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA

Address: 33 Homewood Avenue, Cuffley, Herts EN6 4QQ

Date: 21st April 2022

HOMEWOOD ROAD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

GENERAL PURPOSES FUND

RECEIPTS

2020 £			2021 £	
861		<u>Offertories:</u>	1,588	
433		Envelopes	991	
40,416	41,710	Cash	40,191	42,770
		Other		
	110	<u>Donations:</u>		647
	11,291	<u>Income Tax Repayments on Gift Aid Payments</u>		10,230
	22,518	<u>Manse Rent (Net)</u>		23,006
	32	<u>Interest</u>		-
	-	<u>URC Thames North Trust (see note 3.)</u>		20,000
	-	<u>Grant (see note 4.)</u>		45,000
	17,687	<u>Hall Receipts</u>		27,941
	-	<u>Insurance Claim (see note 5.)</u>		40,000
	93,348			209,594
	53,587	Opening balances as at 1st January 2021		16,939
	146,935			226,533

HOMWOOD ROAD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

GENERAL PURPOSES FUND

PAYMENTS

2020 £			2021 £	
4,217		<u>Cluster Group:</u>	3,832	
12,156		Ministry expenses	12,156	
1,783	18,156	Manse rent	1,780	17,768
		Office salary		
31,500		<u>Ministry:</u>	49,800	
315	31,815	Ministry and Mission	180	49,980
		Pulpit Supply		
-		<u>Manse:</u>	-	
536		Water Rates	556	
-		Insurance	-	
-		Electric and Gas	-	
-	536	Council Tax	-	556
		Maintenance		
240		<u>Praise:</u>	420	
441	681	Organists' Fees and expenses	516	936
		Tuning, Maintenance and Sundries		
		<u>Church and Halls:</u>		
177		Water Rates	158	
1,921		Telephone	1,539	
6,397		Cleaning, etc.	5,819	
8,989		Lighting and Heating	6,874	
5,108		Insurance	5,490	
8,919		Maintenance - General	11,880	
989	32,500	- Garden	1,310	33,070
		<u>Administration:</u>		
29,850		Salaries	18,306	
1,022		Expenses - Family and Children's worker	1,883	
4,090		Printing, Postage, Stationery and Sundries	3,898	
1,653		Subscriptions	1,609	
2,139		Leasing charges	2,108	
		Costs associated with employment of Family Worker	980	28,784
	38,754			
		<u>New Equipment, Furnishings and Office Refurbishment:</u> (see note 6.)		24,122
	7,258			
	296	<u>Donations:</u>		553
		Charities		
	129,996			155,769
	16,939	Closing Balances as at 31st December 2021		70,764
	146,935			226,533

HOMEWOOD ROAD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

LEGACY AND MEMORIAL FUND

RECEIPTS

2021

	£
Increase in value of COIF investment	31,093
<u>Interest</u>	<u>17</u>
	31,110
Opening Balance as at 1st January 2021	<u>324,640</u>
	£ 355,750

PAYMENTS

	£
<u>Payments:</u> Professional fees in respect of proposed development	360
Closing Balance as at 31st December 2021	<u>355,390</u>
	£ 355,750

HOMEWOOD ROAD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

NOTES

1. Ministry and Mission - £49,800

The payment to Central Office not only covers Ministers' stipends and pension contributions, etc., but also contributes substantially towards what is called "Wider" Ministry, i.e. contributions to Ministry in other parts of the country, to the Actuarial Pension Deficit and to the cost of ministerial members of Church House Staff, Colleges, Moderators and Specialised Ministries.

It also includes our contribution for the work of the U.R.C. both at home and overseas which is organised and paid for centrally.

2. Contributions to other Funds raised by Direct Appeals, Retiring Offerings, Donations, etc.

In addition to the above mentioned contributions to the Wider Ministry and to the U.R.C. work at home and overseas, a further total of £2,925 was raised for other 'outside' charitable causes. These are summarised as follows:-

<u>Raised by Direct Appeals, Retiring Offerings, etc.</u>	£
Rennie Grove Hospice Care	520
Water Aid	100
STEP	75
Bible Society	115
St Albans & District MENCAP	150
Samaritans – South West Herts	260
Christian Aid	435
MIND in mid Herts	175
Essex and Herts Air Ambulance	125
Emmaus – St Albans	175
Open Door Trust	175
Herts Community Foundation – Afghanistan refugees	620
	<u>£ 2,925</u>

3. URC Thames North Trust - £20,000

This is a part drawdown from the funds held on our behalf, following the sale of our previous Manse. The net balance of these funds is now £109,083.

4. Grant - £45,000

This is a grant from Thames North Synod Trust, towards the cost of our new audio visual system.

5. Insurance claim - £40,000

This is the first instalment of our hall lettings loss of income claim following the effect of COVID.

HOMEWOOD ROAD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

NOTES

6. New equipment

This includes the initial deposit of £23,567 for our new audio visual system. The final payment of approximately £25,000 is due following installation.

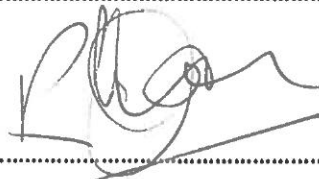
7. Cash Balances

Sums in hand at 31st December 2021 were as follows:-

	£	£
<u>General Fund</u>		
Nat West Bank:		
Current Account	67,224	
Business Reserve Account	<u>3,540</u>	70,764
<u>Legacy and Memorial Fund</u>		
Nat West Bank:		
Business Reserve Account	7,463	
CCLA - COIF Charities Deposit Fund	110,199	
- COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund	<u>237,728</u>	<u>355,390</u>
(valuation as at 21st April 2022 - £224,720)		
		£ <u><u>426,154</u></u>

Approved by the Elders on 21st April 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed  Trustee

Signed  Trustee