

Charity number: 1052147

Riverlife Church Sunderland

Unaudited Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 5 April 2024

Riverlife Church Sunderland

CONTENTS

	Page
Legal & Administration Details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 5
Independent examiner's report	6
Unaudited Receipts and Payments Account	7 - 8
Notes	9 - 10

**Riverlife Church Sunderland
Legal and Administration Details
for the year ended 5 April 2024**

Charity registration number

1052147

Pastor

Mr Barrie Watson
Mrs Rebekah Watson

Trustees

Mr B E Watson
Mrs R Watson
Mr J W Gaze
Mrs E Dutton
Mrs L J Gaze

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC

53 Fawcett Street
Sunderland
SR1 1RS

Kingdom Bank

Media House
Padge Road
Beeston
Nottingham
NG9 2RS

Independent Examiner

G Henderson FCCA FCA ATT (Fellow)
Counting North
Salvus House
Aykley Heads
Durham
DH1 5TS

Solicitor

Geldards Law Firm
Dumfries House
Dumfries Place
Cardiff
CF10 3ZF

Principal Office

Riverlife Church
Ettrick Grove
Humbledon
Sunderland
SR3 4AW

**Riverlife Church Sunderland
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 5 April 2024**

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting their annual report together with the unaudited accounts of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Administration Details

Constitution

The charity is set up under a Trust Deed which sets out the objectives and purposes of the charity.

Structure, Governance and Management

The constitution and trust deed were adopted on 10 August 1993, as amended on 17 February 1997 and 11 September 2002.

The church is managed by a Board of Trustees, which comprises the Minister and appointed leaders of the Church. The Board appoints Trustees for the purpose of holding the land and buildings of the Church.

The Trustees meet at least four times in each year and deal with the administration of the charity overseeing financial accountability, risk management and any other administrative business of the Church. The operational management of the organisation is undertaken by the paid staff team and other Trustees and volunteers.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of Riverlife Church are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith of the Evangelical Alliance in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Board from time to time may think fit. To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or World as the Board from time-to-time think fit; and to advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or World as the Board from time-to time think fit.

Give every man, woman, and child the opportunity of understanding the gospel and to provide a church where they can grow in ministry for the Glory of God.

Public Benefit Statements

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on their legal duty on public benefit and are satisfied that that the Charity delivers public benefit; due regard is paid to the guidance on public benefit when deciding on what new projects the charity should undertake.

Riverlife Church Sunderland
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 5 April 2024

Achievements and Performance

Sunday Family Service – Our service starts at 11am, but our doors open at 10:30am for prayer. Each week we worship, share communion and one of our pastors or an invited speaker will share from the Bible bringing teaching and direction as we each seek to know the love of Jesus and love the people around us.

Small Groups & Prayer – Our small groups are a great way for church members to get involved with church life during the week. Together we discover more about the Bible in a relaxed, informal setting.

Kids Crew – Ran every Sunday by DBS-checked volunteers our children's programme is bible based and fully interactive, for ages 3+ with stories, games and craft activities. We also provide creche facilities for toddlers and babies, which offers service relay for parents and carers.

Active Forever – Working with Active Families North East running community fitness classes for the over 55's. The classes offer exercise to improve strength and balance, also body circuit sessions for mobility and overall fitness – serving the older part of our community these classes are a great opportunity to meet new people.

Shoot – After school football and sports club for school years 3 & 4. Comprising of sports games, half time gospel team talk and a football match. Runs weekly. Services children in the local community. Promoted with leaflets through local schools.

Messy Vintage – A gospel community outreach programme, Messy Vintage is a great way for older people to socialise and every session includes a light lunch and is part of the 'Messy Church' movement. Every month is Christ-centred and based on creativity, hospitality and celebration. Open to all, this programme is aspiring to include people of all ages while specifically reaching out to older people.

Key Services and Events – Invitations are given out to family, friends and neighbours and the local community for the following services and events:

Services – Easter Sunday Egg Hunt & Celebration service: April 2023, Remembrance Day Service: November 2023, Easter Sunday Egg Hunt & Celebration service: March 2024

Community Events – Coronation Day Big Lunch May 2023, Sunday Summer Teas August 2023, Big Macmillan Community Coffee Morning September 2023, Mothers' Day lunch with gifts March 2024, Good Friday Family Fun Day March 2024

Christmas – Throughout December 2023 we held a Flower Arranging Evening, Pie & Pea Supper with Family Quiz, Christmas Coffee Morning, Community Christingle service, Children's Carol Service with lunch and Christmas party and a traditional Carol Service on Christmas Eve 2023.

Christmas Giving/Community Donations – Riverlife Church members gifted brand new Children's toys and books alongside women's toiletries which were distributed to Wearside Women in Need. Gifts of sweets, cakes and biscuits were collected and given to Sunderland Soup Kitchen.

Supporting other Charities in the UK and Aboard – Throughout 2023-24 Riverlife Church members supported the Evangelical Alliance, Premier NxtGen, Release International, Our Daily Bread, Thirtyone:eight and Pioneer Network.

Sustainability – Part of our church mission statement is a commitment to the use of Fair-Trade goods to support farmers, our service time refreshments are supplied by Kingdom Coffee Ltd.

Riverlife Church Sunderland
Report of the Trustees
for year ending 5 April 2024

Financial review

Income increased during the year from £26,194 to £42,285 which is mainly due to the gift aid received from HMRC. There were specific donations of £60 and £350 in respect of the women's refuge & Soup Kitchen and designated youth & children's work.

Expenditure increased from £64,365 to £66,762 primarily due to increased salary and running costs. There were specific donations of £1,000 to Mr & Mrs M Jackson. During the year assets were purchased totalling £745, items included new mics and stands, radiators and youth equipment.

Assets retained for use in the charity have slightly increased from £20,458 to £21,204 due to the purchases listed above.

Charity's Reserves

The Church holds reserve funds with Kingdom Bank and Barclays Bank.

Charity's Principal Source of Funds

General Offering and Donations from Riverlife Church members.

**Riverlife Church Sunderland
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 5 April 2024**

Statement of the Trustees Responsibilities

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to keep proper books of account with respect to the affairs of the charity, and to prepare statements of unaudited accounts for each accounting year consisting of a Receipts and Payments accounts together with notes to the accounts. 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.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are expected to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Follow the recommendations of the Charity Commission and of the accounting profession with regard to the form and content of the unaudited accounts and to disclose and explain any departures therefrom.
- Prepare the unaudited accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will be able to meet its objectives; and
- Consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees


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Mr B E Watson (App 31/2025 13:50 GMT)

Mr B E Watson
Chairman

Date: 31 January 2025

**Riverlife Church Sunderland
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
for the year ended 5 April 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Riverlife Church Sunderland ('the charity') for the year ended 5 April 2024.

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 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the group's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the group and the group's Trustees, as a body, for my work or for this report.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention. In connection with my 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 if 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.

Gerald Henderson
Gerald Henderson (Jan 31, 2025 13:50 GMT)

**Gerald Henderson FCCA ACA ATT
N E Accountancy Services**

Salvus House
Aykley Heads
Durham
DH1 5TS

Dated: 31 January 2025

Riverlife Church Sunderland
Unaudited Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 5 April 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Receipts				
General offering	27,190	-	27,230	26,100
Gift Aid	13,634	-	13,634	-
Interest received	811	-	811	94
Donations	240	410	610	-
	<u>41,875</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>42,285</u>	<u>26,194</u>
Income from Asset and Investment				
Disposal of assets	-	-	-	46,523
Employee loan repayments	4,910	-	4,910	936
	<u>46,785</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>47,195</u>	<u>73,653</u>
Payments – Cost of generating funds:				
Wages, salaries and national insurance	40,821	-	40,821	35,320
Administration	1,603	-	1,523	1,859
Printing, postage and stationery	167	-	167	156
Repairs and maintenance	459	-	459	1,408
Donations	1,440	60	1,500	1,220
Upkeep of services	1,174	-	1,174	1,119
Community events	3,009	-	3,009	2,689
Light, heat and water	-	-	-	61
Insurance	219	-	219	191
Ministry Expenses	1,266	-	1,266	1,421
Rent and Rates	7,200	-	7,200	6,999
Sundries	96	-	139	692
Travel	400	-	400	490
Advertising	292	-	292	538
Accountancy	810	-	810	809
Removal costs	-	-	-	2,255
	<u>58,957</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>59,017</u>	<u>57,227</u>
Payments C/F				

Riverlife Church Sunderland
Unaudited Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 5 April 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Payments B/F	59,017	60	59,017	57,227
Asset and investment purchases				
Purchase of assets	530	215	745	7,138
Employee loan	7,000	-	7,000	-
Total Payments	66,487	275	66,762	64,365
Net of (payments)/receipts	(19,977)	135	(19,567)	9,288
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Net Movement in funds for the year	(19,977)	135	(19,567)	9,288
<i>Cash funds at last year end</i>	79,838	224	80,062	70,774
Cash funds at this year end	59,861	359	60,495	80,062

Riverlife Church Sunderland
Notes to The Unaudited Accounts
for the year ended 5 April 2024

1. Cash Funds held and Assets Retained for the Charity's use

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Cash Funds				
Barclays bank account	6,412	359	7,046	2,183
Kingdom savings account	53,447	-	53,447	77,836
Cash in hand	2	-	2	43
Total Cash Funds	59,861	359	60,495	80,062
Assets Retained for Charity's Use				
Furnishings	7,475	-	7,475	7,138
Bibles	242	-	242	242
Toddlers & children's activities assets	2,137	-	2,137	1,921
Sundry & electrical equipment	1,647	-	1,647	1,588
Sound equipment	6,881	-	6,881	6,747
Computer equipment	2,318	-	2,318	2,318
Strimmer/lawnmower	504	-	504	504
Total Assets Retained for Charity Use	21,204	-	21,204	20,458

Signed on behalf of the Trustees.


.....

Mr B E Watson
Chairman

Date: 31 January 2025

Riverlife Church Sunderland
Notes to The Unaudited Accounts
for the year ended 5 April 2024

2. Restricted Reserve

	Balance at 06-Apr-23 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 05-Apr-24 £
Specific					
Samaritans purse	34	-	-	-	34
Youth after school project	190	350	(215)	-	325
Women's refuge	-	60	(60)	-	-
	<u>224</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>(275)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>359</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
	Balance at 06-Apr-22 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 05-Apr-23 £
Specific					
Samaritans purse	34	-	-	-	34
Youth after school project	514	-	(324)	-	190
Ukraine appeal	-	1,020	(1,020)	-	-
	<u>548</u>	<u>1,020</u>	<u>(1,344)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>224</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====