

Trustees Report Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity Number: 1194423

Contents

Trustees' Report and administration details 1 - 6

Report of the Independent Examiner 7

Receipts and Payments Account

and Statement of assets and liabilities, together with supporting notes 8 - 9

ALTITUDE CHURCH

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2026

Reporting Period

Altitude Church ('AC') was registered as a CIO with the Charity Commission in England and Wales ('CC') on 11 May 2021. This report covers the year of operation up to 31 March 2026, with comparisons for the year to 31 March 2025.

Structure, governance and management.

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by the constitution dated 11 May 2021. This was under the terms of a proforma constitution already agreed between the Charity Commission and the Assemblies of God ('AoG') for churches under their auspices. The CIO Foundation model constitution is the governing document for this newly formed church on the Isle of Wight ('IoW').

Trustees may be appointed by ordinary resolution by the members, or by a decision of the trustees. During the 2025/26 financial year, Mr Bailey Hobern was appointed as a trustee, while Mrs Rachel Cornes and Mr Joseph Hassett resigned as trustees. As we look back on the journey that has brought Altitude Church to this point, the Leadership Team and current Board of Trustees wish to express our deepest gratitude to those trustees who have stepped down from their roles over the last few years. Their dedicated service, spiritual oversight, and strategic guidance during a pivotal season of growth have been foundational to our mission. We are immensely thankful for the time, wisdom, and prayer they generously invested in securing the charity's governance and future, and we honour the lasting impact of their leadership on our church community.

During the year the trustees have met almost every month (always online due to distances involved) to follow through on agreed actions, formulate policies and obtain insurance cover and licenses. The Chair and Treasurer communicate between meetings as necessary, also with the pastors in connection with their role on site in the IoW.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the charity, as set out in the Constitution, ("the Objects") are for the benefit of the public:

(a) to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement in such ways and in such parts of the UK or the world as the Trustees and Leadership from time to time may think fit.

(b) to relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, good or services of any kind including the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the UK or the world as the Trustees and Leadership from time to time think fit.

(c) to advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees and Leadership from time to time may think fit.

The trustees have taken account of the Charity Commission's guidance and believe that they demonstrate that public benefit has been provided through seeking to meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of people in the local community and beyond.

Staff Team

The Charity employs staff to carry out its operations in furtherance of its charitable objectives. The employed staff roles are:

- Ben Carman (Senior Pastor)
- Emma Carman (Senior Pastor)

Remuneration

The pay of staff is reviewed annually by the Trustees. The Salary Review Panel decide pay awards against the criteria of affordability, comparability/parity, and performance, taking account of equivalent local and national pay benchmarks. The Charity makes available auto-enrolment to a pension for all eligible staff in line with Government policy and legislation. The Charity made employer contributions towards the cost of pension as part of remuneration to the staff team.

Volunteers

Altitude Church continues to rely heavily on the dedication, generosity, and commitment of volunteers who freely give their time, skills, and experience in support of the church's mission. Approximately 20 active volunteers serve across a wide range of ministries, including children's work, youth ministry, hospitality, worship, technical production, event organisation, administration, pastoral support, and practical setup and pack-down activities.

The Trustees remain deeply grateful for the contribution of every volunteer. Throughout the year, volunteers have participated in a variety of training and development opportunities, including Assemblies of God (AOG) Area Days, the AOG National Conference, Equip Days for ministry teams, leadership development training, and safeguarding training for children's ministry volunteers. The church also moved into the Southeast Thames North Area within the Assemblies of God, enabling leaders and volunteers to build new relationships and receive additional support and training.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring volunteers are appropriately trained, supported, and equipped to serve safely and effectively within the church's ministries.

Activities & Achievements this year

The Trustees have continued to pursue Altitude Church's charitable objectives through activities designed to advance the Christian faith and provide spiritual, emotional, and social benefit to the local community. In planning these activities, the Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit

This has been a significant year for Altitude Church, marked by a relocation to a larger venue, increased community engagement, and continued investment in discipleship, family ministry, and outreach

Sunday Worship and Church Life

A major milestone during the year was the church's move from Ventnor to The Bay Secondary School in Sandown. This strategic relocation has placed the church within one of the busiest areas of the Isle of Wight and provided significantly improved facilities for worship, children's ministry, and community engagement.

The church now meets weekly in modern facilities capable of accommodating future growth and outreach initiatives. Average Sunday attendance during the year was approximately 80 people, comprising around 60 adults and 20 children.

Weekly worship services continue to provide opportunities for prayer, biblical teaching, worship, pastoral care, and fellowship for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Discipleship and Spiritual Growth

Soul Food, Altitude Church's midweek discipleship programme, continued to grow throughout the year. Hosted in a local café and at The Studio in Shanklin, these teaching sessions provide an accessible environment for people to explore Christian faith and deepen their understanding of Scripture.

Teaching themes throughout the year included The Bible Course, Women in Ministry, and Christian Apologetics. The sessions combine biblical teaching, discussion, prayer, and fellowship, helping participants develop confidence in their faith and apply biblical principles in everyday life.

Monthly Prayer and Praise gatherings also continued throughout the year at The Studio in Shanklin. These evenings provide dedicated opportunities for worship, prayer, and intercession for the church, local community, and wider mission activities.

To further encourage a culture of prayer, the church launched its Prayer Shield resource, enabling church members and supporters to unite in daily prayer for the Isle of Wight and the ministry of Altitude Church.

Community Outreach and Public Engagement

Community outreach remains central to the mission of Altitude Church.

Autumn Fest once again served as one of the church's largest community events, welcoming over 100 local residents to enjoy free activities including inflatables, crafts, games, and family entertainment. The event provided opportunities for relationship building and meaningful engagement with individuals and families who would not normally attend church services.

Following major outreach events, Altitude Church introduced “Try Church Sunday”, designed to provide an accessible and welcoming environment for visitors wishing to explore Christian faith and church life without pressure or expectation.

The church also hosted a successful Easter Fun Day, providing activities, games, crafts, and family entertainment for local residents while sharing the message of Easter in an engaging and accessible manner.

Christmas outreach activities formed a significant part of the church's community engagement programme. Highlights included the Christmas Sparkle event, which welcomed numerous visitors from across the local area, and the church's first Christingle service, which provided an interactive and family-focused retelling of the Christmas story.

The annual DIY Nativity service once again proved highly popular, bringing together church members, visitors, and families in a creative and inclusive celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Working in partnership with Barton School, Altitude Church provided Christmas hampers and food support to 19 families experiencing financial hardship. This initiative helped ensure families had access to food and seasonal essentials during the Christmas period while demonstrating practical care and community support.

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Supporting children, young people and their families, remains a core priority for Altitude Church.

Children's ministry operates weekly during Sunday services, with an average attendance of approximately 20 children. Through age-appropriate teaching, worship, creative activities, and pastoral support, children are encouraged to explore Christian faith in a safe and engaging environment.

The church also launched a fortnightly youth group during the year, meeting at a local community venue. Attendance has ranged between five and eight young people, with sessions providing opportunities for friendship, discipleship, discussion, and spiritual development.

Approximately one quarter of the church congregation is under the age of fourteen, highlighting the church's strong commitment to serving younger generations and supporting families within the local community.

Pastoral Care and Community Wellbeing

Altitude Church seeks to promote wellbeing and reduce social isolation through regular opportunities for connection and friendship.

Refresh, the church's weekly gathering for older adults, continued throughout the year, providing fellowship, pastoral care, prayer, and encouragement in a welcoming environment.

The church's wider social programme, including the annual Altitude Cabaret and other community activities, continues to foster meaningful relationships and a strong sense of belonging among participants.

The church was also grateful to host a “Weekend Away at Home” in partnership with One Church Podsmead. This event provided spiritual teaching, encouragement, rest, and leadership development for members of the church community and volunteer teams.

Baptisms and Faith Development

One of the highlights of the year was the baptism of four individuals at Hope Beach, Shanklin. Baptism services provide opportunities for individuals to make a public declaration of their Christian faith and represent an important milestone in spiritual development and discipleship.

The Trustees continue to be encouraged by the ongoing spiritual growth of church members and the positive impact of the church's ministry within the local community.

Church Organisation and Governance

Altitude Church remains committed to strong governance, accountability, and responsible stewardship of its charitable resources.

The Trustees meet regularly throughout the year to oversee the strategic direction, governance, safeguarding responsibilities, financial management, and charitable activities of the church. Decisions are made prayerfully and collaboratively, with careful consideration given to both the church's charitable objectives and the needs of the local community.

The church currently operates from The Bay Secondary School in Sandown for Sunday worship and utilises The Studio in Shanklin and local community venues for midweek ministry activities, prayer meetings, discipleship programmes, and youth work.

The Trustees remain grateful for the faithful leadership of Pastors Ben and Emma, whose commitment and service continue to provide vision, pastoral care, and spiritual leadership for the church family.

Feedback received from church members, community partners, and event participants continues to demonstrate the positive impact of Altitude Church's ministry within the local community, both spiritually and socially.

Future Plans

The Trustees remain excited about the opportunities presented by the church's relocation to The Bay Secondary School and believe the church is well positioned for future growth and increased community engagement.

Key priorities for the coming year include:

- Continuing to develop Sunday worship and discipleship opportunities.
- Expanding children's and youth ministry provision.
- Growing attendance through outreach initiatives such as Autumn Fest, Easter events, and seasonal community programmes.
- Developing leadership and volunteer training through Assemblies of God partnerships.
- Strengthening prayer initiatives and pastoral care ministries.
- Increasing opportunities for local residents to explore Christian faith through accessible community events and courses.
- Continuing practical support for families and individuals experiencing hardship within the local community.

The Trustees remain committed to advancing the Christian faith, serving the Isle of Wight community, and providing opportunities for people of all ages to encounter Jesus Christ and experience belonging within a supportive church family.

Accounts preparation

The accounts have been prepared to comply with the accounting principles of charity's governing document, and the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have chosen to prepare the attached accounts, under the rules for Receipts and Payments accounts.

Financial Review

In the reporting year to 31 March 2026 the unrestricted income was £72,809 (£67,325 in 2025) and expenses of £63,566 (£58,597 in 2025) meaning there was a surplus from activities of £9,253 (£8,728 for 2025). The total Unrestricted Funds were £19,455 on 1 April 2025 and with the retained Surplus of £9,253, the total of surpluses to date is £28,708, which is represented by the money in the bank and in hand at 31 March 2026.

There was also a continuing stream of restricted monthly gifts from Sawyers Church which was for the support of the pastors amounting to £2,400 (2025 £2,400), but Restricted Funds were zero at the beginning and end of the year. At the end of the year all funds were considered to be Unrestricted Funds.

Risks

The Trustees sought to manage risks to which the Charity is exposed with a view to mitigating these to the fullest extent possible, for example, through insurance. During the last year, the Trustees considered a range of risk related matters, including issues associated with Safeguarding, data management and seeking a new venue for weekly gatherings. Individual Trustees were allocated particular areas of operational oversight e.g. personnel, finance, Safeguarding, etc. to help strengthen control. This and other of the Charity's policies and practices are regularly reviewed by the Trustees.

Reserves

In these early years of the church's operations, it has been difficult to determine a Reserves policy, particularly where income is reliant on the generosity of many individuals. The Trustees are heartened to be able to report the cash at the Bank on 31 March 2026 of £28,615, all of this being unrestricted funds (2025 - £19,343). This sum represents more than eight months of support for the pastors and is very encouraging to the trustees as a significant increase over the year.

The Trustees have set a target for Reserves of £16,000, which would at present, represent about five months support for the pastors. Before the year-end there were several sizeable and unexpected gifts received, which more than made up for the month-on-month deficit which had developed during the year; it also left the bank balances ahead of this target for reserves – at £28,700 - this is more like five months of total annual expenditure. The Trustees are very grateful to God for this provision of funds before the close of the year! As with any church model, income can be erratic and shortly after the year-end, due to a reduction in regular giving by individuals, income has fallen but the blessing of these additional gifts, heartens the Trustees and leadership going into the new year. In the light of this experience the Trustees will continue to keep local supporters in the congregation and further afield aware of the situation going forward.

Reference and Administration details

Registered Name: Altitude Church

Registered Charity Number: 1194423 (registered 11.05.2021)

Registered Office: 13 St Pauls Crescent, Shanklin, IoW PO37 7AW

Trustees:	Mr Jeffrey J Fair	(Chair)
	Mr Timothy J Roberts	(Treasurer)
	Mr Eddie J. Rich	
	Mrs Rachel Cornes	(appointed 21.11.2024; resigned 14.04.2026)
	Mr Joseph Hassett	(appointed 20.03.2025; resigned 14.04.2026)
	Mr Bailey Hobern	(appointed 15.01.2026)
	Mr Benjamin L Carman	(Pastor)
Joint Pastor:	Mrs Emma C Carman	

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank, Birmingham

Signed J J Fair
J J Fair (Sep 12, 2026 20:34:47 GMT+1) Sep 12, 2026

Chair of Trustees Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF

ALTITUDE CHURCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Altitude Church ('the charity') for the period ended 31 March 2026 on pages 8 to 9 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts 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 2011 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 accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

J. Young
J. Young (Sep 28, 2026 10:57:43 GMT+1)

Jaimée Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Sep 28, 2026

ALTITUDE CHURCH

Receipts and Payments Account

	Year Ended 31 March 2026			Year Ended 31 March 2025		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Receipts	£	£	£	£	£	£
Support by individuals (inc. Gift Aid as appropriate)	70,490	-	70,490	58,213	-	58,213
Other churches and groups	1,800	2,400	4,200	8,712	2,400	11,112
Other Income	519	-	519	400	-	400
	72,809	2,400	75,209	67,325	2,400	69,725
Payments						
Charitable activities						
Support in the community	4,356	-	4,356	1,845		1,845
Costs of church activities	11,511	-	11,511	9,715		9,715
	15,867	-	15,867	11,560	-	11,560
Support costs						
Support for pastors	36,653	2,400	39,053	35,686	2,400	38,086
Other equipment	1,288		1,288	700		700
IT Phone etc	2,251		2,251	1,858		1,858
Assemblies of God contribution	1,200		1,200	1,200		1,200
Insurance & legal	1,372		1,372	1,228		1,228
Administration Misc.	4,925		4,925	6,365		6,365
	47,689	2,400	50,089	47,037	2,400	49,437
	63,556	2,400	65,956	58,597	2,400	60,997
(Deficit)/Surplus for period	**9,253**	**0**	**9,253**	**8,728**	**0**	**8,728**
Funds brought forward	19,455	0	19,455	10,727	0	10,727
Funds carried forward	**£ 28,708**	**0**	**£ 28,708**	**£ 19,455**	**0**	**£ 19,455**

Notes to the financial Statements

1. Accounting Principles

Basis of Preparation - the financial statements are prepared under a Receipts and Payments format.

Receipts - Grants and Donations are recognised on receipt.

Payments - Costs are accounted for as they are paid out.

Going Concern - At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Cash - Cash includes cash at bank and in hand. The Charity does not hold any other liquid investments.

ALTITUDE CHURCH

2. Receipts

Receipts are made up of donations from individuals (plus the Gift Aid refund thereon where applicable); there are additional donations received from other churches and Christian charities.

3. Analysis of Payments

Charitable activities - involve organizing services, in a public building, other groups in members' homes, and the distribution of food and other items and staging outreach events in the community. £15,867 (2025 - £11,560)
Support costs - cover a wide range of administrative costs, for IT, equipment, insurance, safeguarding and support of the pastors and so much else required to run a church. £50,089 (2025 - £49,437)

4. Trustees and Staff remuneration

Ben Carmen, a trustee, and his spouse served as Pastors and together were paid a total of £39,053 [2025: £38,086], for serving in that capacity only; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document, and these figures include the employer pension contribution.

No other payments were made to trustees or persons related to them, except for reimbursement of expenses paid out on behalf of the charity.

5. Related Party Transactions

There were no other related party transactions during the period.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES at 31st March 2026

	31.03.26 £	31.03.25 £
Cash at Bank – Unity Trust Bank	28,615	19,343
Petty Cash in Hand	93	112
Amounts owed to AC	1,935	820
Amounts owed by AC		
Fees for Independent Examination	810	720
Pension Contributions	151	Nil
Owed for use of premises and rent of Office space	448	610
Owed for other charitable activity expenses	1,850	535
TOTAL FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	**£28,708**	**£19,455**
Restricted Funds	**0**	**0**

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The Financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by:

J J Fair
J J Fair (Sep 12, 2026 20:34:47 GMT+1)

Signed……J.J. Fair……Chairman Date: Sep 12, 2026

T J Roberts
T J Roberts (Sep 12, 2026 20:44:40 GMT+1)

Signed…T.J. Roberts…….Trustee Date: Sep 12, 2026