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Cornerstone Baptist Church CIO

Report of the Managing Trustees and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2025

Charity Registered in England and Wales (Incorporated from 15 July 2022):1195098

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CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

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CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
MANAGING TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Introduction

The Managing Trustees present to you their annual report, along with the financial statements of Cornerstone Baptist Church (CBC) for the year ended 31 December 2025. We have agreed a new vision seeking to develop deeper discipleship, raise new leaders and, in the future, to plant new churches, as well as embracing closer partnership with the Yorkshire Baptist Association (YBA). Through 2025 the Church has worked through a process of exploring future ministry, which resulted in the calling of Rev Aaron Elder to the role of Senior Minister at Cornerstone in March 2025. The Church has continued to seek to develop its mission and ministry through volunteers and the staff team. Cornerstone Baptist Church has embraced the arrival of Rev Elder and his family to Leeds.

The Church has also been through a process of reviewing its vision and how this is best resourced through its finances. The Church has sought to be intentional in exploring options in being good stewards of the resources available both financially and with staffing. These options remain under review.

We are delighted to report to you the various activities that have been going on throughout Cornerstone over the last year and hope that you enjoy reading about all that has been achieved. We continue to rejoice in the work taking place at the Cragg Gathering (Horsforth) with Duncan Stow in role as a Yorkshire Baptist Association (YBA) Regionally Recognised Pastor and at the Headingley Gathering. The Lantern, in partnership with Leeds Vineyard, has also been through a period of change with the Lantern Chaplain role coming to an end and a new pattern of leadership and support being established from both Cornerstone and Leeds Vineyard.

This report is a great opportunity to look back and thank God for all that He has enabled us as a Church to do during 2025 and provides a chance to look forward to what we hope to do during 2026.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS102)) and the Baptist Union of Great Britain Guidelines F03 (2 February 2026).

The structure of this report makes sure we answer all the questions asked by the SORP, in particular: reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors; the structure, governance and management under which we operate; our objectives and activities; financial review; and plans for future periods.

Reference and Administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors:

Registered Office	South Parade, Headingley Leeds LS6 3LF
Email	info@cbcl.org.uk
Website	www.cbcl.org.uk
Registered charity number	(unincorporated) 1128935 (The incorporated charity number is: 1195098, completed 15th July 2022).
Bank	Virgin Money, 94-96 Briggate, Leeds LS1 6NP

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CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
MANAGING TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Independent Examiner	Jessica Lawrence FCA CTA Azets Audit Services Limited 12 King Street Leeds LS1 2HL
Managing Trustees	
S J Halligan	Elder (Term Ended November 2025)
R Hughes	Elder and Church Secretary
S Thresher	Elder
A E Shipley	Elder
A Shepherd	Elder and Church Treasurer
M Silas	Elder
A Elder	Senior Minister (Appointed August 2025)
D Stow	YBA Regionally Recognised Minister for Cragg Hill

Structure, Governance and Management:

Structure
Cornerstone Baptist Church is a registered charity, charity number 1128935. The charity was registered on 1 April 2009 with the Charity Commission. Cornerstone Baptist Church CIO was registered as a charity on 15 July 2022, number 1195098, succeeding Cornerstone Baptist Church, which is in the process of being closed down. The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

The Church has operated under an inter-dependent model, currently with three gatherings meeting on two sites – Cragg Hill (Horsforth), Headingley, and the Lantern (Headingley). There are leadership teams for each Gathering, with each leadership team including an Elder and Leader appointed by the Whole Church Meeting. The Lantern, which started in January 2022 at our Headingley site, runs in partnership with Leeds Vineyard and has a special focus on reaching out to the homeless and vulnerable in the Headingley area.

Managing Trustees
The Elders act as the Managing Trustees of Cornerstone. The Church members' meeting appoints Elders to be responsible for the governance of the Church and where there are ministers of the Church, they will also be members of the Eldership because of their role and responsibilities.

Elders shall (with the exception of a newly appointed minister) be chosen from among Church members (provided they have been a Church member for a minimum period of six months) with the maximum number being agreed from time to time by the Church members' meeting. Elders are initially appointed for three years, following which they may be re-appointed for three years before they must take at least a one-year sabbatical.

The appointment of Elders shall be undertaken by processes that are public, clear, and open so that all Church members are able to consider prayerfully who should be appointed. The process will ensure that notice is given of any forthcoming election so that Church members may nominate prospective Elders. Selection of Elders shall be by secret ballot. To be elected a nominee must receive positive votes from two-thirds of those voting.

The Church Secretary is appointed from among the Eldership by the Church meeting.

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Induction and training
A 'Welcome pack' has been collated to ensure that new Managing Trustees understand and meet the eligibility criteria for Managing Trustees, as defined by the Charity Commission, and understand their role and responsibilities to CBC as a Managing Trustee. The pack also includes the most recent Report and Accounts, and minutes from the three latest Elders' meetings.

Risk Management
The Church operates with the Eldership taking on wider responsibilities in overseeing sub-committees, which cover safeguarding, fabric and repair, and finance, with other groups to be established as needed. This change was made to streamline the leadership structure and to facilitate quicker decision making. Sub-committees have been formed to support the Elders, with a lead Elder and Church members who offer their expertise in various areas. This has included maintaining repairs of the fabrics of buildings identified through the quinquennial review. The risk register has undergone a review with updates being made, the elders have worked through the outcomes, focusing particularly on those identified as having the greatest impact for the Church and which don't currently have mitigations listed in the register.

Data Protection
The Church has a Data Protection Policy document which is used to ensure compliance with the UK Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), which incorporates the requirements of the EU General Data Protection Regulation. Data processing and data protection remain under review to ensure that this remains the case.

Safeguarding
The Church has a safeguarding team made up of representatives from across the Gatherings, meeting monthly. Reports from the safeguarding team are brought to the elders each month. Regular training sessions are arranged for all volunteers and staff in the Church and the Church safeguarding policy is agreed by the Church meeting annually.

Volunteers
In undertaking activities to further the aims and objectives of the Church, significant use is made of volunteers. All activities detailed in the rest of this report are organised and run by teams of volunteers, along with the support of the staff employed by the Church.

Public benefit

When reviewing the aims and objectives of the charity, and in planning future activities, the Elders have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission, and in particular the guidance for charities for the advancement of religion. The Church proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This benefit is available to all who come into contact with the Church in any way.

Objectives and Activities
Our Purpose Statement, and core values and a review of some of the activities to achieve them are listed below.

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CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
MANAGING TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Purpose statement 'Passion for God - Love for People - Heart for Mission'
We have sought to use these three statements as a guide as the Church has explored and agreed a new vision in February 2025, to be:

1) an excellent local church that welcomes, teaches and disciples well. Growing and supporting individuals and groups to witness to and serve the communities in which the Church in based;

2) a church that equips, trains and releases a new generation of missional disciples who will lead the Church forward and be involved in Kingdom work wherever God sends them; and

3) intentional about seeking new church plants or expressions of church, to look beyond ourselves in seeking to build the Kingdom.

Core values: Following Jesus | Word and Spirit | Engaging in Mission | Embracing Adventure | Growing Community | Faithful in Prayer |
Through the period of interregnum and following the Senior Minister's appointment, the Church has continued to embed these values into every activity of the Church. There have been challenges but the call to make Jesus known in our communities and to live out the hope of the gospel in every activity of the Church is something that brings great joy and fulfilment to the Church. The reassurance of God's promise to be with us is a source of great hope which sits at the heart of all the Church seeks to do.

The year has been full of expectation and challenge with the Eldership overseeing a time of change across the Church with discerning and calling the Rev. Aaron Elder as Senior Minister, who brings renewed vision and experience, and also undertaking a significant review of finances and staffing.

While the Church regularly meets in person across the Gatherings, the morning service at Headingley has continued to be streamed online each week for those unable to attend, and the sermons at both Cragg Hill and Headingley are recorded and available online, and this has enabled us to maintain connection with a good number of Church attenders who are not able to attend in person. A whole Church weekly notice sheet has been circulated by email, with physical copies available for those who don't have access to the internet, which contains information about the regular activities as well as special events across the life of the Church. The whole Church has come together for a celebration of the different ministries, praying for their work and hearing stories of where God is at work. The Church also joined together for an evening of prayer for the wider community in Leeds.

The life and work of the Gatherings has continued and is briefly noted here along with some of the mission projects which draw strength from across the whole Church.

Greenhouse Café (Headingley)
2025 saw the fifth year of the operation of the Green House Cafe – a venture supporting the vision of Cornerstone Baptist Church, particularly the aspects of 'love for people' and 'heart for mission'. The Café is a welcoming, homely place providing good, affordable food where people can linger for refreshment, rest and conversation. The Café opens 2 days per week at times that complement Under 5s' activities, giving the opportunity for parents/carers to attend with their toddlers. As well as serving paying customers, we offer free meals (during café hours) to those in need who might otherwise not join us. Some who receive free meals also attend Lantern on Sunday afternoons. These free meals are supported by our Pay It Forward scheme (PIF) whereby paying customers can donate towards the cost.

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The Café is led by Sophie Goulding (Café Manager) and is enabled and supported by a group of volunteers. In 2025, the Café was open for 94 days (over 48 weeks) and gave out 1,395 free meals (around 15 per day). Average takings were approximately £170 per day, covering the cost of food, equipment and administration and providing a contribution towards the Manager's salary costs.

The Green House Café receives appreciative feedback from those attending, which is encouraging as we seek to create a place of acceptance and a source of nourishing food, especially for those who receive PIF free meals.

Headingley Gathering

The Headingley Gathering has continued to explore what it means to be an inter-cultural and inter-generational worshipping community. The Gathering has embraced Give-It-A-Go Sunday, where members have had opportunities to try preaching, giving a wider diversity of voices from the front, and Headingley celebrated two Baptisms in 2025. The Gathering has also engaged in community activities such as providing children's activities at the Becketts Park Picnic in partnership with other churches in Headingley, and leading an outdoor service, providing refreshments and activities for supporters during the Leeds Marathon.

The Under 5s work at Cornerstone includes two parent and toddler groups as well as Café Tots and Sunday Tots. The number of families that Kate Burkett (Young Families Coordinator) and the volunteer team (20 people) engaged with and supported over 2025 has increased. Both parent and toddler groups (Headingley Tots and Cragg Hill Tots) continue to prove popular. There is a strong emphasis on Christian outreach to the children and the adults with the gospel being clearly and compassionately shared. Some families from these two groups are also engaging with Church services and other activities, such as Café Tots and Cragg Hill's Friday Drop-In. Highlights from 2025 include Easter Teddy Praise, the Beckett's Park Picnic event, and Christmas parties.

Children's and Youth work at Headingley has been supported and developed by Mark Twine (Children and Young People's Team Leader) enabling the volunteer group. The Junior Church on a Sunday has seen consistent attendance and interactions across the age groups, with the introduction of a new older youth group. The Friday night youth groups (LIFT and LUX) have grown in number with children inviting their friends to join. All-age services at Headingley have helped the whole Gathering engage in worship. The children and youth small groups provide space to share the hope of the gospel and journey with the young people through times of change. Highlights have included a monthly boardgames event on a Sunday afternoon and Warhammer Wednesdays.

Cornerstone has been pleased to partner again with Transformations Leeds in having an intern working with international students, starting in September 2025. The Headingley Gathering has continued to welcome students from different backgrounds and seen them become key parts of the Gathering. A Bible study group supports the discipleship of international students, as well as times of fellowship through meals after Sunday services.

Cragg

The Cragg Gathering in Horsforth has continued to grow in numbers attending Sunday worship, small groups and outreach activities. Sunday morning attendance is usually between 50 and 60 people, there are small groups and two book clubs, which meet fortnightly and the Friday morning Drop In sees regularly up to 40/50 people coming to experience a warm welcome and a bacon butty. For local residents, postal staff, Church friends, and mums who attend the Monday tots group, increasingly Drop In has become a stepping stone into the wider life of the Gathering. Cragg connects with the local community through community days, a bonfire night celebration, a fortnightly football night, and by

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hosting Alpha courses for those interested in discovering more. We now host a Family Fun Night, where local families join Church families to enjoy great activities together every fortnight. A further new community group held at Cragg monthly is a Bereavement Café.

The Church is a busy place creating a friendly open environment for building relationships. We are delighted to offer the building as a welcoming venue for Hidden Homeless, two Choirs, Rainbows, Brownies and refugee events. Alongside this the Church allotments are a hive of activity from Spring to late Autumn. The Cragg Monday Tots group is extremely popular and has reached capacity and there are now tots on a waiting list. The tots come with their carers to enjoy fun, food, songs and a Bible story on a weekly basis.

Cragg is committed to growing as a worshipping community, which includes making Sunday worship accessible to all ages with children's provision every week and an all-age service during the year. The musicians in the Church are growing in number. As a Gathering members meet for prayer, on Zoom, in person on a Friday lunchtime and in an active WhatsApp Prayer group to soak the life and outreach of the Church in prayer.

Many of the members are active in the shared mission of the Horsforth Churches Together group, they have supported a farmers' market, the Horsforth Shed, the planning of a food pantry, primary schools assemblies reaching 2,100 children every half term and a refugee conversation club.

The Lantern

The Lantern is now in its fifth year and is a partnership between Cornerstone and Leeds Vineyard. It meets on Sunday afternoons in the Green House at Headingley. The purpose of this outreach is to provide food to those who find themselves on the margins of society and, through a short service, to help them experience the love of Jesus for themselves. The number of guests averages about 30 per week. About half that number stay on for the song, talk and opportunity for prayer.

The Lantern had been supported through the Lantern Chaplain role, but this oversight now sits with Rev Elder and Tomas Knowlson from Leeds Vineyard. The leadership team has undergone some changes and has welcomed some new volunteers. The team is made up of Cornerstone and Vineyard members, who support through catering, welcoming, sharing in worship, and setting up. It has been nice to be able to invite some of those who attend the Lantern to start to take on responsibilities as part of the meal and service, building a sense of ownership.

The Lantern leadership team, made up of CBC and Vineyard members, meets every two months to deal with emerging issues, agree vision for the future and plan services and seasonal events. The full team meetings are held less frequently as, since December 2023, the group has had regular debriefing sessions each Sunday, after the guests have left, to talk through lessons learned and to pray for each other and our friends.

Mission Partners

The Church encourages and supports individuals (sometimes financially) in a variety of mission and charitable activities including missionaries in France, Japan and further afield taking the gospel, human skills and compassion with BMS World Mission, Serving in Mission and the Japan Link. We also support a member to help parents serving in mission in their children's education with SHARE Education Services and Teach Beyond. One of our members engages in long term mission activities in Guinea Bissau principally through Bible translation work. The Church also supports local mission in the UK through the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund.

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The Church continues to support and encourage Transformations Leeds, a local charity working with churches to reach out to international students in Leeds with God's love and has enjoyed having a shared intern working between the two organisations. Their vision and ours is for God to transform international students' lives so that they go home and transform the nations.

We had further members engage with the Leeds School of Theology this year.

Finally, this year the Church has celebrated four believers' baptisms across the Cragg Hill, Headingley and Lantern Gatherings.

Financial review
During the year, total income amounted to £453,423 (2024: £349,530) of which voluntary income was the main component and totalled £275,679 (2024: £253,325). Expenditure for the year totalled £352,013 (2024: £330,359), making net income for the year of £101,410 (2024: net income £19,171).

The main components of expenditure are staff costs, donations to mission agencies and individuals, and repairs. The Church has an aspiration of using 10% to 11% of its voluntary income to support individuals and institutions engaging in activities which mirror the Church's vision and objectives. In 2025 8.68% of income (2024: 10.74%) was used in this way.

As in the previous year we continue to carefully review all of our expenditure with the objective over the short to medium term of minimising any annual net deficit and thus maintaining our unrestricted reserves at a healthy level. In the slightly longer term we do plan to return to annual net surpluses.

At the balance sheet date, the Church had total net assets of £664,793 (2024: £563,383). Uncommitted reserves freely available for Church charitable activities reduced by £2,516 to £212,985 (2024: £215,501).

The Managing Trustees consider that the minimum reserves necessary with no reliance on bank financing are 6 weeks of staff costs, that is £22,205 (2024: £19,571) at the year end. Reserves held at the balance sheet date would finance the Church charitable activities for 32 weeks (2024: 35 weeks).

The Managing Trustees seek to maintain adequate free reserves to be able to meet liabilities as they fall due. Funds not immediately required are deposited with the Baptist Union Corporation.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others
Neither the Church nor its managing trustees hold funds as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

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Plans for future periods

With a new Senior Minister in post, and a renewed vision with support from the YBA, we are expectant and excited about what God might have planned for future periods to:

- embrace and work out the vision of the Church and to make an impact on the surrounding community;
- encourage people to engage in discipleship groups to deepen their faith as well as helping new and non-believers explore faith through courses such as Alpha;
- create opportunities for and develop a culture of prayer in the Church;
- continue to build good partnership relationships with Leeds Vineyard, and with the Churches Together networks that the Church is a part of in Headingley and Horsforth, to make Jesus known across Leeds;
- develop leadership courses and opportunities to raise and equip leaders across the life of the Church.
- develop leadership teams across the Church reflective of the membership, with diversity in age and ethnicity to help shape the future direction of the Church;
- continue to explore ways of developing inter-generational and inter-cultural worship across the Church; and
- continue to shape Church structure, build good lines of communication and accountability between the leadership teams, Eldership and staff team which enable the vision and plans to be realised and underpin this with bringing clarity of expectations for all Church members to build active participation across the life of the Church.

None of this works without the dedicated input and energy of the whole Church family and we are indebted to the mutual support which operates in all parts of the Church as we seek to build community in Christ.

Ruth Hughes (Church Secretary) and Rev A Elder (Senior Minister)

Signed by:
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Signed by:
241F81023A2C427...
12 August 2026

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CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Cornerstone Baptist Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Cornerstone Baptist Church (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

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 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed by 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 accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts 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.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body for my independent examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Signed by:
Jessica Lawrence
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12 August 2026

Jessica Lawrence FCA CTA

Azets Audit Services Limited
12 King Street
Leeds LS1 2HL

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CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total Funds
Income from:		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	2	302,132	104,238	800	**407,170**	274,155	-	6,762	**280,917**
Trading activities	3	43,589	-	-	**43,589**	65,150	-	-	**65,150**
Investments - bank interest		2,664	-	-	**2,664**	3,463	-	-	**3,463**
Total		348,385	104,238	800	**453,423**	342,768	-	6,762	**349,530**
Expenditure on:									
Charitable activities	4	350,901	-	1,112	**352,013**	322,440	-	7,919	**330,359**
Total		350,901	-	1,112	**352,013**	322,440	-	7,919	**330,359**
Net income		(2,516)	104,238	(312)	**101,410**	20,328	-	(1,157)	**19,171**
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	**-**	-	-	-	**-**
Reconciliation of funds									
Total funds brought forward At 1 January 2025		215,501	347,570	312	**563,383**	195,173	347,570	1,469	**544,212**
Total funds carried forward At 31 December 2025	15	212,985	451,808	-	**664,793**	215,501	347,570	312	**563,383**

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CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note		2025 £		2024 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	10		**348,642**		351,212
Total fixed assets			**348,642**		351,212
Current assets:					
Debtors	11		**21,331**		15,828
Short term deposits	12		**260,954**		83,382
Cash at bank and in hand			**52,159**		123,132
Total current assets			**334,444**		222,342
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13		**(18,293)**		(10,171)
Net current assets			**316,151**		212,171
Total net assets			**664,793**		563,383
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds	15/16		-		312
Unrestricted designated funds	15/16	**451,808**		347,570	
Other unrestricted funds	15/16	**212,985**	**664,793**		563,071
				215,501	
Total charity funds			**664,793**		563,383

The financial statements were approved by the Managing Trustees on 05 August 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Ruth Hughes (Church Secretary)

Signed by:
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Andrew Shepherd (Church Treasurer)

Signed by:
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1. Principal accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS102)) and the Baptist Union of Great Britain Guidelines F03 (28 January 2025).

Cornerstone Baptist Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going concern

The Managing Trustees have prepared financial projections, which take into consideration the current economic climate and its potential impact on the sources of income and planned expenditure. They have a reasonable expectation that adequate financial resources are available to enable the Church to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and have adequate contingency plans in the event that income streams are reduced. Whilst the global economy has been significantly impacted by lower than usual economic growth, rising interest rates, global inflation above pre-pandemic levels and the disruption resulting from the war in Ukraine the charity still has reserves sufficient to meet its immediate requirements. Thus, the Managing Trustees have continued to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Church has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions relating to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations, gifts and lettings income are recognised when receivable.

Income from government and other grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, and performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably, which is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Church has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

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1. Principal accounting policies (continued)

Expenditure on raising funds comprises fundraising costs incurred in seeking donations, usually for a particular mission project.

Expenditure on ministry includes the costs of preaching the Gospel and caring for individuals and communities both within and outside the Church.

Expenditure on mission includes the costs of outreach to children and their families and the communities around our Church buildings and the other sites where the Church meets. Other charitable expenditure promotes the same aims.

Expenditure on administration and support costs includes staff costs of the Buildings Manager, cleaners and Operations Manager and the costs of maintaining the Church buildings, equipment and the supply of services within the buildings.

Grants payable
Grants payable are donations to other Christian organisations to further the charitable purposes of the Church around Leeds, the UK and the world, or to individuals connected with the Church to enable them to train for or to exercise their Christian ministry. Details are given in note 19 to the financial statements. Grants are considered carefully when the budget is prepared. There is no certainty that any particular grant will be paid in future years, or that the amount will remain the same.

Land and buildings
The Church premises are incorporated within the financial statements at the historical cost of the Headingley church (£27,237) and the manse properties in Adel and Headingley are stated at cost.

No depreciation is provided on any of the properties as the Managing Trustees consider that the residual value of the property is such that any charge would be immaterial. As the expected useful life of these assets is believed to be in excess of fifty years, periodic impairment reviews are undertaken by the Managing Trustees at the balance sheet date. Any material deficit between the anticipated recoverable amount of the properties and their carrying value in the accounts is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Equipment
Equipment with an acquisition cost of £5,000 or more is capitalised and depreciated over 5 years, otherwise all Church equipment is written off in the year of purchase.

Financial instruments
The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value, with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

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1. Principal accounting policies (continued)

Investments
Investments are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value at the balance sheet date using the closing market price.

Cash and deposits
Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand and deposits repayable within 24 hours without penalty at the balance sheet date. Short term deposits include deposits with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit account.

Operating leases
Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Church. Designated funds are unrestricted funds, which the Managing Trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside for a particular purpose. Restricted funds are funds which the donor has specified are to be used solely for a particular area of the Church's work or for purchases of specific assets for use by the Church.

Taxation
As a registered charity, Cornerstone Baptist Church is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. The Church receives no similar exemption for VAT, except that under the terms of the Listed Places of Worship grant scheme the Church could recover the VAT incurred on repairs to the fabric of its churches, which are both listed buildings.

Pension costs
As explained in note 17, the Church participates in the Baptist Pension Scheme, a multi-employer scheme, which is unable to identify the assets and liabilities attributable to the Church. In accordance with FRS102, amounts paid to the Scheme are accounted for as if they were those of a defined contribution scheme and are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Recognition and valuation of donated services
The Church's activities are dependent upon volunteers in all areas. Occasionally, travel expenses are reimbursed but there is no recognition in these accounts of the time donated by volunteers.

Current asset measurement
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. Tax recoverable is included at the amount receivable at the balance sheet date. Creditors are recognised where there is a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at the settlement amount.

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1. Principal accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Church's accounting policies, the Managing Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. The Managing Trustees are of the opinion that there are no estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	2025	2024
Unrestricted	**£**	£
Planned giving by standing orders/cheques/weekly envelopes	**226,768**	206,211
Loose cash offerings	**298**	360
Income tax recoverable	**48,613**	46,754
Green House Café	**15,912**	13,727
Church organisations	**4,550**	3,740
Horsforth Community Aspects Project - Welcome spaces grant	**925**	500
Lantern Partnership gifts to Green House Café	**-**	250
Leeds Vineyard contribution to the Lantern partnership	**800**	1,200
HCT HCAP Grant Community Day	**200**	
Other Donations	**125**	
Legacies	**106,738**	-
Other income	**1,441**	1,413
	406,370	274,155
Restricted		
UK Shared Prosperity Fund for purchase of new cooker	**-**	4,912
Household Support Fund grant (Lantern partnership)	**800.00**	1,100
Leeds City Council Community Committee funding for Lantern project	**-**	500
West Yorkshire Mayor's Fund for the purchase of food	**-**	250
Cragg Hill drop-in	**-**	-
	800.00	6,762
	407,170	280,917

3. Income from trading activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Premises lettings	**43,589**	65,150
	43,589	65,150

All income from trading activities is unrestricted (2024: All unrestricted).

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4. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	**Designated Funds**	**Restricted Funds**	**Total 2025**	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	£	£	£	£
Ministry costs								
Staff costs	38,515	-	-	38,515	20,455	-	-	20,455
Staff expenses	12,426	-	-	12,426	8,470	-	-	8,470
Resources and events	576	-	-	576	841	-	-	841
	51,517	-	-	**51,517**	29,766	-	-	29,766
Mission								
Staff costs	59,371	-	-	59,371	61,780	-	-	61,780
Staff expenses	670	-	-	670	184	-	-	184
Resources and events	20,483	-	1,112	21,595	20,691	-	7,919	28,610
	80,524	-	1,112	**81,636**	82,655	-	7,919	90,574
Administration								
Staff costs	94,562	-	-	94,562	87,383	-	-	87,383
Staff expenses	318	-	-	318	313	-	-	313
	94,880	-	-	**94,880**	87,696	-	-	87,696

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4. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds	**Designated Funds**	**Restricted Funds**	**Total 2025**	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	£	£	£	£
Other charitable activities								
Donations - see note 18	23,938	-	-	23,938	27,202	-	-	27,202
Volunteer expenses	31	-	-	31	57	-	-	57
Conferences and events	1,884	-	-	1,884	2,347	-	-	2,347
Intern expenses and accommodation	800	-	-	800	2,369	-	-	2,369
Books, resources and materials	1,558	-	-	1,558	2,198	-	-	2,198
Other costs	1,138	-	-	1,138	995	-	-	995
Subscriptions	4,284	-	-	4,284	3,840	-	-	3,840
	33,633	-	-	**33,633**	39,008	-	-	39,008
Support costs including governance costs								
Communications and stationery	8,882	-	-	8,882	5,934	-	-	5,934
Utilities and council tax	33,115	-	-	33,115	31,451	-	-	31,451
Building repairs and maintenance	32,118	-	-	32,118	29,015	-	-	29,015
Equipment, furniture and fittings	3,461	-	-	3,461	4,603	-	-	4,603
Insurance	9,450	-	-	9,450	9,822	-	-	9,822
Legal fees	682	-	-	682	-	-	-	-
Fees paid to the independent examiner	2,640	-	-	2,640	2,490	-	-	2,490
	90,348	-	-	**90,348**	83,315	-	-	83,315
Total expenditure on charitable activities	**350,901**	**-**	**1,112**	**352,013**	322,440	-	7,919	330,359

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5. Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration (Net of VAT)	**2,200**	2,075

6. Related parties

The custodian trustee of all the Church properties is the Yorkshire Baptist Association (YBA) (Charity number 247173). Both the Church and the YBA are members of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. Donations made to the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund by the Church are shown in note 18, there were no outstanding balances at the year-end (2024: £Nil).

Related party transactions relating to the ministers are shown in note 7.

7. Managing Trustee remuneration and benefits

	Rev A Elder	**Mr D Stow**
	£	**£**
Stipends	12,305	15,226
Employer's National Insurance	1,905	1,758
Pension contributions to DC scheme	1,801	2,564
Council tax and travel expenses	2,483	2,696
Total for the year ended 31 December 2025	**18,494**	**22,244**
Total for the year ended 31 December 2024	-	23,424

The Ministers, who were ex-officio members of the Eldership, were remunerated by the Church during the year and the amounts are shown above. Rev A Elder occupied a manse as part of his conditions of employment. Similarly, Mr D Stow occupied a manse as part of his conditions of employment.

8. Managing Trustees' expenses

On occasion the Managing Trustees act as agents for the Church and make purchases on its behalf and are reimbursed for this expenditure, e.g. payment for stationery or catering. Such expenditure is not related to the services provided by the Managing Trustees and so is not disclosed. Apart from such expenditure and that disclosed in note 7, none of the Managing Trustees were remunerated, provided with benefits, or paid expenses for services provided to the Church.

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9. Staff costs and emoluments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**173,245**	**153,511**
Employer's National Insurance	**6,800**	**5,688**
Pension contributions to DC schemes	**12,401**	**10,408**
Pension deficiency contributions to DB schemes (note 18)	**-**	**10**
	192,446	**169,617**

The average monthly headcount during the year was 10 (2024: 9). During the year the Church employed a Minister, a Team Leader/Chaplain, a Young Families Co-ordinator, an Operations Manager, a Buildings Manager, a Café Manager, a Buildings & Facilities Assistant and two cleaners. No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 per annum (2024: no employee) and there were no employee benefits other than those disclosed above. The Managing Trustees consider the key management personnel are the Managing Trustees and the Ministry Team. The employee benefits of the key personnel total £130,309 (2024: £102,048).

10. Tangible assets

	Freehold Land and Buildings	CTI/AV Equipment	Total
Cost or valuation	£	£	£
At 1 January 2025	**347,571**	**12,852**	**360,423**
Adjustments in year	**-**	**-**	**-**
At 31 December 2025	**347,571**	**12,852**	**360,423**
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2025	**-**	**(9,211)**	**(9,211)**
Depreciation charge for the year	**-**	**(2,570)**	**(2,570)**
At 31 December 2025	**-**	**(11,781)**	**(11,781)**
Net book value			
At 1 January 2025	**347,571**	**3,641**	**351,212**
At 31 December 2025	**347,571**	**1,071**	**348,642**

Freehold land and buildings comprises one church and associated halls at South Parade in Headingley, together with two manses. The manses and the Headingley church are included at cost. The Church is the beneficial owner of the property, but legal title is held by the YBA as custodian trustee.

CTI/AV Equipment comprises the cost of all equipment purchases with a unit value in excess of £5,000 or with a significant expected life.

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11. **Debtors**	**2025**	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	**14,725**	7,939
Prepayments and accrued income	**6,606**	7,889
	21,331	15,828

12. **Short term deposits**	**2025**	2024
	£	£
Baptist Union Corporation	**260,954**	83,382
	260,954	83,382

13. **Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**	**2025**	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	**4,763**	946
Social security costs and other taxes	**3,747**	2,399
Other creditors	**4,103**	1,510
Accruals and deferred income	**5,680**	5,316
	18,293	10,171

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14. Commitments under operating leases

	2025	2024
	£	£
Total minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:		
Total leases - within one year	8,700	8,700
Total leases - within two to five years	31,440	32,400
	40,140	41,100

15. Movement in funds during the year

Current year	**Balance 1 Jan 2025**	**Income**	**Expenditure**	**Balance 31 Dec 2025**
Restricted funds	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Cragg Hill drop-in	23	-	(23)	**-**
Lantern Household Support Fund grant	-	800	(800)	**-**
Leeds City Council Community Committee funding	289	-	(289)	**-**
	312	**800**	**(1,112)**	**-**
Unrestricted Funds				
General	215,501	348,385	(350,901)	**212,985**
Designated funds:				
Property Fund	347,570	-	-	**347,570**
Estate of John Lockwood	-	104,238	-	**104,238**
	563,071	**452,623**	**(350,901)**	**664,793**
Total Funds	**563,383**	**453,423**	**(352,013)**	**664,793**

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15. Movement in funds during the year (continued)

Previous year	Balance 1 Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Balance 31 Dec 2024
Restricted funds	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Cragg Hill drop-in	344	-	(321)	**23**
Lantern Household Support Fund grant	1,125	1,100	(2,225)	**-**
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	-	4,912	(4,912)	**-**
Lord Mayor's Fund	-	250	(250)	**-**
Leeds City Council Community Committee funding	-	500	(211)	**289**
	1,469	6,762	(7,919)	**312**
Unrestricted Funds				
General	195,173	342,768	(322,440)	**215,501**
Designated funds:				
Property Fund	347,570	-	-	**347,570**
	542,743	342,768	(322,440)	**563,071**
Total Funds	544,212	349,530	(330,359)	**563,383**

Purpose of Restricted Funds

Cragg Hill Drop-In	For the benefit of the Drop-In activities at the Cragg Hill site.
Lantern Household Support Fund grant	Support for the Lantern project, a partnership between Cornerstone and Leeds Vineyard to provide a space where adults with multiple and complex needs can find friendship, food and faith.
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	Grant funding received to purchase new cooker and other catering equipment for Green House Café.
Lord Mayor's Fund	West Yorkshire Mayor's Fund for the purchase of food.
Leeds City Council Community Committee funding	Leeds City Council Community Committee funding for Lantern project.

Purpose of Designated Funds

Property Fund	This represents the holding value of the Church properties.
Estate of John Lockwood	A legacy was received from the estate of Dr John Lockwood. The Trustees are considering how this will be spent

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16. Analysis of net assets between funds at the year end

Current year	Unrestricted Funds General	Unrestricted Funds Designated	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Analysis of net assets between funds				
Tangible fixed assets	1,071	347,571	-	**348,642**
Net current assets	211,913	104,238	-	**316,151**
Total net assets	212,984	451,809	-	**664,793**

Previous year	Unrestricted Funds General	Unrestricted Funds Designated	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Analysis of net assets between funds				
Tangible fixed assets	3,642	347,570	-	**351,212**
Net current assets	211,859	-	312	**212,171**
Total net assets	215,501	347,570	312	**563,383**

17. Pensions

The Church is a participating employer in the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is a separate legal entity administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

For the current and previous financial year, the pension provision for members of the Scheme is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Broadstone Corporate Benefits Ltd. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members if they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva Limited. Furthermore, members of the Basic Section pay reduced contributions of 5% of Pensionable Income, and their employers also pay a total of 5%

From January 2012, pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Broadstone Corporate Benefits Ltd.

In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members if they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity.

This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva Limited. Some Church members of staff are members of the Basic Section of the Scheme; members pay reduced contributions of 3.4% of Pensionable Income, and the Church pays a total of 6.6%.

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17. Pensions (continued)

In October 2024, the insurance company Just Group completed a buy out of the liabilities of the closed defined benefit scheme. From that date any remaining liability of the participating scheme members to defined benefit scheme ceased and the £1 per month deficit contributions payable by the participating employers which were agreed in the recovery plan approved in August 2022 also ceased from that date. Administration of the closed defined benefit scheme transferred from the pension trustees to Just Group from that date

The Minister(s) and some members of the church staff are eligible to join the Scheme.

18. Donations made during the year

		2025	2024
	Purpose of donation	**£**	£
BMS World Mission	Support of worldwide mission activities	3,900	3,646
Christians in Queenswood	Support for evangelistic Christmas event	-	100
Churches Together in Headingley	Local ecumenical activities	50	75
Collections at Lent lunches and Cragg Harvest supper	Support for the Lantern Project	-	(423)
Fellowship Fund	Available for use at ministers' discretion, including gift to Church member for doctorate studies	315	608
Fusion	Student mentoring and support	158	150
Home Mission Fund	Support of national Baptist activities	4,493	3,744
Horsforth Churches Together	Local ecumenical activities	473	450
Japan Christian Link	Mission work in Japan (Levi Booth)	1,200	-
Lantern Project gifts to Green House Café	Pay-it-forward gifts	-	-
LCCT	Horsforth Chaplaincy Project	3,000	3,000
Leeds University CU	Work with students	-	10
OMF	Mission work in Japan (Levi Booth)	-	1,500
Other	Gift to Blackley Centre to support peace making and inter faith relations	89	300
St George's Crypt	Work with the homeless and vulnerable	500	282
Salvation Army	Work in Bramley with Connect	-	1,000
SIM	Mission work in France and Belgium	3,000	6,000
Teach Beyond	Work with missionary families	6,000	6,000
Transformations Leeds	Mission work with international students	360	360
UCCF	Work with students	400	400
Total donations		**23,938**	27,202

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19. Post Balance Sheet Date events

Subsequent to the balance sheet date, on 29 May 2026, the CIO completed the sale of a property located at 3 Derwent Drive, Leeds, LS16 8JD for proceeds of £515,000.

On the same date, the company acquired a new freehold property located at 46 St Annes Road, Leeds LS6 3NX for a total consideration of £446,669.

At the year end of 31 December 2025, the property was included in tangible fixed assets at a net book value of £115,000.

These transactions represent non-adjusting events after the reporting period, as the sale and purchase were agreed and completed after the year end and do not provide evidence of conditions that existed at 31 December 2025. Accordingly, no adjustments have been made to the carrying values of fixed assets in these financial statements.

The disposal is expected to give rise to a gain of approximately £400,000, before associated costs of disposal, which will be recognised in the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2026.