PLAISTOW CHURCH OF CHRIST

Trustees' Annual Report 2025

Reporting Period: 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025

1. Aims and Purposes

Plaistow Church of Christ (PCOC) is committed to advancing the Christian faith, serving the community and sharing the love of Jesus Christ throughout Newham, East London and the surrounding areas.

Our mission is to nurture spiritual growth, strengthen Christian fellowship and provide opportunities for individuals and families to develop a deeper relationship with God through worship, prayer, Bible study, pastoral care and evangelism.

We seek to create a welcoming and supportive environment where people from all backgrounds can come together in faith, experience Christian fellowship and find encouragement in their spiritual journey.

At the heart of our ministry is a commitment to serving God, supporting one another and making a positive difference within our community.

2. Objectives and Activities

Plaistow Church of Christ aims to provide a welcoming place of worship where individuals and families can learn about the Christian faith, study the Holy Bible and grow spiritually.

Throughout 2025, the church continued to fulfil its charitable objectives through a range of religious, pastoral and community-focused activities.

Our principal activities included:

- Worship Services: Providing regular opportunities for collective worship, prayer, preaching, scripture reading and Christian fellowship.
- Bible Study and Spiritual Development: Encouraging members to deepen their understanding of the Bible and apply Christian teachings to their daily lives.
- Prayer and Pastoral Care: Offering spiritual encouragement, prayer and practical support to members and individuals experiencing personal difficulties.

- Evangelism and Outreach: Sharing the Christian message and reaching out to the wider community through missionary work, personal evangelism and church activities.
- Children and Youth Ministry: Encouraging younger members to develop their faith, participate in church life and build strong Christian foundations.
- Fellowship and Community Engagement: Organising gatherings and celebrations that strengthen relationships, encourage unity and provide opportunities for community participation.

In planning and delivering these activities, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the specific guidance relating to charities established for the advancement of religion.

The church seeks to ensure that its religious activities and opportunities for worship, fellowship and spiritual support provide meaningful benefits to its congregation and the wider community.

3. Financial Review

Income – Tithes, Offerings and Faith Promises

We are sincerely grateful for the continued generosity, faithfulness and commitment of our church members.

During 2025, Plaistow Church of Christ received a total of £20,372 through tithes, offerings and faith promises.

These contributions represent the dedication of our congregation to supporting the ministry and ensuring the continuation of the church's charitable activities.

Tithing and voluntary giving remain important expressions of Christian stewardship, reflecting our members' commitment to supporting the work of God and helping the church fulfil its mission.

Despite the financial challenges experienced during the year, the continued support of our members enabled the church to maintain its activities and meet its essential financial commitments.

Expenditure

During 2025, the church incurred total day-to-day expenditure of £12,493.

These funds were used to support the ongoing operation and ministry of the church, including:

- Rental costs associated with our place of worship.
- Utilities and other essential operating expenses.
- Love gifts and pastoral support.
- Evangelism and outreach activities.
- Other costs directly associated with church services and charitable activities.

One of the most significant financial challenges during the year was securing a new place of worship, which resulted in rental costs approximately doubling compared with the previous arrangement.

Nevertheless, through careful financial management, the generosity of our congregation and continued commitment to our mission, the church was able to meet its operational expenses and continue its planned activities.

The trustees remain committed to responsible financial stewardship, ensuring that available resources are used effectively to support the church's charitable purposes and long-term sustainability.

4. Achievements and Performance

Overview of 2025

The year 2025 was a period of both challenges and blessings for Plaistow Church of Christ.

One of the most significant challenges was the loss of our previous place of worship, which created uncertainty about where the congregation would meet for regular services and church activities.

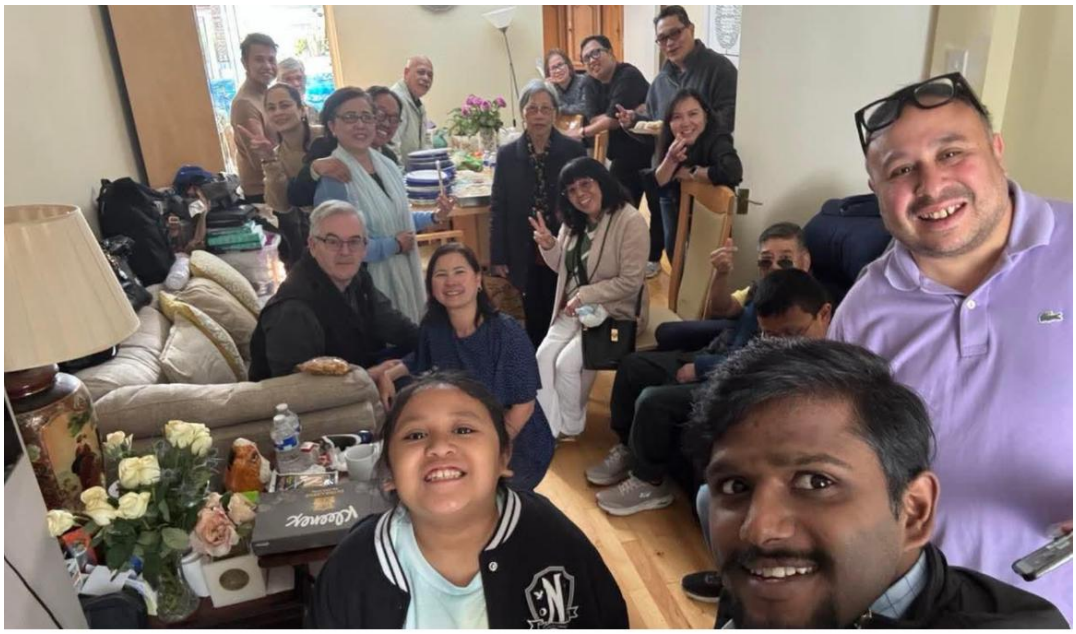
However, this period also demonstrated the resilience, unity and faith of our church community.

Rather than allowing these difficulties to interrupt our ministry, members came together to ensure that worship, prayer, fellowship and spiritual encouragement continued.

During the transition, church services were held online and in the homes of church members who generously opened their doors to the congregation.







In June 2025, the church was blessed with a new place of worship. Although the new premises brought increased financial commitments, the congregation remained united and determined to continue the church's mission.

Throughout the year, we were also able to celebrate important spiritual milestones, including the baptism of young members, our church anniversary, seasonal celebrations and our annual Thanksgiving service.

These achievements reflect the commitment of our members, the dedication of our church leadership and our shared faith in God's continued provision.

January 2025 – Annual Planning Meeting

The year began with a planning meeting attended by church leaders and committee members.

This gathering provided an opportunity to reflect on the church's priorities, discuss upcoming activities and establish plans for the year ahead.

We were particularly grateful to the church member who generously offered their home as the venue for this important meeting.

The meeting reinforced the importance of working together, supporting one another and remaining focused on the church's spiritual and charitable objectives.



March 2025 – Mother's Day Celebration

In March, the church celebrated Mother's Day by recognising and honouring the mothers and mother figures within our congregation.

The celebration included prayers, words of encouragement and expressions of appreciation for their love, dedication and contribution to their families and the church community.

This occasion provided an opportunity to strengthen fellowship and acknowledge the important role mothers play in nurturing faith and family life.



April 2025 – Easter Celebration

The church observed Easter with a focus on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, which remain central to the Christian faith.

Through worship, prayer and reflection on the scriptures, members were encouraged to remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and celebrate the hope, forgiveness and new life made possible through His resurrection.

The celebration also provided an opportunity for fellowship and spiritual encouragement.

May 2025 – Church Anniversary Celebration

In May, Plaistow Church of Christ celebrated another year of ministry, fellowship and service to God.

This anniversary was particularly meaningful as the church was experiencing uncertainty following the loss of its previous place of worship.

Despite these challenges, the congregation remained committed to celebrating God's faithfulness.

The anniversary gathering was hosted at the home of a church member, reflecting the generosity, unity and strong sense of community within the congregation.

During this period, regular church activities continued through online services and gatherings in members' homes.

The anniversary served as a reminder that the church is not defined by a building, but by its people, their faith and their shared commitment to worshipping and serving God.

June 2025 – Moving to a New Place of Worship

June marked an important milestone as Plaistow Church of Christ secured a new place of worship.

After a challenging period of uncertainty, the congregation was thankful to have a new venue where members could once again gather regularly for worship, Bible study, prayer and fellowship.

While the new premises came with significantly higher rental costs, securing the venue provided greater stability and enabled the church to continue its ministry and planned activities.

This achievement was made possible through the continued commitment, generosity and cooperation of church members.

The move represented a new chapter for the church and renewed our confidence in working together to overcome challenges.

August 2025 – Baptism Celebration

One of the most encouraging spiritual highlights of 2025 was the baptism of several young members of the congregation.

Baptism represents an important step in the Christian faith, symbolising a personal commitment to following Jesus Christ.

Witnessing young people publicly declare their faith was a joyful and meaningful occasion for the entire church family.

This milestone reflected the importance of nurturing the next generation and encouraging young people to develop their own relationship with God.

The church remains committed to supporting young members through Bible teaching, prayer, mentoring and opportunities to participate in church life.





November 2025 – Thanksgiving Celebration

On 30 November 2025, Plaistow Church of Christ held its annual Thanksgiving celebration at Forest Gate Community School.

The event brought together members of the congregation to reflect on God's goodness, faithfulness and provision throughout the year.

The theme, "Thankful Together," was particularly meaningful following the challenges the church had experienced.

The celebration provided an opportunity for members to express gratitude, share encouragement and recognise the many blessings received during the year.

As part of the programme, an interactive Thanksgiving activity encouraged participants to reflect on what they were personally thankful for and share their thoughts with others.

This activity helped strengthen fellowship and reminded everyone of the importance of gratitude, encouragement and unity.

The celebration was inspired by the words of 2 Thessalonians 1:3, which speak of giving thanks to God for growing faith and increasing love for one another.

The event was a joyful reminder that, despite the challenges faced during 2025, the church had much to be thankful for.





December 2025 – Christmas Celebration

The year concluded with the church's Christmas celebration, commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ.

The occasion provided an opportunity for worship, thanksgiving and fellowship as members reflected on the true meaning of Christmas.

It was also a time to celebrate the relationships built throughout the year and express appreciation for the dedication and support of church members.

The celebration brought a meaningful conclusion to a year characterised by faith, perseverance and gratitude.





5. Challenges and Lessons Learned

The greatest challenge faced by Plaistow Church of Christ in 2025 was the loss of its previous place of worship and the subsequent increase in accommodation costs.

This situation required the church to adapt its arrangements, manage financial pressures and find alternative ways to maintain regular services and activities.

Despite these difficulties, the experience strengthened the congregation's sense of unity and demonstrated the importance of flexibility, cooperation and mutual support.

The willingness of members to open their homes for worship and church gatherings was especially valuable during the transition.

Securing a new venue in June was an important achievement, although the higher ongoing costs highlighted the need for continued financial planning and careful management of church resources.

The trustees recognise the importance of ensuring the long-term sustainability of the church while maintaining its commitment to worship, pastoral care, evangelism and community engagement.

6. Future Plans and Priorities

Looking ahead, Plaistow Church of Christ remains committed to strengthening its ministry, supporting its members and extending its positive impact within the community.

Our priorities include:

- Spiritual Growth: Continuing to provide meaningful worship services, Bible studies, prayer meetings and opportunities for spiritual development.
- Youth Engagement: Encouraging children and young people to participate actively in church life and develop a strong foundation in their Christian faith.
- Evangelism and Community Outreach: Exploring further opportunities to share the Christian message and build relationships within the wider community.
- Financial Sustainability: Maintaining responsible financial management and planning carefully for the increased costs associated with our place of worship.
- Church Fellowship and Unity: Strengthening relationships among members through regular gatherings, celebrations and mutual support.
- Long-Term Accommodation: Considering opportunities to secure a more stable and sustainable place of worship for the future.

The trustees will continue to review the church's activities, resources and priorities to ensure that the charity remains focused on its purposes and the needs of those it serves.

7. Conclusion and Appreciation

Despite the challenges experienced during 2025, Plaistow Church of Christ has continued to demonstrate faith, resilience and unity.

The year reminded us that the strength of the church lies not in its physical building, but in the faith, commitment and love of its people.

We are especially grateful to our pastors, church leaders, volunteers, members and supporters for their dedication, generosity and continued service.

Their willingness to give their time, resources and support has been instrumental in enabling the church to continue its ministry throughout the year.

Above all, we give thanks to God for His guidance, provision and faithfulness.

As we look towards the future, we remain committed to advancing the Christian faith, serving our community and building a church where individuals and families can grow together in faith and love.

"To God be all the glory."

Plaistow Church of Christ
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ending 31 December 2025

	2025
	£
Total Income	20,372.98
Total Expenditure	12,493.99
Net Income	**7878.99**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
Income From					
Donations and legacies					19,140.38
Tithes		18,983.09		18,983.09	14,453.02
Charitable activities				0	1,136.91
Other Income			1,389.89	1 389.89	
Total Income		18,983.09		20,372.98	34,730.31
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities/utilities		12,493.99	0.00	12,493.99	13,323.79
Total expenditure		12,493.99	0.00	12,493.99	0.00
Net movement in funds		**6,489.10**	**1,389.89**	**7,878.99**	21,406.52
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total fund brought forward	1	29,801.14			
Total funds carried forward		**36,290.24**	**1,389.89**	**37,680.13**	8,840.96

Current Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debtors and advance payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cash at bank and in hand	36,290.24	1,389.89	37,680.13	29,801.14
Total Current Assets	36,290.24	1,389.89	37,680.13	29,801.14
Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Current Assets	**36,290.24**	**1,389.89**	**37,680.13**	**29,801.14**

Notes

2 Total fund carried forward are from our current & restricted fund/ statement

Approved by the Board of trustees on 28 October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Carmela Bhatti

Trustee