THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING HOPE

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

CHARITY REG. NO: 1197334

The Church of the Living Hope

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

CONTENTS

Page 3	Legal and Administrative Information
Page 4	Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
Page 5 to 8	Trustees' Report
Page 9	Statement of Receipts and Payments
Page 10	Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Pages 11 to 13	Notes to the Accounts

The Church of the Living Hope

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1197334

START OF FINANCIAL YEAR 1st January 2025

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR 31st December 2025

TRUSTEES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

Name	Office
Andrew Bookless	Ex Officio
Lucy Mackenzie	Trustee & Treasurer
Linda Lewis	Trustee
Janet Llewellyn	Trustee until July 2025
Trina Sutton	Trustee & Chair from 16/06/25

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The Church of the Living Hope is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Our governing document is a Constitution Document.
Our Board of Trustees consists of members of the congregation and headed by a Chair of Trustees
Existing trustees and associate members can nominate other members to be trustees. Trustees will then assess their suitability, vote and appoint them.
Further information can be found in our Constitution and Associate Membership document
All trustees are required to undertake trustee training and safeguarding training and to have regard to our charity's policies, procedures and relevant Charity Commission guidance
The Trustees appoint any new trustees following the provisions laid out in the Charity's governing instrument.

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT Constitution of The Church of the Living Hope, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation since 04/01/2022

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

The Church of The Living Hope
14 Gleneagles Close
Hubberston, Milford Haven
Pembrokeshire
SA73 3SG
e-mail: andy@thechurchofthelivinghope.co.uk
website: www.thechurchofthelivinghope.co.uk

BANKERS

Barclays Bank
The Co-operative Bank

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Sylvia Davey
Milner Cottage
Herbrandston
Milford Haven
Pembrokeshire
SA73 3TD

The Church of the Living Hope

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act), and that there is no requirement in the governing document or constitution of the Charity for the conducting of an audit. As a consequence, the trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for an independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and;
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

I conducted my examination in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales in relation to the conducting of an independent examination, referred to above. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and of the accounting systems employed by the Charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of the Charities legislation and that the financial statements comply with the SORP, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

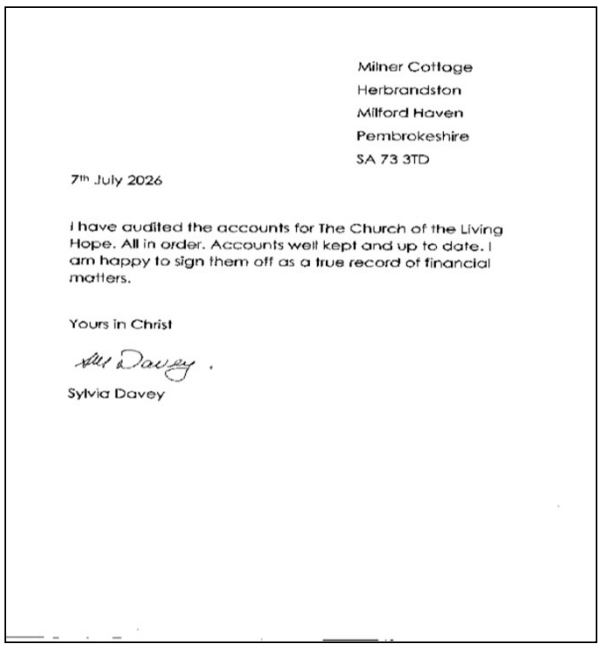
The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit , and information supplied by the trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the trustees of all material matters.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
   - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
   - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Milner Cottage
Herbrandston
Milford Haven
Pembrokeshire
SA 73 3TD

7th July 2026

I have audited the accounts for The Church of the Living Hope. All in order. Accounts well kept and up to date. I am happy to sign them off as a true record of financial matters.

Yours in Christ

Sylvia Davey

The Church of the Living Hope

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the Charity are the advancement of the Christian faith, for the benefit of the public especially but not exclusively within Milford Haven and the surrounding county of Pembrokeshire, and such charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity Trustees, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with The Church of the Living Hope's Statement of Faith and Theological Position.

In order to fulfill these Objects, the Trustees this year -

1. Developed further the policies and procedures of the Charity

During 2025, the Safeguarding Policy, the Data Protection Policy, the Bullying and Harassment Policy and the Health and Safety policy of the church were discussed and updated. In addition to this, the Trustees agreed and adopted three new policies : a Whistleblowing Policy, a Complaints, Grievance and Discipline Policy and a Sexual Harassment Policy, which were added to the existing policies of the church and displayed on the church website. The Trustees also discussed practical procedures regarding people bringing dogs to church.

2. Continued to monitor the Church's finances in the light of their annual Budget, seeking to ensure that money was spent in a way that is consistent with the Objects of the Charity.

The financial position of the church strengthened during 2025, due mainly to an increase in giving and some significant Gift Aid payments.There were no pressing financial concerns.

3. Continued to support the work of the Church Minister (Rev Andy Bookless), and the Church Leadership Team, as they guided forward the worship life and outreach of the church.

The notes from Leadership Team meetings continued to be reviewed by the Trustees, in order to ensure that all church activities were carried out safely and responsibly, and that adequate finance was available.

4. Facilitated the Employment of a part-time Youth and Children's worker for the church.

The Trustees role included agreeing to the advertising of the post, drawing up the Employment Contract and Job Description and ensuring the right equipment and finance was available.

5. Sought to ensure that the church remains a welcoming and outward-looking church that is accessible to people of all ages and backgrounds within the wider community.

In making decisions this year we have kept "the advancement of the Christian faith, for the benefit of the public" at the forefront of our priorities. We are grateful for the guidance of The Charity Commission in regard to Public Benefit.

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Achievements and Performance

Development of the Church

Leadership Team

During 2025, the Leadership Team of The Church of the Living Hope continued to be led by the church Minister - Rev Andy Bookless, who was assisted by Helen Bookless, Linda Lewis and Shirley Harrison. From September onwards, a part-time Youth and Children's Worker - Jennifer Billing - was employed by the church and also took part in the meetings. The team continued to plan and guide forward the worship life and outreach of The Church of The Living Hope and regularly to pray, discuss activities and plan the way forward.

Sunday Worship

The general pattern for Sunday worship continued unchanged during 2025, with weekly meetings on Sunday mornings and evenings. However, there was a change in the Sunday morning pattern, as we started having "Upstairs Downstairs" meetings at least once a month, with the adults having a service "downstairs" in the Coffee bar at Hubberston Community Centre, and children's activities taking place "upstairs" in the main hall. During the year we had a number of visiting speakers, including Bishop Stuart Bell, the Bishop for Wales in the Anglican Convocation in Europe, of which we are now part. We also took part in an interchurch "Prayer for Wales" service one Sunday evening, organised by New Wine Cymru.

Youth and Children's Work and Outreach to the Community

At the start of 2025, the church began a fortnightly Friday evening group for young people aged 11 to 16, known as Rock Solid, which included games, craft activities, and watching a video with a Christian message. This group began with young people who already attend church, who were encouraged to invite friends. Having been awarded grant funding for 3 years to employ a part-time Youth and Children's Worker, and having advertised the post, we employed Jennifer Billing to take on this role, beginning in September 2025. As a result of this, from September we were able to run Rock Solid on a weekly basis during termtime and see this group develop further. Jennifer also helped with our "Little Fishes" Parent and Toddler Group, alongside an established team, and helped to plan and lead activities for children and young people on a Sunday morning, while also seeking to build up relationships with young people and their families in other ways. It was good to see a few young people who attended Rock Solid also starting to come to church as a result.

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

In 2025, we again took part in the Milford Haven Carnival, an extremely well-supported community event, and continued to reach out to our community in other ways. This included through some Healing Cafes, based at Pembrokeshire Yacht Club, which were run on a number of Saturdays throughout the year, through outreach outside the local shops and on Milford Haven Marina, and through Carol Singing in a local pub, not far from the Community Centre. We also ran a successful Alpha Course - a course designed both for people who are new to the Christian faith, and for others who want a refresher course in central aspects of the faith.

We continue to publicise our activities through our online presence, which includes a Website and Facebook page, through personal invitation, and on occasions through leaflets and posters.

Midweek Meetings / Prayer and Spiritual Life

This year, we made a significant change in our pattern of Midweek meetings. This involved suspending the "Growth Groups" which had met in people's homes for Bible study and prayer, but had started to dwindle, and introducing a new pattern.

This pattern included having some fortnightly midweek meetings in which church members came together to think about our Beliefs, Values and Culture as a church and to strengthen our unity and identity. For the weeks when the Deeper meetings weren't running, we had a monthly prayer meeting (lasting about an hour) and a monthly Worship and Prayer Evening, both of which were based in church members' homes.

Once the meetings looking at the Church's Beliefs, Values and Culture had run their course, they were replaced by fortnightly "Deeper meetings" - meetings that were intended to help people explore more deeply various issues linked to their faith.

In addition to this, some church members continued to do some regular Prayer-walking in the community, and a new WhatsApp group was started, which focused on prayer for the community.

We also ran a Church Away Day at Ffald-y-Brenin, a Christian retreat centre and house of prayer, located in Pembrokeshire's Preselli hills, which enabled church members to come together for a time of fellowship, reflection and prayer.

Membership

The number of "Church Members" of The Church of the Living Hope (technically known as Associate Members) increased during 2025 from 35 to 39. This is consistent with a steady year on year increase that has been taking place since the church started.

Policy on Grant making

Although we do not make formal grants, we adhere to the principle of "Tithing", which means that we plan to give 10 % of our income to other charities and Christian groups, whose activities are consistent with our objectives. In making these gifts, we do not look to receive anything in return. For example, we give to Tearfund, a charity whose purpose is the relief of poverty and suffering in some of the poorest parts of our world, and to New Wine Cymru - a Welsh interchurch network, encouraging church leaders in their mission.

Contribution made by volunteers

The extent to which the church grows and flourishes depends on far more than the efforts of the church Trustees and Leadership team and another vital element is having a wider team of volunteers who work together to strengthen and enrich every area of church life. In the Church of the Living Hope, we have some excellent volunteers who play their part in various different ways, in working with children and young people, as musicians, in providing refreshments, in hosting church activities, in welcoming others, in providing practical and administrative help and in other roles. As Trustees of The Church of the Living Hope, we are extremely grateful to all those who support and contribute to every aspect of the life of the church.

The Church of the Living Hope

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Charities Act 2011 require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees declare they have approved the Trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

Signature(s)		
Name		Lucy Mackenzie
Position(s)	Chair of Trustees	Treasurer
Date		

The Church of the Living Hope

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total **2025**	Total **2024**
INCOME & ENDOWMENTS FROM : -		£	£	£	£	£
Donations & Legacies	2a	38,874	15,000	0	53,874	23,030
Other Trading Activities	2b	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable Activies	2c	374	0	0	374	0
Other Income	2d	0	0	0	0	0
Income from Investments	2e	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**39,248**	**15,000**	**0**	**54,248**	**23,030**
EXPENDITURE ON : -						
Raising Funds	3a	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable Activities	3b	-26,928	-4,914	0	-31,841	22,444
Other Expenditure	3c	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**-26,928**	**-4,914**	**0**	**-31,841**	**22,444**
NET GAINS (LOSSES) on Investments		0	0	0	0	0
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)		**12,320**	**10,086**	**0**	**22,406**	**586**
TRANSFERS between Funds		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Gain (losses) on Revalued Assets		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
NET Movement in FUNDS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Balances Brought Forward		**17,978**	**0**	**0**	**17,978**	**17,392**
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		**30,298**	**10,086**	**0**	**40,384**	**17,978**

The notes on pages 11 to 13 form part of these accounts.
All operations are continuing operations.

The Church of the Living Hope

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

ASSETS		**YE 31 DEC 2025 Total**	**YE 31 DEC 2024 Total**
Cash Funds:	Notes	**£**	**£**
Barclays Current		352	17,978
Co-op Current		15,032	0
Co-op 95 days		25,000	0
		40,384	**17,978**
Represented by:			
General Funds (Unrestricted)		30,298	17,978
Restricted Funds	4	10,086	0
		40,384	**17,978**
Non-cash assets			
Gift Aid unclaimed for 2025-26		2,424	0
Small Donations Scheme Gift Aid unclaimed re 2025-26		1,657	0
		4,080	**0**

The CIO had given no pecuniary guarantees and had incurred no debts or other liabilities at 31 December 2025

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities which are set out on pages 10 to 11.

The Trustees declare they have approved the financial statements above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

Signature(s)		
Full Name(s)		Lucy Mackenzie
Position(s)	Chair of Trustees	Treasurer
Date		

The Church of the Living Hope

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared under the "Receipts and Payments" basis and in accordance with FRS 102 SORP

2. RECEIPTS	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Total **2025**	Total **2024**
a) Donations & Legacies		£	£		£	£
Voluntary Receipts & Donations	**4**	38,874	15,000		53,874	23,030
Legacies		0	0		0	0
		38,874	**15,000**		**53,874**	**23,030**
b) Other Trading Activities (incl. Fundraising)						
Fundraising Events Incomes		0	0		0	0
		0	0	0	**0**	0
c) Income from Charitable Activities						
Unrestricted Donations from Charitable Activities		374	0		374	0
		0	0		0	0
		374	**0**		**374**	**0**
d) Other Income						
Other Incomes		**0**	**0**		**0**	**0**
		0	**0**		**0**	**0**
e) Income from Investments						
Interest Income		0	0		0	0
		0	**0**		**0**	**0**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

3. PAYMENTS	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Total **2025**	Total **2024**
a) Expenditure on Raising Funds		£	£		£	
Fundraising Events Expenses		0	0		0	0
		0	**0**		**0**	**0**
b) Expenditure on Charitable Activities (incl.Governance Costs)						
Charitable Operations Facilitation		-4,091	0	0	-4,091	4,247
Personnel Costs		-15,025	0	0	-15,025	14,136
Outreach Expenses		-1,258	0	0	-1,258	385
Designated Expenditures		0	-4,914	0	-4,914	0
Gift and Grants	**4**	-5,940	0	0	-5,940	3,055
Administration & Governance		-613	0	0	-613	621
		-26,928	**-4,914**	**0**	**-31,841**	**22,444**
c) Other Expenditure						
Other		0	0	0	**0**	0
		0	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-25 £	Income £	Expenditure	Balance **2025** £	Total **2024**
RESTRICTED GIFTS Income (4600-4699)	0	0	0	0	0
Youth Worker Funding (Y1-Y3)	0	15,000	-4,914	10,086	0
	0	**15,000**	**-4,914**	**10,086**	0

The restricted funds are explained in note 6 of the accounts.

The restricted funds are wholly represented by cash reserves of the charity.

5. PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND DONATIONS BY TRUSTEES

£2029.99 expenses were claimed by a Trustees in regard to Trustee duties (Last year: £652).
One Trustee was employed by the charity and was paid a total of £10,017.82 (Last year:£10,764).
Expenses waived by trustees were (immaterial).

6. DESCRIPTION OF FUNDS

All money given by donors to a Restricted Fund is used for that purpose. Where there are expenses incurred in the delivery of goods or services in an area covered by a Restricted Fund, money may be drawn from this Restricted Fund to cover the relevant expenses in delivery of the service covered by that Fund. An explanation of the different Funds follows.

Description of Restricted Funds

Youth Worker Fund - The Church of the Living Hope applied for a grant in order to fund a Youth Worker role for 3 years. This grant is provided by the Anglican Network - John James Trust and is recorded as a restricted fund.