Clearspring Church

Report and Accounts
Year to 31 December 2025

Stewardship
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

CLEARSPRING CHURCH

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	48 Abbotswood Road BROCKWORTH GLOUCESTER GL3 4NZ
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution dated 13 December 2022
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1201405
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Paul Lyndon Burtwell Sarah Kathleen Burtwell Daniel Barrie Cratchley Corie Robinson Bradley Burtwell Daniel Cooney Finney Burtwell Stuart Taylor Kim Burtwell Will Adkins (appointed 7 September 2025)
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Sarah Crispin ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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Clearspring Church
CIO reg no. 1201405
Trustees Report 2025

Introduction
Clearspring church, based in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, operates as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The primary objective of our charity is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in Gloucestershire and other parts of the United Kingdom, as well as globally, as determined by the Charity Trustees.

Objectives and Activities
Throughout 2025 and 2026, our church has engaged in a variety of activities and services designed to advance the Christian faith in Gloucestershire and beyond. These activities include:

Regular Sunday Morning Services: We hold weekly Sunday morning worship services, which are open to everyone. These services provide an opportunity for communal worship, prayer, and the teaching of Christian principles.

Monday Evening Bible College: Every Monday evening, we host Bible College and this in-depth study is open to all. These classes are aimed at deepening participants 'understanding of the Bible and fostering a strong sense of community and spiritual growth.

Kids Church: In addition to our main services, we also offer weekly Kids Church for primary school aged children. These classes provide age-appropriate Christian education, helping young members of our community to learn about the faith in an engaging and supportive environment.

God of Hope Outreach Events: We have organised and participated in the "God of Hope" outreach events, which took place in Cheltenham Gloucestershire. This event aimed to spread the message of hope and faith to a local audience, engaging with various communities and encouraging new connections. We have extended this to various areas across the UK during 2025 and 2026.

Social Media and Sermon Promotion: We have actively promoted our church and its activities on social media platforms. Additionally, we have created and shared Christian sermons through these channels to reach a wider audience and spread our message beyond our immediate community.

Achievements and Performance

We have seen significant growth and positive outcomes as a result of our activities:

Increased Attendance: All of our regular services, including Sunday morning worship, Monday evening Bible College and Kids Church, have experienced steady growth in attendance. This indicates a growing interest in and commitment to the Christian faith within our community.

Positive Community Feedback: We have received numerous positive testimonials from new attendees particularly in response to the “God of Hope” events. These testimonials reflect the meaningful impact of our work and the value it has brought to others.

Commitments of Faith: Throughout all the Sunday Services we have seen at least 50 people come to a new faith in Jesus Christ.

Financial Review

We rely on freewill offerings and donations as the source of our income. The following provides an overview of our financial position:

Income:

The opening bank balance on 1st January 2024 was: £51,676. Our total income for the third year as a Charity amounted to £50,373. All income was generated through free will offerings and donations, which were collected during our Sunday morning services and Bible studies. Additionally, we received regular donations via standing orders and through a Stewardship account from committed givers.

Financial Position:

As at the end of the financial year, the charity’s financial position is as follows: Our closing cashbook balance on 31st December 2025 was £38,183. We have 3 months reserves of £12,000 and designated funds for the Building Project of £21,910. These designated funds were raised for an appeal but could be used for any purpose if the building project did not go ahead before 18th May 2025. Consequently, they were transferred from restricted to designated funds at the end of 2025.

Surplus/Deficit: There is a deficit of £15,182 in General Funds before transfers due to the increased rent for larger and improved premises and the purchase of various new equipment.

Financial Challenges:
We have managed our finances prudently and were able to cover all expenses. However, as we continue to grow, we anticipate that managing costs, particularly in expanding our outreach activities and supporting our ongoing operations, will require careful financial planning and potential fundraising efforts in the future.

Structure, Governance, and Management

Our charity operates with a clear governance structure to ensure effective oversight and administration:

Trustee Structure:
We have a board of ten trustees. The trustees are responsible for overseeing the administration and ensuring that the charity's activities align with its objectives. We hold four trustee meetings each year to review progress, make decisions, and plan for the future.

Appointment of Trustees:
Apart from the initial Charity Trustees, all subsequent trustees are appointed through a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Charity Trustees. When selecting new trustees, we carefully consider the skills, knowledge, and experience required for the effective administration of the charity. Additionally, all Charity Trustees are required to subscribe to and adhere to the Statement of Faith, both in belief and lifestyle.

Spiritual and Administrative Governance:
The spiritual governance and leadership of the Church Fellowship, for which the CIO has been established, is maintained by the Spiritual Leadership. If the Charity Trustees are not synonymous with the Spiritual Leadership, their role is limited to the management and administration of the charity, always in accordance with the charity's constitution and with due regard to the Spiritual Leadership.

Key Management Personnel:
The day-to-day operations and spiritual guidance of the church are led by Pastor Paul Burtwell. His role is central to the spiritual and organisational life of the church, providing leadership both in worship and in the broader outreach activities of the charity.

Plans for the Future

As we look forward to the coming year, our church has several key objectives and initiatives that we plan to pursue to further our mission and accommodate our growth:

Building Fund Initiative:
In addition to finding a new location, we have continued a building fund with the long-term goal of securing our own permanent church building. This fund will be a critical component of our future development, enabling us to establish a dedicated space for worship, community activities, and outreach. Donations to the Building Fund amounted to £1,689 in 2025. This amount is shown in the main account and held in designated funds.

Growth of the "God of Hope" Outreach:
We plan to continue expanding the "God of Hope" outreach program, both geographically and in terms of impact. We aim to travel further afield, reaching more communities across the UK.

Enhanced Community Engagement:
Through our social media channels and other communication efforts, we will work to deepen our engagement with the local community and beyond. By doing so, we hope to foster stronger relationships and encourage greater participation in our services and events.

Anticipated Challenges:

Fundraising for the Building Fund: Building a sufficient fund for a permanent church building will require ongoing fundraising efforts and careful financial planning.

Logistical Expansion: Expanding the "God of Hope" outreach to new areas will present logistical challenges, including coordinating travel, securing venues, and effectively promoting events in new communities.

Public Benefit Statement
Our church is committed to providing a public benefit through all of our activities, in accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission:

Free Services and Events: All of our services, including Sunday worship, Monday evening Bible College, Kids church and the "God of Hope" outreach events, are offered free of charge. We believe that everyone should have access to the message of the Christian faith without financial barriers.

Inclusivity: Our church welcomes everyone, regardless of their background, to attend and participate in our services and events. We strive to create an inclusive and supportive environment where all individuals feel valued and can explore and grow in their faith.
By providing these services and fostering a sense of community, we ensure that our activities offer a significant public benefit, contributing to the spiritual and social well-being of our local community and beyond.

Statement of the Trustees ’Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Conclusion

The trustees are excited to reflect on the progress and growth our church has experienced as a registered charity. We have been encouraged to see not only an increase in numbers but also in the spiritual maturity and education of our congregation. The positive response to the “God of Hope” events has been particularly heartening, demonstrating the potential of our outreach efforts to make a meaningful impact.

This report has been approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Name: Sarah Burtwell
Sarah Burtwell (Oct 29, 2026 10:31:14 GMT)

Date: Oct 29, 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF

CLEARSPRING CHURCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Clearspring Church ('the charity') for the year to 31 December 2025 on pages 8 to 10 following.

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

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

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:
1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Sarah Crispin
Sarah Crispin (Oct 29, 2026 10:59:32 GMT)

Sarah Crispin ACA
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Oct 29, 2026

CLEARSPRING CHURCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds: General Funds £	Unrestricted Funds: Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 £	2024 £
Income receipts						
Donations		48,684	-	1,689	50,373	59,021
		48,684	-	1,689	50,373	59,021
Capital and similar receipts						
Loan repayments		1,200	-	-	1,200	200
		1,200	-	-	1,200	200
Total receipts		49,884	-	1,689	51,573	59,221
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	63,580	-	-	63,580	51,312
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others		1,186	-	-	1,186	384
		64,766	-	-	64,766	51,696
Loans made		300	-	-	300	1,000
		300	-	-	300	1,000
Total payments		65,066	-	-	65,066	52,696
Net of receipts / (payments) before		(15,182)	-	1,689	(13,493)	6,525
Transfers between funds	4	(1,020)	21,910	(20,891)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(16,201)	21,910	(19,202)	(13,493)	6,525
Cash funds as at last year end		32,474	-	19,202	51,676	45,151
Cash funds at this year end	A	16,273	21,910	-	38,183	51,676

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

CLEARSPRING CHURCH

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds: General funds £	Unrestricted Funds: Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 £	2024 £
A Cash funds						
Cash at bank with immediate access		16,198	21,910	-	38,108	51,676
Petty cash		75	-	-	75	-
		16,273	**21,910**	**-**	**38,183**	**51,676**
B Other monetary assets						
Loan		400	-	-	400	1,400
		400	**-**	**-**	**400**	**1,400**
C Liabilities						
Falling due within one year						
Other creditors (credit card)		1,386	-	-	1,386	1,894
Taxes due		1,682	-	-	1,682	-
Fee for Independent Examination		990	-	-	990	960
		4,058	**-**	**-**	**4,058**	**2,854**

D Assets retained for charity's own use

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost £	Current value £
Music and PA equipment		-	4,846
		-	4,846

E Guarantees and secured debts

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

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Sarah Burtwell
Sarah Burtwell (Oct 29, 2026 10:31:14 GMT)

Sarah Burtwell

Date: Oct 29, 2026

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

CLEARSPRING CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly

	Unrestricted Funds				
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Payment for services (see note 3)	35,613	-	-	35,613	33,024
Ministry expenses	5,177	-	-	5,177	1,949
Evangelism/Marketing	8,136	-	-	8,136	6,956
Hall Hire	12,075	-	-	12,075	5,792
IT costs	71	-	-	71	534
Other running costs	450	-	-	450	1,631
Admin costs	647	-	-	647	100
Independent examination	960	-	-	960	900
Insurance	449	-	-	449	427
	63,580	-	-	63,580	51,312

3 Transactions with related parties

Paul Lyndon Burtwell served as a church leader and was paid £36,300 (2024: £33,024) for serving in that capacity, not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

4 Movement of funds

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	32,474	49,884	(65,066)	(1,020)	16,273
Designated funds					
Worship Centre Fund	-	-	-	21,910	21,910
	-	-	-	21,910	21,910
Restricted funds					
Worship Centre Fund	19,202	1,689	-	(20,891)	-
	19,202	1,689	-	(20,891)	-
Total funds	51,676	51,573	(65,066)	-	38,183

The Worship Centre Fund is for the future purchase of a building for church activities. However, as the target had not been met by the stated deadline of 18 May 2025, these funds have been transferred to a designated fund in line with the appeal conditions. An additional transfer was made from General Funds to reflect donations received in the prior year but not recognised as Building Fund.