GRACE CHURCH UPTON

CHARITY NUMBER 1201545

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

CONTENTS AND CHARITY INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

CONTENTS

- Charity information
- Report of the Trustees
- Independent Examiner's Report
- Receipts and Payments Accounts
- Statement of Assets and Liabilities.
- Notes to the Accounts

Trustees:

Revd Jonathan Deja (Chair)
Revd Nicholas Alexander
John Scully
Dr Neil Menon
Dr Rachel Menon
Dr Andrew Ward
Joanne Alderman
Madeleine Peston
Matthew Kinton (Treasurer)
Joanna Miller (stepped down August 2025)
Dr Owen Davies (stepped down February 2025)

Governing Document: adopted 12/12/2022, approved 11/01/2023 and amended 24/03/2023

Charity Number: 1201545

Principal Office: 27 Barring Street, Upton, Northampton, NN5 4DD

Independent Examiner: Mr Trevor James, Chartered Accountant and Independent Examiner

Bankers: Metro Bank, One Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HA

Web: metrobankonline.co.uk

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's principal objects, as set out in its constitution, are

“1. the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, and other charitable work for the public benefit, within (but not limited to) the parish of Duston and Upton in the Diocese of Peterborough;

2. such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the Charity Trustees, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to:

- the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness;
- the advancement of education;
- the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances, with the object of improving their conditions of life, provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the doctrinal distinctives and ethical statements, as may be adopted and amended by the CIO from time to time.”

The vision of the Charity is to share life in Christ, seeing the wonderful good news of Jesus' rescue, which transforms, unites and equips a community, prayerfully shared with all in the Upton area.

In planning the activities of the Charity, the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and are satisfied that the activities mentioned in this report have all been for the public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

Grace Church Upton was established as a new church in 2021.

The Charity, which is a church, was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 11/01/2023, with charity number 1201545. It is a CIO governed by a Constitution and Rules. The policy and operating decisions of the Charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Charity.

The church operates within the Diocese of Peterborough in the Church of England.

In accordance with the Rules trustees may be appointed by a majority of the existing trustees. There must be at least 3 charity trustees and a maximum of 12, including up to 2 External Trustees who can serve up to two terms of 3 years. Trustees must meet a minimum of 4 times a year and a quorum exists where 50% of current trustees are present, subject to a minimum quorum of 3 people.

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Achievements and Performance

Church of England

Throughout 2025, Grace Church Upton continued to exist as an independent CIO and part of the Church of England's Diocese of Peterborough, operating with the full support of the incumbent of the parish and of the bishop, although without a Bishop's Mission Order or other means to operate in a regularised fashion within the structures of the Church of England. The minister, Jonnie Deja, continued to be Associate Vicar at Moulton Parish Church and to receive a Church of England stipend. The vicarage and principal office, 27 Barring Street, continued to be owned by the Diocese.

People

- We give thanks for each person who attends Grace Church Upton including several newcomers in 2025. We seek to welcome all to repentance and faith in Jesus, irrespective of age, physical ability, sexuality and background.

- We gained 9 adult church members and 2 child church members during 2025. We lost 13 adult church members and 1 child during 2025. The total membership decreased from 97 (68 adults and 29 children) to 94 (64 adults and 30 children).

- 1 infant was baptised in 2025.

- Mark Jackson entered his third year as our trainee minister. He was on paternity leave for six weeks in May and June.

- Joshua Menon was a volunteer intern from September 2024 to August 2025.

- Peta Rayner took over from Owen Davies as Safeguarding Officer in January 2025. The trustees expressed their thanks to Owen for all his hard work.

Sundays

- We are grateful to those who serve on Sundays in so many ways: seen and unseen, formal and informal.

- Our sermons in 2025 included series on 1 Corinthians 9-16, John 18-21, Psalms 127-133 and Genesis 25-36, and Micah.

- Over 2025 our average attendance on Sundays was 96, up from 93 the year before.

- Our 'Joining the Dots' program provided age-appropriate teaching for children and adults in age groups: 0-4s, 4-8s, 8-11s, 11-16s and 16 plus.

Prayer and Discipleship

- In August we had our first 'weekend at home' with Peter Leach (one of our mission partners) speaking on Friendship.

- Life Groups continued to aid our mutual support and discipleship, in order to “help one another become more like Jesus”.

- Our youth group (Rooted) for 11-18s continued to flourish and grow, holding their first weekend away in June 2025.

Outreach

- During 2025, we ran an Easter egg hunt for the community; a summer holiday club, “Epic Explorers”; an October Bright Lights Party; and at Christmas, carol singing around Upton, a ‘walkthrough nativity’ and carol service.

- We continued to run a monthly ‘Songs of Praise’ outreach at Foxfields residential home.

- We made preparations for a ‘Passion for Life’ outreach week in March 2026.

- We continue to pray for an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit in our area and across our nation for revival.

Partnership

- We have partnered with local churches of various denominations to run the Northamptonshire Men’s and Women’s Conferences.

- We partner with local churches in the ReNew Peterborough network to pioneer, establish and secure healthy local Anglican churches.

- Our Mission Partnerships Group adopted two new mission partners in 2025: Joshua Menon (an Associate at St Helens, Bishopsgate) and David and Kathryn-Ann Masters (preparing to train for ministry in Belgium), in addition to our two existing mission partners, Ruth Taylor and Grace Church Coventry. We have partnered with them in prayer, financial support and shared ministry.

Financial Review

Unrestricted income for the period was £72,161 and restricted income £24,340, total income £96,501 (2024: £152,106). Total unrestricted expenditure for the period amounted to £74,414 with nil restricted expenditure. There was therefore a deficit in the unrestricted fund of £2,253 and a surplus in the restricted fund of £24,340 this year.

Total bank balances increased from £168,091 (2024) to £190,178 at the year end.

The trustees keep the internal and external risk factors for the church under review. In particular, there is a risk that congregation numbers could fall and giving could fall proportionally.

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees have resolved to continue to not to pay the parish payment request for 2025.

The trustees have further agreed and designated that money, £45,000 into the Vicarage Fund which will remain as a standing fund until needed or re assigned to other projects.

The charity maintains an additional designated fund used for mission giving, this year two mission partners were paid for a total of £6,000

Expenses to the Trustees

One party relating to two trustees received the benefit of a Bible training course prior to commencing a voluntary internship. The same related party then was adopted as a mission partner, with a financial aspect, in the same year. A second related party of two trustees was also adopted as a mission partner, with a financial aspect. The trustees have followed a robust policy regarding conflicts of interest arising.

There was also a contract of employment with a related party, who is the spouse of a trustee. The contract terminated in December 2024 though the last of their wages were paid in this financial year. The trustees have followed a robust policy regarding conflicts of interest arising through this employment contract.

Details are given in the Notes to the Accounts, note 7 (page 12).

No other trustee received any other remuneration from the Charity during the period, as the minister receives a stipend from the Church Commissioners.

Reserves and Investment Policy

The Trustees have established a policy that a sensible level of free reserves should be maintained to ensure the Charity can continue to operate if income is below budget or if unplanned contingencies arise. A “fixed” reserve of 6 months staff costs, including pension and the rent overhead should be used as a measure of the minimum required in this event.

At 31 December 2025 the free reserves totalled £71,071.03. The calculation is shown in the Notes to the Accounts note 6 (page 12). The trustees are satisfied that this level of reserves is appropriate for a young church that is establishing priorities for its mission and means that the church continues to move forward with a sound financial base. The charity is able to pay creditors in full for at least 12 months from the balance sheet signature date.

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Responsibilities of Trustees Under Charity Law

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give an accurate view of the state of a airs of the charity and of the receipts and payments of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a sustainable basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the CIO constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approval

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

Matthew Kinton

Mr Matthew Kinton

Treasurer

Date: 7th October 2026

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Grace Church Upton

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grace Church Upton for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Grace Church Upton 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 accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination of the accounts I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 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 respect of Grace Church Upton as required by s130 of the Act; or
2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

T E James

Trevor James FCA DChA FCIE
Dormer Cottage
Old Broyle Road
West Broyle
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 3PR

22 October 2026

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources (Note 2)				
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	70,018	24,340	94,358	150,201
Other trading activities	1,472	-	1,472	1,177
Investments	671	-	671	728
Total	**72,161**	**24,340**	**96,501**	**152,106**
Resources expended (Note 3)				
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	74,414	-	74,414	69,164
Total	**74,414**	**-**	**74,414**	**69,164**
Net movement in funds	(2,253)	24,340	22,087	82,942
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	164,721	3,370	168,091	85,149
Total funds carried forward	162,468	27,710	190,177	168,091

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	General Fund	Restricted Fund	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Total Assets	162,468	27,710	190,178	168,091
Represented by:				
Accumulated Funds				
At 01 JANUARY 2025	164,721	3,370	168,091	85,149
Total net receipts (less expenditure) in year	(2,253)	24,340	22,087	82,942
At 31 DECEMBER 2025	162,468	27,710	190,178	168,091

Liabilities:

None

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Notes:

1. The charity trustees have elected to produce Receipts and Payments Accounts under the provisions for small charities rather than accruals accounts under the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities, (FRS102) 2019.

2. Analysis of income:

	This year			Last year		
Analysis	**Unrestricted funds**	**Restricted income funds**	**Total funds**	**Unrestricted funds**	**Restricted income funds**	**Total funds**
Cash Collections	-	-	-	185	-	185
Easy Fundraising	23	-	23	17	-	17
Events (with donations)	340	-	340	-	-	-
Gift Aid Claimed	-	-	-	22,904	-	22,904
Gifts From Churches	2,431	-	2,431	37,134	-	37,134
Grants - One off	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
One Off Donations	3,120	24,000	27,120	15,030	5,700	20,730
Online Rooted Donations	615	-	615	120	-	120
PGST Starting Income	478	-	478	-	-	-
Planned Giving	61,171	340	61,511	54,820	310	55,130
Weekend Away	1,840	-	1,840	10,982	-	10,982
Total donations and legacies:	70,018	24,340	94,358	144,191	6,010	150,201
Activities:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Holiday Club	790	-	790	885	-	885
Upton Tots	682	-	682	292	-	292
Total other trading activities:	1,472	-	1,472	1,177	-	1,177
Income from investments:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Received	671	-	671	719	8	728
Total income from investments:	671	-	671	719	8	728
TOTAL INCOME	**72,161**	**24,340**	**96,501**	**146,088**	**6,018**	**152,106**

GRACE CHURCH UPTON

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

3. Analysis of Expenditure:

	This year			Last year		
Analysis	**Unrestricted funds**	**Restricted income funds**	**Total funds**	**Unrestricted funds**	**Restricted income funds**	**Total funds**
Administration and office	3,668	-	3,668	2,621	-	2,621
Employee Costs	39,619	-	39,619	12,644	14,011	26,655
External Events	5,113	-	5,113	3,622	-	3,622
Internal Events	6,156	-	6,156	15,446	-	15,446
Misc	163	-	163	-	-	-
Mission Giving	6,000	-	6,000	6,000	-	6,000
Staff Expenses & Allowances	2,239	-	2,239	1,326	-	1,326
Sundays	11,456	-	11,456	12,946	-	12,946
Ukrainian Fund	-	-	-	-	550	550
Total charitable activities	74,414	-	74,414	54,603	14,561	69,164
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**74,414**	**-**	**74,414**	**54,603**	**14,561**	**69,164**

4. Restricted Funds:

These are as follow:

	At 1 Jan 2025	Income	Expenditure	At 31 Dec 2025
	£	£	£	£
Total	**3,370**	**24,340**	**-**	**27,710**

5. Designated Funds

These are as follow:

	At 1 Jan 2025	Income	Expenditure	At 31 Dec 2025
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Total	**45,967.00**	**51,429.00**	**6,000.00**	**91,395.97**

6. Floating reserves

	At 31 Dec 2025
Calculation of floating reserve	**£**
Total funds	**190,177.00**
Total Restricted	**27,710.00**
Total Designated	**91,395.97**
Floating reserve	**71,071.03**

7. Trustees and Related Parties Expenses

a) One trustee was refunded £530 in the period to 31 Dec 2025. The categories of expense were hospitality and conference costs including travel and accommodation.

b) A related party to two trustees benefitted from a Bible training course costing £480 before commencing a voluntary internship with the church. They were also reimbursed travelling costs to a total of £1,080

c) Two parties both related to two trustees were adopted as mission partners with a financial gift. They benefitted from £4,000 and £2,000 in the period to 31 Dec 2025

d) Rebecca Davies, Youth and Families Worker and spouse of trustee Owen Davies was paid £3,188.66 in salary and pension with regards to completion of contract which was terminated In December 2024.

Signed on behalf of the trustees on 7th October 2026.

Matthew Kinton

Mr Matthew Kinton

Treasurer