Wellspring Baptist Church Newark

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31st December 2025

Transition to one church.

At the end of 2025 Wellspring feels like it has always worshipped together as one church. Relationships have built successfully between the different church members, friendships established and members are supporting one another, particularly in serving the community at church events.

This year we have transferred the churches giving and expenditure across to Wellspring Baptist Church. As the two churches insurance came to a natural end, the main insurance was renewed in the name of the new church. We transferred the employees and tax accounts across to the new church, to ensure the employer's liability was covered.

We are still awaiting Anthony Collins Solicitors negotiating the legalities of transferring assets such as buildings to the new church. So the two old churches and the new church CIO will continue operating simultaneously until buildings are transferred.

The signage and references on maps have been changed. The church has an active facebook feed, several WhatsApp groups and the website is in the process of being updated.

God's vision for the church

We continue making prayer and fasting days a monthly priority, to ensure we are open to God's leading and direction.

Early in the year we asked God about the use of the Winthorpe Road site, whether we should develop it further. The response was to develop the café and get it open then the use of the Winthorpe Road site will flow from there. We have spent a lot of time praying into progress for the café which continues to have a leak from flat 8 above it. It's felt that this is an important location not just for our church, but for building church unity in the town by serving the most vulnerable across the town.

Teaching this year has focussed on serving one another, making sacrifices/being willing to lose for others, being open to the Holy Spirit, only taking on the things God gives us, Biblical models of leadership, ways of explaining our faith to other people, welcoming strangers and the importance of sharing who we really are with God (deeper prayer).

Regular Church Activities

The church runs a number of regular weekly events:
Monday – open/non directed prayer meeting.
Tuesday – leaders/trustees meeting, usually a closed meeting, as it might include confidential details of individual's pastoral needs.
Wednesday – Bible discussion group held at church.
Thursday – Coffee and chat with free refreshments available at the Winthorpe road site. There is a new home group with a deeper theological emphasis also happening on a Thursday evening.
Sunday morning service – relaxed charismatic worship followed by a biblically based sermon.

Community outreach

The Thursday coffee morning has lost some attendees recently, we have tried opening earlier and promoting this outside the school, but it hasn't brought anyone new in. The numbers have dropped to around 10 most weeks, but we continue to run it as it is a useful social contact point for some of the churches older members.

The Winthorpe Road community garden is hosted on the Winthorpe site, encouraging people to work together to grow their own food. This is predominantly a summer activity, the person running the event has changed, so it has to

moved to a Saturday, but this has meant a drop in community participation. The church is considering whether they might take on running this next year.

During the summer we held picnics followed by outdoor services in the park. These were of a more informal nature and gave more chance for discussion.

We ran a community BBQ with bouncy castles and free food again this year. We had approximately 80 visitors. We took the opportunity to baptise a new member of the congregation at the event so that he could share the reasons for his faith with a wider audience. He spoke really well and the event was a great success.

At Halloween we held a light party as an alternative to trick or treat. We offered free hot chocolate and hotdogs, activities/games for the children again. Parents came in with their children to take a break from trick or treating in addition to a few families who stayed all night. We had just over 100 children attend this year. Each child left with a goody bag with treats, a toy and a Christian story.

Following on from this we began a monthly "Messy Church" style service once a month on a Sunday afternoon, for parents and children to come and enjoy crafts together on a Christian theme, with a story followed by hotdogs or pizza. We have seen a good uptake in this, it is something we would like to continue into 2026.

During the Autumn we ran a membership course to allow new visitors to explore what the church believes. As a result three people who had left other churches for various reasons chose to join us.

We ran our first CAP money course. It was well attended by people in the church but only one person from outside attended. We would happily run the course again, but perhaps we need to rethink the timing, location and promotion of the event. It's hard to find a time when Winthorpe Road is available, because of regular group bookings, it may work better at the café.

We've been invited to run a drop in at Alexander Lodge. This is to support the residents with greater needs to engage with the staff, but we are also struggling to engage them. This is possibly because we're in the community centre, so are associated with the people running their tenancy. Despite this we have supported a tent dweller into temporary accommodation, helped a family with two young children acquire beds and assisted relocating a couple from temporary to permanent accommodation.

A Carols by candle light service was held on the Sunday before Christmas. It was promoted by a quite a large number of the congregation carol singing around the estate an hour before the event. Several members of the community joined us and we arrived back for the service having had fun but quite tired out!

A free Christmas dinner was held at Winthorpe Road, principally for those who would otherwise be alone on the day. It was prepared by a team of community volunteers on the 24th December, then Sara cooked and served it supported by a similar team on Christmas Day. We catered for twenty five people, but in fact we served around eighteen guests plus the volunteers. Many local organisations were very generous in supporting and promoting the event.

No15 community Café

We were granted planning permission to develop the café at number 15 in the summer.

However we are still battling to get the leak stopped from flat 8 into our property.

The plans have been drawn up by a qualified architect. We have collected several building quotes for the project which are higher than anticipated, so we are both considering how we might scale back our plans for the build and seeking grants to extend our funds further.

We had hoped to have a significant quantity of the work completed by late Autumn, to allow The Well Homeless Support to run a drop in there through the winter. However this has not been possible, so Hope church have kindly hosted the drop in at their venue.

Involvement in wider organisations.

As Baptists we are affiliated to Baptists Together and the East Midlands Baptist Association. We are members of Churches Together in Newark. We support Leprosy mission, Baptist World Mission, and a missionary couple who are serving in South Africa.

We are heavily involved in the running of the Well Homeless Support Newark, who run Newark's Hope into Action house which is supported by several church members. The church has agreed to host 2 one room emergency shelter pods on the site which will be run by The Well.

Individuals in the church continue to support Newark foodbank, healing on the streets and visit local prisons to offer church services through Prison Fellowship; again this is done in partnership with members of other local churches.

Developing those who serve.

The church continues to employ Sara Brumhead as half time unaccredited minister. She is continues to receive support from the regional cluster of ministers. The church pays for her to attend the East Midlands ministers conference each year. She is currently exploring the options to seek accreditation, although these may have to be put on hold due to the recent death of her father.

The church have also decided to continue employing Sarah Bosworth as our community outreach worker. The church initially voted to employ Sarah for a further twelve months out of our capital funds. However over the course of the last few months giving has increased to the point where, with gift aid, we can afford to pay both staff out of regular giving.

Financial summary

In order to transfer spending from the two original churches to Wellspring, we first opened a bank account to receive donations from the church and the proceeds of room hire. In late spring, once we had accrued sufficient funds to meet monthly expenses we opened a second account from which to pay the bills and wages. All the ongoing costs of the two churches were transferred to this account over the summer. In the Autumn when the time came to renew the insurance, all church buildings, activities and staff were brought together under one policy. This allowed us to pay the wages out of the Wellspring account too.

Having a separate giving account and spending account allows the church staff to be more aware of the money being spent without any information about how much church members are giving. Each month an amount of money is transferred between the accounts to cover the upcoming bills and salaries. This also gives us a clear picture of whether or not giving is meeting the financial needs of the church. Currently it is if we include the gift aid in our calculations.

Because giving was transferred over time, the official accounts do not work well as a future predictor of the churches income; they are also skewed by initial transfers made by Newark Baptist Church and Church of Promise into the Wellspring accounts to open them.

By the end of 2025 monthly giving by standing order is at approximately £2600, rental income varies by season but was roughly £250 - £400 a month and cash giving varies widely up to £300 a month depending on the situation. With Gift Aid the annual average income is approximately £3250 a month.

On a monthly basis we spent £2251 on salaries, approximately £850 on regular financial commitments e.g. insurance, utility bills, donations to others, CCLI licence etc. This is met by our income, with a slight surplus. However this doesn't not always cover some of our one off expenses, such as gifts to visiting speakers/organisations, running larger events or gifts to individuals in crisis. On average, this accounts for an over-spend of approximately £50 to £200 a month. As the church currently has reserves to draw on, this is something we are aware of and monitoring but feel we can afford to be generous with at the moment.

Despite being a small church, we are blessed to have a large proportion of members committed to giving regularly to support the work we do. By the grace of God we are able to employ two part time staff, meet all our financial obligations, hold regular community events for free and regularly give to those in need.

Conclusion

At this point in time we would consider the church to be in a good place, spiritually, practically and financially, although the lack of progress with the café has been frustrating. As things progress we would like to see more people feeling confident to run events and take responsibility for areas of church life. We would like the church to be more outward looking, making regular space for people without faith to explore aspects of Christianity/taking our faith into the community. This will almost certainly require more prayer and training for those involved.

Charity Trustees

Chair: Sara Brumhead
Trustees: Jo Stokes, Peter Smith, Lewis Lack

Approved by The Wellspring Baptist Church trustees on 27th October 2026 and signed on their behalf by Sara Brumhead (Chair of trustees)



Appendix: Statement of faith for the Wellspring Baptist Church, Newark
As a community of Christians worshipping together

In line with the Apostles creed

We believe in God the father, Creator of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only begotten son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified died and was buried. He descended into hell, on the third day He rose from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, The Father Almighty, from where He will come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic nature of the church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

In addition as Baptists

We believe in confession of faith, public repentance, baptism by fully body immersion and commemorating Christ's sacrifice through the act of communion.

WELLSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

15 BALDERTON GATE, NEWARK, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

ACCOUNTS

75 WEEKS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

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David Pattinson, Chartered Accountants,
233, London Road, Balderton, Newark, Nottinghamshire.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

WELLSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

I report on the accounts of Wellspring Baptist Church for the 75 weeks ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on page 2 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the Charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) does not apply, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

David Pattinson

David Pattinson, Chartered Accountant
233, London Road,
Balderton,
Newark,
Nottinghamshire.
NG24 3HA

28 October 2026

WELLSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

75 WEEKS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from:	4			
Donations and legacies		44,004	-	44,004
Other trading activities		3,240	-	3,240
Investments		-	-	-
Total		47,244	-	47,244
Expenditure on:	5			
Raising funds		-	-	-
Charitable activities		25,893	-	25,893
Other		2,391	-	2,391
Total		28,284	-	28,284
Net income/(expenditure)		18,960		18,960
Transfer between funds		-	-	
Net movement in funds		18,960	-	18,960
Reconciliation of funds:	9			
Total funds brought forward		-	-	-
Total funds carried forward		18,960	-	18,960

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts

WELLSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET

31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	£	2025 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible fixed assets	6		2,030
Current assets:			
Debtors and prepayments	7	4,774	
Cash at bank and in hand		13,080	
Total current assets		17,854	
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	924	
Net current assets			16,930
Total net assets			18,960
The funds of the charity:	9		
Unrestricted funds			18,960
Restricted funds			-
Total charity funds			18,960

S. BRUMHEAD

J. STOKES

Approved by the trustees on 25 October 2026

WELLSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES

75 WEEKS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1. Wellspring Baptist Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) number CE036924 and charity number 1209245.and is governed by constitution and operates to advance the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world. The CIO was incorporated on 22 July 2024 and started operating in April 2025.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102)(effective January 2015).

b) Funds

Unrestricted funds are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for general purposes. Within these funds, however, the church may designate funds for a particular purpose. Restricted funds held were The Well Homeless Support, Newark, which is now a separate charity.

c) Incoming resources

Income from collections, covenants, fund-raising is recognised when received and Income Tax recoverable is recognised in the year in which the donations are received.

d) Resources used

Expenditure is recognised when incurred.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are depreciated in equal annual instalments over their expected useful life of five years.

3. TRUSTEES

No trustee expenses have been incurred during the period.

S. Brumhead has been paid £7,394 in wages during the period.

WELLSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES

75 WEEKS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

4. INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

		Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total funds £
(a)	Donations and legacies			
	Covenants	22,277	-	22,277
	Income Tax rebates	4,108	-	4,108
	Donations	17,619	-	17,619
		44,004	-	44,004
(b)	Other trading activities			
	Fund raising efforts	30	-	30
	Room hire	3,210	-	3,210
		3,240	-	3,240
(c)	Investments			
	Investment income	-	-	-
	Total incoming resources	47,244	-	47,244

WELLSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES

75 WEEKS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

5. EXPENDITURE

		Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total funds £
(a)	Raising funds			
	Fundraising expenses	-	-	-
(b)	Charitable activities			
	Donations	8,372	-	8,372
	Outreach	874	-	874
	Communications	519	-	519
	Insurance	204	-	204
	Utilities	1,137	-	1,137
	Church maintenance	576	-	576
	Worship	65	-	65
	Resources	180	-	180
	Fees and affiliations	19	-	19
	Wages	13,681	-	13,681
	Staff expenses	266	-	266
		25,893	-	25,893
(c)	Other			
	Independent Examiner's fee	216	-	216
	Legal fees	1,352	-	1,352
	Depreciation	823	-	823
		2,391	-	2,391
	Total expenditure	28,284	-	28,284

WELLSPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES

75 WEEKS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £
Cost	
Additons	2,853
Depreciation	
Charged	823
Net book value	
31 December 2025	2,030

7. CURRENT ASSETS: DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	2025 £
Gift Aid Debtor	4,108
Prepayments	666
	4,774

8. LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Social security and other taxes	708
Accrued expenses	216
	924

9. RESERVES

Outline summary of fund movements

	Fund balances Brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and Losses £	Fund balance Carried forward £
Unrestricted funds	-	47,244	28,284	-	-	18,960

Unrestricted funds are those available for the general purposes of the charity.