

The Church of Scotland
Stevenston Parish Church

Annual Report and
Receipts and Payments Accounts 2024

Congregation No: 070448

Charity No: SC 000452

Stevenston Parish Church
Annual Report and Receipts & Payments Accounts
Year ended 31 December 2024

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**Stevenston Parish Church
Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2024
Reference and Administrative Information**

Charity Name: Stevenston Parish Church

Charity Registration Number: SC000452

Congregation Reference No: 070448

Independent Examiner

JRD Partnership
11 Portland Road
KILMARNOCK
KA1 2BT

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
57 Dockhead Street
SALTCOATS
KA21 5EY

**Stevenston Parish Church
Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2024**

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (or Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form)).

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are the elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The Minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery. Our Interim Moderator is appointed by the Presbytery.

Organisational Structure

The Kirk Session is moderated by the minister/interim moderator. As Trustees, all financial decisions rest with the Kirk Session. The Kirk Session is responsible for spiritual and temporal affairs within the congregation.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

During 2024, Sunday worship was conducted at 10.30 am with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper being celebrated 3 times. The three Stevenston Churches of Scotland united on 01/08/2024.

Due to the on-going vacancy, our services were conducted mainly by [REDACTED] (Retired Baptist Minister) and a number of elders trained as Worship Leaders and some Supply Clergy. The Junior Church met during worship time on Sunday morning. Sacraments of Communion and Baptism were conducted by [REDACTED] (Retired Church of Scotland Minister).

The Guild, for women and men, met weekly between September and May and supported members and non-members alike. The Livingstone Players are a drama group which performs an annual pantomime in the large hall. Whilst it was originally mainly all Church members, it is now the case that Church members form the minority of membership to the Players. Nonetheless, this group forms a significant part of the outreach and the congregation's commitment to Christian Aid.

Other organisations which make regular use of the premises are the Boy's and Girl's Brigades, Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Badminton and Caravan clubs. Further community outreach is via the use of halls on a Saturday via the Lynda Turner School of Dance.

Monthly Youth Group meetings for the young folk of late primary and secondary age were held.

The church maintains a digital presence with website and social media. The services are video recorded and uploaded to the website/You Tube. This enables some with an interest in the church to view/listen to the weekly services. The recording is also burnt onto DVD/CD and distributed to the household so that they can participate and still feel part of the congregation.

The Roll of the three former churches in the union have been amalgamated and now stands at 383.

**Stevenston Parish Church
Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)
Year ended 31 December 2024**

Achievements and Performance

Holy Week, Easter and Christmas Day services were conducted in 2024.

As of September 2024, the new united congregation started a Prayer Group on a Wednesday morning and a Bible Study Group on a Thursday evening.

In October 2024 in response to the harvest time services, food parcels were donated to North Ayrshire Social Work. At Christmas, the "Gift" service donated toys and money to North Ayrshire Council (Client Account) to assist their work in connecting with those in need at Christmas time.

Throughout the year, the church supported Christian Aid, North Ayrshire Social Work, McMillan Cancer Care & Churches Homeless Action North Ayrshire (CHANA).

The church remains in a period of uncertainty due to incomplete decision on future site of Worship and activity.

Financial Review

A major change to the overall finances occurred due to the union of the three Stevenston Churches of Scotland on 01/08/2024. By way of transfer of final bank balance from the former High Kirk of Stevenston during November 2024, catapulted income of the continuing charity (SC000452), former Livingstone Church of Scotland from £54,544 (2023) to £135,773 (2024), a one-off income uplift. Expenditure increased from £46,931 (2023) to £73,877 (2024) resulting in substantial funds at bank of £101,192. This is a holding position as detail and subsequent costs of the Union continue to be worked through. Active cost factors such as significantly increased energy and other overhead costs have been well managed and within affordability during the second half of the year. The inherited value of investments in the name of the former Livingstone Church have passed over to the new Stevenston Parish Church. These are held with the Church of Scotland Investors Trust, remain intact with a year end value of £115,936. In summary, financial position for 2024 is secure.

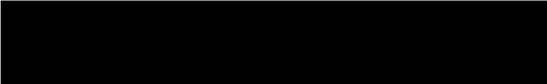
Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately six months expenditure including designated funds, with the surplus held in the General Trustees Growth and Income Funds.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Regulations Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,



Session Clerk

Date: 27 April 2025

Stevenston Parish Church

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stevenston Parish Church

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

An examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations 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.



JRD LLP
Chareter Accountants
11 Portland Road
Kilmarnock
KA1 2BT

14 May 2025

Stevenston Parish Church
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2024

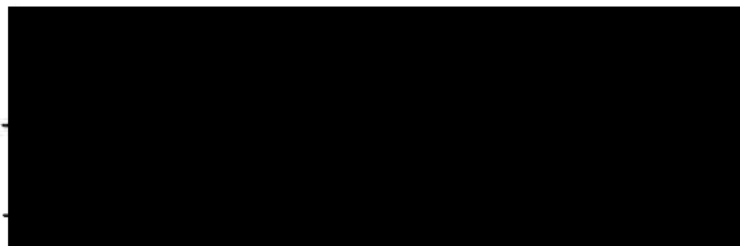
		Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
<u>Receipts</u>	Note	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	3	41192	653	0	41846	34668
Legacies		0	0	0	0	0
Activities for Generating Funds		0	9179	0	9179	8083
Bank & Deposit interest		0	0	0	0	0
Investment income		2128	1452	0	3580	3079
		<u>43320</u>	<u>11284</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>54604</u>	<u>45830</u>
Rental of premises		0	0	0	0	0
Sale of assets		0	0	0	0	0
Sale of investments		0	0	0	0	0
Grants	4	0	398	0	398	7378
Receipts from General Trustees		0	0	0	0	0
Transfer of Union Balance		72917	0	0	72917	0
Other Receipts	5	830	7024	0	7854	1336
					0	0
<u>Total Receipts</u>		<u>117067</u>	<u>18706</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>135773</u>	<u>54544</u>
<u>Payments</u>	6					
Charitable activities		54132	19745	0	73877	46931
<u>Total Payments</u>		<u>54132</u>	<u>19745</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>73877</u>	<u>46931</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments		62935	-1039	0	61896	7614
Transfers		0	0	0	0	0
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		<u>62935</u>	<u>-1039</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>61896</u>	<u>7614</u>

Stevenston Parish Church
Statement of Balances
At 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 Note £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Bank & Deposit Balances</u>					
Bank & petty cash balances brought forward	17,345	20,359	561	38,265	30,651
<u>Movement in year:</u>					
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year	62,935	(1,039)	-	61,896	7,614
Bank & deposit balances carried forward	<u>80,279</u>	<u>19,320</u>	<u>561</u>	<u>100,161</u>	<u>38,265</u>
<u>Investments at market value</u>					
Bank Balances;					
Bank of Scotland				101,192	
Petty Cash				142	
Less Unpresented Cheques				<u>(1,173)</u>	
				100,161	
Investments at Market Value	<u>114,067</u>	<u>1,869</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>115,936</u>	<u>108,569</u>
<u>Assets</u>					
Gift Aid Receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Accrued Independent Examiner's Fees	<u>(900)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(900)</u>	<u>-</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session and Financial Board on 27 April 2025.

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Financial Board



Session Clerk

Treasurer

Stevenston Parish Church
Notes to the Accounts
Year ended 31 December 2024

1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year no trustees received reimbursement of expenses. Travel expenses were paid to; [REDACTED] £6.34, [REDACTED] £160.00 & visiting preacher [REDACTED] received £458.10

2. Movements in Funds

	At 1 Jan 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	At 31 Dec 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated Fabric Fund	(2,251)	7,836	8,190	-	(2,605)
Designated Lecagy (Growth) Fund	141,989	1,233	1,200	-	142,022
Designated J. Little (Fabric/Growth Fund)	(27,273)	456	-	-	(26,817)
General Fund	(85,329)	117,067	54,853	500	(22,615)
Designated Services	492	-	352	-	140
Designated Mission Fund	(179)	105	1,400	-	(1,475)
Designated Communication Committee	619	241	476	-	384
Unprocessed Cheques	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>28,068</u>	<u>126,938</u>	<u>66,472</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>89,034</u>
Restricted funds					
Flower Fund	843	40	63	-	820
Livingstone Players	7,765	8,795	7,342	(500)	8,718
Small Funds	1,028	-	-	-	1,028
	<u>9,636</u>	<u>8,835</u>	<u>7,405</u>	<u>(500)</u>	<u>10,566</u>
Endowment funds					
The James White Bequest	561	-	-	-	561
	<u>561</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>561</u>
Total funds	<u>38,265</u>	<u>135,773</u>	<u>73,877</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,161</u>

Purposes of Designated Funds

Fabric Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for the maintenance of the Church property

Legacy Fund: Legacies left to the Church with no restrictions

Joseph Little Fund: Invested unrestriced legacy, the dividend supplements Fabric Fund

Mission/Communications Funds: Monies used for charitable purposes with Trustee approval

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Flower Fund: This is a fund to provide flowers for display during services of worship

Livingstone Players: Raise and disburse monies for charitable purposes

Small Funds: Gifts for charitable cause

Purposes of Endowment Funds

James White Bequest: Funds at disposal of Minister for charitable purposes

Stevenston Parish Church
Notes to the Accounts (cont.)
Year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
3. Analysis of Donations					
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	6,444	-	-	6,444	3,401
Gift Aid Donations	20,697	240	-	20,937	19,700
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations	5,900	-	-	5,900	9,096
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	4,879	-	-	4,879	226
Other Offerings, Donations etc	3,272	413	-	3,685	2,245
	41,192	653	-	41,846	34,668

4. Grants

Received during 2024, £398.00 from North Ayrshire Council for stage lights & speakers

5 Analysis of Other Receipts

Other Receipts	830	1,166	-	1,996	1,335
Insurance Claim	-	5,858	-	5,858	-
	830	7,024	-	7,854	1,335

6 Analysis of Payments

Charitable activities

Ministries & Mission allocation	24,135	-	-	24,135	14,583
Presbytery dues	1,968	-	-	1,968	673
Voluntary Additional Stipend	-	-	-	-	-
Minister's Travel Expenses	624	-	-	624	763
Ministerial Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Pulpit supply	3,300	-	-	3,300	1,180
Fabric Maintenance Manse	2,400	-	-	2,400	2,400
Cleaning	4,281	-	-	4,281	3,922
Fabric repairs & maintenance	1,739	8,530	-	10,269	2,652
Audio/Visual & Licenses	1,142	5,217	-	6,359	5,739
Heat and Light	7,642	682	-	8,324	6,164
Insurance	4,692	-	-	4,692	2,704
Benovolence expenses	1,496	4,940	-	6,436	4,591
Miscellaneous	68	376	-	444	336
Printing, stationery and postage	413	-	-	413	361
Other expenses	231	-	-	231	863
	54,132	19,745	-	73,877	46,931

Stevenston Parish Church
Notes to the Accounts (cont.)
Year ended 31 December 2024

7 Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance

8 Collections for Third Parties

Tear Fund, Christian Aid & Social Work Christmas

2024	2023
£	£
5,635	3,910
<u>5,635</u>	<u>3,910</u>

9 Other Matters

As noted in the Trustees' Report, this charity (previously known as Livingstone Church of Scotland) formed a union with High Kirk of Stevenston and Ardeer Parish Church on 1 august 2024 under a new congregation number (070448) known as Stevenston Parish Church. The acquisition method of accounting was used and the charity's accounts incorporate the transactions of the former Livingstone Church for the full year. As the Receipts & Payments method is used in these accounts, only the bank balances of the High Kirk of Stevenston have included as the Ardeer Parish Church balances had not been transferred at the balance sheet date. There were no other significant assets/investments to be transferred from the other churches.

Stevenston Parish Church holds the title to adjacent land which was gifted during 1979 from the former owner. This asset has not been valued and is not included in the Statement of Balances. There are no other substantial assets to include in the Statement of Balances.

Stevenston Parish Church
Appendix to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Funds held on behalf of the congregation by the Church of Scotland General Trustees

	2024	2023
	£	£
REVENUE ACCOUNT		
Consolidated Fabric fund		
Credit Balance at 1 January	-	-
Interest/Dividends received	2,856	-
Administration costs	350	-
	<u>3,206</u>	<u>-</u>
Congregational Union Transfers	1,786	-
Credit Balance at 31 December	<u>4,992</u>	<u>-</u>