

**ST
FRANCIS**

LIFE WITH GOD

Hope
CHURCH



**APCM
28.4.2024**

REPORTS ON 2023

**St Francis & Hope Church
Salisbury**

Charity Number 1130133

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Church Details

St Francis Church is an Anglican Church in the Diocese of Salisbury. The church building is situated in the northern part of the city, at the junction of Castle Road and Beatrice Road.

Correspondence to the Church, the PCC or its officers can be addressed to:

The Parish Office
St Francis Church
Beatrice Road
Salisbury, SP1 3PN



STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC registered with the Charity Commission during 2009; our Registration Number is 1130133. The appointment of members of the PCC is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Churchwardens at St Francis are normally elected for a three-year term of office. They can attend training days to make them aware of the responsibilities that they have as Churchwardens, and that the PCC has overall. When necessary and appropriate, individual members of the PCC attend courses to learn about specific issues and to report back to the PCC.

The PCC meets regularly on alternate months; in the intervening months a Standing Committee meets. The Standing Committee comprises the PCC Chair, Treasurer, Operations Manager, and both Churchwardens – one of whom is Vice-Chair. Reports are received by the PCC from Deanery and General Synods, our link missionaries, and PCC Committees. The PCC has appointed sub-committees and task forces for special responsibilities and tasks, as follows:

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

To deal with issues relating to the fabric of the church building and grounds

MISSION COMMITTEE

To monitor and review all our mission work, and to advise on annual giving

HOPE CHURCH

To report any safeguarding matters arising since the last PCC meeting

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

To report on the Pioneer Church at Old Sarum at every PCC meeting

Other taskforces are formed as and when they are needed for special events and for the appointment of staff.

[Training of Trustees policy](#)

The trustees regularly review the structure, size, and composition of the board, with the object of having a membership of varied experience that is able to offer help and advice. Training is tailored to individual needs depending on the experience of the individual involved.

PCC MEMBERSHIP

The following people served on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) during 2023 and consequently formed the Board of Trustees of the PCC during the period:

Incumbent	Reverend Canon Jean de Garis	Chair of the PCC (from May 2019)
Assistant Curate Assistant Curate	Reverend Mary Terry Reverend Joe Stone	(from July 2021) (from July 2023)
Churchwardens	Chris Taylor Tom Wilkins	(from September 2020) (from September 2020)
Officers	Jane Franchi Mark Venables	Secretary (from September 2020) Treasurer (from April 2019)
Deanery Synod Representatives	Sally Reed Danni Malone Jean Filtness	elected April 2023 elected April 2023 (resigned Oct 2023) elected April 2023
Elected Members	Brian Webb Keith Leslie Lucy Barrett-Mead Sarah Alford Elizabeth Liversage Mark Venables Pete Coggan-Lennox Becca Inglis Sarah McNicol Sherwin Polius	elected April 2021 for 3 years elected April 2021 for 3 years elected April 2021 for 3 years elected April 2022 for 3 years elected April 2022 for 3 years elected April 2022 for 3 years elected April 2023 (resigned Oct 2023) elected April 2023 for 3 years elected April 2023 for 3 years elected April 2023 for 3 years
Ex-Officio Members	Rev Sarah Wood-Roe William Burditt Sophie Burditt	Priest at St Lawrence (moved August 2023) Hope Pioneer Church (moved June 2023) Hope Pioneer Church (moved June 2023)

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES & AFFAIRS

Our accounts for the year are subject to Independent Examination; The PCC's Independent Examiners are Moore (South) LLP. During the year, the charity continued to receive donations and income from church and hall lettings, which has enabled the continuation of our charitable activities. We have also made donations as part of our objects to church and other charities, these are detailed in note 2.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Charity made a surplus of £31,758 (2022: £16,501).

Unrestricted Funds were £18,431 (2022: £6,327) and Designated Funds were £68,198 (2022: £66,004). Restricted Funds amounted to £6,551 (2022: £(10,909)).

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves policy, with a view of achieving financial resilience. The trustees' aim is to maintain Unrestricted Funds reserves, at a level that will allow the charity to weather fluctuations in the level of operational activity and income, to enable the continuation of the designated projects. The PCC have a policy of holding an element of cash reserves in a deposit account to obtain a higher long-term return.

Going concern

The trustees have considered the potential impact of the cost of living crisis and are monitoring the overall financial position of the charity.

Risk management

The trustees recognise their responsibility for managing risk. Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. There are risk protocols in place for all church activities on and off site.

Aim and Purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Francis Church is responsible for co-operating with the Vicar in promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical in the ecclesiastical parish. It is also responsible for overseeing ministry and mission on the Old Sarum and Longhedge estates especially through Hope Church. This missional Community was founded in 2016 under Will and Sophie Burditt, under a licence from the Bishop of Salisbury. In 2020 it was launched as a church plant from St Francis, meeting at Old Sarum Community Centre, offering regular Sunday worship in addition to the previous missional activities. The PCC carries responsibility for the maintenance of the Parish Church and the adjacent Church Hall and Youth Lounge. The PCC is drawn from members of both St Francis Church and Hope Church, and some members regularly worship at both venues.

Public Benefit

The trustees of St Francis Church confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance to charities on public benefit.



OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The primary objective of the PCC is the proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrine and practices of the Church of England. St Francis PCC tries to achieve this by co-operating with and supporting our Vicar in promoting the mission of the church to the whole parish.

The Standing Committee (which sets the agenda for meetings of the PCC) seeks to keep a healthy balance in the agenda of meetings to include practical items (including finance, fabric and staffing) with pastoral and evangelistic and developmental priorities (including outreach, children and youth, discipleship, worship and serving our community).

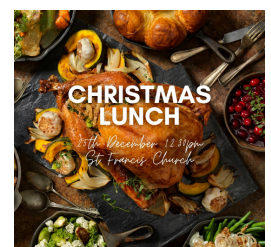
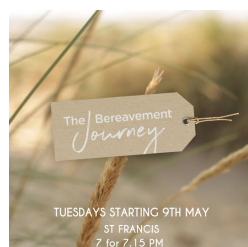
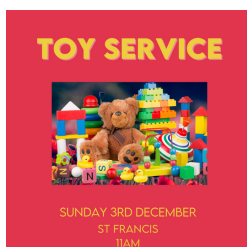
REVIEW OF THE YEAR (ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE)

ST FRANCIS - Identity



Through 2023 we have continued to express our life as a church through the strapline “Life with God.” As a fellowship of believers, we do not “go to Church” so much as remember that we are the Church and that we aim to share every part of our lives as fully as we can with God. Every activity in our church is intended to achieve one or more of our 3 “E” objectives to:

- Encounter (meet with God)
- Equip (train and form us in the likeness of Jesus)
- Engage (understand and serve the world more effectively in the power of the Spirit)



Increasing Benefice Connections

One of the most striking features through 2023 was the recognition that we need to see ourselves as a united benefice of three Churches: St Francis, St Lawrence and Hope Church. These three expressions of being church are not in conflict or competition, but offer different ways and styles for diverse people to be in a vibrant community of faith. Our three Churches have become much more interdependent rather working in isolation. This happened by necessity at first, through the need to share leadership across the benefice, but is increasingly recognised by members of all three faith communities as mutually enriching and sustaining. St Lawrence is, however, a separate parish with its own PCC and so publishes its own accounts and is not reported further here.

Clergy and Staff Changes

The clergy team grew in July 2023 with the arrival and ordination of Joe Stone as Assistant Curate. However, Joe's arrival coincided with the departure of Will and Sophie Burditt who had been leading Hope Church. Will moved to commence his curacy in Blandford Forum following his ordination in the same service as Joe Stone. Sarah Wood-Roe, who had been the House for Duty minister at St Lawrence, also departed after 6 years as she was invited to become Chaplain to the Bishop of Salisbury. Rev David Stokes (PtO), recently retired from ministry in Argentina, and Mary Terry both subsequently led services for St Lawrence every month which have been enormously welcomed. We have also been blessed with the supportive ministries of Rev Sarah Pix and Rev Everton McLeod.

There were several significant staff changes in 2023, first with Rory Malone (Worship Pastor and Comms) who moved to work for a South American Mission charity, and then in November Katie Ollivierre (Children and Families Pastor) stepped down after 13 years of wonderful ministry at St Francis. We needed some time to discern what the future role of Worship Pastor might be. Despite advertising, we have sadly not had applications for this role. We are truly grateful to all the church members who have stepped up to lead worship with singing and instruments this year. We are thrilled to have been able to appoint Emily Stone as our new Children and Families Pastor for 2024.

We are so glad for the enthusiasm, faith and skills of our staff team. Jane Franchi (Operations Manager) took on an additional 10 hours per week to lead our Church Communications after Rory's departure. Sophie Stokes has continued her excellent work as our part-time Youth Pastor. Charlie Davies (Caretaker) has also been invaluable through 2023 as with the increase in site bookings, there has been an increased need for furniture moving and cleaning. We thank God for the valued and joyful ministries of Jo Inman (LLM) and Sophie Ferguson (Ordinand on placement at St Lawrence).

We also thank the great army of volunteers who serve God and his people regularly through leading in so many ways. We have wonderful teams who lead worship and preach, including the organist and choir, those who read the Bible and lead intercessions, pray for others, offer welcome, serve refreshments, lead groups to serve infants, children and young people, arrange flowers, care for the finances, and fabric of the building and grounds. Our churches simply could not run without the generous and dedicated commitment of the host of volunteers.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH

St Francis Church offers a varied pattern of Sunday worship. This includes:

9.30 am Holy Communion and 11 am Informal Worship (with families and youth groups in term time).

On Sunday evenings at 7 pm there are Bible Teaching evenings and Encounter nights each month.

This range of worship includes a small choir, a worship band, liturgical and all-age worship opportunities.

Often for the teaching component of worship, age-appropriate groups are formed for some of the service. The church is blessed with having several excellent, different, venues on site for small-group discipleship. The Sunday Teaching Programme in 2023 included a 9-week series on Nehemiah “Rebuilding from Ruins”, Easter “Reasons for Hope”, a 10-week exploration of “The Beatitudes” from the Sermon on the Mount, and 11 weeks looking at “Journeys into Life”, as well as our Christmas and other seasonal topics.

St Francis connects with a large number of children and young people each week. This is through a combination of the Sunday programmes and mid-week activities. Thursday “Teddy Bears” serves a large number of local families with young children. St Francis is a safe place to meet, connect with other local families, and enable children to enjoy socialising and playing together. There is a weekly term-time discipleship group POLO (Parents of Little Ones), and opportunities for families to receive prophetic prayer through the year. Perhaps the highlight of our children’s ministry in 2023 was the summer holiday club The Restoration Station which was a wonderful way to share with children the story of God’s amazing work of restoring lives through music, craft activities, drama and fun activities.

It was also great to have our own Church Camp and a strong group going to New Wine again, the first post-pandemic.

Through 2023 our Youth Ministry was developed to include a Friday night club with 2 sessions (years 6–9 and 10–13). There is Sunday provision for older and younger youth during services, and a Sunday evening discipleship group each week which includes fun games and eating together. Youth drop-in times were offered in the summer. Assembling enthusiastic and committed teams of volunteers has been crucial to all these activities.

In addition to services in church building, we take Holy Communion to house-bound members and lead worship every month in four residential homes within our parish. We take assemblies regularly in three local schools and offer support in a variety of ways. Mary Terry has led a team running the Bereavement Journey very effectively through 2023. Many people have benefitted from having a safe space to explore and process the pain of loss. We also hosted a Life Recovery Course for the local charity “Morning Star” supporting those living with addictions.

We had 210 people on our Electoral Roll (an increase of 19 through the year). The average church attendance through 2023 remained stable at around 160 adults each Sunday for the 9.30 and 11.00 services combined, though this increases greatly for the main Christian Festivals. Through the summer holidays an additional worship service called Worship on the Green was popular, especially with families having young children. New church members have come through a combination of moving to the area and wanting to find a new church, some moving to St Francis from other churches, and a small number of people coming to faith and joining us. Though about 160 adults attend most Sundays, through the course of a month that might well be 250 different people, as a significant number attend only once or twice a month. Those who are new to the Church are invited to a Welcome Lunch held each term.

In some ways the life blood of the church is expressed in the 17 mid-week Life Groups. These are typically every fortnight in a church member’s home with 8 – 14 members in each. Life Groups are invaluable for growing as disciples of Jesus and caring for one another. There are currently around 140 adults in these groups. Home Group Leaders are invited to a gathering each term to be encouraged and share training resources to help their groups to flourish.



HOPE CHURCH



2023 was a highly significant year in the development and direction of Hope Church. Following his call to ordained ministry in the Church of England, Will Burditt trained as an ordinand through St Mellitus College. This came to a joyful fruition with his ordination in July. However, it also meant that Will and Sophie had to move to their curacy parish of Blandford Forum. Their departure was a bitter-sweet moment: joy for their journey ahead with God, but also leaving a huge leadership and ministry gap at Hope Church.

The good news is that the lay leadership Navigation Group (comprising Jean Filtness, April Hall, Danni Malone, Tom Rendall and Joy Wilkinson) met each month in 2023 with the Vicar. Priscilla Venables was appointed mid-way through the year adding much needed support with communications and administration. Together the NG has stepped up incredibly well in offering gifted and committed liturgical, pastoral and missional leadership to Hope Church and the estates they serve at Old Sarum and Longhedge. This has been personally demanding and costly, but also extremely fruitful. The Navigation Group is to be especially commended for its outstanding work this year.

Notable developments through 2023 include: Hope Youth now meeting twice per month; monthly men's Games evening in the Beatrice Room; Joe Stone and Joy Filtness growing a music group to lead worship; and events including an outreach Prayer Walk and Harvest lunch. It was decided to pause Connect Groups for the time being. Part of the ministry vacancy has been taken up by additional input from Joe Stone and Jean de Garis, which increased the provision of Communion on Sundays.

In addition to all this, we were delighted that Jean de Garis (Vicar) and Alan Jeans (Archdeacon) jointly wrote and submitted a successful bid to the Aldhelm Mission Fund. This was to request additional funding to be able to create a new role of Pioneer Priest taking primary responsibility for Hope Church and St Lawrence, Stratford sub Castle. The £45,000, given over three years, is to enable the Pioneer Priest appointment to be made, but also to offer time in which to encourage generous giving by church members to pay for future ministry before the funding ends. For a secure future, all churches need to develop self-sustaining funding from their members.

It was with great joy we announced the successful application and appointment of Rev Suzie Allen (currently serving the Wimborne parishes). She will move into the vacant Old Sarum house and be licenced in April 2024.

THE FUTURE

We look forward to the year ahead. There will be further changes. Some we will welcome, such as the arrival of Rev Suzie Allen. But whatever difficulties or challenges we also need to face, we will continue to trust and hope in God, praying like St Paul in Ephesians 3.20 that God “is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.”

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales/Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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



ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the PCC of St Francis Church, Salisbury (charity number 1130133) for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities of all funds, the Balance Sheet and the related notes, which can be found on pages 11 - 20 of this document.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ACCA.

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 January 2019 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 financial statements to be reached.

Robert MacDonald FCCA
Moore (South) LLP
Chartered Accountants
33 The Clarendon Centre
Salisbury Business Park
Dairy Meadow Lane
Salisbury SP1 2TJ

Dated:

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Restricted (£)	Total	
					This year (£)	Last year (£)
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	2	241,139	-	800	241,939	242,895
Activities for generating funds		-	-	-	-	120
Investment income	4	1,870	-	-	1,870	342
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	32,957	-	-	32,957	25,870
Incoming resources from generated funds		-	-	-	-	-
Other incoming resources	3	3,084	-	-	3,084	2,493
Other voluntary incoming resources	2	100	-	-	100	-
Total income		279,150	-	800	279,950	271,720
Resources used						
Charitable Giving	5	21,650	-	-	21,650	18,898
Activities directly related to church work	6	188,503	-	-	188,503	206,153
Diocese loan interest		-	-	1,340	1,340	1,061
Church Hall	6	35,679	-	-	35,679	27,032
Church management and administration	7	1,020	-	-	1,020	2,075
Total expenditure		246,852	-	1,340	248,192	255,219
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		32,298	-	(540)	31,758	16,501
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	16	-	-	18,000	18,000	200
Gross transfers between funds - out	16	(18,000)	-	-	(18,000)	(200)
Other recognised gains / losses		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		14,298	-	17,460	31,758	16,501
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	16	72,331	-	(10,909)	61,422	44,921
Total funds carried forward	16	86,629	-	6,551	93,180	61,422

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
1 JANUARY 2022 TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Restricted (£)	Total	
					This year (£)	Last year (£)
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	2	226,945	-	15,950	242,895	217,550
Activities for generating funds	3	120	-	-	120	-
Investment income	4	342	-	-	342	282
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	24,096	-	1,774	25,870	28,414
Incoming resources from generated funds		-	-	-	-	-
Other incoming resources	3	2,493	-	-	2,493	1,100
Other voluntary incoming resources	2	-	-	-	-	8,259
Total income		253,996	-	17,724	271,720	255,605
Resources used						
Charitable Giving	5	18,298	-	600	18,898	16,505
Activities directly related to church work	6	206,153	-	-	206,153	208,318
Diocese loan interest	6	-	-	1,061	1,061	1,152
Church Hall	6	27,032	-	-	27,032	21,620
Church management and administration	7	2,075	-	-	2,075	4,930
Total expenditure		253,558	-	1,661	255,219	252,525
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		438	-	16,063	16,501	3,080
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in		-	-	200	200	37,418
Gross transfers between funds - out		(200)	-	-	(200)	(37,418)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds		238	-	16,263	16,501	3,080
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		72,093	-	(27,172)	44,921	41,841
Total funds carried forward		72,331	-	(10,909)	61,422	44,921

BALANCE SHEET

	Note	31 DECEMBER 2023	31 DECEMBER 2022
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	-	-
		-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	10	12,035	11,906
Cash at bank and in hand		124,080	108,933
		136,115	120,839
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	11	(42,935)	(25,703)
Net current assets less current liabilities		93,180	95,136
Total assets less current liabilities		93,180	95,136
Long term loan	12	-	33,714
Total net assets less liabilities		93,180	61,422
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Unrestricted - General fund	16	18,431	6,327
Designated Designated - Vicarage Repair Fund	16	-	-
Designated - Staffing Fund		-	-
Designated - Flower Fund		442	394
Designated - Teddy Bears Fund		2,345	2,808
Designated - Reserves		73,284	73,284
Designated - Hope Church (Old Sarum Mission)		(15,596)	(16,405)
Designated - Fabric Fund		6,775	1,774
Designated - Church Extension Fund		948	4,149
Restricted Restricted - Discretionary hardship fund	16	7,150	6,350
Restricted - Roof repair fund		(599)	(17,259)
Restricted - Soul Survivor fund		-	-
Funds of the church		93,180	61,422

The notes on pages 14-20 form part of these accounts

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf
by:

Dated:

Reverend Canon Jean de Garis, Vicar and PCC
Chairman

Mr Mark Venables, Treasurer

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Charity Information

Charity name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Francis, Salisbury
Charity number: 1130133

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, which is referred to in the Regulations, but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

1a Going Concern

At the time of the Trustees approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that there are adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, therefore, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis.

1b Funds

The accounts include all the funds for which the PCC is legally responsible.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

Unrestricted funds include funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objectives of the PCC. Unrestricted funds include **designated funds** where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

The General Fund is an unrestricted fund, and most other funds are designated funds, with the exception of restricted funds set up in 2018 for funds raised for the forthcoming roof repair and a fund for amounts raised to support the Soul Survivor event attendance for our young people.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1c Income Recognition

All income is recognised once the PCC has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised when the PCC has been notified in writing of both the amount and the settlement date.

The PCC has received no legacy gifts in this accounting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the PCC, which is normally on notification of interest paid or payable by the bank involved.

1d Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the PCC to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. All expenses are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings.

Grants payable to third parties are within the charitable objectives. Where unconditional grants are offered, this is accrued as soon as the recipient is notified of the grant, as this gives rise to a reasonable expectation that the recipient will receive the grants.

1e Statement of Assets and Liabilities

An inventory of all fixtures, fittings and equipment is kept and reviewed each year.

The following assets are recognised but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

- Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for their disposal, and
- Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment which the PCC is free to dispose of without a faculty

1f Tangible Fixed Assets

Assets are capitalised at a value over £3,000 which have a useful life of a number of years. Fixtures, fittings and equipment are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of the assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following basis:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment – 4 to 10 years straight line

1g Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

1h Impairment

Assets not measured at fair value are reviewed for any indication that the asset may be impaired at each balance sheet date. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, or the asset's cash generating unit, is estimated and compared to the carrying amount. Where the carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount where the impairment loss is a revaluation decrease.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1i Interest free loans

Interest free loans were generously provided by a number of households in the congregation to assist with cashflow management for the annexe building and roof repair project.

Interest free loans have not been discounted as this is not required for Public Benefit Entities under FRS102.

1j Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

The charity operates a defined benefit plan for the benefit of its employees. The pension scheme is a multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the T pension scheme is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

1k Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

2 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Donations and Gifts	241,939	242,895
Other	100	-
	<u>242,039</u>	<u>242,895</u>

Income from donations and legacies was £242,039 (2022 - £242,895) of which £800 (2022 - £15,950) was attributable to restricted and £241,239 (2022 - £226,945) was attributable to unrestricted funds.

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Sale of goods and services including lettings	32,957	25,870
Other	3,084	2,613
	<u>36,041</u>	<u>28,483</u>

Income from charitable activities was £36,041 (2022 - £28,483) of which £Nil (2022 - £1,774) was attributable to restricted and £36,041 (2022 - £26,709) was attributable to unrestricted funds.

4 INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Bank Interest Received	1,870	342
	<u>1,870</u>	<u>342</u>

Income from investment was £1,870 (2022 - £342) of which £Nil (2022 - £Nil) was attributable to restricted and £1,870 (2022 - £342) was attributable to unrestricted funds.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

5 DONATIONS PROVIDED

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Church Overseas		
Diocesan Fund for the Sudan	2,400	2,200
MAF	2,400	2,200
Christian Aid	400	360
Frontiers (Melissa Hall)	1,600	-
	<u>6,800</u>	<u>4,760</u>

5 DONATIONS PROVIDED (continued)

Home Missions, Church Societies and Organisations

Bridge Project	6,500	5,000
C.M.S (Hull project)	2,000	2,200
Child of Hope	1,200	1,100
Salisbury Foodbank	2,000	1,800
Street Pastors	1,200	1,100
The Bible Society	-	200
Alabare	400	360
The Children's Society	-	360
	<u>13,300</u>	<u>12,120</u>

Other Donations

Salisbury Women's Refuge	1,400	1,100
Arocha	150	265
Other discretionary gifts	-	653
	<u>1,550</u>	<u>2,018</u>

£Nil (2022 - £600) of the above costs were attributable to restricted funds. £21,650 (2022 - £17,698) of the above costs were attributable to unrestricted funds.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	(£)	(£)
Vicar's Working Expenses	3,262	1,556
Curate's expenses	2,440	225
Worship Leader	3,442	26,603
Training Courses	725	3,889
Link Magazine / Printing	2,259	3,912
Teddy Bears rent & expenses	215	215
Heat, Light, Water	6,038	7,797
Repairs & Maintenance	9,215	13,919
Flowers	52	-
Insurances	3,557	3,268
Parish Share	81,197	78,833
Caretaker	18,549	17,609
Old Sarum Expenses	9,701	8,439
Youth Worker	12,705	8,544
Youth Work	3,664	1,943
Outreach - events	219	794
Upkeep of Services	2,313	2,239
Wages	26,098	19,435
Organist	1,785	1,704
Church Office	6,074	4,597
Equipment	1,139	1,435
Water Hall	1,317	478
Cleaning & Sundries	1,220	1,474
Electricity - hall	6,044	933
Repairs - hall	1,001	3,612
Roof project	1,340	1,062
Children's & Family Worker	19,951	19,731
	<u>225,522</u>	<u>234,246</u>

£1,340 (2022 - £1,774) of the above costs were attributable to restricted funds. £224,182 (2022 - £232,472) of the above costs were attributable to unrestricted funds.

7 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2023	2022
	(£)	(£)
Independent examination fee	1,020	960
Professional fees	-	1,115
	<u>1,020</u>	<u>2,075</u>

£Nil (2022 - £Nil) of the above costs were attributable to restricted funds. £1,020 (2022 - £2,075) of the above costs were attributable to unrestricted funds.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment (£)	Total (£)
COST		
Brought forward at 1 January 2023	20,779	20,779
Additions in year	-	-
Carried forward at 31 December 2023	20,779	20,779
DEPRECIATION		
Brought forward at 1 January 2023	20,779	20,779
Charge for year (straight line basis)	-	-
Carried forward at 31 December 2023	20,779	20,779
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2023	-	-
At 31 December 2022	-	-

9 CHURCH HALL

The Church Hall, which was built on church land in 1957, is of a specialist nature and the PCC considers that it is not appropriate to apply a modern value to the property.

10 DEBTORS

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Gift Aid Tax Recoverable	12,035	10,939
Youth Tuck Shop	-	967
	12,035	11,906

11 CREDITORS

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Others	2,881	2,703
Interest free loan – Church Extension	23,000	23,000
Diocesan loan – Roof Repair	17,054	-
	42,935	25,703

12 CREDITORS DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	2023 (£)	2022 (£)
Diocesan loan – Roof Repair	-	33,714
	-	33,714

In 2019 a £50,000 loan was provided by the Diocese with an interest rate of 0.5% above base rate. The loan is repayable in 2024 in full however the church has part paid an amount in the year to reduce the interest due at the end of the term.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS****13 PENSIONS**

St Francis PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. the Defined Benefits Scheme
2. the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
 - a. a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
 - b. a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable (2023: £3,412, 2022: £4,018)

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2022. The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2025.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, St Francis PCC could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS****14 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

All Trustees give freely of their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind, and have claimed no expenses.

Any work done by families or associates of Trustees is paid for at market rates against invoices.

Donations were made to the following organisations with links to the following trustees:

£1,200 (2022: £1,100) to Salisbury Street Pastors - Keith Leslie is a trustee

£6,500 (2022: £5,000) to the Bridge Project - Sarah Alford is an employee

£Nil (2022: £360) to the Children's Society - Georgina Polius works for the charity in a non-paid capacity

Decisions about donations made are proposed by a mission committee and approved by the PCC as a whole.

15 STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	(£)	(£)
Salaries and wages	76,812	86,863
Social security costs	-	1,941
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	3,412	4,018
Other employee benefits	-	-
	<u>80,224</u>	<u>92,822</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to £60,000 or more during either year.

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was 5 (2022: 5).

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

16 FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY

FUND	AT 1 JANUARY 2023	INCOMING RESOURCES	OUTGOING RESOURCES	TRANSFERS	GAINS AND LOSSES	AT 31 DECEMBER 2023
Unrestricted						
General fund	6,327	256,625	(200,786)	(43,735)	-	18,431
Designated						
Staffing fund	-	8,363	(36,098)	27,735	-	-
Hope Church fund	(16,405)	10,510	(9,701)	-	-	(15,596)
Fabric fund	1,775	-	-	5,000	-	6,775
Church Extension fund	4,148	1,800	-	(5,000)	-	948
Vicarage Repair fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flower fund	394	100	(52)	-	-	442
Teddy Bears fund	2,808	1,752	(215)	(2,000)	-	2,345
Reserves	73,284	-	-	-	-	73,284
Total unrestricted & designated funds	72,331	279,150	(246,852)	(18,000)	-	86,629
Restricted						
Discretionary Hardship Fund	6,350	800	-	-	-	7,150
Roof repair fund	(17,259)	-	(1,340)	18,000	-	(599)
Soul Survivor	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	(10,909)	800	(1,340)	18,000	-	6,551
Total funds	61,422	279,950	(248,192)	-	-	93,180
FUND	AT 1 JANUARY 2022	INCOMING RESOURCES	OUTGOING RESOURCES	TRANSFERS	GAINS AND LOSSES	AT 31 DECEMBER 2022
Unrestricted						
General fund	76,840	241,870	(175,376)	(137,007)	-	6,327
Designated						
Staffing fund	(88,846)	4,996	(54,877)	138,727	-	-
Hope Church fund	(9,466)	1,500	(8,439)	-	-	(16,405)
Fabric fund	13,511	-	(11,736)	-	-	1,775
Church Extension fund	2,834	2,429	(1,115)	-	-	4,148
Vicarage Repair fund	1,920	-	-	(1,920)	-	-
Flower fund	364	30	-	-	-	394
Teddy Bears fund	1,936	1,087	(215)	-	-	2,808
Reserves	73,000	284	-	-	-	73,284
Total unrestricted & designated funds	(4,747)	10,326	(76,382)	-	-	72,331
Restricted						
Discretionary Hardship Fund	800	5,950	(600)	200	-	6,350
Roof repair fund	(27,972)	11,774	(1,061)	-	-	(17,259)
Soul Survivor	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	(27,172)	17,724	(1,661)	200	-	(10,909)
Total funds	44,921	269,920	(253,419)	-	-	61,422

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SALISBURY (1130133)**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS****DESIGNATED FUND PURPOSES**

Staffing fund	Previously Children's and Family Worker fund. To support staff posts at the church engaged in work with youth, children or worship
Hope Church (Old Sarum Mission) fund	To support the work at the residential area of Old Sarum, now within the parish boundaries of St Francis.
Fabric fund	For repairs and upkeep of the church site and its buildings
Church Extension fund	For the building of an annex to the church along the Beatrice Road side
Vicarage Repair fund	For repairs and upkeep of the vicarage
Flower fund	For flowers and floristry equipment used at the church site
Teddy Bears fund	For the Teddy Bears parent and child group
Vicar's Computer fund	For repairs to or replacement of the vicar's computer and associated equipment
Reserves	General reserves

RESTRICTED FUND PURPOSES

Roof repair fund	For the repair of the roof at St Francis Church, Salisbury
Soul Survivor fund	For the costs of the Soul Survivor event for young people
Discretionary Hardship Fund	To support specific hardship requests from within the St Francis and Hope Church community

17 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**Year Ended 31 December 2023**

FUND	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Cash and current investments	16,681	83,794	23,605	124,080
Current assets	12,035	-	-	12,035
Current liabilities	(10,285)	(15,596)	(17,054)	(42,935)
Non Current liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total	18,431	68,198	6,551	93,180

Year Ended 31 December 2022

FUND	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Cash and current investments	3,719	82,409	22,805	108,933
Current assets	11,906	-	-	11,906
Current liabilities	(9,298)	(16,405)	-	(25,703)
Non Current liabilities	-	-	(33,714)	(33,714)
Total	6,327	66,004	(10,909)	93,180



CHURCH AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

50s and Beyond

- Who are we? A fellowship and service group focused on people 50+ in age. Monthly events vary with 15-30 participants from St Francis and the wider community. In 2023 we were invited to be added to the “Silver Salisbury” website and booklet which is distributed to the wider Salisbury community.

- What were the 2023 events? We had a variety of events including Fish and Chips and a Movie, Cream Teas, Heale Gardens visit, Lunch with the Vicar, Christmas Tea, Pub dinners, Bring and Share lunch and more!

- Who runs the events? The Steering Committee meets twice a year to plan the schedule, and the members act as host for 1 or 2 activities. We currently have openings on the committee and encourage anyone interested to contact us (see below).

- How do I find out about the events? Watch the Link for upcoming events; or to be added to the email distribution list, contact Kris@richardson.net.

Kris Richardson



Flowers

The past year has been a normal one but has also required some thought on necessary changes. Easter decorating for 2023 made me realise that I was no longer able to physically carry out what I had managed with no difficulty before. So the result has been that, from the New Year, Jane Franchi has taken on organising the Rota for Sunday flowers and contacting our arrangers, and Jo Sturdy is organising the purchase and collection of flowers for Festivals and the volunteer team needed each time. I intend to stay on the rota and continue with watering the flowers. The number of arrangers we have is much smaller and more volunteers are really needed. Please contact Jane if you love flowers, enjoy arranging them, and would be able to help.

Jenny Pankhurst



St Francis Church Choir

- The eight members of the choir have continued to meet at 9.00am each Sunday to 'warm up' their voices and sing through the hymns which have been chosen to complement the theme of the day. This also gives the congregation a chance to know what to expect in the service. When a hymn with appropriate, but less well known words is chosen, it is always sung to a well known tune so everyone can easily participate
- We continue to be most grateful to Nicola for her careful preparation of all the organ music and the hymn tunes. Thanks also go to David Stokes and Joe Stone who have deputised on the organ when necessary.
- Additional accompaniment has been given on occasions by Shelley on her violin and Sue on her flute.
- Once a month some of us attend Choral Evensong at St Lawrence Church Stratford sub Castle to support the singing of the hymns, psalm and canticles.
- We make our annual appeal for new members!!!

Susan Carey



St Francis Community Show

On September 9th 2023 we had another amazing show, the church looked beautiful as all the entries came together.

We had 66 Entrants and approximately 320 Entries.

The judges all said there was a high quality of entries. Vibrant flowers, tasty baking, clever crafting, some enthusiastic children's entries and so much more to enjoy.

If anybody is interested in getting involved we would love to see some new faces join our small organising committee.

Next show September 7th 2024

Emma Turner



Deanery Synod

St Francis is represented by lay members Sally Reed, Danni Malone & Jean Filtness with Jean de Garis as the clergy member. The meetings help one to keep in touch with what is going on in the other parishes in the city. This cross fertilisation of ideas can be very beneficial as well as being encouraging.

Danni Malone has now stepped down leaving a vacancy to be filled

During the 2023 year it was only possible to hold two meetings, in May & September.

At the May meeting Revd Jean de Garis presented his proposal for the inclusion in the Deanery Plan for Pioneer Mission & Ministry on the Old Sarum & Longhedge estates. This was approved in due course by email as not enough members were present to be quorate.

The work on the Deanery Plan continues but has been slow due to the virus.

At both meetings each parish presented a report about what had been happening in their area. This is always encouraging & gives ideas for future activities

Deanery Synod is in urgent need of a secretary to write up the meeting minutes & to alert members of future meetings. If this form of Christian service is one you could be part of please contact Sally or Jean.

Ted Uren stepped down as the Lay Chair after the May meeting. He stressed the importance of lay vocation within the Deanery & argued how important this was.

To summarise the immediate needs the Deanery Synod seeks:

- At least one new member
- A secretary
- A Lay Chair.

Sally Reed



St Francis Community Singers

St Francis Community Singers continue to thrive under the cheerful talented direction of Suzanne Wilson . We have increased in number too this year (4 men and 12 ladies). We have a jolly time and sing for fun. We've learnt a variety of songs, including sea shanties, and even a few Latin ones ! At Christmas we went to Avonbourne Care Home and had a good time with Mary, our Curate, and the residents at their Carol Service, we also sang at St Thomas Church's Tree Festival - a real joy and a pleasure to do. All are welcome, no audition. We meet on Mondays in the Beatrice Room. For more info contact Di Webb (07733433615) or the church office.

Diana Webb



St. Francis Youth

Younger Youth refers to school years 6-9

Older Youth refers to school years 10-13

OUTREACH

Friday Night Youth – we have a fantastic team of volunteers who help to plan and run a range of activities for young people on a Friday night. Over 2023 we've had an average of 20 younger youth and 11 older youth weekly during term-time. At the end of the year compared to the beginning of the year we are seeing young people improve in their behaviour and respect, tidy up after themselves, they are being more open and honest with each other and us and they are taking on responsibilities such as running the tuck shop. They seem to feel safe and empowered and to take ownership of the group. It is a joy to be a part of this. A routine has been put into place so that young people know what to expect with a “chat” at the beginning, use of the Youth Lounge equipment, board games, sports games, arts and crafts and use of the sports court.

- Chat – welcome & ask everyone how they are doing. We have an awareness subject each week which could be light hearted such as learning about a culture or it can be more serious such as the signs of heart disease and how to stay healthy. Since starting this chat time the youth have become more open to talking to us, more respectful to each other and there is a sense of togetherness where we celebrate victories (such as passing a test) and support each other's challenges (such as being bullied)
- We have an art/craft table set around a particular subject such as Japanese art, doing something kind (we made uplifting, positive cards and bought seeds for Friday Café), Christmas crafting etc to give young people a chance to experiment and be creative
- We are putting emphasis on well-being and therefore have had a yoga instructor do a session, we've done healthy smoothies and talked about the importance of being healthy
- We have had some ad-hoc activities such as DIY pizzas on the fire pit in the summer
- Sophie has visited a drop in session at South Wilts Grammar School approximately every other month where she is building relationships with the students.
- DJ Jozzy visited St Francis Church and all of the youth in Salisbury were invited to come and have a party/listen to his testimony. It was a very successful evening and was wonderful to get so many young people who don't normally go to church together.

Developing faith – Hope Youth

- Hope Youth regularly attend Hope Church and also serve in many ways. Instead of having a youth group each Sunday they stay in the service and have become deeply engrained in the church community.

Developing faith – St Francis Youth

- In St Francis we did a survey to identify what young people really cared about and wanted us to talk about. The most repeated were sharing food together, serving others (charitable donations and service) and doing activities together. We're considering this in our planning for 2024.

- **During Church - Younger Youth (in the Youth Lounge) and Older Youth (in the Beatrice Room).** We've most recently been working our way through a DVD/book series which focuses on our priorities and challenging a 'lukewarm faith'. We've seen many young people consider joining rotas to serve in the Church and young people seem to be confident to share their thoughts/participate in the activities.

- **On a Sunday evening – Older Youth in the Youth Lounge.** We've most recently been working our way through a book of difficult questions in faith which has been challenging for youth and leaders alike. Every 3rd Sunday we share a meal together which is generously cooked by a member of the Church. For much of 2023 we held life skills sessions once per month which was aimed at teaching youth skills that they needed to know but didn't want to learn from their parents.

Developing faith - all youth

- We've started discipleship groups which happen at church two Sundays per month and in a leaders home two Thursdays per month which is appropriate for all youth ages. In our Sunday group we've been watching The Chosen TV show and discussing themes which arise, in our Thursday group we've done the Youth Alpha course which has been an excellent tool to get the group thinking and discussing some important questions.

Developing community

- We went to New Wine as a church and the youth joined in Luminosity. Sophie joined them for a session and it was really wonderful to see the young people worshipping together.

- On the 2nd Sunday of the month youth have stayed in the church service with Sophie to worship together with the church family and to begin an integration into the congregation for when they leave Youth.

- Every other 3rd Sunday all youth are invited to share a meal together in the Chapter Room (which is generously cooked by a member of the church) and then we join the rest of the church for the Encounter Evening. The young people have really enjoyed being able to worship together (especially those who don't come to church) and have had some amazing opportunities to encounter God in a different way. By the end of the year their confidence seems to be growing in joining in with the activities.

- We had a trip to Bournemouth beach in the summer and to the cinema in the winter to help develop relationships. We have seen a few extra young people join us who either haven't been for a while or have never been before. It's a great way of offering for young people to invite their friends



2023 was the year in which we said thank you and goodbye to Katie after many years' work with children and families at St Francis. We are so grateful for the work she has done over the years. During the year as usual she made contact with children and their families in lots of ways, not just via children's groups on a Sunday.

There are three regular Sunday groups, and our thanks go out to all the amazing volunteers who enable these groups – StF Babies and Toddlers who meet with their parents in the Chapter Room, StF Younger (School Years R-2) who meet at Ladybirds Pre-school and StF Older (School Years 3-5). The children learn about Life with God in age-appropriate ways through stories, songs, games and craft. Activities were also organised via Multiplex and All Age services.

During the summer holidays "Church on the Green" met in the tent on the green at 9.30am every Sunday. This was particularly well attended by young families.

During the week many families (often 60-70 children) have come to St Francis to enjoy Teddybears Toddler Group and a small parent and toddler Bible study group (POLO) meets every Tuesday. Uniformed Groups also visited the church to find out about church life as part of their faith badge.

Every church family has been offered a prophetic prayer session, something which families have found very supportive.

Particular thanks go to Margaret Woodhouse who organises all the Mothering Sunday posies and to Sandra Cameron for sending out baptism anniversary cards to children who have been baptised at our church.

Prayer space days were run in two local schools (thanks to Sarah Alford of The Bridge and all those who volunteered to make this happen).



Create for Christmas

We had another wonderful evening last November when our very versatile church facilities turned into a buzzing hub of creativity. Around sixty five paying guests really got into the Christmas spirit choosing from a very varied choice of craft tables and enjoying the delicious refreshments available throughout the evening. Many thanks to the creative team who decorated the church, organised and led the crafts and to the welcome team who set up and served the refreshments, and to everyone who cleared up afterwards and put the church back together. Amazing teamwork.

Jacky Macleod



Strictly Come Ladies

The group normally meets in the Beatrice Room at 7.30pm on the third Friday of each month except August. We offer ladies of all ages a varied programme of activities - meals, crafts, games, quizzes, reminiscence activities and most importantly, a good chat. We would love to welcome some new people and can guarantee you a happy and relaxing evening. Come and join us!

Jacky Macleod



Coronation Day!





Buildings and Grounds Maintenance

During 2023/24 repairs and maintenance of buildings and grounds has continued in an effort to keep everything working and safe.

This year the church will have its quinquennial inspection and it is somewhat satisfying to know that we have completed all work shown 'as necessary' on the last inspection 5 years ago.

Some of the work undertaken this last year:-

• Hall: Ladybirds

- The play area drains have been cleared and the water from the lean-to has been diverted directly into a drain rather than allowing it to flood the play area
- The lights in the play room and toilets have been changed to LED's which are better for young children's health than flourescents and save power.
- A new hot/cold tap combination has been fitted to the children's indoor sink.

• Hall: Youth

- A second basketball hoop and backboard has been installed in the sports court.
- Also the area by the RH exit door has been plastered ready for painting.

• Hall: General

- Light bulbs and fluorescent tubes continue to be changed to LEDs where replacement is needed.
- A new fridge has been fitted in the kitchen to ensure the recommended 4°C can be maintained.

Church:

- We have had a couple of very useful maintenance days over the last year clearing up the site, clearing weeds from around the church, mowing around the whole site, etc. Thanks to all involved.
- All the damaged leaded windows have been replaced.
- A concrete slab has been laid in the entrance to the car park by the men's group.
- The bulbs on the tower cross lights have been changed to LEDs thus reducing the power used significantly.
- All the church carpets have been cleaned.
- A new fridge has been fitted in the church kitchen
- All church and hall toilets now have sanitary bins with special arrangements for ladybirds pre-school.
- CCTV monitoring has been fitted at the rear of the church to deter intruders and capture footage of any unwarranted activity.
- Improved WiFi is being installed.

Thanks to Charlie, our Caretaker, for keeping the site 'working', to Caroline Carlton for making our flowerbeds beautiful and to Colin Musson for his significant regular help.

Thanks also to the mowing team and all those who have helped over the last year.

Brian Webb (Church Gnome)

Mothers' Union

St Francis' Mothers' Union prayer and fellowship group meets at 09.45 for coffee before our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. We welcome visitors and are keen to recruit more MU members. We invite a speaker occasionally and enjoy discussions and fellowship. Topics during the past year have included Modern Day Slavery, Gender Justice and Relationships. Our meetings are followed by midweek communion at 11.00 which is open to all.

The Mothers' Union delivered a fringe event at General Synod in February centred on our 'Rise Up' campaign against domestic abuse.

RISE UP is an acronym for Respond, Inform, Support, Empower, Unite and Pray.

This campaign is just one of the steps in the ongoing commitment of the MU to support and strengthen communities and families. We believe that by joining the Mothers' Union members, church and community together, we can take steps that will create informed churches that can support congregations and the wider community and will lead to a reduction in cases of domestic abuse.

Please pick up a leaflet for more information.

Carole Long

Life Groups

During the year we changed the name of our mid-week Home Groups to Life Groups. This is helpful in reflecting our church strap-line "Life with God". In these gatherings we seek to share our lives, as well as our faith, with each other. We encourage all church members to be part of a Life Group (usually with 10-14 members). Groups play a vital role in encouraging discipleship and offering mutual support. Groups can equip us to be salt and light where God has placed us in the world, in our families, neighbourhoods and workplaces.

We currently have 17 Life Groups that gather throughout the city of Salisbury with over 150 members. The groups meet at different times of the day, in different places, most in person but some via Zoom. Most Life Groups meet twice a month for up to 2 hours.

Life Groups are a great place to grow faith and friendship as we journey through life together and with God. Life Groups are also a venue for growing our confidence and competence in leading others, praying with others, and engaging more deeply with the Bible and living it out in the world.

We are delighted Phil and Sue George have recently taken on the over-sight of our Life Groups. They help to resource and encourage Leaders, help to connect those new to St Francis to a suitable group, and to convene our termly Leaders' meetings.

To find more about life groups & to join please contact Phil & Sue George:



sue.george23@gmail.com

philgeorge60@icloud.com

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
(including the ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING)
Held on Sunday 30th April 2023 in St Francis Church

The Rev. Jean de Garis chaired the meeting, supported by Chris Taylor and Tom Wilkins (Churchwardens), Mark Venables (Treasurer) and Jane Franchi (Secretary). 128 adults and 39 children were in the congregation.

1. Welcome and opening prayer

Jean opened with a prayer and by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

3. Annual Vestry meeting – Election of Churchwardens

Thomas Wilkins and Christopher Taylor were unanimously re-elected as Church Wardens for a further year.

4. Election of members to serve on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Deanery Synod

There were 4 vacancies this year and 3 nominations had been received, as follows:-

- Peter Coggan-Lennox
- Rebecca (Becca) Inglis
- Sarah McNicol
- Sherwin Polius

All were elected unanimously. Thanks were extended to retiring members of the PCC: Toby Ferguson, Aysha Musson and Anita Thorne for all their hard work over their terms of office.

There were 3 nominations for the Deanery Synod, as follows:-

- Sally Reed
- Jean Filtness
- Danni Malone

All were elected unanimously.

5. Minutes of the 2022 APCM

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

6. Matters arising from the minutes: There were none.

7. Written reports

The vicar drew everyone's attention to the on-line reports circulated in advance of the meeting. These represented a massive amount of work going on within the church. Jean particularly thanked Mark Venables and Sally Reed for their work throughout the year to keep finances in order.

8. Treasurer's Report: Mark Venables (Treasurer) reported as follows:

Mark apologised for a typo – net income on the slides should show £17,041 not £16,501. In effect we broke even in 2022. The numbers are outlined in the tables below. Mission giving was increased during the year to just under £19,000. We were lucky to receive several one off gifts during the year, some of which were also “giftaidable” which is why the Gift Aid increase is greater than the monthly giving increase would suggest. The roof project is on target, and we are so grateful for the interest free loans from members of the congregation. We couldn't have done the roof without this generosity. Most of the congregational loans were paid off by the start of the year and during the year we commenced repayments to the diocese so their loan has been paid down over the year. This means there is less interest to pay and we are on target to repay the loan to the diocese by the end of next year as agreed. This year we have consolidated and simplified the treatment of some of the funds within the accounts, for example the vicarage repair fund and staffing fund have now been consolidated within the general fund. Until now we haven't accounted for hope church separately, either with their own giving or expenses. Going forward their income and expenses will be indicated with a separate line in the accounts to make this easier to monitor. The Treasurer proposed that the independent examiners for the accounts for the current year should once again be More South as they do a really good job and are very helpful. This was unanimously agreed.

Simplified Statement of Financial Affairs

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Income	£ 253,996	£ 17,724	£ 271,720
Expenditure	£ 253,558	£ 1,661	£ 255,219
Net Income	£ 438	£ 16,603	£ 16,501
Transfers - in		£ 200	£ 200
Transfers - out	(£ 200)		(£ 200)
Net Movements	£ 238	£ 16,263	£ 16,501
Funds at 01.01.22	£ 72,093	(£ 27,172)	£ 44,921
Funds at 31.12.22	£ 72,331	(£ 10,909)	£ 61,422

2022 Key Numbers

	2022	2021
Parish Share paid (2023 = £81,198)	£78,833	£75,457
Staffing costs	£92,822	£90,452
Mission and other Giving	£18,898	£16,080
Regular Monthly Giving (2.2% increase on 2021)	£155,059	£151,661
Gift Aid Received (5% increase on 2021)	£44,576	£42,439

Roof Project Repayment

At Start:	
Diocesan Loan	£50,000
Congregation Loans	£52,000
At 31.12.21:	
Diocesan Loan	£51,152
Congregation Loans	£17,000
At 31.12.22:	
Diocesan Loan	£33,714
Congregation Loans	-

We are on target to repay diocesan loan by 31.12.24

Fund Position (and simplification)

	31.12.22	31.12.21
General Fund	£6,327	£76,840
Vicarage Repair Fund	-	£1,920
Staffing Fund	-	(£88,846)
Flower Fund	£394	£364
Teddy Bears Fund	£2,808	£1,936
Reserves	£73,284	£73,000
Hope Church	(£16,405)	(£9,466)
Fabric Fund	£1,774	£13,511
Extension Fund	£4,149	£2,834
Discretionary Hardship Fund	£6,350	£800
Roof Repair Fund	(£17,259)	(£27,972)
Total Funds:	£61,422	£44,921

9. Church Wardens' Report and Inventory

Chris Taylor spoke for the churchwardens. Chris confirmed that the inventory had been taken had taken place that nothing has gone missing of any importance this year with the exception off a few items during a break in. Thanks to Jane and her team for organising this and also to Brian for responding to the break-in's and making the building safe again afterwards.

10. Vicar's report: Jean de Garis

Jean commended the work that had been set out in the previously circulated reports, and then he highlighted two things:

1. Jean drew a parallel with Acts 18:9-11: ("One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. ¹⁰ For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city. ¹¹ So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.") noting how Paul was simply evangelising and trying to start churches and share his ministry and everywhere he went people would attack him, and he was beaten up and shipwrecked and stoned but at that moment, God, in his kindness, spoke to encourage him. Perhaps at St Francis, with six break-ins in the last two years, and two in the last month, God wants to say to us too that we might start getting intimidated but if we are followers of Jesus there is no need to be afraid to keep on speaking out. We don't need to be sorry, don't need to give way to fear, don't need to be intimidated – just keep sharing our faith. There are people who, in the last year, have come to faith in our churches so it's important to keep sharing our faith. Talk to your neighbour about what God has done - something of the story of God's kindness and hope for others. There are lots of people across this city who love Jesus.
2. The second thing was from the Old Testament in a slightly niche place - Numbers 35 (¹¹ select some towns to be your cities of refuge, to which a person who has killed someone accidentally may flee. ¹² They will be places of refuge from the avenger, so that anyone accused of murder may not die before they stand trial before the assembly.) So, God in his mercy created cities where you could run to when things had gone really wrong. Jean believes that Saint Francis and Hope churches are meant to be like these old cities of refuge - many people, including many Christians, have hurt other people - usually not deliberately but accidentally. It is clear that we are called to create places that are kind and where people can find hope. Jean encouraged everyone to continue to notice the people we know who are especially hurting, or feeling a sense of failure. The prayer is that Saint Francis and Hope churches are not merely buildings.

Jean gave thanks to all staff, for their committed service and to the many people serving in so many ways in our churches. Thanks to our Church Wardens and Treasurer to our governing council (The PCC), and to the Navigation Group helping coordinate and plan the work of our churches. Thanks to those who care for and beautify the buildings in so many ways, to those who preach and pray and read and welcome and host. Thanks to those who lead children and young children's groups and to all those who have given so generously during the year.

11. Hope Church Report: Will Burditt

Will spoke as follows: 2023 was another great year to celebrate.

- Messy Church continues to do wonderful things under the oversight of George Knights.
- Hope Church Youth started, which is a Home Group for some of our young people thanks to Sophie Stokes for this, which, alongside the youth kids work, has been some of the best part of my job. It has been amazing to see the excitement for church and curiosity for God and growing faith amongst our youngsters – this has been such a gift and a privilege.
- Thanks not only for 2023 but for the last 7 years:

- thanks for April (Hall) who has been there since the beginning, bringing incredible faith and unshakable trust in God and the knowledge that God will pull through, whether it's the smallest things or the most impossible things.
- Thanks for The Wilkinsons for their sacrifice and service, for Joy's loving kindness and her amazing creativity - it's incredible how she can create food crafts that tangibly communicate God's love and Bible stories to people - she could recreate the whole creation story if you brought her three random ingredients and a toilet roll!
- Thanks to Jean Filtness - thank you for your matriarchal calming presence and your servant hearted attitude and creativity, together with Peter - thank you Peter we are so grateful for your wisdom and support and your steadfast faith.
- Thanks to the Rendalls, for their companionship, honesty and willingness to get stuck in.
- And, of course, thank you to all those that took the leap three years ago to join us on the adventure, we've come a long way together. You have been the best companions we could have asked for. Your faith and courage, your questions and prayers have led and inspired Sophie and I. We are so grateful for God's provision and his faithfulness through it all.
- Thank you to Jean and the team that have supported us diligently with their prayers.

This morning, I had a simple word. I think God was wanting to press on us as a church why the hope of the world is Jesus - you will have heard it before, but it's good to be reminded that the hope of the world is in Jesus, not our own efforts, not our own knowledge, goodness or ability to love or to care, even our own kindness is in Him and anything other is a mirage. If we want our streets, our schools, our places of work, our neighbourhoods, our city of Salisbury, our nation to be all that it can be, if we want to pursue and go for love and compassion and hope and equality, justice and peace, all these good and beautiful things of the Kingdom, first we must pursue Jesus the King. At the moment, in our culture, the church is becoming increasingly marginalised. I think the world is asking for something at this moment - they want the Kingdom but they don't want the King, and it's our job as a church to show those around us that you can't have community without commitment, we can't have justice without truth, we can't have conciliation without repentance and ultimately you can't have the Kingdom without the King.

This leads me to my final thank you. You can do far more with 12 disciples than with 1200 church attenders or religious consumers. A handful of people who follow the King can succeed. There's so much to look forward to, although leaving will obviously be incredibly hard. I think we've been in Salisbury for nine years and we've been working for seven here at Hope. Leaving is made a little easier because we know that these incredible people at Hope Church know and love the King and will continue to follow him and not lose sight of him and all that He's calling Hope to do. It's been such a gift and a privilege to be part of that extended family and to journey with those people.

11. Any other business: Thanks, blessings and gifts were given to the Burditt family as they move to their new home in Blandford Forum. The meeting closed with prayers (ably lead by Mrs Jean Filtness of Hope Church), further worship and a blessing.

A recording of the meeting can be found at [Sunday 30th April APCM \(st-francischurch.org.uk\)](https://st-francischurch.org.uk)

Electoral Roll Report for 2023 There are currently 210 on roll, 19 more than the previous year.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 28th April 2024 at 10.30 am
St Francis Church**

AGENDA

- 1 Welcome and opening prayer
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Election of Churchwardens
- 4 Election of Members to serve on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Deanery Synod
- 5 Minutes of the 2023 APCM
- 6 Matters arising from the Minutes
- 7 Written Reports
- 8 Any other business
- 9 Electoral Roll Report
- 10 Treasurer's Report
 - (i) The Annual Accounts
 - (ii) Appointment of Independent Examiner
- 11 Churchwardens' Report and Inventory
- 12 Vicar's Report

(If you have any item to raise under any other business it will be appreciated if you inform the PCC Secretary, Jane Franchi, before the meeting).