

gateway

Our Annual report *for* 2024

*Together, we desire to be a church of resilient disciples of Jesus,
committed to bringing God's Kingdom whoever we are, wherever we go.*



dear Gateway family,

I'm pleased to provide you with our 2024 Annual Report, I do hope that you take the time to read and reflect on the year that you have all been a part of.

It seems that I constantly report that it's been a year of change; 2024 was no exception – significant decisions were made, and planned transitions became evident. Meanwhile our wonderful staff team have remained adaptable, supportive and committed; they care deeply about our Gateway family, and we are truly blessed to have such a talented, fun-filled, dedicated bunch of people.

As always, I thank you for your encouragement, support and your willingness to put your shoulder to the wheel. As you read this report it will be very evident that we are a family that has experienced God's blessing.



Mike Frew
General Manager

from our
Senior Leaders,
Trust & Trustees



from our Senior Leaders

As we reflect on this past year, our hearts are overflowing with thankfulness for all that God has done in and through our church. 2024 has been a year of challenges and victories, growth and grace, and through it all we have seen God's faithfulness at every turn.

We want to take this moment to express our deep gratitude for each of you. Your prayers, encouragement and steadfast support have been a source of strength for us, Gateway staff and Elders. Your faithfulness in serving, giving or simply showing up for one another is a beautiful testimony to what it means to the body of Christ.

We are continually humbled and blessed to be part of such a vibrant and faith-filled community and it's a joy to honour and serve as Senior Leaders.



Chris and Hope Jones

Senior Leaders

from our Elders

It has been a privilege to serve as chair for the elders this year. With Don's repositioning there is a flow on repositioning for us as leaders at Gateway. Don's resignation from senior leadership creates a huge gap that we need to step up to fill. In particular I want to share a couple of ways we are doing this and how a gentle culture shift is occurring, which remains consistent with our past and values, but all the same a fresh way of leading.

A few months ago, we invited our staff, trustees, and advisory group to put forward recommendations of people from our wider Gateway family to join our eldership team. This is a new collaborative process and has shaped our thinking, opened us to consider new possibilities and challenged us to consider how we develop leaders at Gateway. It has also been hugely encouraging as we sought to find the mind of Christ together. Our desire is to seek unity together rather than follow a democratic process.

Another area we have focused on this year is developing a collaborative approach to our mission strategy and implementation. Again, this aligns with what we have done before and there is now a new process for the allocation of our resources and a team in place to support this.

As we worshipped together in our Thanksgiving Service, I felt a clear word from the Lord drop into my head – STEP – Step up, step out and step in. I sense that God is happy, happy that you his people have stepped up into new areas of responsibility, stepped out and extended your reach, and stepped into the love and power of Jesus this year. I also sense that God is gently nudging us toward stepping up, out and into 2025 with confidence in his faithfulness and care.



Andrea Perry

Chair

Gateway Eldership

from our Trustees

It has been a busy and exciting year for us as we have worked to support the Lead Team, Elders and staff as they continue to serve our Gateway community.

As a Trust we have definitely felt the weight of the decisions we've had to make as we purchased a new building and now have a conditional offer for the sale of our current building. The ongoing support of our church family as these decisions have been made is greatly appreciated, and we continue to be blown away by the financial support and dedicated prayers of our congregation as we take on this big project.

The Trust has been able to leverage the different skills and experience of each member but have also relied on the expertise of staff and our wider church family members, navigating together decisions and working to provide governance over the assets, employment and many legal obligations that Gateway has.

Looking forward to 2025 we know there is much work to be done to ensure we wisely manage the giving of time, resources and money to further strengthen and grow our church community. Transitioning to a new building requires some careful decisions around finances, whilst we continue to support the Elders and Lead Team who ensure the direction of our church remains aligned with Gateways Values and Practices.

The Trust wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge Mike Frew and the exceptional work he has done to allow our church to realise the vision of a new home. Although it takes a team, he has played such a key role over 2024 in this space and we know we wouldn't be where we are today without his hard work and dedication.



Philippa Clear
Trust Chair

Operations



Operations

Sally and I have the privilege of looking after the operational and administration aspects of Gateway, this is often behind the scenes, making sure things are ordered, paid for, and organised for our Gateway family.

We are well supported by our wonderful volunteers, and we are grateful for their commitment within the operational areas. This includes Sunday admin, library, communion and catering teams. Thank you to each of you for all you do, it's really appreciated.

As an operations team we have had some key areas of responsibility in 2024: Pledge 490, Church family meetings, and voting to sell 950 Victoria Street, and now we are working with excitement on the processes required to help us move to our new space at 490 Grey Street next year.

Our key highlight this year was Sunday in the Sun in January. It was a great day to spend time together as a church family, worshiping together, watching those get baptised, and sharing communion together.



Kezz Gurusinghe
Head of Operations

Connections



Connections

It has been another encouraging year, as we endeavour to facilitate and support significant connections at Gateway for our people. 2024 has seen a continuation of connect groups meeting, new ones starting - many within the Young Adults area - with individuals supported to feel part of a smaller, unique community within our larger body and to grow in their discipleship to Jesus alongside others.

We have run two more Alpha courses, through which we have seen God moving and continuing to do so in people's lives. This will continue into 2025, with two new Alpha leaders taking the reins for this ministry, and previous leaders and helpers giving their time to be a part of this vital evangelistic tool going forward. We continue to look at helpful ways of discipling new Christians and those still seeking God and what all this means, post Alpha, in ways that help these people feel welcomed and accepted within our church community.

As part of our visit from Tania Harris we facilitated a women's event, where a large number of our Gateway women came and were further encouraged as to how to recognise God speaking in their lives.

In my conversations with many people from our community, I am always reminded that helping people feel connected is a whole-body effort. I am continually encouraged by people's love and heart for including others, even when it can be inconvenient and costly, and in doing so showing God's love and partnering with him in bringing people into the Kingdom and showing them what resilient discipleship looks like.

I especially want to extend thanks to all our volunteers in areas of connection:

- Our connect leaders who give of their time and homes consistently to lead our small groups.
- Welcome teams who show warmth and kindness at our Sunday gatherings and ensure safety for our people as well.
- The Alpha team, whose passion for this ministry is humbling.
- The faithful coffee teams who serve you on a Sunday and do the clean up behind the scenes afterwards - nothing is ever too much bother!
- And everyone else who makes a point of talking to someone, or inviting them out for coffee, over for dinner, giving them rides, and many other things seen, and unseen, that foster connection for the people we love and serve.

Thank you! You make our community a great place to be.



Ana Reddish
Connections Lead

Missions



Missions

This year, we are filled with gratitude as we reflect on God's faithfulness in our mission's work, both locally and internationally. Through your prayers and support, we've been able to extend Christ's love to people and communities near and far.

Internationally, we are once again encouraged by the stories and testimonies we hear from our workers and one of the many highlights was the success of our missions' trip to Cambodia. Here our team worked alongside a local charity to share the gospel, provide practical assistance, and encourage believers.

Locally, we've been privileged to serve in diverse ways including supporting vulnerable families through our Motel ministry and reaching out to and helping many of the different ethnic communities that help make up our city.

This year, we've also been privileged to support local initiatives through financial contributions, enabling vital work in our community not only to continue what they do, but also expand their influence.

Thank you to everyone who has supported these initiatives through your time, resources, and prayers. Together, we desire to make a tangible impact, and we look forward to continuing this work in the year ahead.



Chris Jones

On behalf of Gateway Global

Worship Team



Worship Team

2024 for us as a worship team started with the immense privilege of sharing our homegrown songs out at Festival One's new site near Karapiro. It was such a thrill for the team to lead our songs in a different environment, and to be able to support other local teams doing the same thing as well!

Some other highlights of the year included continuing to partner with our good friends at Activate and The Village through combined worship nights in April, July, and September. We continued to develop the Crave Worship Band with the help of Yiwen Kong, Mei Anne Foo, and John Azariah - thank you team! We also did another teaching session in both Tribe and Emerge early in the year.

On top of all of this, we learned and introduced 12 new songs into regular rotation for our gatherings, continued our rhythm of growing our kids in the space of worship with three Family Worship times in May, August, and November, joined forces with Sylvia to curate a Prayer and Worship space on Wednesdays at lunchtime, and also processed and delivered another 26 loads of firewood around Hamilton.

We are incredibly grateful to our faithful team of volunteers who show up early every week and give so generously of their time and talent to lead our Gateway whaanau in worship. Special mention needs to go to our leaders who plan carefully and carry the weight of leading every week. Thank you!! We are also grateful to you our Gateway whaanau for entering into the place of worship with us as we lead you and look forward to many more times of lifting high the name of Jesus together and encountering Him in the place of worship in 2025.



Nick Kraenzlin
Worship Team Lead

Tech, Creative & Communications



Technical

We have been so blessed by our volunteers who serve in the area of sound and media at our gatherings and events this past year. Week in and week out, they have served faithfully to ensure everything can be heard and seen well to best support our prayer, word and worship.

As we have come into this new year, we have begun planning our technical systems in preparation for the new building, and are excited to continue to serve God and our Gateway community well in the new space.



Hamish Berkers
Technical Lead

Creative and Communications

This year, we have focused on creating meaningful spaces—both online and in person—that encourage our collective growth in our relationship with Christ.

It has been a joy to organise and participate in prayer weeks, social media, and the ongoing communications that connect and inspire our church family. We are deeply grateful to the many volunteers who have given their time and talents to make these spaces possible.

As we continue to grow in creativity within our church, we're always excited to welcome new people who are passionate about sharing their creative gifts. Whether it's through prayer room installations, stage design, writing, photography, videography, social media, graphic design, illustration, or any other form of creative expression, please email petra@gatewaychurch.org.nz and we would love to explore how your talents could help encourage and uplift our church community.



Petra Reid
Creative and Communications Lead

Pastoral Team



from our Pastoral Team

All members of our staff team play an important role in varying ways, in providing pastoral input for our people. As a Pastoral Team, it is the specific focus and privilege of Chris, Hope and myself to support members of our Gateway community through painful times of crisis, of illness, of loss and grief. We also get to participate in the highlights, as we have the joy and privilege of facilitating such events as weddings and other family celebrations.

Part of our pastoral work spreads into the wider community via Christine Forster who facilitates our Change Maker Program for community members who are referred by such organisations as Family Start and the Department of Corrections. A special shout out to Christine, as the Department of Corrections has recently awarded her a Community Operations Partnership Award for her work. Congratulations Christine and thank you for representing Gateway so well in the Hamilton community.

Thank you too, to our many volunteers who, in so many ways, provide pastoral support to so many. You help us in our roles more than you would know.



Jan Carr
Pastoral Team Lead

Gateway Kids



Gateway Kids

We have had a fantastic year at Gateway Kids. On Sunday mornings across our preschool, primary and intermediate areas we regularly see around 170 kids. Our teams do an incredible job of creating a fun and safe environment while teaching our kids about Jesus. This year in each area there have been great times of learning biblical truth, fun connection with other kids, times of worship, games and energetic activities! There have been lots of events like the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Kingdoms 'Bikes and Trikes', Tribes 'PJ Party' and the Emerge 'Glow Stick Party' which have all been awesome for seeing connection and community happen outside of the usual Sunday mornings. We are so grateful to God for the year that has been, all our Gateway Kids and the awesome opportunity we have to partner with parents in the discipleship journey of our children.

During the week Mainly Music has had a great year of music, play and community as families from Gateway, other churches and our wider community have brought their preschoolers on Monday mornings to our programme. Midweek, we also have had a fortnightly 'Coffee and Korero' group for new parents and their babies which has been a special time of connection too.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person who has served at Gateway Kids this year, whether in Kingdom, Tribe or Emerge, on the check in or help team or at Mainly Music. We are so grateful for all you do in helping to sow into the lives of our kids, and without our volunteers we couldn't do what we do.

In 2025 we are making some changes to our bible curriculum we use to teach at Kingdom and Tribe. We will be moving to use a curriculum called Wonderink which helps kids to understand the fullness of who they are in God's Big Story as they discover four core truths - that they are known by God, loved by Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit and that they are children of God. We look forward to giving parents more information about this soon.

As a department, for the year ahead we are hopeful that each of our Gateway kids would continue to grow in knowledge and experience of God both at home and at church as they continue on the journey to becoming resilient disciples of Jesus.



Annabelle Russell
Gateway Kids Lead

Gateway Youth



Young Adults (18-30ish)

It has been an exciting year for Gateway Young Adults.

We have seen incredible growth in connection and community through our established rhythms, including Sunday gatherings, weekly connect groups, and bi-monthly meals or events. These regular touchpoints have created a structured and welcoming space for young adults to engage, grow, and feel part of something bigger.

Our connect groups have flourished, offering supportive environments where young adults can share life, deepen their faith, and build meaningful relationships. We are grateful to God for this growth and for the amazing leaders who have made it possible.

This year, we started a 'New to Gateway' group, which has been instrumental in integrating newcomers into our community. This weekly group has provided a safe space to get to know others, learn about Gateway, and experience the life of a connect group before joining the broader ministry.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to expand our discipleship pathways in connect groups to include deeper spiritual growth, character development, and leadership training. We're also planning to host monthly gatherings at evening services to help new attendees feel welcome and discover ways to get involved.

Our vision is for Gateway Young Adults to be a thriving community marked by strong discipleship and mentorship, offering consistent support and opportunities for both spiritual and personal growth.

Thank you to all our leaders, volunteers, and the young adults who make this ministry so special. We can't wait to see what God has in store for 2025.

Crave (High School)

Crave has had an incredible year of growth and transformation.

Our leaders have cultivated a strong and welcoming culture, making Crave more than just a youth group: it's a place where young people feel at home, connect with each other, and grow in their faith. One of the most exciting highlights this year was seeing 16 youth baptized, a beautiful testimony to how God is moving in Crave. We are also thrilled to have Brayden stepping into a leadership role, bringing fresh energy and vision to our team.

Easter Camp was another standout moment, bringing together over six churches with the support of CYC. This event continues to be a powerful space for sharing the love and story of Jesus and building strong youth communities. We're eagerly anticipating next year's camp, expecting over 500 attendees and seven different churches working together.

Looking to the future, we are praying for our upcoming mission trip to Cambodia with our Year 12 and 13 students. This trip represents a long-held dream and a chance to make a meaningful impact. Our heart is for this to be a bi-yearly opportunity for these students.

Our vision for Crave is to become a stable, rooted community where youth encounter Jesus and form lasting connections. By the end of 2025, we want Crave to be known as a safe, impactful youth group in Hamilton. Looking further ahead, we dream of an outreach-focused youth group to support at-risk youth, offering a safe space where they can connect, share meals, and feel supported.

Thank you to all our leaders, parents, and Crave youth for being part of this incredible journey. We're excited to see how God will continue to move in the year ahead.



Luke and Jessie Waterhouse
Gateway Youth

Prayer Ministry and SALT



Prayer

In 2024 prayer has grown in profile and with monthly prayer cards, prayer pledge 490, Easter, Pentecost and Advent prayer weeks, we have seen people dive into the prayer space with enthusiasm and buy in – thank you!

Sunday prayer ministry volunteers and our Crisis prayer team have stood in prayer with many of you as you have navigated the difficult seasons that we all face. Our prayer volunteers have covered our ministries both within Gateway and in the community with prayer and our Wednesday morning prayer meetings have prayed for many aspects of Gateway's life and beyond into our world, as we have sought to invite His Kingdom to invade these spaces.

Going into 2025 we hope and pray for a 'snowball' effect on what we have seen in 2024. Our move to Grey Street will offer us new and exciting opportunities to grow the prayer space.

To all of you that have prayed, and continue to do so, we say a huge thank you, we are grateful beyond measure.

SALT:

(Seniors Accomplishing Life Together)

2024 has seen our SALT area continue to thrive. Those in this demographic have supported each other in the difficult times and laughed and encouraged one another in the good as they continue to seek after more of Jesus and His Kingdom. They have fellowshiped together over food, coffee and the Word and in so doing many friendships have developed and older ones been renewed.

This area runs smoothly because of the volunteers within it that organise and facilitate the groups. Thank you so much for your continuing help, energy, input and faith. It is an inspiration to those of us who stand and watch you live out the fact that "although we retire from work, we never retire from life".



Sylvia Dalton
Prayer and SALT Lead

Building & Pledge 490



Building

In 2024 our Church family voted to sell our 950 Victoria Street and 21 Clifton Road properties and purchase 490 Grey Street. Without doubt this was a significant step in securing a home for current and future generations. Following a period of marketing we received 4 offers to purchase 950 Victoria Street, our Trustees elected to enter into a conditional contract which was subject to due diligence and the granting of resource consent by Hamilton City Council. We now have confirmation that due diligence has been completed to the purchaser's satisfaction, and we now await the results of the resource consent process.

Our property located at 21 Clifton Road remains on the market albeit with an unconditional back up offer with settlement scheduled November 2026. We have a strong desire to see our offices sold prior to this date.

The fit out of our new property situated at 490 Grey Street will commence in 2025, this process will require some careful planning, and while we are able to complete a portion of the fit out with existing cash reserves, we unfortunately cannot complete all the work required without the receipt of sale proceeds from 950 Victoria Street.

There is certainly growing excitement and lots of questions about when we might be able to move. I hesitate to provide any dates as I am constantly proven to be highly unrealistic! Would you please pray that God's perfect timing will take place?

I want to specifically thank so many of you who have prayed, financially contributed, encouraged and demonstrated remarkable adaptability as we have needed to consider a new home after many decades. Thank you. I wish to also thank our trustees for their unwavering support, guidance and direction.

Pledge 490

During the course of the year we asked that you might consider financially supporting the costs associated with purchasing and fitting out 490 Grey Street. We estimate that pledges made during this period total \$779,000, some of which was received during the 2024 financial year.

Contributions received 2024

Increased giving designated for building	\$62,159
One off Donations	\$393,061

Interest saving 2024

Additional offers of financial support have resulted in monthly interest savings of \$13,500 p.m.	\$30,000
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Again, I thank you for your financial sacrifice and prayer. We look forward to 2025 with excitement and in faith.



Mike Frew
General Manager

Finance Report

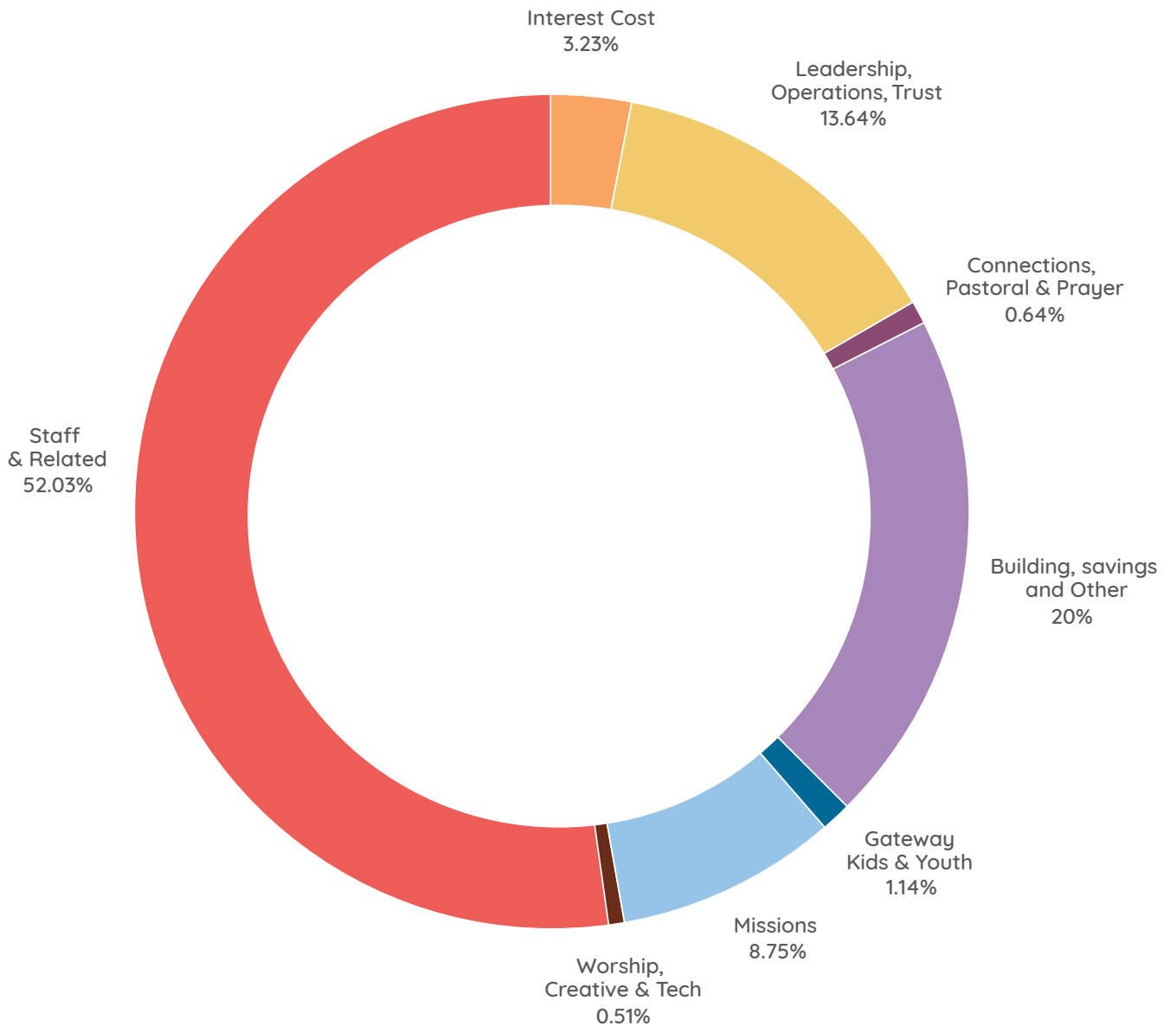
We are pleased to provide the 2024 finance report. Please note that we have been operating with two trusts, the old trust (Gateway Christian Centre Trust) and the new trust (Gateway Church Hamilton trust). For ease of reporting the financial information that follows is an amalgamation of the two trusts.

Audited financials will be available in due course and will be posted to the Charities Website:

<https://register.charities.govt.nz/CharitiesRegister/Search>

Income Investment

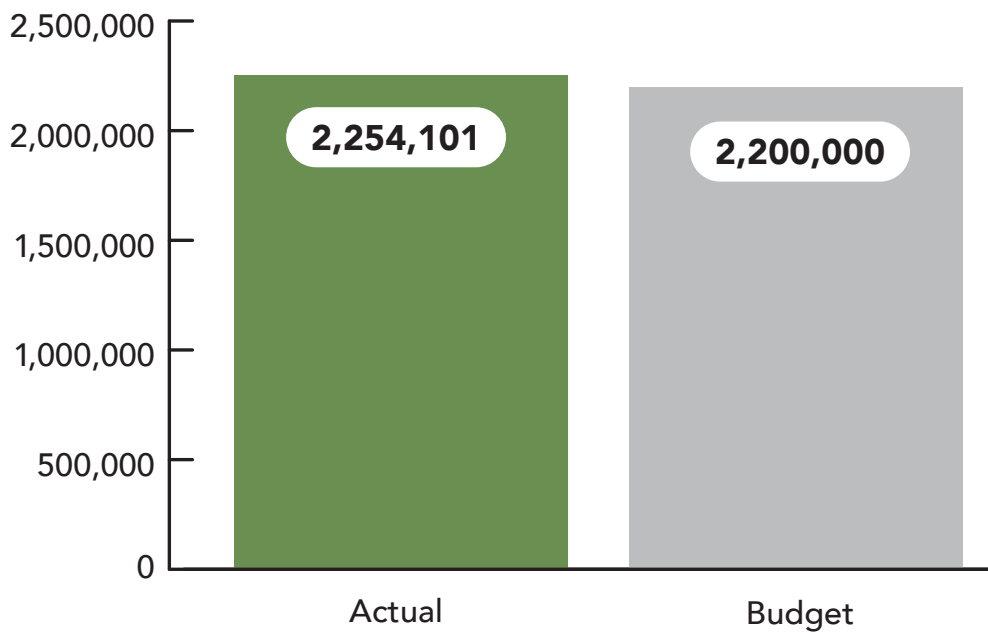
Total Income (Includes other income, excludes Pledge 490 donations) of \$2,522,890 has been distributed as follows



General Giving

General giving exceeded our 2024 budget by \$54,000 and represented a \$166,000 year on year increase.

Your giving impacts thousands both inside our church and to our wider community. We are so thankful for your generosity that allows us to live out our mission and vision, whoever we are, wherever we go.



Detailed Financial Performance (Unaudited)

1 Jan 24 - 31 Dec 24 (Trusts amalgamated)

Profit & Loss

Income	Actual	Budget	Variance
Giving	\$2,254,101	\$2,200,000	\$54,101
Pledge 490	\$455,220	\$ —	\$455,220
Other Income	\$268,789	\$142,000	\$126,789
Total Income	\$2,978,111	\$2,342,000	\$636,111

Expenses

Connections	\$3,576	\$6,000	\$2,424
Creative & Communications	\$4,793	\$8,000	\$3,207
Gateway Kids	\$18,530	\$22,000	\$3,470
Gateway Youth	\$10,202	\$10,000	\$(202)
Interest Expense	\$81,928	\$ —	\$(81,928)
Leadership	\$38,247	\$48,000	\$9,753
Missions	\$197,311	\$225,410	\$28,099
Operations	\$302,119	\$288,000	\$(14,119)
Pastoral	\$9,883	\$11,000	\$1,117
Prayer Teams	\$2,812	\$5,000	\$2,188
Tech	\$2,290	\$3,000	\$710
Wages & Staffing Costs	\$1,267,903	\$1,320,000	\$52,097
Other Staff expenses	\$44,726	\$48,000	\$3,274
Worship Team	\$5,873	\$6,000	\$127
Trust Expenses	\$5,638	\$10,000	\$4,362
Total Expenses	\$1,995,830	\$2,010,410	\$14,580

Net Surplus **\$982,281**

Capital Expenses

(Excludes Property Purchase)

	<i>Actual</i>
Building	\$196,530
Other	\$19,926
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Total Capital Expenses	\$216,456
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Net Surplus after Cap Ex spending	<u>\$765,824</u>

Financial Position

(Summary Unaudited)

31 Dec 2024

Current Assets:

	2024 Actual
Bank accounts, Cash and Term Investments	\$2,421,708

Fixed Assets:

Property plant and equipment	\$24,383,771
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Total Assets

Total Assets	<u>\$26,805,479</u>
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Liabilities:

Bank and Vendor Loans	\$11,000,000
Other	\$230,338
Total Liabilities	\$11,230,338

Net Position	<u>\$15,575,141</u>
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Notes

- Gateway has committed to investing 10% of general giving into Missions, at the time of writing, a further \$28,000 is yet to be distributed, we expect that this will occur within the first quarter of 2025.
- Utilities, Insurances and other operational costs continue to rise, budget was exceeded in this area by \$14,119. We continue to review costs where possible.
- Interest cost was not budgeted for prior to the beginning of the financial year, we did not have any certainty as to our borrowing capability, property settlement dates etc. Budgeting will have a greater degree of accuracy for our 2025 year.
- We remain committed to keeping salary costs within the recommended guidelines of 50-60% of Giving.
- Despite the unknown and pressure of rising costs we have remained within budget; this is a credit to our staff who remain prudent with the finances entrusted to them.

Summary

- As always, we are grateful for the work of Kezz Gurusinghe, our Head of Operations, her attention to detail is reflected in our financial position against budget. Thank you Kezz for your care and attention, you are greatly appreciated.
- I noted that the 2023 year was 'a significant and extra-ordinary year', 2024 was no different as we embarked on the required property transactions, funding approvals and financial structuring to provide a solid foundation for our future home.

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church of resilient disciples
of Jesus, committed to bringing
God's Kingdom whoever
we are, wherever we go.*

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