



ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2025



Contents

Introduction	03
Highlights Summary	04
Sunday Gatherings	05
Worship	07
Prayer	09
Pastoral Care	10
Villages	11
Kids	12
Boys' Brigade	16
Beloved	17
Youth	18
Alpha	20
Ministry Apprentice	21
Wholeness	23
Minster Men	24
Young Adults	25
Resourcing	26
Communication & Media	27
Safeguarding	28
Finance	29





Introduction

A Year in Review: Celebrating *God's Faithfulness* at Telford Minster.

Over the past twelve months, God has done more than we could ever have imagined, and this report offers a glimpse of that. It's not easy to capture the full depth and breadth of life and ministry at Telford Minster, but we hope what follows gives a sense of how we are joining in with God's work across Telford as we seek to Make Jesus Known.

None of what has taken place at Telford Minster would have been possible without God, and so we give Him thanks first and foremost. His hand has been on it all; from new people arriving after sensing God stirring something in them, to the Holy Spirit speaking deeply and powerfully among our young adults, to Alpha courses that have sparked meaningful questions and formed new communities. We've seen new children's groups launched, new ministries formed, and people baptised, confirmed, and healed. The list goes on.

We also give heartfelt thanks for the extraordinary team of people who serve as the hands and feet of Jesus to make all this possible. We're grateful for our dedicated staff team, for all who serve, giving their time and energy to create space for others to encounter Jesus,

and for each person who is part of this church family.

We are truly thankful to God, and to all who have played a part in the life of Telford Minster. And so, we begin with a prayer of thanks:

+ + +

Gracious God, We thank You for Your faithfulness over this past year. For lives transformed, hearts encouraged, and Your Spirit at work among us - we give You all the glory. Thank You for every moment of wonder, every act of service, and every glimpse of Your presence. As we look back with deep gratitude, we look forward with faith, trusting that You will continue to guide, provide, and renew. In Jesus' name, Amen.

In the pages that follow, you'll find stories, statistics, testimonies and highlights from this past year, as well as an overview of how we've sought to steward all that God has gifted us.

We hope this report inspires you and strengthens your faith, reminding you of all that God is doing in and through our community and beyond. As you read, we invite you to join with us in prayer for Telford Minster, for those who lead and serve, and for the town that God would continue to work bringing lasting change, healing, and hope.

*With huge gratitude,
Laura, Steph and the Telford Minster Team.*

Highlights



+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

MAY 2024
Annual General Meeting

JUL
Wholeness Gathering Launch
New Wine Festival
1 Baptism

SEP
4 Baptisms
Andy Kind Comedy Night
Alpha Course Begins
MA Cohort 24-25 Launches

NOV
5 Baptisms
Boys' Brigade & Beloved Launch
Experience Christmas
Wreath Workshop

JAN 2025
Alpha Launch Night
Boys' Brigade & Beloved Launch
Wreath Workshop

MAR
Pancake Party
Experience Easter

JUN
Pentecost All-In Gatherings
Multiply Conference, 10 Attendees
Confirmations - 4 Confirmed, 1 Baptised

AUG
Minster Fest
Sabbath Sundays

OCT
Light Party
Prayer Week Begins
14 Baptisms

DEC
Beer & Carols Event
Craft Extravaganza
Carols Sunday
Best Bedtime Story
Christmas

FEB
Reset Women's Conference
14 Baptisms
Prayer Week
5 Year Celebration

APR
Easter Egg Giveaway
Craft 'Egg'Stravaganza
Easter
6 Baptisms





Sunday Gatherings

“

...Telford Minster has been life changing, and I thank God for having such an amazing church...

In August 2024 I made the decision to give my life to God. Although I grew up in a Polish Catholic family, my parents never really took their faith seriously, so even though I got baptised, had my first communion and confirmation I never actually felt like I knew Jesus.

Since the first time I went to Telford Minster, I could tell God led me there for a reason. I could immediately feel the overwhelming sense of community and presence of God; the joy I felt was indescribable I truly felt like I found my place. Since I started coming to church and Young Adults village, I've made new friends, grown in my faith and learned many lessons. Telford Minster has completely changed my idea of what a church is compared to what I grew up with, it makes going fun, engaging as well as being educational. The people I've met here are some of the warmest, kindest, most understanding people I've met, I always feel seen and comfortable it truly has become my safe place, my second home and second family. My decision to come to Telford Minster has been life changing, and I thank God for having such an amazing church in my area and bringing me to it.

- Alicja, Age 18

“For where two or three
gather in my name,
there am I with them.”

— Matthew 18v20

*Telford Minster Lead,
Rev'd Laura Lenander writes;*

Sunday gatherings at Telford Minster have grown - not just in number, but in depth of encounter with God. Like the early church in Acts, we are seeing a community devoted to teaching, worship, and prayer, where God's presence is tangible, and lives are being transformed. A key part of this growth has been the warm and consistent welcome extended to everyone who walks through our doors. We've seen new people joining us each week, and it's been exciting to see them immediately embraced and plugged into the life of the church.

We've explored powerful teaching series, from Big Bible Stories and Prayer to Testimonies, the Holy Spirit, Exodus, and Ephesians. Each series has shaped and challenged us, deepening our faith and discipleship.

Minster kids and youth have flourished, outgrowing their spaces as more young people engage with and get involved. This exciting challenge means we're actively seeking next steps to create more room for them to thrive.

The Sunday 10am and 4pm services offering two distinct opportunities to connect in worship and teaching. We've also had a couple of early morning gatherings, which have been well received and appreciated by those who are seeking a quieter, more reflective time of worship.

The future is full of expectation - we are seeing God move and can't wait to see how He continues to grow and shape us as a church when we gather!

+ + + + +

Highlights

45

Baptisms! 45 Decisions of
stepping from death to life in Jesus.



Worship

*Worship and Creative Pastor,
Harry Warrell writes;*

Worship is much more than a time on Sundays. Over the past year, we've seen, heard, and joined in with the sound of heaven in this place. It has been a joy to see the team grow throughout the year, welcoming new vocalists and instrumentalists, and watching some of our young people take on the sound and visuals side of worship too.

As a church community, we have stepped out boldly in singing and lifting up the praises of God. It has been exciting to see more of our children leading us with passion and enthusiasm, sharing their favourite All-In songs. We have also witnessed a growing hunger for God's presence in worship beyond Sundays, including at Wide Open Space nights and during Prayer Weeks.

Earlier in 2025, we have experimented with a new Sunday layout, bringing the worship team off the stage and into

the round, with the whole gathered community around the cross of Jesus. Many expressed a profound intimacy with God's presence and with one another that they had not sensed before.

We hope to see a continued boldness in our times of gathered praise, where personal agendas and preferences are laid aside as we unite with one voice to proclaim God's glory, celebrate His mighty hand at work, and contend for the coming of His kingdom in Telford.

Highlights

□ WORSHIPPERS GATHERING

There were eight new members of team involved across Carol Service Sunday who have joined since the start of 2024. And over the last year, we've had seven young members of team who have joined us from Minster Kids/Minster Youth.

□ BEER AND CAROLS EVENT

With great joy, we hosted a Beer and Carols night at the festive Tipi for the Southwater Christmas Market. A wonderful evening of singing carols together and inviting the people of Telford to join in!





“

...We as a family are blessed to say that we are part of Telford Minster...

It has given us a lot throughout the 3+ years we have been here. The community that we have is one of the reasons why we never want to move out of Telford. The prayer and ministry that we have has done miracles in our life and has been our pillar of support through hard times. The support that we have received, be it spiritual, emotional, financial or physical is overwhelming. Telford Minister is a beacon for everyone in Telford for Jesus our Saviour and we stand as testimonies for Him.

- The Jones'

Prayer

*Telford Minster Lead,
Rev'd Laura Lenander writes;*

Prayer is central to everything we do at Telford Minster and this past year it has continued to grow as we've grown as a community. Our prayer weeks have been powerful times, helping us contend for God's presence and invite others in from local churches around Telford. Breakthrough has come through our intercession WhatsApp group, where real-time prayer and testimony have strengthened faith. We have also seen Wide Open Space continue to grow in times of deep contending prayer across all ages.

Advent and Lent have drawn us together in focused seasons of prayer, deepening our unity and dependence on God. Prayer ministry has also grown, with people finding healing and wholeness through the Holy Spirit.

Looking ahead, we're excited to go deeper in intercession, stepping into greater boldness and expectancy as we continue to pursue God in prayer.

+ + + + + + +

“ **The gatherings
have blessed me so
much...**

There is a prayer request board, which allows for anyone reading it, to pray for somebody else. Having the opportunity to pray with other believers, always makes me feel closer to God who always hears us. (Matthew 18v20.)

- Angela



Pastoral Care



Tam Sheen, Pastoral Care Lead, writes;

Telford Minster seeks to be a place where people can find freedom and live life to the full in Jesus. Key to that desire is a strong and supportive pastoral system. During the last year we have brought together a team of ten amazing volunteers and developed a strong system to support them.

The team have all gone through the safer recruitment process which requires both references and significant safeguarding training to be completed. The core team have monthly meetings where there is ongoing training on things like confidentiality and good practice and a chance to share learning.

We are committed to being a listening ear and to walk with people who need someone to come alongside them whilst they navigate difficult issues or decisions. We commit to both pray with people and for them. Our volunteers are not trained counsellors but have a list of professionals and helplines that we can signpost people to where appropriate.

When someone is referred for pastoral help they are assigned to either one or a pair of the team who will make contact

with them to arrange the next step. The meetings can be over the phone or in person to suit individual needs. Whilst there is no fixed pattern, most people will have three meetings with regular reviews to see how things are going and what is the best next step. Once the meetings are finished, a member of the team will check in periodically to see how things are going.

As part of our framework we use 'Keys to Freedom' which is work book from a Christ-centered charity called Mercy UK. For many years they have worked with those needing help and have perhaps suffered trauma. It has developed an easily accessible toolkit and in their own words 'we want to see every Christian able to navigate their lives from a place of freedom, wholeness and understanding, using the biblical tools of transformation made available by our Heavenly Father.' All our village leaders and core pastoral team have this book and have been encouraged to work through it for themselves.

Villages are also an important part of the care we offer as a church and we would encourage everyone to be at the very least connected to a village where they can share life in smaller groups.

Villages

Telford Minster Lead, Rev'd Laura Lenander writes;

Villages at Telford Minster have seen significant growth, with one multiplying and others preparing to do the same. These communities are thriving as places of discipleship, connection, and mission.

Families and children are increasingly engaged, finding a sense of belonging and purpose within Villages. This has strengthened relationships and created vibrant intergenerational spaces of faith.

Looking ahead, our vision is for some Villages to become distinct missional worshipping communities. As they grow, we anticipate even greater impact in drawing people to Jesus and shaping new expressions of church.

8

Villages currently gathering throughout the week with more on the way.

3

Villages launched in the last year.

145

Individually actively engaged in Villages.



“Village has helped me belong again to a community and a family where we can really get to know each other, and delve into the deep things of God.
- Samantha

Kids



Highlights

CULTIVATING CONNECTION

There were 15 primary schools connected with across the year, with 59 separate activities with schools.

GROWING YOUNGER

We've seen Kids stepping out in evangelism in their school contexts, inviting classmates and friends to give church a try.

19

Children baptised with 3 Thanksgivings.

3487

Children met through outreach activities.

What An Evangelist!

...Two of these Baptisms came as a direct result of an invitation from a child in Minster Kids to come to church - what an evangelist!

- Pam

I am so thankful for all God is doing in and through the children at Minster Kids! We have continued to grow and connect with many new families, with average attendance increasing every term - currently 30+ each week. Behind the numbers are children who are encountering God.

Deepening faith has been a major focus in our Sunday sessions this year, so we aren't just learning about God as we study the Bible but we are engaging as apprentices - asking what does this teach us about who God is, how he feels about me and how will this change how I interact with my family, friends and at school? Children are given a challenge to take into their week as they live out their faith and there are so many stories of the impact. For example;

One child, having committed to finding opportunities to share their faith at school that week, took their seed into school and recounted the entire parable for their class!

Another child committed to praying for C, someone they found difficult at school. They reported feeling calmer all week and even invited C to join in their game, they felt sure this was evidence of God at work, changing their heart.

It has been fabulous to celebrate with the 14 Minster Kids who made the decision to be baptised this year, articulating the difference knowing Jesus has made in their lives. I can almost hear the angels rejoice as the children share their testimony each time. Two of these Baptisms came as a

Exerience Event Testimonies

'These sessions are brilliant - please keep doing them!'

- Y6 teacher

'The children were able to explore the complex themes of the Easter story in a sensitive way'

- Y5 teacher

+ + + + + + +

direct result of an invitation from a child in Minster Kids to come to church - what an evangelist!

Explaining their decision to be baptised, another child spoke of knowing Jesus was asking them to 'take the next step' with him and explained, even though it was way outside their comfort zone, they wanted to be obedient.

Our children have been leading the way with our Mission Partners too. Having heard about the Mentoring Programme run by Transforming Lives for Good (TLG), the children immediately wanted to support. We committed to pray but the children also wanted to help practically and came up with some great fundraising ideas, the first of which was the cake sale, organised and run by Minster Kids that raised £300.

Working with the children is so faith building for the whole team – one leader commented how great it is 'The children are now so able to say how God is speaking to them in their week!'

As we look to the future, I would love to grow the team to ensure our youngest members (Pre School children) have some guided input.

Open Doors Into Schools

I continue to work in Primary Schools across Telford in a range of ways - anything from class-based sessions like 'Grill a Christian' to workshops in different year groups or whole school assemblies. I frequently support RE leaders in their vision and planning too. A week may contain things as diverse as working in Reception classes at Hollinswood School bringing a Christian perspective to their topic 'Wonderful World' to exploring the theme of suffering with Year 6 at Grange Park School.

In addition, we host hundreds of children from Primary Schools in the Minster and sharing the gospel continues to be at the heart of this. We welcomed over 1,000 to Experience Christmas (over 900 children and 100 adults) described by one school as 'a wonderful, multi-sensory experience delivering the real reason for Christmas.'

One Y5 child commented '*Now I know why Jesus is important*'.

All evaluations were incredibly positive, citing the 'quality of resources, engaging activities' and 'clear communication.' Looking after the staff is an important part of all of these visits and many staff refer to being made so welcome, with comments like, 'I love coming to this place, there's something about it, it's always calm and my worries just fall away' regularly appear on evaluations.

One family, who recently joined the Minster community, came as a direct result of the children in their care coming with their school to Experience Christmas and being invited to our Christmas craft session.

In addition to Experience Christmas for Key Stage 2 children, I worked with 3 Schools 'Unpacking the Christmas Story' in an interactive way with over 200 children in Nursery and Reception. I was aware there was a gap in the provision for upper Key Stage 1 and so introduced the 'Christmas in a Box' for 150 children in a couple of schools, where 6-year-olds were reminded how much God loves them. This workshop was well received, and I'd love to be able to grow the schools team to be able offer this more widely next year.



Schools work continues to grow and I am thrilled that we have been approached by 3 new schools this year.

During Easter, over 900 children from nine schools across Telford attended Experience Easter and five schools - almost 400 children in Key Stage 1 discovered the real story of Easter through the Egg Hunt workshop.

Maximising opportunities for families to connect with us is key and so all children we see as part of our work in Primaries this Easter were invited to our Easter Craft Egg-stravaganza where we welcomed 268 people through the doors to explore the story of Easter further.

+ + + + + + +

Outreach - Minster Minis, Caring for Families

We love welcoming families from across Telford to Minster Minis (our group for 0-5s and their parents/carers) and have continued to grow. A few of our adults who don't join us on Sundays are certainly evangelical in encouraging others to come, saying,

'because you look after us so well'. Last week, we reached 55 children plus their accompanying adults!

Building relationships is key at Minis and it is so encouraging to see the seeds of faith sewn in the practical way we share the love of Jesus begin to sprout. The mum of one of our Minis families, who we have journeyed with for several years, has been exploring faith and this year made the decision to bring her children to be baptised saying, 'I understand how important it is to be part of God's family'. Currently there are several adults asking questions about faith and I have been able to share my testimony over a coffee or a walk. Some parents/carers have been asking to read the stories of Jesus with their children, and I have been able to gift age-appropriate bibles to those asking, thanks to the generosity of the Minster family. It is so exciting to see what God is doing - please join me in praying for these seeds to continue to flourish and for others to join the team to get alongside the adults and share their faith in this safe space.

God is at work – in our children, in the schools, in the families we connect with. Be encouraged and ask God how he may be calling you to join in with all he is doing.



A group of boys in various colored shirts (red, blue, yellow) are holding a large rainbow flag, stretching it across the top of the page. One boy in the center wears a white t-shirt with 'CARTER 10' on the back.

Boys' Brigade

Ash Robinson writes;

1st Telford Boys Brigade has been richly blessed by God with an incredibly successful start. We have 22 members across 4 sections. Despite being a new group, the boys have shown remarkable enthusiasm, including significant growth among all of our SEN children. Such is the enjoyment and fun had on a Tuesday night, a few of our parents have mentioned that they now use being able to go to Boys Brigade as a tool to encourage good behaviour in the home!

Recent Activities:

Stafford Park Fire Station Visit - The boys learned about fire safety, met local firemen, and gained a deeper appreciation for community services.

First Aid Training - Telford First Responders taught the boys essential first aid skills, including CPR and emergency handling.

Visit from Battalion President - The President visited and praised the group's progress, offering encouragement.

VE Day - The Army will visit the group, and tickets to two VE Day events in London (the procession and concert) have been secured for 9 boys and 6 officers.

BB Unite Camp - A group of 9 boys and 3 officers will attend the camp, with a fundraising event planned at Asda to support travel costs

Highlights

GROWING

The group is now the largest Boys Brigade in Telford and the second largest in the Wolverhampton Battalion, reflecting the dedication of both officers and boys.

ACHIEVEMENT

We have been taking part in local competitions to increase our representation. We currently have 6 boys all taking part in the 3 highest awards that Boys Brigade has to offer. These are significant achievements and not gained lightly.

LOOKING AHEAD

The group is excited about growth and future activities, with plans for adjustments to accommodate the increasing size. Ongoing prayer and support will continue to guide the Boys Brigade in fulfilling its mission.

CONCLUSIONS

The group's success is a testament to God's blessings, the commitment of officers, and the support of families. With continued prayer and dedication, 1st Telford Boys Brigade will continue to thrive and make a positive impact in the community.

Beloved

Naomi Robinson and Karina Gabriel write;

We offer a space for girls age 7+ to come along and hear about Jesus, be creative, have fun and enjoy spending time together.

Our main topic has been women of the Bible and relating that to what Jesus offers us and the truths that He speaks into our lives. We have used various creative opportunities like drawing, watercolours, bracelet making alongside our conversations to help the girls understand biblical truths that we trust will give them confidence in who they are and who they were made to be.

Highlights

CREATIVE ARTS

A particular art exercise we did involved drawing the outline of a face. Outside the outline, we wrote things that had been said to us that were unkind, and then inside the

frame, we wrote what God says about us. It was an impactful night, and one of the girls suggested at the end that we crossed out the negative words in response to what God says about them.

ATTENDANCE

We have 14 girls who regularly attend and there is a cross section of those who are regular to church on a Sunday and those who are not. It has been a great opportunity for those who are part of the Minster to invite other girls along. One of our girls, not from a church background who regularly attends, has shown an interest in being baptised.

STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS

The girls who regularly attend church are deepening their relationships with the other girls and are becoming more able to share their personalities, dreams, goals, and fears, as they have become used to the safe space surrounded by other girls in which to do this. One girl has been able to share the difficulties she faces at school.

“What has been the highlight of your week?”

“Right here, right now at Beloved.”



Youth

Youth Pastor Nicole Walkley writes;

Over the past year, we've witnessed amazing growth in our young people. It has been a great blessing to see how the young people speak about their relationship with Jesus. To watch that relationship deepen has been beautiful. Together, we have continued to study, grown in confidence to ask questions and to learn more about who Jesus is and how the good news of the resurrection transforms our lives.

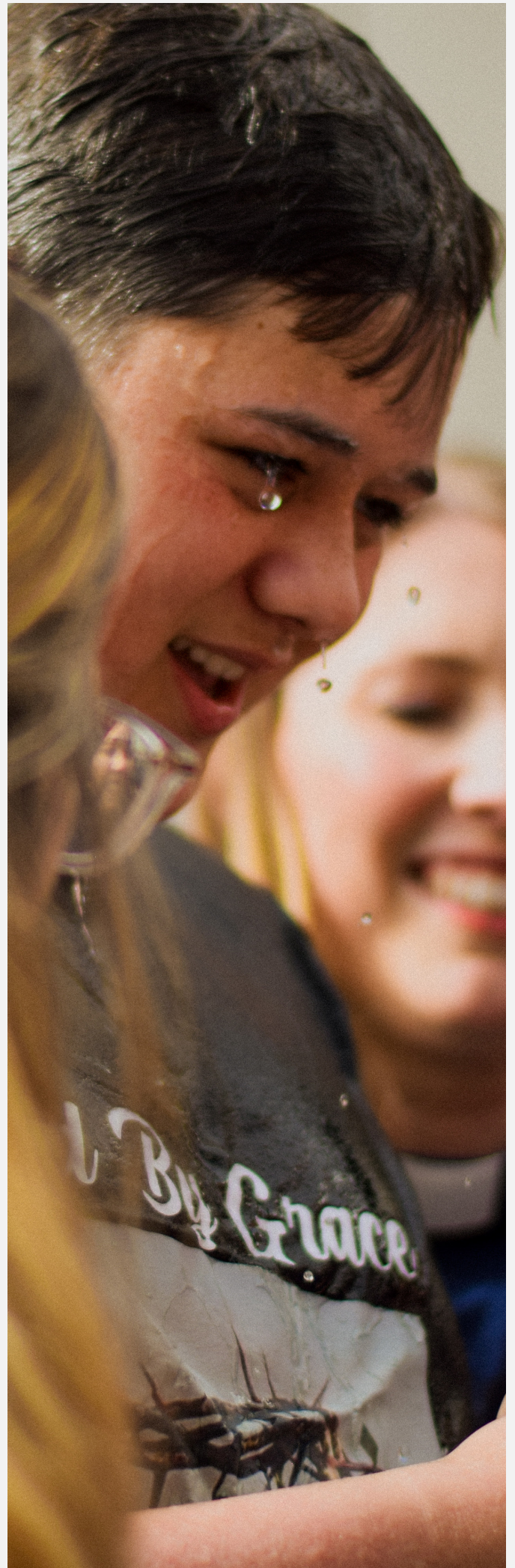
Highlights

□ FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH

Many of the Friday Night Youth do not currently attend church on a Sunday. However, every Friday that we gather there is a real sense of the Holy Spirit at work in their lives. In the game and talk section of the evening, they ask amazing questions and speak about Jesus with real depth and understanding. Friday Night Youth has become a safe space for the young people to speak openly about their feelings, and to receive prayer for them. There is a real feeling of freedom breaking out.

□ SUNDAY YOUTH

On a Sunday, it has been great to see the youths' enthusiasm to go for their youth session. There is joy in the Sunday sessions with the young people, and the youth are really excited to engage in the teaching and games. It has been lovely to hear them speak about the power of God, and for them to know deeply that God is preparing a way for them in any decision they face



and in any circumstances that they find themselves in.

YOUTH VILLAGE

It's been amazing to see community grow across older and younger youth. The older youth have grown to support and encourage the younger youth in their discipleship by having weekly check in opportunities with each other. It's also been beautiful to see each of them become more aware of how we can apply the Gospel to our everyday lives.

SCHOOLS

A highlight from our school-work has been the year 7 chapel workshops at Holy Trinity Academy. I went in every Wednesday afternoon to deliver a workshop to year 7 classes about chapel, worship and prayer. Towards the end of the session, young people were invited to ask any questions about faith and Jesus. This invitation would come with questions about baptism, why Jesus died, and why is Jesus relevant today. It was beautiful to see this generation curious and open to know more about faith. For them to know deeply that God prepares a way for them in every decision they face and in any circumstances they find themselves in.

9

Young people baptised.

7

Secondary Schools we've connected with.

“ ... They even have a group chat to talk about it...

The girls are so glad to have a space to see each other frequently as they go to different high schools now. They all really look forward to Friday Night Youth and even have a group chat to talk about it.

- Parent of Youth

“ ... I love being able to walk alongside the youth...

I love being able to walk alongside the youth that are embedded into the church and those that aren't, and to set up spaces to invest in them.

- Byron





Harry and Nicole, Alpha Leads, write;

Over the year, we have seen two Alpha courses run — one in the autumn term and one kicking off with a Launch Night in January 2025, where we enjoyed food, live music, and digging into session one together.

We've been joined by new faces, seeking to know more about the ways of Jesus or simply curious about faith and the difference it makes in their lives. Both courses have been a gateway for people making Telford Minster their home, with some even making the commitment to give their lives to Jesus, be baptised, or reaffirm their baptism through confirmation.

There have been times of incredible discussion across the sessions, with many people sticking around after closing to continue speaking together, sharing about their lives, and asking questions. We even saw guests praying for one another around tables, hearing from the Holy Spirit for the first time, and receiving prophetic words and pictures with gladness.

We have also been blessed to see a growing team of wonderful volunteers, who have been instrumental in hosting conversations, preparing a place of radical welcome for guests, and praying with hunger for Jesus' presence to be felt richly by each and every guest, no matter their previous experience.

In running Alpha, we have also seen three young people come along with their parents. A highlight has been sitting with the young people and going through the questions at an age-appropriate level. Not only that, but hearing testimonies of how Jesus loves them and what He has done for them has been a joy.

49

Alpha guests across the year

11

Alpha attendees made steps of faith in Baptism and Confirmation.

Ministry Apprentice



Harry, MA Lead, write;

It is a profound joy to walk alongside our wonderful group of Ministry Apprentice students — individuals taking intentional time across the year to know Jesus and His Word more deeply, grow in the ways of His kingdom, and develop as apprentices of Jesus: understanding and following His call, and gaining new skills. They have engaged in a wide variety of ministry areas, gathered regularly to deepen their knowledge of God's Word, and demonstrated great drive to serve God's kingdom in this place.

Throughout the year, the MA's have participated in monthly sessions following the *Practicing the Way* course, journeying through the intentional formation of following Jesus, doing as He did, and becoming more like Him. These Gather Nights have been spaces of deep and intentional community, where we raise one another up in prayer and practically encourage one another in constructing a life rhythm centered on following Jesus.

Over the year, we have also engaged in term-long studies of God's Word: letting Scripture master us in how we resist the

counter-formation of the world around us, understanding Biblical poetry, and following Lenten practices alongside the rest of the church.

Many MA's have expressed a profound sense of reformation during this year's cohort — of God refining them spiritually, bringing them back to His truth and His Word, and equipping them for the next season of radically following Him in all they do.

Highlights

□ SHARING FAITH

Seeing MA students getting stuck into ministry, sharing testimonies during our Pentecost gatherings.

□ LEADERS OF TOMORROW, TODAY

MA students speaking on Sunday's, leading gatherings and birthing new ministries.

□ DOING A NEW THING

MA students have not only been active in coming alongside existing ministry areas, but dreaming up and beginning new ways of reaching new people and growing faith in others.

3

MA students took part in the 2023-2024 cohort.

11

Have joined for the 2024-2025 cohort, with a growing number looking to join us in September 2025.

“ I never realised how important ministry and community actually are until I came to Telford Minster.

Thanks to the Ministry apprenticeship programme, I've been able to receive the encouragement, discipleship and Kingdom skills needed to really dive into what God has been calling me to do. Growing up, being social and confident has always been really difficult for me, but now it's a breeze because I have open access to people and an environment where God is truly at the core; allowing me to become who He has truly created me to be.

- Geniveve



“ The MA year came into my life at time that God knew I needed it the most.

In this dedicated holding space (unintentional on my part!), I learnt more about God and myself than I could ever have hoped, most especially that there really is no joy like the Lord! The MA year brought stability to my chaos, and it was very funny to see my renewal struggle of the week neatly summed up in the following week's MA book study – a personal reminder from God that I was right on His time, and right on His plan. Learning to slow down to God's pace was hard, but the peace, joy, and freedom that I now know in Him are irreplaceable blessings in my life.

- Yen

Wholeness

“ **A sense of belonging and a deeper connection to Jesus...**

“The Women’s Living Room evening gathering has truly been a blessing to me. It’s not only a space where I can worship and grow in my understanding of God, but also where I’ve found a sense of belonging and a deeper connection to Jesus.”

Karina Gabriel writes;

Wholeness Women Gathering is a safe and welcoming space where women can bring their whole self, no matter how they’re feeling. We intentionally create a culture for this. And are here now, as a community of women who are choosing to love and accept each other in authenticity. We come with open hearts to meet with Father God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, expecting to hear from Him both as a group, and as individuals. Whether that is within our monthly evening gatherings of song worship, and reflective time in the bible, as we end with praying together in small groups. Or our monthly bible journalling, which is led by one of our women within the church, as we use craft to facilitate our conversations

centred on Jesus through biblical scripture. Or our social gatherings in one of the homes of our women, who faithfully serves us with hospitality, love and kindness.

Our prayer is that this time together will be a place of rest, unity, healing, and hope, leading us towards greater wholeness as women.

Highlights

□ FELLOWSHIP OF WOMEN

Sharing intentional time together over dessert, and hot and cold beverages. As they authentically get to know one another, and learn to trust each other.

□ AUTHENTICITY

Having the safe space to authentically pray together, bearing their hearts in prayer, as they share their burdens, and needs to one another, and Jesus. Holding each other up in prayer.

□ WORD & SPIRIT

Seeing the eagerness for God building. It has been a thing of beauty to see them truly wanting to know Father God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit more, through His word. And their enthusiasm to come together, to support each other in prayer.

Minster Men

Minster Men seeks to provide every man linked into Telford Minster with an opportunity to grow purposeful and intentional relationships with men that support, encourage and challenge one another, to be the best Christ-centred versions of ourselves we can be, wherever an individual is on that journey.

Mike Lenander writes;

One tried and tested way of achieving that is to foster a culture of friendships, where people look out for one another. We celebrate the good stuff and journey through the bad, keeping each other on the straight and narrow path.

Over the last twelve months, we've seen a really positive gear change in the Minster Men community, where men are engaging much more than we've seen in previous years. From sharing of scripture to asking to borrow some tools, from requesting prayer to celebrating St Patrick's Day, Minster Men is starting to become another hub where the Telford Minster community is growing. Having a group that only men go to isn't segregating the Minster community. It's recognising a need and providing another outlet that provides men with an open, safe and non-judgemental space to seek help and advice from other men.





Young Adults

Georgina Stansfield writes;

Over the last twelve months, it has been so amazing to welcome so many new young adults to the Telford Minster family and journey through life together!

It has been so encouraging to hear how globally, the number of young adults coming to know Jesus has grown in the last few years, so it feels like such a privilege to be holding space for young adults to grow in faith and community.

“ It feeds the whole soul in the way the kingdom of God does...

where you get to build Christ-centred relationships and ultimately feel the joy that God truly wants for us. I'm excited to see how it will grow and for the days to come where we stand as both friends and team for God's mission. 10/10 would recommend.

Highlights

□ YA VILLAGE

Since the new year, we have met weekly to share time together and journey through God's word. Over the past 10 weeks, we have journeyed through Luke and Acts, delving deep into Jesus' life and teachings. For a lot of us, this has become a highlight of our week: a time steeped in joy, as we grow in relationship with each other and with God. Each week, we welcome around 8 to 10 young adults to Village.

□ NEW WINE

Back in the summer, around 10 young adults headed to New Wine. It was a fantastic week of building relationships and having fun together whilst worshipping God, and look forward to gathering together again this summer!

Resourcing

*Telford Minster Lead,
Rev'd Laura Lenander writes;*

The partnerships with other churches at Telford Minster have grown significantly, and with it, our vision to support and resource the churches around Telford. What began with covering Sunday services at different churches has blossomed into deeper, more meaningful collaborations. We've sent speakers to events, helped grow new worshipping communities, shared our skills in leading creative worship, and brought encouragement by sharing God's message with other churches.

We've also benefited greatly from sending people on placements at other churches, giving them the opportunity to grow their understanding of the Church of England and experience different expressions of church life. These placements have not only enriched

their personal journeys but have also strengthened the wider body of Christ as they bring back fresh insights and experiences to share with us.

It's been a joy to serve in these ways, building stronger connections and deepening our sense of unity across different congregations. As we read in 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." This reminds us that we are all part of one body, working together for God's kingdom.

Looking ahead, our goal is to continue working with local churches, offering support, resources, and partnership. We believe that by coming together, we can reach more people and make a greater impact in making Jesus known in Telford.

It has been amazing being able to be with and work alongside the Telford Minster over the past year. It is precious for me as a Church Leader to know and be with caring, anointed and spirit filled people, as together we seek for His kingdom to come in our area.

You have been a real answer to prayer in many ways, including :

- Developing Youth work, and continuing Children's work in Newport.
- Providing a venue, joint worship and prophetic input during our Leaders Day Away.
- 1:1 sessions
- A place where I can come, relax, and spend time in the presence of God, just being myself!

Thank you so much for your demonstrated love and heart for me and others within Newport Christian Fellowship. May we experience together a huge outpouring from heaven in the months ahead.

- Dave Clissold, Newport Christian Fellowship



Communication and Media

*Worship and Creative Pastor
Harry Warrell writes;*

Over the past year, we've seen growth in both the number, and passion of our media team. Our photographers have been at the forefront of authentically capturing what it means to be at Telford Minster, documenting many moments of worship, celebration, and fun. These special moments have been instrumental in sharing stories of God's hope and kingdom breaking in—both with the people of Telford and beyond.

It has been encouraging to see members of the community actively sharing their faith on social media and confidently communicating, through Minster channels, the difference that God has made in their lives. In addition, local churches have been engaging with our content, sharing events and devotionals within their own contexts.

Highlights

□ CAPTURING MEMORIES

Seeing photos from Easter Baptism gathering shared by community, reaching 4K views.

□ DOCUMENTING PRAISE REPORTS

All three Minster Photographers snapping their hearts away from the New Wine RESET day.

“ I have discovered my passion for capturing joyful encounters with Jesus...

... through photography. Since joining the media team, I have had the opportunity to photograph so many special moments in Sunday gatherings, baptisms, events such as Minster Fest and the women's Reset Day, and so much more! In capturing these precious moments, we are able to document the way God is moving in and through the people of Telford Minster, as well as capturing our wonderful community in all its joy and fullness! All I can say is, I LOVE TEAM!!!

- Georgina, Media Team

+ + +

6.1K

unique interactions across Instagram and Facebook - (Instagram 100% increase on previous year, 70.6% increase on previous year for Facebook)

220.9K

220.9K Views across Instagram and Facebook

243.1hrs

243.1 hours of content watched on YouTube



Safeguarding

Operations Manager, Jem Sheen writes;

At Telford Minster we are passionate about safeguarding – passionate to ensure that everyone is kept safe, especially our children and vulnerable adults, whilst maintaining a welcoming space for all. We seek to do this through our culture, through effective training and with robust processes.

Culture is difficult to put into words, but we hope that you experience it in our church community – people who care and care enough to be trained and act with sense and love; a secure environment where risks have been thought through and addressed; adequate information available without being “everywhere” and who to talk to if you have concerns. Anyone “on duty” wears a lanyard with only those who have DBS clearance and safeguarding training wear an orange lanyard.

All staff and volunteers working with children or vulnerable adults are required to undergo safeguarding training provided by the Church of England. We currently have 36 people trained in safeguarding with six holding Leadership level certificates. Someone who completed the training recently email to say “I found the training sessions important and valuable, helping to strengthen my faith and

deepen my understanding of why Jesus taught us to be ‘as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.’”

We have robust processes at Telford Minster. All volunteers on teams are safer recruited, a process that involves references, training and a DBS check where appropriate. All our activities involving children and vulnerable adults are risk assessed with clear guidelines to ensure safeguarding. One small example of this is that you may have noticed that there is always someone wearing a orange lanyard in the Welcome Area on a Sunday.

Finally, we don’t act alone. We have adopted the Diocese Safeguarding policy and regularly seek advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team for both advice and to keep them informed of any local issues.

If you have any questions, or need to talk to someone, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Minster safeguarding team – our church leaders Laura and Steph or one of our officers - Jem Sheen or Sani Redfern.

Finance

Operations Manager, Jem Sheen writes;

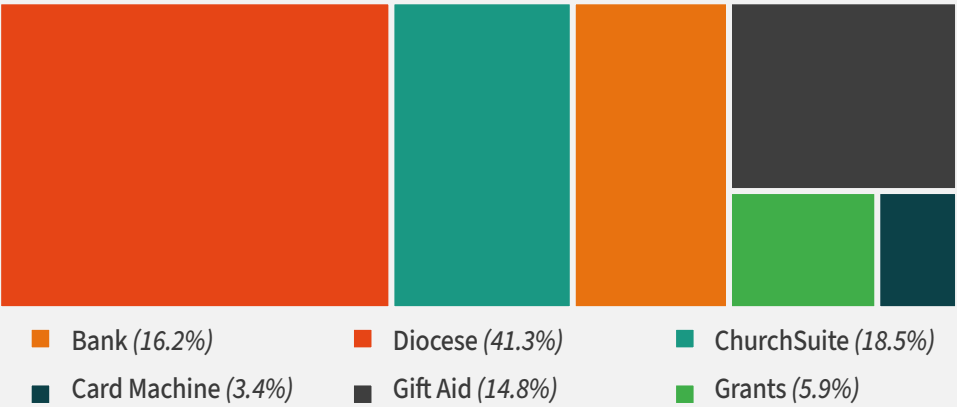
Telford Minster receives significant support from Lichfield Diocese and funding from the national Church of England. Staff costs and most building costs are covered by this support. This report is limited to the money that the Minster receives for ministry and mission.

The good news is that in 2024 Telford Minster was able to keep its spending within the amount it received in income. It is also worth noting that the budget set for 2025 is **£107 393**.

INCOME

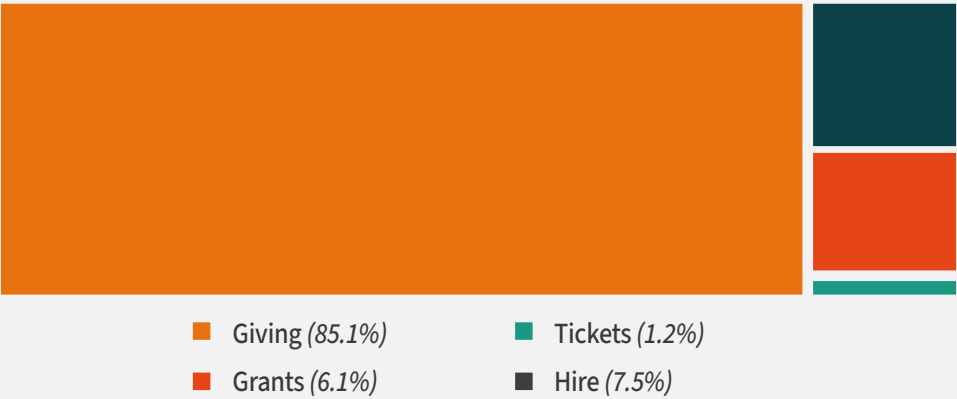
The total income for 2024 was **£88 790**. The breakdown of how the money arrives in our account is broken down below. It is important to note that **£19 402** given via ChurchSuite and the card machine cost **£497** in transaction fees to receive **(2.6%)**.

HOW THE INCOME ARRIVES



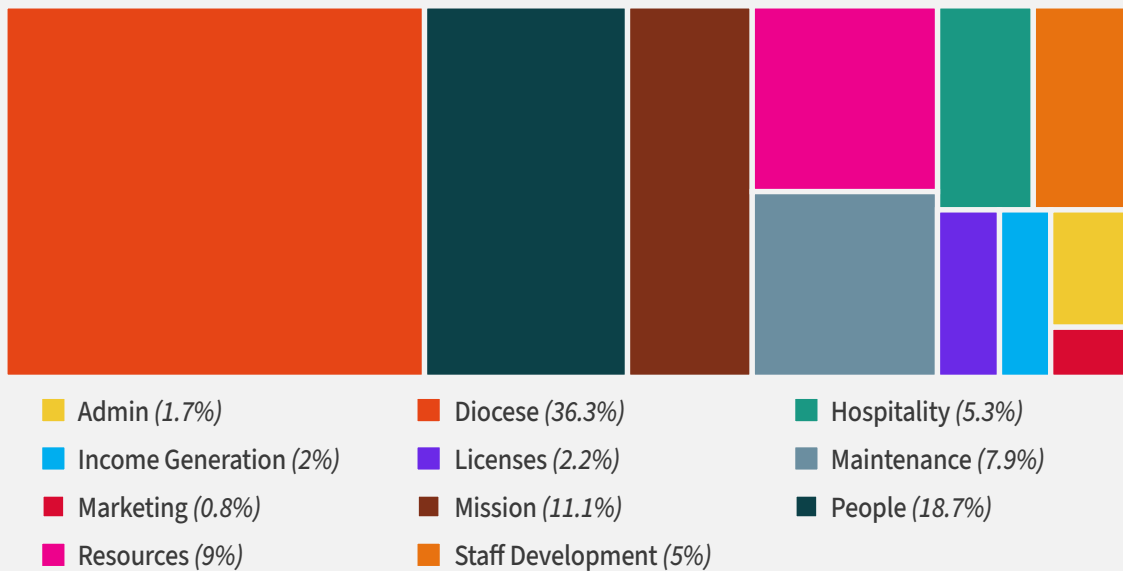
The numbers in brackets represent the percentage of the total amount.

INCOME SOURCES



The vast majority of our income is through the generosity of people who attend the Minster regularly. This money has come from **49** regular givers. This is less than a third of our average Sunday attendance.

HOW THE MONEY HAS BEEN SPENT?



EXPENDITURE

The total expenditure for the Minster in 2024 was **£85 594**. The chart below shows where our money has been spent. The largest amount is to the Diocese in the form of the Common Fund. This is an amount that every Anglican church is expected to pay to the Diocese which pays for many things, not least clergy. The chart shows different breakdowns that give a flavour of where and how money has been spent.

We would like express our huge gratitude to everyone who has given money and time into Telford Minster this year – we couldn't do all we do without everything that has been given. Moving forward, we would love to encourage everyone to prayerfully consider what they give into the ministry and mission of Telford Minster. God has given us an exciting vision to Make Jesus Known across Telford and in what ways is he asking you to support it?





We long to *Make Jesus Known*, in every word we speak, every act of love, and every part of our daily lives. *Transformed* by His love, *rooted in Christ*, and made *whole by the Spirit*, we are becoming a people marked by hope.

We gather to be renewed and shaped by God's presence - growing as *whole-life disciples*, grounded in Scripture and open to the Spirit's healing work.

Then *we scatter* - sent into our communities, schools, workplaces and streets as agents of *hope and justice*. Listening, serving, and sharing the *good news of Jesus*, we seek the peace and flourishing of Telford.

United in purpose, resourcing and multiplying others, we join in *building God's kingdom* - equipping leaders, planting new worshipping communities, and shining His light in every place He sends us.



[TELFORDMINSTER.ORG.UK](https://telfordminster.org.uk)

