

**VISION 2025**  
**StJ**

**250**

*Celebrate the past  
Build for the future*

**'Let the little children come to me'**

Matthew 19:14

Thank you for being part of our church. This year we celebrate our 250th Anniversary. As most of you know, the building of St James' was closed for nearly 40 years and was one of the very first churches to be reopened for mission and ministry. Being part of this church is an amazing adventure. Since we re-opened, alongside the Liverpool Next Generation (LNG) project, we have together disciplined over 2000 people: the average age of whom is 24.



Our vision is to resource the next generation, which resonates with the text from Matthew 19 on the front of this booklet and in the main stained-glass window in church. If you are part of this church, then I hope you feel like you are helping to build for the future.

In 2025 we want to celebrate all that God has done amongst us and we want to strengthen some of our foundations. This booklet is a summary of God's work amongst us this year and the opportunities in the year ahead. Please read it, pray over it, and decide how you can best play your part.

Much love,  
Jude and Mike

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jude Paul Hindle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Hindle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

# Over to You

[stj.org.uk/pray](http://stj.org.uk/pray)

**PRAY**

Prayer is at the heart of everything we do. We meet on Tuesday mornings and in our Kingdom Come gatherings to focus on prayer together. Please pray!

[stj.org.uk/groups](http://stj.org.uk/groups)

**BELONG**

Connect Groups are the primary means by which we develop friendships and invest in each other's lives. If you're not in a Connect Group we'd love you to consider joining one. Please commit to investing in your church friendships in and outside of Sunday church.

[stj.org.uk/give](http://stj.org.uk/give)

**GIVE**

Everyone of us needs to review our giving. We encourage people to aspire towards tithing: working closer to giving at least 10% of our income to church as our means allow. Let's engage well with our Vision resources in the Spring and ask God to help us take the next step. Why not fill out the enclosed pledge form?

[stj.org.uk/alpha](http://stj.org.uk/alpha)

**ALPHA**

Alpha is our primary tool to help people decide to follow Jesus for themselves. Please commit to inviting your friends and consider helping on at least one Alpha course a year. Everyone in church is invited to find a way of serving others, with a particular focus on helping those newer to the Christian faith to grow.

[stj.org.uk/serve](http://stj.org.uk/serve)

**SERVE**

We want to be a church where everyone plays a part in serving each other and our community. There are so many ways in which you can serve. We'd love to help you find a ministry or a way of serving that suits your gifts and abilities. If you're not part of one already, consider joining a team this year.

# Discipleship

**399**

StJ Disciples  
2024\*

**73**

Schools Disciples 2024  
(in 'discipling' groups)

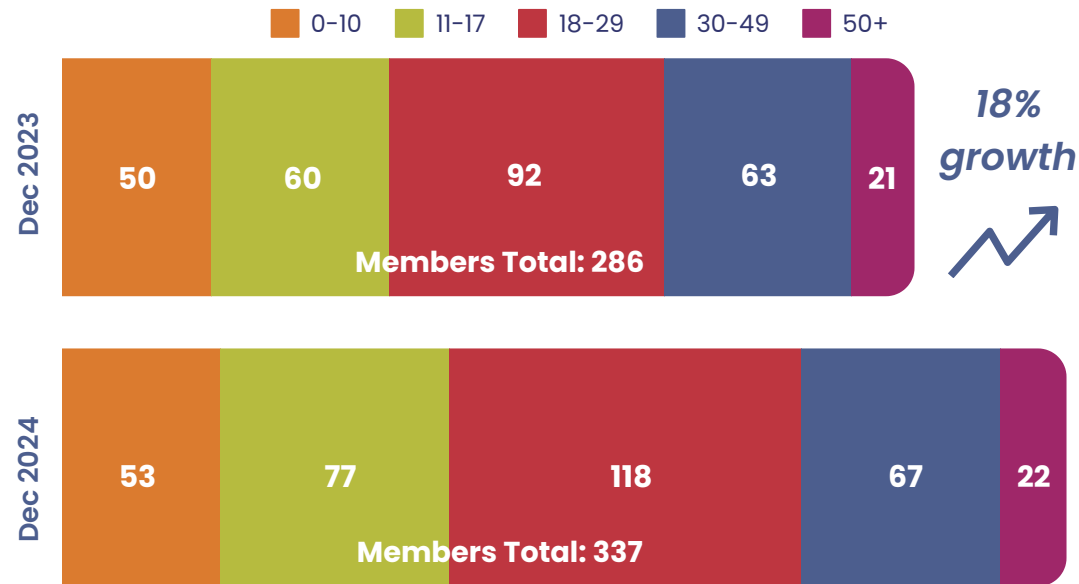
**472**

Total Disciples  
2024\*

\* Includes those regularly involved in 2024 who have now moved

We, the people, make up our church.

We meet weekly on Sundays and in Connect Groups.  
We also gather for church holidays, social events and training.



Average Sunday Attendance

**152**

Group Members

**215**

Equip Attendees

**52**

Save the Date  
Equip 2025

**1st March**

Sunday Team

**68**

We're praying for...

27 more



0-18s Team

**55**

37 more



Students Team

**32**

6 more



Group Leaders

**26**

6 more

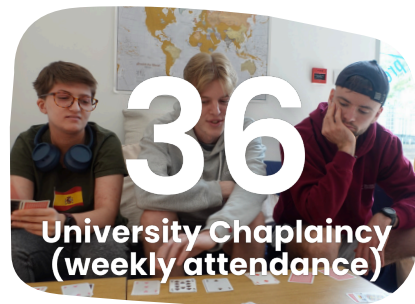
To be part of the Church is to be part of a missionary movement.

We are all called to help others come to faith and become disciples of Jesus.

We understand mission to involve telling and teaching others about Jesus as well as tending to their needs through service, transforming unjust structures and treasuring the creation around us.

Numbers don't tell the real story, but here's a summary of the people we've engaged with in 2024:

# Mission



We also give away **14%** of our income to other missional activity:

International

£1600

National

£2771

Local

£3275

Church Planting

£7000

# Finance

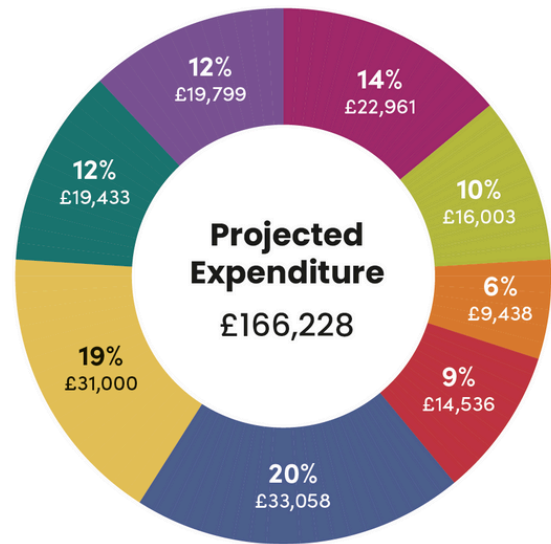
The Church is predominantly a self-funded organisation. Your regular financial giving is the baseline against which all our ministry is planned and conducted.

Our Vicars and Curate salaries are paid for by the Diocese. We pay the Diocese an annual contribution (parish share) and we pay for 50% curate housing costs. We receive grant funding from several sources, including the LNG Project which stops in Summer 2025.

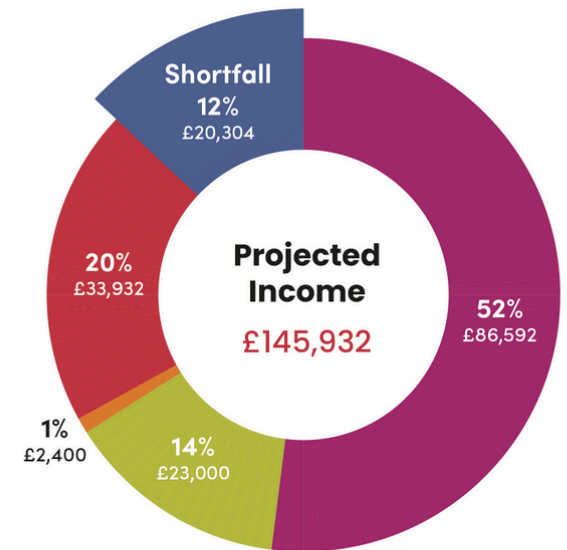
**81 Givers**

Average monthly gift: £86

*Thank you*



- Students, Kids & Youth
- Sundays
- Courses and Groups
- Missional Giving
- Central Operations
- Support for other churches & the diocese
- Buildings
- Clergy & Training Leaders



- Current Congregational Giving inc Cash
- Gift Aid Claim
- Income from Rentals
- External Grants
- Opportunity to give

To continue ministry in it's current form, we need to **increase our baseline giving by £20,304**

and anything more will go towards our 250 Development Fund. This will enable increased mission and buildings development over the next few years. It will be launched at our 250th celebration services on Sunday 8th June.



**Development Fund: £100K**



We share in our diocesan vision of asking God for a bigger Church to make a bigger difference: more people knowing Jesus, more justice in the world.

Within the landscape of the wider Church, we have a particular focus on Resourcing the Next Generation. That means we want everyone in our Church family to actively hand on the baton of faith to those who come after us.

We prioritise mission and evangelism to younger demographics because these are the missing generation, sadly so often absent from Church.



# Planting

## To-Do in 2025:

- Strengthen financial giving
- Get functional heating system
- Fix the issues with our building
- Develop church site for future use
- Illumination for the building for better visibility
- Strengthen finances to enable us to continue university and schools work as grant funding ends this year
- Reach out to people who have been part of our Church in the past to see whether they would like to support us

As a Resource Church we also have a focus on church planting. We want to help churches throughout our diocese to become better versions of themselves by sending planting teams to Revitalise existing communities, becoming effective in mission and discipleship and viable for the long-term. We've started our first Revitalisation at St Mary's Wavertree and we hope to do more.

The 250th anniversary of our building is a great moment to celebrate all that God has done amongst us and focus on the immediate challenges of becoming more like Jesus and more effective at what we do.



[stjamesinthecity](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesinthecity)



[St James in the City](https://www.facebook.com/StJamesintheCity)



[stj.org.uk](https://www.stj.org.uk)