



accounts examination

Wellsprings church: Rachel Carstairs, treasurer

The History

When I took over as Treasurer in September 2009, we were in the process of building a brand new church building. Taking on the financial aspects of this project alongside all the other financial transactions of our busy Church was quite daunting. The work was expanding very quickly, but I did not feel very confident.

We invited Stewardship to get involved and I had two days' training which was fantastic. The staff were **so approachable, talking about everything very clearly and in layman's terms**. Our annual accounts were prepared with professionalism and due diligence, which we appreciated very much. I am now able to prepare management accounts on a monthly basis with all balance sheet accounts reconciled in a timely fashion.

I felt very reassured working with Stewardship and this really helped me to find my feet in the new role. Now I feel that the backbone of much that I do is based on the solid foundation that Stewardship's training gave me. I still use this model regularly.

The Vision

As a church, we needed to feel complete confidence that we could move forward into our new building, sort out our mortgage, pay suppliers, reconcile income and outgoings and be good stewards of God's money. Our vision statement is "transforming communities with the love of God" and, as a church, we want to honour that. **The solid training and support given to us by Stewardship has helped us immeasurably in our journey.**

The Need

With our work in our own community, plus our overseas projects, we need clarity, training and support. We have built relationships with Stewardship staff and we can always ask questions knowing **we will get a quick and helpful response, usually the same day**. That's really important to us. Having this solid backup is so helpful and they really understand not just the business side of our church, but also our vision.

The Solutions

Our payroll is also set up through Stewardship, I can ring and ask questions any time, we have excellent accounts, balance sheets and financial reports and can rely on Stewardship for all our financial needs.

Working with Stewardship **saved me hassle and worry** in the sense that it gave me the reassurance that everything I had done was correct. In the back of my mind, there was always the worry that we might think we had more cash than we actually did. We have so many different funds relating to our mission work that keeping track of everything, while ensuring that the general fund is in a healthy state, is quite a task.

Stewardship **gives us peace of mind**. If our accounts are not in order, then everything is at risk. If we are unable to pay the mortgage, we have to close the building. If we are unable to pay salaries, then we have to make redundancies. If we cannot pay our bills, we get bad credit and a bad reputation and everything that God has placed on us as a Church to do for His Kingdom is put in jeopardy. Stewardship **saves us all that risk, not only on a business and corporate level, but on a spiritual one too**.

The Difference

The one word I would use above all others is **peace**. I have a real sense of peace working with Stewardship. **We feel in safe hands, we trust Stewardship** and know they have our best interests at heart. In practical terms, I can answer questions about our financial position, produce reports and statistics for the leadership team any time they need them and have complete faith that everything is in excellent order with figures we can trust.

I can now give our senior leadership team actual bottom-line figures within hours instead of days, and have a reporting system that works for all of us.

The Future

We feel very confident moving into the future, running conferences and sending out teams to carry out our project work overseas to Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia and Slovakia.

We have a good financial foundation in place now, greatly aided by Stewardship and we are looking forward to strongly building on this foundation, continuing to grow to reach out and transform communities with the love of God.

About Stewardship

Stewardship exist to strengthen Christian causes, inspire greater generosity and to make giving easy with the aim for the world to encounter Jesus through the generosity of His Church. To benefit from our experience, expertise and service as Wellsprings Church has, all you need to do is choose your next steps...

Your Next Steps

1. To receive a quotation for your specific needs you can download an application pack [here](#)
2. To find out more information you can download further detail [here](#)
3. To talk to someone about getting set up with Stewardship please call:



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