

The American Church *in London*

A black silhouette of the London skyline is positioned below the title. It includes the London Eye on the left, various church spires and buildings in the center, and the Tower Bridge on the right. A thin vertical line with a crossbar at the top extends from the skyline up to the word 'Church' in the title.

Annual Budget and Financial Report

2009

Treasurer's Report to the Congregation

ACL's financial outlook at the end of 2009 is as healthy as it has been for a long time. The economy hurt giving income, but offsetting factors mean that the church will close the books this year with a balance or even a slight surplus in the operating budget. A robust start to the 2010 pledge campaign has permitted the council comfortably to produce a budget that is sustainable and provides adequate, even healthy, funding for our personnel, program, facilities and outreach plans.

The church adopted a budget of £364,000 for 2009 spending, which was £20,000 below the planned income to provide a contingency cushion for the year. That total comprises spending on program expenses, personnel costs, our mission spending, our facilities expenses, and administrative overhead. Actual total spending came in at £330,000, 9% below the plan. That was largely because personnel costs were well below the budget because management restructured and re-allocated work in the office rather than adding a planned staff position. Spending on Facilities was higher in some areas than anticipated, owing to some unexpected repairs and to high energy costs, but savings were found elsewhere in the facilities area to offset that, and in the Administration & Finance categories, significant savings in office expenses more than offset pressure from higher Legal & Audit costs and Health & Safety expenses.

On the income side, 2009's pledged giving of £98,000 was £17,000 below the plan, and other giving (identifiable gifts of £27,000 and collection plate income of £9,000) were below budget by a total of £14,000. But our rental income from Latchcourt use of the building and a manse property that is presently surplus to our needs was £15,000 better than had been planned for, coming in at £190,000 vs a plan of £175,000. All told, total income at this writing appears to be heading for a total of £352,000, £32,000 below the 2009 budget. That means that the operating surplus for the year will likely be about £22,000 versus the £20,000 planned.

ACL's year-end cash position was very sound, with the balance of £152,691, slightly above the level the council feels prudent for maintaining working capital and financial flexibility. The church has no debt or significant other liabilities, and owns property with a market value in excess of the book value as shown on the balance sheet.

For 2010, the council has recommended a budget with an increase in income vs 2009, though not to anticipated 2009 budget levels. Program expenses are flat, and the outreach budget has been adjusted to conform to our tithing objective. Personnel spending has been increased by £9,000 to meet some increased costs in pastors' compensation, and we have increased the Facilities budget by £9,000 to fund some more maintenance and capital projects in our properties and at the church building. The Administration & Finance budget is lower this year to match 2009's actual spending.

The result is a balanced budget with income of £381,000 and outgoings of £375,000, which would produce a small operating surplus of £6,000 for the year.

Treasury and finance priorities for 2010 are to see if we can safely get a bit of return from our cash on hand and to do a better job of identifying and planning for capital spending needs in our facilities. Those of you familiar with our past budget format should be aware that we have eliminated about 10 lines in the budget to decrease the noise in the report and have moved our contribution to the URC's ministry and missions fund from the Facilities category to the Outreach category.

Stuart Brown, Treasurer
December 2009

2009 Budget vs Actual in GBP
estimated as of end Nov 2009
(£)
Income
Offerings:

	2009 Budget	Estimated Year End	Variance	
			GBP	%
Pledges	115,000	98,363	-	-14%
Gifts -- Identifiable	40,000	27,431	-	-31%
Plate	15,000	9,476	-	-37%
Total Offering	170,000	135,270	-	-20%
Other:			-	
Gift Aid	34,000	26,000	-	-24%
Flat Rentals		-	-	
Interest on cash balance	2,330	63	-	-97%
Latchcourt	175,000	190,418	15,418	9%
Other Gifts	1,834	4	-	-100%
Flower Income	315	38	-	-88%
Total Other	213,479	216,524	3,045	1%
TOTAL INCOME	383,479	351,793	-	-8%

(£)
Expenditure
Programs-Supplies:

Flowers	279	2,283	2,004	717%
Christian Education	3,178	1,801	-	-43%
Fellowship	501	-	-	-100%
Sundry Programs	-	22	22	
Membership & Evang.	531	2,101	1,571	296%
Music	1,018	755	-	-26%
Stewardship	-	-	-	
Worship	998	337	-	-66%
Youth & Young Adults	692	850	158	23%
Seminars	-	8,453	8,453	
Total Prog - Supplies	7,196	16,603	9,406	131%

Outreach:

Soup Kitchen		8,747	8,747	
Outreach		-	-	
Pastoral Outreach		1,324	1,324	
Total Prog-Outreach	19,500	10,071	-	-48%

Programs-Personnel:

Church Staff	78,640	58,835	-	-25%
Music	25,600	28,850	3,250	13%
Childminders	-	-	-	
Pastors	53,000	50,288	-	-5%
NI and Tax	14,400	-	-	-100%
Security	6,000	7,015	1,015	17%
Relocation		-	-	
Accountant	3,500	-	-	-100%
Total Prog-Personnel	181,140	144,987	-	-20%

Facilities:

U.R.C.	15,500	16,046	546	4%
Church & Flat expenses	43,000	63,603	20,603	48%
Church Flat	-	698	698	
Manse 1 Parkhill	25,500	14,367	-	-44%
Manse 2 Stuart Tower	5,378	7,181	1,804	34%
Manse 3 Buckingham	11,435	8,419	-	-26%
Facilities Sinking Fund	-	-	-	
Total Facilities	100,813	110,315	9,502	9%

Admin & Finance:

Church Insurance	7,016	9,444	2,428	35%
Interest expense & Loan Service	-	1,469	1,469	
Legal / Audit	3,200	9,837	6,637	207%
Health and Safety	1,997	3,435	1,438	72%
Office Expenses	33,221	14,815	-	-55%
Office Equipment	-	1,121	1,121	
Depreciation & Amortization	10,580	7,680	-	-27%
Total Admin/Fin	56,015	47,801	-	-15%
TOTAL EXPENSES	363,666	329,777	-	-9%

Total Income less Total Expenses

19,812	22,016	2,204	11%
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2009 year-end balance sheet

The American Church in London

Balance Sheet

as at 31st November 2009

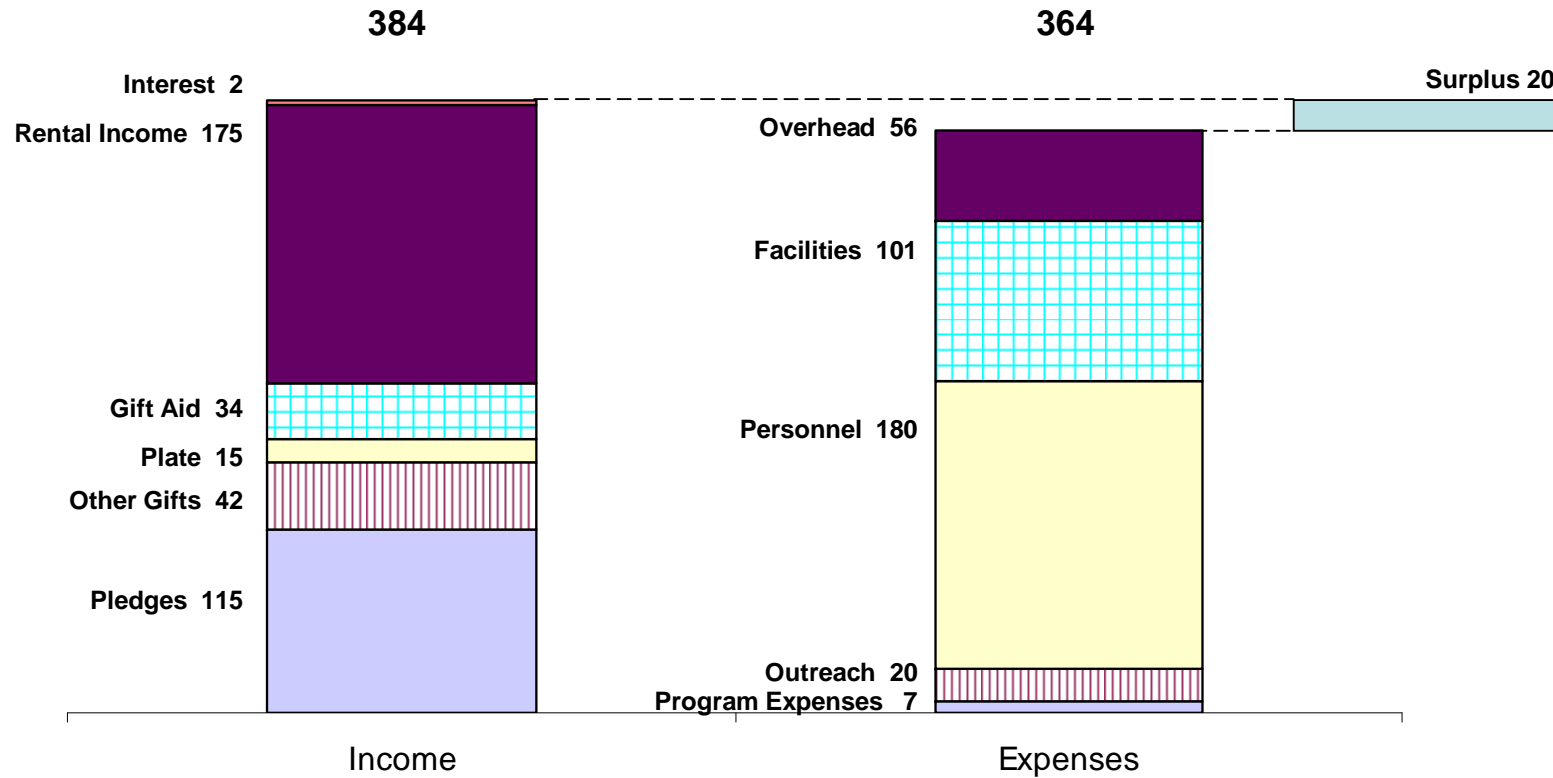
	2008 £	End Nov 2009 £
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	488,456	479,652
Investments	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	488,458	479,654
Current assets		
Debtors	61,646	21,076
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>143,058</u>	<u>152,690</u>
	204,704	173,766
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(18,716)</u>	<u>(9,675)</u>
	<u>185,988</u>	<u>164,091</u>
Net Assets	<u>674,446</u>	<u>643,745</u>
Represented by:		
Funds and Reserves		
Restricted Funds	1,354	1,354
Unrestricted Funds		
General Funds	<u>673,092</u>	<u>642,391</u>
	<u>674,446</u>	<u>643,745</u>



Original plan was for a surplus

2009 ACL budget as adopted

£ in 000

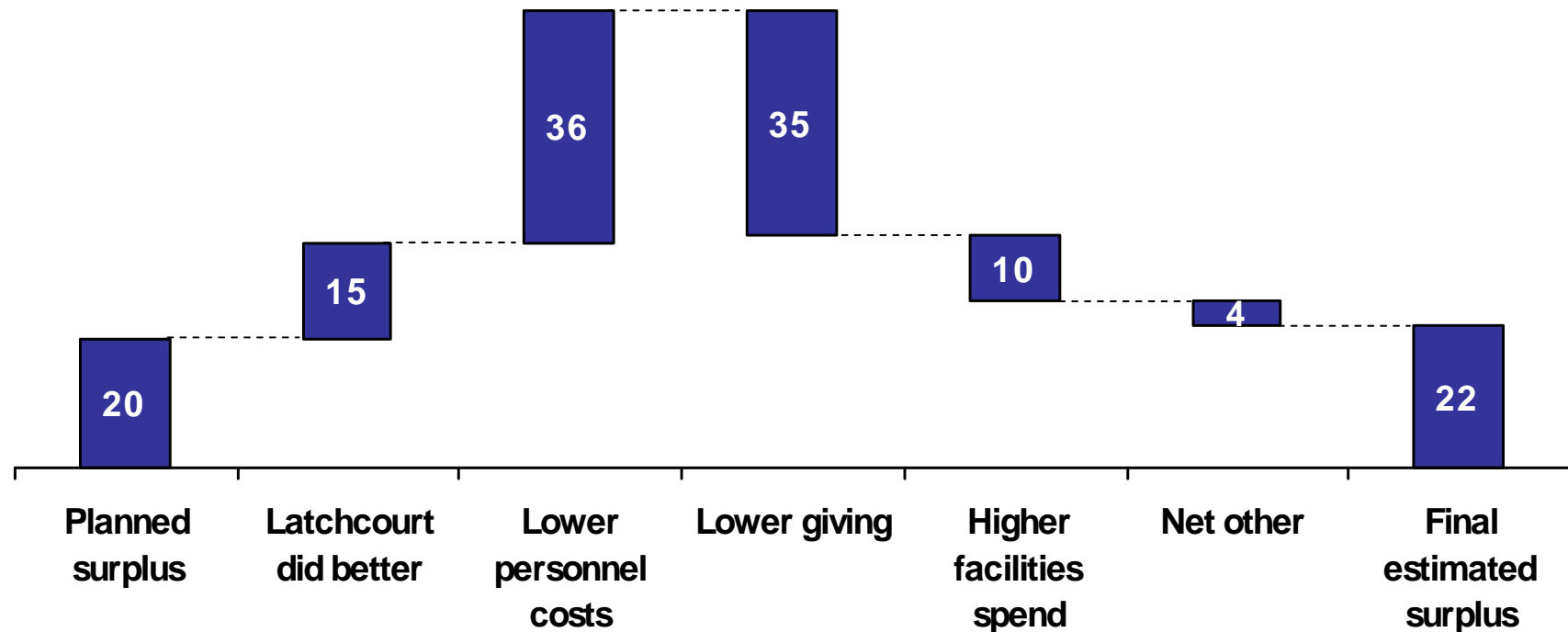


Net result is on target

Major budget variances 2009

£ in 000

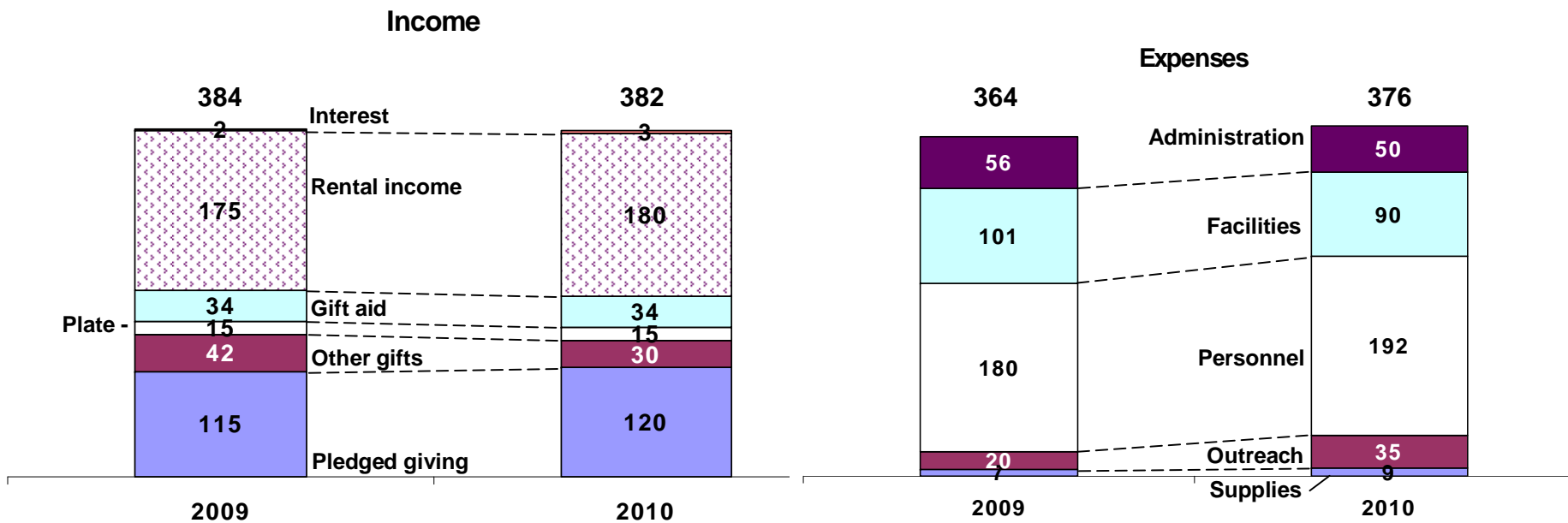
Year end results estimated based on actual to end November 2009



Plan for 2010

Recommended budget by major category 2009 vs 2010

£ in 000



ACL Budget 2010 as recommended by Council

(£)

Income

Offerings:

Pledges	120,000
Gifts -- Identifiable	30,000
Plate	15,000
Total Offering	165,000

Other:

	-
Gift Aid	34,000
Interest on cash balance	1,000
Latchcourt and property rental	180,000
Other Gifts	1,800
Total Other	216,800

TOTAL INCOME

381,800

(£)

Expenditure

Programs-Supplies:

Christian Education	3,000
Fellowship	500
Membership & Evangelism	500
Music	1,000
Worship	3,000
Youth & Young Adults	1,000
Total Prog - Supplies	8,999

Outreach:

Soup Kitchen	12,000
Pastoral Outreach	4,000
U.R.C. Missions Fund	18,500
Total Prog-Outreach	34,500

Programs-Personnel:

Church Staff	73,000
Music	32,000
Pastors	87,000
Total Prog-Personnel	192,000

Facilities:

Church & Flat expenses	55,000
Manse 1 Parkhill	20,000
Manse 2 Stuart Tower	5,000
Manse 3 Buckingham	10,000
Total Facilities	90,000

Admin & Finance:

Church Insurance	9,000
Interest expense & Loan Service	-
Legal / Audit	7,200
Health and Safety	2,000
Office Expenses	23,000
Office Equipment	-
Depreciation & Amortization	9,000
Total Admin/ Fin	50,201

TOTAL EXPENSES

375,699

Total Income less Total Expenses

6,100