

DURHAM CITY METHODISTS

England & Wales · Charity number 1126844

Details

Other names ELVET METHODIST CHURCH, DURHAM

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2008-11-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

Phone 0191 3847599

Email treasurer@durhamcitymethodists.org

Website www.durhamcitymethodists.org

Activities

Objects: The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of -(a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;(b) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;(c) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;(d) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

Activities: Religious worship and associated activities

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Area of benefit: DURHAM
- Durham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£228,179	£242,741	-	-
2024-08-31	£189,160	£248,549	-	-
2023-08-31	£241,796	£201,908	-	-
2022-08-31	£235,007	£253,127	-	-
2021-08-31	£103,011	£105,640	-	-
2020-08-31	£98,518	£98,090	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANN ELIZABETH VIRGINIA BRADBROOK BA		
Alison Mary Ainslie		2020-10-12
CHRISTINE HILL HIGHAM		
DEACON RUTH MARION LACKENBY		2018-09-01
DOREEN LAWSON		
Elizabeth Anne Scott		2016-06-28
Gwynyth Purvis		2021-10-14
Hilary Margaret Phillips		2021-03-15
JACQUELINE MARY LUCIA FIELDING		
JANE ELLEN DUNDEE		
JOHN SCOTT		
JOHN WALTER CHAMBERLAYNE MA		
Joan Portrey		2021-10-14
John Edward Gibson		2017-10-03
John Niven		2021-10-14
KATH TURNER CERT.ED.		
Lily Mary Hogg		2016-06-28
Lynda Susan Underwood		2020-10-12
MARGARET THOMPSON		
MARION HART		2021-10-14
MATTHEW PHILLIPS		2013-07-18
MELVYN HIGHAM		2013-07-18
Margaret Campbell Best		2021-10-14
PATRICIA JOHNSON		2021-10-14
PAUL HARRISON		
Penny Bissell LLB Hons		
Prof Alan Purvis		2021-10-14

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev John Archer Squares		2018-09-01
Robert Edward Warne		2021-10-14
SUZANNE MEIN		2011-09-17
Stephen Peter Bissell		2021-10-14
Stuart Lawson		2021-03-15
Teresa Davidson		2021-10-14
Trevor William Coburn		2014-06-24

DURHAM CITY METHODISTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126844

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 – 2025
Durham City Methodists
at Elvet and North Road
Registered Charity Number 1126844

Church Business Address: Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

Correspondence Address: Mr. Paul Harrison
28 Kira Drive
Rosemount
Durham
DH1 5GU
(Church Council Secretary)

Church Council (Managing Trustees) as of 1st September 2025

Alison Ainslie	Paul Harrison	Hilary Phillips
Margaret Best	Sue Harrison	Matthew Phillips
Penny Bissell	Marion Hart	Joan Portrey
Steve Bissell	Christine Higham	Alan Purvis
Ann Bradbrook	Melvyn Higham	Gwyn Purvis
John Chamberlayne	Mary Hogg	Anne Scott
Trevor Coburn	Pat Johnson	John Scott
Sandra Cooper	Doreen Lawson	Margaret Thompson
Terri Davidson	Stuart Lawson	Angel Tsang
Janelle Dundee	Sue Mein	Kath Turner
Jackie Fielding	John Niven	Lynda Underwood
John Gibson	Alastair Phillips*	Rob Warne

Ministers: Deacon R. Lackenby, Rev J. Squares, Rev John Jebaseelan, Rev F. Weir

*not a Managing Trustee as under age

Aims and Organisation

The aims of Durham City Methodists are to:

- Inform people about the love of God manifested in the giving of his Son, Jesus Christ
- Bear witness to that love by showing care to those in need
- Provide opportunities to worship God, through Jesus Christ
- Explore and demonstrate ways to follow Christ and promote God's love in contemporary society by the power of the Holy Spirit

The Church attempts to fulfil these aims by:

- Having well organised and meaningful services of worship each Sunday and on other special dates in the Christian calendar
- Providing services of baptism, marriage and funeral
- Helping those in need, by providing a Foodbank and fundraising for charitable purposes
- Maintaining an orderly and welcoming building which can be used by other organisations
- Giving young people the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith in a safe and supportive environment, through Junior Church, and by giving adults the chance to explore their faith through house groups and meetings on church premises e.g. midweek prayer group, café-style/ discussion/reflective worship.

Organisation

The managing trustees of the church are the members of the Church Council, who are responsible for the activities of the church and the up-keep of the premises. They appoint the following committees to ensure the efficient running of the Church:

- Property and Finance Committee
- Pastoral Committee
- Open Doors (Mission Team)

Activities in 2024 – 2025

During the year 2024 – 2025, Durham City Methodists have maintained their life of worship and of service in the community and beyond, both virtually and face to face. Most of the church's activities are of an on-going nature. In its remit of worship, these consist of

- Sunday worship services
- The celebration of Holy Communion
- Junior Church, meeting each Sunday during school term times
- House group meets face to face
- Baptism, wedding ceremonies and funerals.

All these activities are open to the public.

Its service to the community is manifested in many ways.

- The church is both a collection and distribution point for Foodbank.
- Each month, a charity is chosen to be supported by our monthly coffee mornings. We also regularly support Global Care projects and Suubi Africa UK
- It supports several charities (e.g. special collections in aid of Action for Children, Methodist Homes for the Aged and in response to world disasters and areas of developing humanitarian need). In addition, when possible, offerings at communion services are donated to nominated charities each month.
- Marriage Preparation classes are run as necessary.
- Funerals are conducted in church, at the crematorium and cemeteries.
- A creche is provided during Sunday morning services, when possible, for baptismal services
- The church has Uniformed Organisation Groups
- Its members visit the sick and elderly. Birthday cards are sent to those over 80 years of age.
- Every Wednesday (except for the holiday periods) a lunch is prepared and provided by our Lunch Stop team and attended by people from the local community.
- It is one of the focal church venues for the Inclusive Christian Student Movement (Durham) and welcomes students (and other visitors) from many countries.
- We are a Fair-Trade church.
- We belong to the Inclusive Church network.
- We are working towards a gold Eco Award
- It is a popular venue for concerts and other public events.
- We have a presence at Durham Pride.

Of special note in the 2024 - 2025 year were the following:

We have combined the two Methodist churches in the City Centre, North Road and Elvet, and are now Durham City Methodists, one church on two sites. We are now prayerfully seeking to work out which of our two sites we can retain as we do not have the capacity and resources to maintain two sites. We formed our one church council in November 2021. We are an Inclusive Church and as such we are on the membership map of inclusive churches in the UK. We have been granted our Silver Eco Award by A Rocha UK and are actively seeking to cut our carbon emissions and be more energy efficient.

- We agreed to work to raise much needed funds for one main project St Cuthbert's Hospice, Durham. Meanwhile we continue holding fundraising events at our 10 monthly coffee mornings where we raise funds for local and national charities. We hold other fundraising and social events for charities such as 'Suubi Africa UK' and 'Global Care'. We were open from the morning till early afternoon to offer refreshments to members of the public during the Miners' Gala in July.
- Over the past year several charities have received donations from our communion and other special collections.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors and anyone working with or having contact with young people or vulnerable adults) have refreshed their safeguarding training with an updated module, in accordance with guidelines from The Methodist Church.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors) have undertaken EDI training and this is ongoing.
- Outreach is being made with families and their very young children via our Monday Messy Mornings.
- The Chinese church, under the pastoral charge Rev John Squares and TC Luk, continues to meet and grow with the influx of Hong Kongers. This is still a class of Durham City Methodists.
- We have a small prayer area available for private prayer in the church when the church is open.
- Our Open Doors team are working through our missional and business plan for future growth and events, under the district heading of 'every church growing'.
- We are looking to increase our community engagement and have actively sought ways to become more involved in the local community.

Objectives for 2025 – 2026;

- The Durham City Methodist Trustees will be working to see how we can grow God's kingdom as we all face the challenges before us and continue as one church on two sites and eventually become one church on one site.
- We will continue our ongoing commitments, implement relevant aspects of the circuit plan and support areas of activity arising from our Open Doors hospitality group meetings, both virtual and face to face when possible.
- We intend to make Elvet and North Road sites more visible and welcoming to the community. We are an inclusive church welcoming all. We have a presence on social media.
- We hope to be working more in our local community eg during the year partnering other local people in the missional opportunities that arise with FREE provided by DAAC Charity (Durham Agency Against Crime) and the Asylum Seekers Drop-In run by the Church of England.
- Having one of the largest church buildings in our circuit we seek to offer alternatives for congregations of other churches, as well as students and visitors to the city.
- We continue to provide variety in worship, offering occasional café-style, Iona and Taizé style services, introducing new hymns and hosting joint services with other Methodists, Anglican and Chinese churches. We will explore expanding mid-week services and developing 'Messy Church' worship for young families.
- Our Methodist Students who amalgamated with students from the Church of England and other denominations and are now named the Inclusive Christian Movement Durham (ICMD) meet regularly at the Elvet site and at St Oswald's C of E, as well as virtually. The group is open to those with or without any faith to come and explore.
- The Chinese Church congregation continue to meet on Sundays and during the week – worship being offered in Mandarin, Cantonese and English when appropriate. They are now looking to become a church with their own governance structure but will continue worshipping at DCM Elvet.

Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

North Road Methodist Church
28 North Road
Durham
DH1 4SG

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

**Durham City Methodists
(Elvet and North Road Methodist Churches)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

Durham and Deerness Valley Circuit

Circuit no: **13/11**

Registered Charity - Registration number

1126844

Minister:

Rev John Squares

Church Stewards:

Penny Bissell	Sue Mein
Clare Coburn	Joan Portrey
Trevor Coburn	David Ramsden
Jackie Fielding	Kath Turner
Christine Higham	Lynda Underwood

Treasurer:

Hilary Phillips

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	Notes
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		85,412	0	85,412	84,645
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		12,236	131	12,367	9,495
a4	Lettings, Wayleave & Other Property		98,633	18,307	116,940	94,347
a5	Bequests, Donations & Other Receipts		13,280	180	13,460	674
a6						
a7						
a8	TOTAL RECEIPTS		209,561	18,618	228,179 (a7)	189,160

SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment		106,672	0	106,672	104,320
b3	Donations		4,945	0	4,945	4,975
b4	Repairs, Maintenance & Improvements		52,239	0	52,239	81,268
b5	Utilities (Insurance, water, heating & lighting)		37,799	0	37,799	31,181
b6						
b7	Other items		24,086	17,000	41,086	26,806
b8						
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		225,741	17,000	242,741 (b9)	248,549

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/ PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a8-b9)				
c1			-16,180	1,618	-14,562	-59,389
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		117,190	18,834	136,024 (c6)	195,413
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	101,010	20,452	121,462	136,024
c4	Transfers and adjustments		202,601	0	202,601 (c8)	0
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	303,611	20,452	324,063 (c7)	136,024 (c6)

SECTION D						
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS						
d	(these amounts are not included in total receipts/payments figures above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				0	985
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				10,892	4,956
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				10,892	5,942
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			0	0

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 and internal organisations reporting to the Church Council. All internal organisation funds are unrestricted funds.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	Arts & Crafts	142	142	0	0	10	10
e2	Elvet Flower Fund	200	228	-28	0	904	876
e3	Lunch Stop	2,411	7,487	-5,076	0	6,560	1,484
e4	Messy Mornings	337	337	0	0	100	100
e5	Chinese Church	15,186	23,382	-8,196	0	46,869	38,673
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	18,276	31,577	-13,300	0	54,443 (e11)	41,143 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	228,179 (a7)	242,741 (b9)	-14,562	202,601 (c8)	136,024 (c6)	324,063 (c7)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	246,455	274,318	-27,862	202,601	190,468 (x)	365,206 (y)
		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD

	OPENING BALANCES At 01/09/2024	CLOSING BALANCES At 31/08/2025	
f1	Cash in hand	0	138
f2	Bank Current Account	1,721	1,474
f3	Bank Deposit Account	693	489
f4	Central Finance Board	107,647	93,386
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	25,964	228,576
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	136,024 (c6)	324,063 (c7)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	54,443 (e11)	41,143 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	190,468 (x)	365,206 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025	Note
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	8,792	8,808
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	15,808,068	16,313,774 5
g3	Other Assets	0	0
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	46,141	29,477
g5	Other Liabilities	0	0

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments

Durham City Methodists (North Road and Elvet Methodist Churches)

Loans

At 31/08/2025 the church had outstanding loans as follows:

Lender	Date of loan	Interest rate	Capital remaining	Notes
Durham & Deerness Valley Circuit	2022	1.5% (fixed)	£17,177.36	These loans from the Circuit and from church members to pay for refurbishing the former caretaker's house at No. 8, Old Elvet will be repaid through rent received for that property over the next few years. The Circuit is expected to be repaid within 5 years and the church members will be repaid as soon as possible after that.
3 church members	2022	0%	£12,300.00	

Endowment Funds

Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	Current Capital Value	Income 2024/25	What the income was used for
Trust 15370: Mrs Margaret Hopper	868 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	4,710.64	83.92	Income to General Church Fund
Trust 8312: Surplus Funds	755 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	4,097.39	73.01	Income to General Church Fund
Totals		8,808.03	156.93	

Payment to Trustees

	This year £s	Last year £s
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council.	500.00	500.00
Number of trustees (i.e. members of the Church Council) who were paid expenses.	1	1
Nature of the expenses: Payment in lieu of expenses to Mrs P Bissell in her capacity as Church Secretary.	500.00	500.00
Totals	500.00	500.00

Paid employees

The Church has no paid employees.

Notes Accompanying the Accounts

1 Basis of Accounting

With annual gross income falling below the £250,000 accounting threshold, the accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with Charity Commission rules. There have been no changes in accounting conventions from the previous year.

2 Donations from Church Funds

The following donations were made from general funds:

To Methodist Funds	£s	To Other Recipients	£s
The World Mission Fund	2,290.00	Durham Churches Together	30.00
The Mission in Britain Fund	1,490.00	Inclusive Church	100.00
The Property Fund	345.00	Bible Society	115.00
Action for Children	115.00	St Cuthbert's Hospice	115.00
All We Can	230.00	St Margaret's Centre	115.00
Total	<u>4,470.00</u>	Total	<u>475.00</u>

3 Transfers and Adjustments

£202,600 has been added to the General Fund as the result of the bequest of Edith Pritchard which has been invested on our behalf by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes in TMCP trust no. 14587. For receipts and payments accounting, endowments are excluded from gross income.

4 Money Received on Behalf of External Organisations

The following amounts were raised and passed onto other charities through special collections, coffee mornings etc.

	Brought forward	Received	Passed on	Outstanding at 31/08/2025
Christian Aid	0.00	7.00	7.00	0.00
Mary's Meals	0.00	9.00	9.00	0.00
Great North Air Ambulance	0.00	2.87	2.87	0.00
Leprosy Mission	0.00	10.38	10.38	0.00
Circuit trip to 3Generate	0.00	1,119.10	1,119.10	0.00
All We Can	0.00	250.35	250.35	0.00
Royal British Legion	0.00	24.08	24.08	0.00
Durham City of Sanctuary	0.00	227.55	227.55	0.00
Crisis	0.00	1,335.00	1,335.00	0.00
Durham Winter Night Shelter	0.00	694.27	694.27	0.00
Daft as a Brush	0.00	1,115.20	1,115.20	0.00
St Cuthbert's Hospice	0.00	3,630.52	3,630.52	0.00
UNICEF Sudan appeal	0.00	302.00	302.00	0.00
Durham Samaritans	0.00	511.50	511.50	0.00
Water Aid	0.00	1,175.18	1,175.18	0.00
Communities Together Durham	0.00	381.52	381.52	0.00
Cancer Research UK	0.00	96.75	96.75	0.00
Total	<u>0.00</u>	<u>10,892.27</u>	<u>10,892.27</u>	<u>0.00</u>

5 Value of Buildings & Assets at 31/08/2025

	£s
Church Building (Elvet)	11,071,093
Church Building (North Road)	4,261,278
House at No. 27 North Road	705,774
House at No. 8 Old Elvet	<u>275,629</u>
	<u>16,313,774</u>

The churches and other buildings are in excess of 100 years old and are listed at their insurance value, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Methodist Connexion.

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

H M Phillips

Date

14/10/25

Name

H M Phillips

Address

35 Archery Rise,
Durham,
DH1 4LA

Presentation to the Church Council for approval

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on 14-10-25 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

P. Lewis

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev. Les Nevill

Date

14-10-2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

Durham City Methodists

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31/08/2025 carried out under Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, or in Scotland Section 11 of the charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) or under Regulation 10 (1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act and section 44(1) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act and Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act and Section 44(1)9b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation (of the 2006 Regulations)

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name

PAULINA JENKIN

Signature

Paulina Jenkin

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Retired Certified Accountant

Address

78 Archery Rise, Durham, DH1 4LA

Date

18/5/2026

DURHAM CITY METHODISTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126844

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT 2023 – 2024

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<i>Mr S Bissell</i>	<i>Mrs C. Higham</i>	<i>Mrs G Purvis</i>
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<i>Mr T. Coburn</i>	<i>Pat Johnson</i>	<i>Mr C Rutherford</i>
<i>Mrs J. Dundee</i>	<i>Mrs D. Lawson</i>	<i>Mrs M. Thompson</i>
<i>Ms T Davidson</i>	<i>Mr S Lawson</i>	<i>Mrs Angel Tsang</i>
<i>Miss J. Fielding</i>	<i>Mrs S. Mein</i>	<i>Mrs K Turner</i>
<i>Mrs A Firth</i>	<i>Mr J Niven</i>	<i>Mrs L Underwood</i>
<i>Mrs J Fraser</i>	<i>Mr G Parkinson</i>	<i>Mr R Warne</i>
<i>Mr J Gibson</i>	<i>Mr Alastair Phillips</i>	
<i>Mrs H Harris</i>	<i>Mrs H Phillips</i>	

Aims and Organisation

The aims of Durham City Methodists are to:

- Inform people about the love of God manifested in the giving of his Son, Jesus Christ
- Bear witness to that love by showing care to those in need
- To provide opportunities to worship God, through Jesus Christ
- To explore and demonstrate ways to follow Christ and promote God's love in contemporary society by the power of the Holy Spirit

The Church attempts to fulfil these aims by:

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- Providing services of baptism, marriage and funeral
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- the celebration of Holy Communion
- Junior Church, meeting each Sunday during school term times
- House groups meet face to face
- Lunch Stop offering inexpensive meals weekly during term time.
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- The church is both a collection and distribution point for Foodbank.
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- It supports a number of charities (e.g. special collections in aid of Action for Children, Methodist Homes for the Aged and in response to world disasters and areas of developing humanitarian need). In addition, when possible, offerings at communion services are donated to nominated charities each month.
- Marriage Preparation classes are run as necessary.

- Funerals are conducted in church, at the crematorium and cemeteries.
- A creche is provided during Sunday morning services, when possible, for baptismal services
- The church has Uniformed Organisation Groups
- It has an associated Arts and Crafts Group
- Its members visit the sick and elderly. Birthday cards are sent to those over 80 years of age.
- Every Wednesday (except for the holiday periods) a lunch is prepared and provided, attended by people from the local community.
- It is one of the focal church venues for the Inclusive Christian Student Movement (Durham) and also welcomes students (and other visitors) from many countries.
- We are a Fair-Trade church.
- We belong to the Inclusive Church network.
- We are working towards a gold Eco Award
- It is a popular venue for concerts and other public events.

Of special note in the 2023 – 2024 year were the following:

We have combined the two Methodist churches in the City Centre, North Road and Elvet, and are now Durham City Methodists, one church on two sites. We formed our one church council in November 2021. We are an Inclusive Church and as such we are on the membership map of inclusive churches in the UK. We have been granted our Silver Eco Award by A Rocha UK and are actively seeking to cut our carbon emissions and be more energy efficient.

- Despite not being able to hold fundraising events for a single project as in the past we raised funds for local and national charities at our 10 monthly coffee mornings and other fundraising and social events including charities such as ‘North East Mission – the Durham Winter Night Shelter’ and ‘Global Care’. We were open from the morning till early afternoon to offer refreshments to members of the public during the Miners’ Gala in July.
- Over the past year a number of charities have received donations from our communion and other special collections.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors and anyone working with or having contact with young people or vulnerable adults) have refreshed their safeguarding training with an updated module, in accordance with guidelines from The Methodist Church.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors) have undertaken EDI training and this is ongoing.
- The Chinese church, is-under the pastoral charge Rev John Squares and TC Luk, continues to meet and grow with the influx of Hong Kongers. This is still a class of Durham City Methodists.
- We have a small prayer area available for private prayer in the church when the church is open.
- In our Open Doors team we are reviewing our missional and business plan for future growth and events, under the district heading of ‘every church growing’.
- We are looking to increase our community engagement and *+* have actively sought ways to become more involved in the local community.

Objectives for 2024 – 2025;

- The Durham City Methodist Trustees will be working to see how we can grow God's kingdom as we all face the challenges before us and continue to become one church on two sites.
- We will continue our ongoing commitments, implement relevant aspects of the circuit plan and support areas of activity arising from our Open Doors hospitality group meetings, both virtual and face to face when possible.
- We intend to make Elvet and North Road sites more visible and welcoming to the community. We are an inclusive church welcoming all. We have a presence on social media.
- We hope to be working more in our local community eg during the year partnering other local people in the missional opportunities that arise with FREE provided by DAAC charity (Durham Agency Against Crime) and the Asylum Seekers Drop-In run by the Church of England.
- Having one of the largest church buildings in our circuit we seek to offer alternatives for congregations of other churches, as well as students and visitors to the city.
- We continue to provide variety of worship, offering occasional café-style, Iona and Taizé style services, introducing new hymns and hosting joint services with other Methodists, Anglican and Chinese churches. We will explore expanding mid-week services and developing 'Messy Church' worship for young families.
- Our Methodist Students have amalgamated with students from the Church of England and other denominations and are now named the Inclusive Christian Movement Durham (ICMD) meeting regularly at both the Elvet site and St Oswald's C of E as well as virtually. The group is open to those with or without any faith to come and explore.
- We hope we can hold Open Church evenings for refreshment when the Lumiere returns to Durham in 2025.
- The Chinese Church congregation continue to meet on Sundays and during the week – worship being offered in Mandarin, Cantonese and English when appropriate.
- To hold rehearsals for our second pantomime after the fun and success of our one in January '25, which was in support of 'Daft as a Brush' charity.

Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

North Road Methodist Church
28 North Road
Durham
DH1 4SG

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

**Durham City Methodists
(Elvet and North Road Methodist Churches)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

Durham and Deerness Valley Circuit

Circuit no: **13/11**

Registered Charity - Registration number

1126844

Minister:

Rev John Squares

Church Stewards:

Penny Bissell

Clare Coburn

Trevor Coburn

Jackie Fielding

Christine Higham

Joan Portrey

David Ramsden

Kath Turner

Lynda Underwood

Treasurer:

Hilary Phillips

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	Notes
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		84,145	500	84,645	92,615
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		9,345	150	9,495	5,867
a4	Lettings, Wayleave & Other Property		82,645	11,702	94,347	137,200
a5	Bequests, Donations & Other Receipts		489	185	674	6,113
a6						
a7						
a8	TOTAL RECEIPTS		176,623	12,537	189,160 (a7)	241,796

SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment		104,320	0	104,320	102,048
b3	Donations		4,975	0	4,975	7,875
b4	Repairs, Maintenance & Improvements		46,809	34,458	81,268	39,439
b5	Utilities (Insces, water rates, heating & lighting)		31,181	0	31,181	30,890
b6						
b7	Other items		11,946	14,860	26,806	21,656
b8						
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		199,231	49,318	248,549 (b9)	201,908

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/ PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a8-b9)				
c1			-22,608	-36,781	-59,389	39,888
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		144,470	50,943	195,413 (c6)	155,525
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	121,862	14,162	136,024	195,413
c4	Transfers and adjustments		-4,672	4,672	0 (c8)	0
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	117,190	18,834	136,024 (c7)	195,413 (c6)

SECTION D						
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS						
d	(these amounts are not included in total receipts/payments figures above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				985	1,093
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				4,956	7,371
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				5,942	7,479
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			0	985

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and internal organisations reporting to the Church Council. All internal organisation funds are unrestricted funds.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	Arts & Crafts	234	234	0	0	10	10
e2	Elvet Flower Fund	360	250	110	0	794	904
e3	Lunch Stop	2,670	140	2,530	0	4,031	6,560
e4	Messy Mornings	303	303	0	0	100	100
e5	Chinese Church	15,288	19,274	-3,987	0	50,856	46,869
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	18,855	20,201	-1,347	0	55,790 (e11)	54,443 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	189,160 (a7)	248,549 (b9)	-59,389	0 (c8)	195,413 (c6)	136,024 (c7)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	208,015	268,751	-60,736	0	251,204 (x)	190,468 (y)
		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD

	OPENING BALANCES At 01/09/2023	CLOSING BALANCES At 31/08/2024
f1	Cash in hand	0
f2	Bank Current Account	11,570
f3	Bank Deposit Account	608
f4	Central Finance Board	157,300
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	25,936
f6	Other funds	
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	195,413 (c6)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	55,790 (e11)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	251,204 (x)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024	Note
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	8,160	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	15,332,690	5
g3	Other Assets	0	
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	60,478	
g5	Other Liabilities	0	

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments

Durham City Methodists (North Road and Elvet Methodist Churches)

Loans

At 31/08/2024 the church had outstanding loans as follows:

Lender	Date of loan	Interest rate	Capital remaining	Notes
Durham & Deerness Valley Circuit	2022	1.5% (fixed)	£25,640.52	These loans from the Circuit and from church members to pay for refurbishing the former caretaker's house at No. 8, Old Elvet will be repaid through rent received for that property over the next few years. The Circuit is expected to be repaid within 5 years and the church members will be repaid as soon as possible after that.
3 church members	2022	0%	£20,500.00	

Endowment Funds

Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	Current Capital Value	Income 2023/24	What the income was used for
Trust 15370: Mrs Margaret Hopper	868 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	4,701.96	119.41	Income to General Church Fund
Trust 8312: Surplus Funds	755 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	4,089.84	103.86	Income to General Church Fund
Totals		8,791.80	223.27	

Payment to Trustees

	This year £s	Last year £s
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council.	500.00	500.00
Number of trustees (i.e. members of the Church Council) who were paid expenses.	1	1
Nature of the expenses: Payment in lieu of expenses to Mrs P Bissell in her capacity as Church Secretary.	500.00	500.00
Totals	500.00	500.00

Paid employees

The Church has no paid employees.

Notes Accompanying the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

With annual total receipts falling below the £250,000 accounting threshold, the accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with Charity Commission rules. There have been no changes in accounting conventions from the previous year.

2 Donations from Church Funds

The following donations were made from general funds:

To Methodist Funds	£s	To Other Recipients	£s
The World Mission Fund	2290.00	Durham Churches Together	60.00
The Mission in Britain Fund	1490.00	Inclusive Church	100.00
The Property Fund	345.00	Bible Society	115.00
Action for Children	115.00	St Cuthbert's Hospice	115.00
All We Can	230.00	St Margaret's Centre	115.00
Total	<u>4470.00</u>	Total	<u>505.00</u>

3 Transfers and adjustments

£4672.21 has been transferred from General to Restricted funds to prevent overspend of restricted funds.

4 Money Received on Behalf of External Organisations or Individuals

The following amounts were raised and passed onto other charities through special collections, coffee mornings etc.

The negative figures brought forward are from collections where the GASDS (Gift Aid on Small Donations) for the collection in summer 2023 had already been passed on to the charity but we were not able to claim it from HMRC until April 2024.

	Brought forward	Received (including Gift Aid & GASDS where appropriate)	Passed on	Outstanding at 31/08/2024
Easter Offering – World Mission Fund	(37.14)	37.14	0.00	0.00
Christian Aid	(6.75)	34.75	28.00	0.00
Water Aid	37.00	829.31	866.31	0.00
British Red Cross – Libya and Morocco appeals	0.00	260.00	260.00	0.00
Nepacs	0.00	185.44	185.44	0.00
Circuit trip to 3Generate	992.37	625.00	1,617.37	0.00
Transform Trade	0.00	238.60	238.60	0.00
Durham Winter Night Shelter (North East Mission)	0.00	441.55	441.55	0.00
Sir Bobby Robson Foundation	0.00	700.00	700.00	0.00
Samaritans Durham	0.00	318.90	318.90	0.00
Durham Otters Swimming Club	0.00	335.30	335.30	0.00
St Cuthbert's Hospice	0.00	33.75	33.75	0.00
Mary's Meals	0.00	219.90	219.90	0.00
Great North Air Ambulance	0.00	343.35	343.35	0.00
Leprosy Mission	0.00	353.30	353.30	0.00
Total	<u>985.48</u>	<u>4,956.29</u>	<u>5,941.77</u>	<u>0.00</u>

4 Value of Buildings & Assets at 31/08/2024

	£s
Church Building (Elvet)	10,727,903
Church Building (North Road)	4,129,184
House at No. 27 North Road	683,896
House at No. 8 Old Elvet	267,085
Total	<u>15,808,068</u>

The churches and other buildings are in excess of 100 years old and are listed at their insurance value, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Methodist Connexion.

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

H M Phillips

Date

8/10/24

Name

H M Phillips

Address

35 Archery Rise,
Durham,
DH1 4LA

Presentation to the Church Council for approval

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on

8/10/24

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

John Squares

Name of the Chair of the meeting

JOHN SQUARES

Date

8/10/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

Durham City Methodists

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31/08/2024 carried out under Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, or in Scotland Section 11 of the charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) or under Regulation 10 (1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act and section 44(1) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act and Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act and Section 44(1)9b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation (of the 2006 Regulations)

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name

PAULINA JENKIN

Signature

Paulina Jenkin

Relevant Professional qualification or body

N/A

Address

78 ARCHERY RISE DURHAM DH1 4LA

Date

22/5/2025

DURHAM CITY METHODISTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126844

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – 2023

Durham City Methodists at Elvet and North Road

Registered Charity Number 1126844

Church Business Address: Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

Correspondence Address: Mr. Paul Harrison
28 Kira Drive
Rosemount
Durham
DH1 5GU
(Church Council Secretary)

Church Council (Managing Trustees) as at 1st September 2023

<i>Mrs Alison Ainslie</i>	<i>Mrs S. Harrison</i>	<i>Mr M Phillips</i>
<i>Mrs M Best</i>	<i>Mr P. Harrison</i>	<i>Ms J Portrey</i>
<i>Mrs P. Bissell</i>	<i>Ms M Hart</i>	<i>Mr A Purvis</i>
<i>Mr S Bissell</i>	<i>Mrs C. Higham</i>	<i>Mrs G Purvis</i>
<i>Mrs A. Bradbrook</i>	<i>Mr M Higham</i>	<i>Mrs A. Scott</i>
<i>Mr J Chamberlayne</i>	<i>Mary Hogg</i>	<i>Mr J. Scott</i>
<i>Ms H Charman</i>	<i>Pat Johnson</i>	<i>Mr C Rutherford</i>
<i>Mr T. Coburn</i>	<i>Mrs Ada Lam</i>	<i>Mrs M. Thompson</i>
<i>Mrs J. Dundee</i>	<i>Mrs D. Lawson</i>	<i>Mrs K Turner</i>
<i>Ms T Davidson</i>	<i>Mr S Lawson</i>	<i>Mr B Thompson</i>
<i>Miss J. Fielding</i>	<i>Mrs S. Mein</i>	<i>Mrs L Underwood</i>
<i>Mrs A Firth</i>	<i>Mr J Niven</i>	<i>Mr R Warne</i>
<i>Mrs J Fraser</i>	<i>Mr G Parkinson</i>	
<i>Mr J Gibson</i>	<i>Mrs H Phillips</i>	

Aims and Organisation

The aims of Durham City Methodists are to:

- Inform people about the love of God manifested in the giving of his Son, Jesus Christ;
- Bear witness to that love by showing care to those in need;
- To provide opportunities to worship God, through Jesus Christ;
- To explore and demonstrate ways to follow Christ and promote God's love in contemporary society by the power of the Holy Spirit

The Church attempts to fulfil these aims by:

- Having well organised and meaningful services of worship each Sunday and on other special dates in the Christian calendar;
- Providing services of baptism, marriage and funeral;
- Helping those in need, by providing a Foodbank and fundraising for charitable purposes;
- Maintaining an orderly and welcoming building which can be used by other organisations;
- Giving young people the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith in a safe and supportive environment, through Junior Church, and by giving adults the chance to explore their faith through house groups and meetings on church premises e.g. midweek prayer group, café-style/ discussion/reflective worship.

Organisation

The managing trustees of the church are the members of the Church Council, who are responsible for the activities of the church and the up-keep of the premises. They appoint the following committees to ensure the efficient running of the Church:

- Property and Finance Committee
- Pastoral Committee
- Open Doors (Mission Team)

Activities in 2022 – 2023

During the 2022 – 2023 year, Durham City Methodists have maintained their life of worship and of service in the community and beyond, both virtually and face to face. Most of the church's activities are of an ongoing nature. In its remit of worship, these consist of

- Sunday worship services;
- the celebration of Holy Communion;
- Junior Church, meeting each Sunday during school term times;
- House groups meeting face to face ;
- Lunch Stop offering inexpensive meals weekly during term time;
- Baptism, wedding ceremonies and funerals.

All of these activities are open to the public.

Its service to the community is manifested in many ways.

- The church is both a collection and distribution point for Foodbank.
- Each month, a charity is chosen to be supported by our monthly coffee mornings. We also regularly support Global Care projects and Suubi Africa
- It supports a number of charities (e.g. special collections in aid of Action for Children, Methodist Homes for the Aged and in response to world disasters and areas of developing humanitarian need). In addition, when possible, offerings at communion services are donated to nominated charities each month.
- Marriage Preparation classes are run as necessary.

- Funerals are conducted in church, at the crematorium and cemeteries.
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- Its members visit the sick and elderly. Birthday cards are sent to those over 80 years of age.
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- It is one of the focal church venues for the Inclusive Christian Student Movement (Durham) and also welcomes students (and other visitors) from many countries.
- We are a Fair-Trade church.
- We belong to the Inclusive Church network.
- We are working towards a gold Eco Award.
- It is a popular venue for concerts and other public events.

Of special note in the 2022 – 2023 year were the following:

Recently we combined the two Methodist churches in the City Centre, North Road and Elvet, and are now Durham City Methodists, one church on two sites. We formed our one church council in November 2021. We are an Inclusive Church and as such we are on the membership map of inclusive churches in the UK. We have been granted our Silver Eco Award by A Rocha UK and are actively seeking to cut our carbon emissions and be more energy efficient.

- Despite not being able to hold fundraising events as in the past we raised funds for local and national charities at our monthly coffee mornings and other fundraising and social events including ‘North East Mission – the Durham Winter Night Shelter’ and Mary’s Meals.
- Over the past year a number of charities have received donations from our communion and other special collections.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors and anyone working with or having contact with young people or vulnerable adults) have refreshed their safeguarding training with an updated module, in accordance with guidelines from The Methodist Church.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors) have undertaken EDI training and this is ongoing.
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- We have a small prayer area available for private prayer in the church when the church is open.
- In our Open Doors team we are reviewing our missional and business plan for future growth and events, under the district heading of ‘every church growing’.
- We are looking to increase our community engagement and have actively sought ways to become more involved in the local community.

Objectives for 2023 – 2024

- The Durham City Methodist Trustees will be working to see how we can grow God's kingdom as we all face the challenges before us and continue to become one church on two sites.
- We will continue our ongoing commitments, implement relevant aspects of the circuit plan and support areas of activity arising from our Open Doors hospitality group meetings, both virtual and face to face when possible.
- We intend to make Elvet and North Road sites more visible and welcoming to the community. We are considering installing artistic structures in the front garden of the Elvet site to highlight church seasons e.g. Easter, Pentecost, a Nativity scene for Christmas etc.
- We hope to be working more in our local community eg during the winter months partnering other local people in the Durham Winter Night Shelter.
- Having one of the largest church buildings in our circuit we seek to offer alternatives for congregations of other churches, as well as students and visitors to the city.
- We continue to provide variety of worship, offering occasional café-style, Iona and Taizé style services, introducing new hymns and hosting joint services with other Methodists, Anglican and Chinese churches. We will explore expanding mid-week services and developing 'Messy Church' worship for young families.
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- We hope we can hold Open Church evenings for refreshment when Lumiere returns to Durham in 2025.
- The Chinese Church congregation will continue to meet on Sundays and during the week – worship being offered in Mandarin, Cantonese and English when appropriate.

Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

North Road Methodist Church
28 North Road
Durham
DH1 4SG

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

**Durham City Methodists
(Elvet and North Road Methodist Churches)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

Durham and Deerness Valley Circuit

Circuit no: **13/11**

Registered Charity - Registration number

1126844

Minister:

Rev John Squares

Church Stewards:

Penny Bissell
Jackie Fielding
Anne Firth
Christine Higham
Joan Portrey
Kath Turner
Lynda Underwood

Treasurer:

Hilary Phillips

SECTION A			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	Notes
	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	1
a1							
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		91,965	650	92,615	82,771	
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		5,777	90	5,867	646	
a4	Lettings, Wayleave & Other Property		133,100	4,100	137,200	145,175	
a5	Bequests, Donations & Other Receipts		4,403	1,710	6,113	6,414	
a6							
a7							
a8	TOTAL RECEIPTS		235,245	6,550	241,796 (a7)	235,007	

SECTION B							
	PAYMENTS						2
b1							
b2	Circuit Assessment		102,048	0	102,048	109,856	
b3	Donations		4,975	2,900	7,875	4,975	
b4	Repairs, Maintenance & Improvements		33,970	5,469	39,439	99,043	
b5	Utilities (Insces, water rates, heating & lighting)		30,690	200	30,890	28,884	
b6							
b7	Other items		11,316	10,340	21,656	10,369	
b8							
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		182,999	18,909	201,908 (b9)	253,127	

SECTION C							
	NET RECEIPTS/ PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a8-b9)					
c1			52,247	-12,359	39,888	-18,120	
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		93,915	61,610	155,525 (c6)	123,146	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	146,162	49,251	195,413	105,025	
c4	Transfers and adjustments		-1,692	1,692	0 (c8)	50,500	3
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	144,470	50,943	195,413 (c7)	155,525 (c6)	

SECTION D							
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS							
(these amounts are not included in total receipts/payments figures above)							
d							
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				100	1,984	
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				8,364	4,592	
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				7,479	6,476	
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			985	100	4

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and internal organisations reporting to the Church Council. All internal organisation funds are unrestricted funds.

	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Arts & Crafts	162	162	0	0	10	10
e2 Elvet Flower Fund	817	725	92	0	701	794
e3 Lunch Stop	3,112	1,398	1,713	0	2,317	4,031
e4 Thursday Club	0	663	-663	0	663	0
e5 Messy Mornings	90	142	-52	0	152	100
e6 North Road Fairtrade	0	332	-332	0	332	0
e7 Chinese Church	21,040	18,562	2,478	0	48,378	50,856
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	25,220	21,984	3,237	0	52,553 (e11)	55,790 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	241,796 (a7)	201,908 (b9)	39,888	0 (c8)	155,525 (c6)	195,413 (c7)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	267,016	223,891	43,125	0	208,079 (x)	251,204 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD

	OPENING BALANCES At 01/09/2022	CLOSING BALANCES At 31/08/2023
f1 Cash in hand	172	0
f2 Bank Current Account	21,474	11,570
f3 Bank Deposit Account	3,625	608
f4 Central Finance Board	104,343	157,300
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	25,911	25,936
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	155,525 (c6)	195,413 (c7)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	52,553 (e11)	55,790 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	208,079 (x)	251,204 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023	Note
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	8,522	8,160	
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	14,549,363	15,332,690	5
g3 Other Assets	783,327	0	5
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	68,500	60,478	
g5 Other Liabilities	0	0	

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments

Durham City Methodists (North Road and Elvet Methodist Churches)

Loans

At 31/08/2023 the church had outstanding loans as follows:

Lender	Date of loan	Interest rate	Capital remaining	Notes
Methodist Chapel Aid	2014	4.5% (variable)	£6,000.00	This loan for the refurbishment of the former manse at No. 27, North Road is being repaid at £3,000 plus interest per 6 months, the income used for this purpose being rent received for that property.
Durham & Deerness Valley Circuit	2022	1.5% (fixed)	£33,977.92	These loans from the Circuit and from church members to pay for refurbishing the former caretaker's house at No. 8, Old Elvet will be repaid through rent received for that property over the next few years. The Circuit is expected to be repaid within 5 years and the church members will be repaid as soon as possible after that.
3 church members	2022	0%	£20,500.00	

Endowment Funds

Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	Current Capital Value	Income 2022/23	What the income was used for
Trust 15370: Mrs Margaret Hopper	868 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	4,364.30	121.47	Income to General Church Fund
Trust 8312: Surplus Funds	755 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	3,796.14	105.65	Income to General Church Fund
Totals		8,160.44	227.12	

Payment to Trustees

	This year £s	Last year £s
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council.	500.00	500.00
Number of trustees (i.e. members of the Church Council) who were paid expenses.	1	1
Nature of the expenses: Payment in lieu of expenses to Mrs P Bissell in her capacity as Church Secretary.	500.00	500.00
Totals	500.00	500.00

Paid employees

The Church has no paid employees.

Notes Accompanying the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

With annual total receipts falling below the £250,000 accounting threshold, the accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with Charity Commission rules. There have been no changes in accounting conventions from the previous year.

2 Donations from Church Funds

The following donations were made from general funds:

To Methodist Funds	£s	To Other Recipients	£s
The World Mission Fund	2290.00	Durham Churches Together	60.00
The Mission in Britain Fund	1490.00	Bible Society	115.00
The Property Fund	345.00	St Cuthbert's Hospice	115.00
The Leybourne Trust	100.00	St Margaret's Centre	115.00
Action for Children	115.00		
All We Can	230.00		
Total	4570.00	Total	405.00

In addition, £2,900 was donated from the Youth Fund to Global Care to fund three young people from the church on a visit to Spurgeon's Academy, Kibera (Kenya) in Nov/Dec 2022.

3 Transfers and adjustments

£1691.84 has been transferred from General to Restricted funds to prevent overspend of restricted funds and to correct an income allocation error in 2021/22 accounts.

4 Money Received on Behalf of External Organisations or Individuals

The following amounts were raised and passed onto other charities through special collections, coffee mornings etc. Gift Aid and GASDS were claimed on collections, where appropriate, and passed on.

Where a collection was made after 5th April, the GASDS on the collection has been passed on to the charity in advance of receiving it from HMRC, but as we cannot claim GASDS from HMRC until the end of the tax year in April 2024, this leaves us with a negative amount outstanding.

In addition the church received fees from weddings/funerals which were passed on to individuals, and a donation from another church to pass to the Circuit for use of their photocopier.

	Brought forward	Received	Passed on	Outstanding at 31/08/2023
DEC – Pakistan appeal	£0.00	£662.88	£662.88	£0.00
Durham Winter Night Shelter	£10.00	£699.94	£709.94	£0.00
Easter Offering – World Mission Fund	-£10.00	£322.30	£349.44	-£37.14
Bin Twinning	£0.00	£153.00	£153.00	£0.00
Durham Foodbank	£100.20	£17.00	£117.20	£0.00
Royal British Legion	£0.00	£232.46	£232.46	£0.00
Mary's Meals	£0.00	£2,085.20	£2,085.20	£0.00
Crisis at Christmas	£0.00	£327.70	£327.70	£0.00
Lisa Shaw's Little 'Uns	£0.00	£289.15	£289.15	£0.00
St Margaret's Centre	£0.00	£281.00	£281.00	£0.00
DEC – Turkey & Syria Earthquake appeal	£0.00	£652.88	£652.88	£0.00
St Cuthbert's Hospice	£0.00	£299.71	£299.71	£0.00
Daft as a Brush	£0.00	£327.65	£327.65	£0.00
RT Projects	£0.00	£250.10	£250.10	£0.00
Christian Aid	£0.00	£152.00	£158.75	-£6.75
RefUSE	£0.00	£276.45	£276.45	£0.00
Water Aid	£0.00	£37.00	£0.00	£37.00
Circuit trip to 3Generate	£0.00	£992.37	£0.00	£992.37
Payments for individuals and the Circuit	£0.00	£305.00	£305.00	£0.00
Total	£100.20	£8,363.79	£7,478.51	£985.48

5 Value of Buildings & Assets at 31/08/2023

	£s	
Church Building (Elvet)	10,405,295	The churches and other buildings are in excess of 100 years old and are listed at their insurance value, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Methodist Connexion. In previous years' accounts the organ at Elvet was listed separately but now it is included with the building valuation.
Church Building (North Road)	4,005,012	
House at No. 27 North Road	663,330	
House at No. 8 Old Elvet	259,053	
Total	15,332,690	

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

H M Phillips

Date

24/10/2023

Name

H M Phillips

Address

35 Archery Rise,
Durham,
DH1 4LA

Presentation to the Church Council for approval

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on 24 OCT 23 and were approved

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

John Squares

Name of the Chair of the meeting

John Squares

Date

24 OCT 23

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

Durham City Methodists

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31/08/2023 carried out under Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, or in Scotland Section 11 of the charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) or under Regulation 10 (1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act and section 44(1) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act and Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts, and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act and Section 44(1)9b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation (of the 2006 Regulations)

have not been met, or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Name

PAULNA JENKIN

Signature

P Jenkin

Relevant Professional qualification or body

BA (Hons)

Address

78 Archery Rise Durham DH1 4LA

Date

29/01/24

DURHAM CITY METHODISTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126844

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT 2021 – 2022

of Elvet Methodist Church

Church Business Address: Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

Correspondence Address: Mr. Paul Harrison
28 Kira Drive
Rosemount
Durham
DH1 5GU
(Church Council Secretary)

Church Council (Managing Trustees) as at 1st September 2021

Mrs Alison Ainslie	Mr J. Gibson	Mrs S. Mein
Mrs J. Ball	Mr C Harder	Mrs H Phillips
Mrs P. Bissell	Mrs V Harder	Mr M. Phillips
Mrs A. Bradbrook	Mrs M Harris	Mr D. Ramsden
Mrs J Bygate	Mr P. Harrison	Mrs A. Scott
Mr J Chamberlayne	Mrs S. Harrison	Mr J. Scott
Ms H Charman	Mrs C. Higham	Mrs D. Slater
Mr T. Coburn	Mr M Higham	Mr B. Thompson
Mr M Clough	Mary Hogg	Mrs M. Thompson
Mrs J. Dundee	Mrs D. Lawson	Mrs K Turner
Miss J. Fielding	Mr S Lawson	Mrs L Underwood

Deacon R. Lackenby, Rev J. Squares, Revd. C. Jackson, Rev Lawrence Law; Revd A. Longe,
Deacon Esther Longe

Aims and Organisation

The aims of Elvet Methodist Church are to:

- Inform people about the love of God manifested in the giving of his Son, Jesus Christ
- Bear witness to that love by showing care to those in need
- To provide opportunities to worship God, through Jesus Christ
- To explore and demonstrate ways to follow Christ and promote God's love in contemporary society by the power of the Holy Spirit

The Church attempts to fulfil these aims by:

- Having well organised and meaningful services of worship each Sunday and on other special dates in the Christian calendar
- Providing services of baptism, marriage and funeral
- Helping those in need, by providing a Foodbank and fundraising for charitable purposes
- Maintaining an orderly and welcoming building which can be used by other organisations
- Giving young people the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith in a safe and supportive environment, through Junior Church, and by giving adults the chance to explore their faith through house groups and meetings on church premises e.g. midweek prayer group, café-style/ discussion/reflective worship.

Organisation

The managing trustees of the church are the members of the Church Council, who are responsible for the activities of the church and the up-keep of the premises. They appoint the following committees to ensure the efficient running of the Church:

- Finance Committee
- Property Committee
- Pastoral Committee
- Church Growth & Mission Group

Activities in 2021 – 2022

During the 2021 – 2022 year, Elvet Methodist Church has maintained its life of worship and of service in the community and beyond for the most part virtually. Most of its activities are of an on-going nature. In its remit of worship, these consist of

- Sunday morning worship service
- a celebration of Holy Communion
- Junior Church, meeting each Sunday during school term times
- Prayer groups mostly virtually until face to face could resume
- House groups mostly virtually until face to face could resume
- Baptism, wedding ceremonies and funerals as permitted during the pandemic.

All of these activities are open to the public but by booking during the pandemic.

Its service to the community is manifested in many ways as possible emerging from the pandemic;

- The church is both a collection and distribution point for Foodbank
- Each year, a charity is chosen as a special project and we hope we can work on this in the future as one church on two sites..
- It supports a number of charities (e.g. special collections in aid of Action for Children, Methodist Homes for the Aged and in response to world disasters and areas of developing humanitarian need). In addition, when possible offerings at communion services are donated to nominated charities each month.
- Marriage Preparation classes are run as necessary
- Funerals are conducted in church, at the crematorium and cemeteries.
- A creche is provided during Sunday morning services when possible for baptismal services
- The church has a Uniformed Organisation Group
- It has an associated Art and Crafts Group
- Its members visit the sick and elderly. Birthday cards are sent to those over 80 years of age.
- Every Wednesday (except for the holiday periods) a lunch is prepared and provided, attended by people from the local community this hopes to restart soon
- It is the focal church for the Durham University Methodist Society which is now incorporated in JAM (Joint Anglican Methodist Society) and also welcomes students from many countries.
- It incorporates a Traidcraft stall
- It is a popular venue for concerts and other public events

Of special note in the 2021 – 2022 year were the following:

During the year we will be combining with our sister church at North Road and becoming Durham City Methodists, one church on two sites. We formed our one church council in November 2021.

- Despite not being able to hold fundraising events as in the past we raised funds for local and national charities at our monthly coffee mornings and other fundraising and social events including ‘North East Mission – the Durham Winter Night Shelter’ and Mary’s Meals
- Over the past year a number of charities have received donations from our communion and other special collections.
- Durham City Methodists and the District supported three young people on a trip to Kenya and The Spurgeon’s Academy in Kibera along with several others from our circuit.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors and anyone working with or having contact with young people or vulnerable adults) have refreshed their safeguarding training with an updated module, in accordance with guidelines from The Methodist Church.
- The Chinese church under the pastoral charge of Coco Liu and now Pastor Ada Lam, continues to meet and grow with the influx of Hong Kongers. This is still a class of Elvet.
- We have a small prayer area to be available for private prayer in the church when the church is available to be open.
- We have reviewed our action plan for future growth and events, under the heading of ‘every church growing’.
- We are looking to increase our community engagement and we hosted a film crew on Miners’ Gala Day as Ken Loach was filming his latest production The Oak Tree.

Objectives for 2022 – 2023;

- The Durham City Methodist Trustees will be working, to see how we can work grow God's kingdom as we all face the challenges before us and continue to become one church on two sites.
- We will continue our ongoing commitments, implement relevant aspects of the circuit plan and support areas of activity arising from our Open Doors hospitality group meetings, both virtual and face to face when possible.
- We intend to make Elvet and North Road sites more visible in the community. We are considering installing artistic structures in the front garden to highlight church seasons e.g. Easter, Pentecost, a Nativity scene for Christmas etc.
- As the largest church building in our circuit we seek to offer alternatives for congregations of other churches, as well as students and visitors to the city.
- We continue to provide variety of worship, offering occasional café-style, Iona and Taizé style services, introducing new hymns and hosting joint services with other Methodists, Anglican and Chinese churches. We will explore expanding mid-week services and developing 'Messy Church' worship for young families.
- Our Methodist Students have amalgamated with students from the Church of England to form JAM (Joint Anglicans & Methodists) meeting regularly at both the Elvet site and St Oswald's C of E as well as virtually during the pandemic and are open to those with or without any faith to come and explore.
- We hope we can hold Open Church evenings for refreshment when the Lumiere returns to Durham in 2023.
- The Chinese Church congregation continue to meet on Sundays and during the week – worship being offered in Mandarin, Cantonese and English when appropriate.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

**Durham City Methodists
(Elvet and North Road Methodist Churches)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

Durham and Deerness Valley Circuit

Circuit no: **13/11**

Registered Charity - Registration number

1126844

Minister:

Rev John Squares

Church Stewards:

Penny Bissell
Jackie Fielding
Anne Firth
Christine Higham
Norma Nevin
Joan Portrey
Brian Thornton
Lynda Underwood

Treasurer:

Hilary Phillips

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUG 2022

Durham City Methodists
(Elvet and North Road Methodist Churches)

1
Notes

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		82,771	0	82,771	84,908
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		642	5	646	238
a4	Lettings, Wayleave & Other Property		99,263	45,911	145,175	80,053
a5	Bequests, Donations & Other Receipts		1,944	4,470	6,414	10,700
a6						
a7						
a8	TOTAL RECEIPTS		184,620	50,386	235,007 (a7)	175,899

2

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment		109,856	0	109,856	95,326
b3	Donations		4,975	0	4,975	10,206
b4	Repairs, Maintenance & Improvements		39,946	59,097	99,043	37,272
b5	Utilities (Insces, water rates, heating & lighting)		28,884	0	28,884	20,416
b6						
b7	Other items		6,906	3,463	10,369	21,958
b8						
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		190,567	62,560	253,127 (b9)	185,178

3

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
c1	NET RECEIPTS/ PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a8-b9)	-5,947	-12,174	-18,120	-9,280
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		99,862	23,284	123,146 (c6)	132,425
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	93,915	11,110	105,025	123,146 (c6)
c4	Transfers and adjustments		0	50,500	50,500 (c8)	0
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	93,915	61,610	155,525 (c7)	123,146 (c6)

4

SECTION D		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not included in total receipts/payments figures above)				
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			1,984	2,350
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			4,592	8,182
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			6,476	8,548
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		100	1,984

5

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 and internal organisations reporting to the Church Council. All internal organisation funds are unrestricted funds.

	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Arts & Crafts	172	162	10	0	0	10
e2 Elvet Flower Fund	345	245	100	0	601	701
e3 Lunch Stop	800	3,500	-2,700	0	5,018	2,317
e4 Thursday Club	0	0	0	0	663	663
e5 Messy Mornings	0	100	-100	0	252	152
e6 North Road Fairtrade	41	0	41	0	291	332
e7 Shakespeare Fund	2	1,208	-1,206	0	1,206	0
Chinese Church	22,629	17,592	5,037	0	43,341	48,378
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	23,989	22,807	1,182	0	51,371 (e11)	52,553 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	235,007 (a7)	253,127 (b9)	-18,120	50,500 (c8)	123,146 (c6)	155,525 (c7)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	258,996	275,934	-16,938	50,500	174,517 (x)	208,079 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD

	At 01/09/2021	At 31/08/2022
f1 Cash in hand	0	172
f2 Bank Current Account	34,029	21,474
f3 Bank Deposit Account	3,252	3,625
f4 Central Finance Board	59,953	104,343
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	25,910	25,911
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	123,146 (c6)	155,525 (c7)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	51,371 (e11)	52,553 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	174,517 (x)	208,079 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022	Note
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	9,094	8,522	
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	13,689,652	14,549,363	6
g3 Other Assets	730,029	783,327	6
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	18,000	68,500	
g5 Other Liabilities	0	0	

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments

Durham City Methodists (North Road and Elvet Methodist Churches)

Loans

At 31/08/2022 the church had outstanding loans as follows:

Lender	Date of original loan	Interest rate	Capital remaining	Notes
Methodist Chapel Aid	2014	2.5% (variable)	£12,000.00	This loan for the refurbishment of the former manse at No. 27, North Road is being repaid at £3,000 plus interest per 6 months, the income used for this purpose being rent received for that property.
Durham & Deerness Valley Circuit	2022	1.5% (fixed)	£40,000.00	These loans from the Circuit and from church members to pay for refurbishing the former caretaker's house at No. 8, Old Elvet will be repaid through rent received for that property over the next few years. The Circuit is expected to be repaid within 5 years and the church members will be repaid as soon as possible after that.
Three church members	2022	0%	£16,500.00	

Endowment Funds

Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	Current Capital Value	Income 2021/22	What the income was used for
Trust 8312: Surplus Funds	755 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	3,964.51	90.61	Income to General Church Fund
Trust 15370: Mrs Margaret Hopper	868 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	4,557.87	104.18	Income to General Church Fund
	Totals	8,522.38	194.79	

Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council.

This year £s Last year £s

500.00	500.00
--------	--------

Number of trustees (i.e. members of the Church Council) who were paid expenses.

1	1
---	---

Nature of the expenses:

Payment in lieu of expenses to Mrs P Bissell in her capacity as Church Secretary.

500.00	500.00
--------	--------

Totals	500.00	500.00
---------------	--------	--------

Paid employees

The Church has no paid employees.

Notes Accompanying the Accounts

1 Merger of Elvet Methodist Church and North Road Methodist Church to form Durham City Methodists

In 2021 it was agreed by the Church Councils of Elvet and North Road Methodist Churches to become one church on two sites: the opening balance on the accounts are therefore the combined closing balances of Elvet Methodist Church and North Road Methodist Church on 31/8/2021, and the receipts and payments figures for the previous year are also the combined figures for both churches as detailed below:

	Elvet	North Road	Total
Total receipts 2020-21:	103,011	72,888	175,899
Total expenditure 2020-21:	105,640	79,538	185,178
Total funds at 31/8/2001:	86,080	37,066	123,146

Elvet Methodist Church formerly reported to the Charity Commission but North Road did not, so on the merger of the two churches the registered charity name of Elvet Methodist Church was changed to Durham City Methodists.

2 Basis of accounting

With annual total receipts falling below the £250,000 accounting threshold, the accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with Charity Commission rules. There have been no changes in accounting conventions from the previous year.

3 Donations from Church Funds

The following donations were made from general funds:

To Methodist Funds	£s	To Other Recipients	£s
Action for Children	115.00	Durham Churches Together	60.00
Methodist Property Office	345.00	St Margaret's Centre	115.00
The World Mission Fund	2,290.00	Bible Society	115.00
The Mission in Britain Fund	1,490.00	St Cuthbert's Hospice	115.00
MRDF (All We Can)	230.00		
The Leybourne Trust	100.00		
Total	4,570.00	Total	405.00

4 Adjustments

The following adjustments have been made to restricted funds, as loan income and repayments are not included in the ordinary income and expenditure of the church:

Loan income received in year	56,500.00
Loan capital repaid in year	(6,000.00)
Net adjustment	50,500.00

5 Money Received on Behalf of External organisations

	Brought forward	Received	Passed on	Outstanding at 31/08/2022
Church Project: Durham Winter Night Shelter	1,894.35	1,055.00	2,939.35	10.00
Collections and coffee morning proceeds:				
Uncleared cheque from last year (North Rd)	89.80	0.00	89.80	0.00
Action for Children		282.90	282.90	0.00
St Cuthbert's Hospice		241.88	241.88	0.00
DEC – Afghanistan		610.00	610.00	0.00
Foodbank		376.45	276.25	100.20
All We Can		895.73	895.73	0.00
Easter Offering		152.00	162.00	-10.00
<i>Note: we passed on £10 in Gift Aid for the Easter Offering, which was not received until Oct 2022</i>				
Traidcraft		214.90	214.90	0.00
Christian Aid		150.05	150.05	0.00
MHA		201.50	201.50	0.00
JMA		150.00	150.00	0.00
Dementia UK		261.80	261.80	0.00
Total	1,984.15	4,592.21	6,476.16	100.20

6 Value of Buildings & Assets at 31/08/2022

	£s	
Elvet Methodist Church	9,621,968	The churches and other buildings are in excess of 100 years old and are listed at their insurance value together with that of the organ, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Methodist Connexion. Note that the organ at North Road is not separately valued in the North Road insurance policy.
North Road Methodist Church	4,005,012	
House at No. 27 North Road	663,330	
House at No. 8 Old Elvet	259,053	
Total buildings	14,549,363	
Organ at Elvet Methodist Church	783,327	
		Total 15,332,690

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

H M Phillips

Date

11/10/2022

Name

H M Phillips

Address

35 Archery Rise,
Durham,
DH1 4LA

Presentation to the Church Council for approval

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on 11/10/2022 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

John Squares

Name of the Chair of the meeting

JOHN SQUARES

Date

11/10/2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

Durham City Methodists

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31/08/2022 carried out under Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, or in Scotland Section 11 of the charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) or under Regulation 10 (1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act and section 44(1) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act and Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act and Section 44(1)9b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation (of the 2006 Regulations)

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name

Signature

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Address

Date

DURHAM CITY METHODISTS

ACCOUNTS 2021/22

Matters arising from Independent Examination

I have carried out the Independent Examination for 2021/22 and give my comments for consideration by the Durham City Methodists Treasurer/Church Council/Minister.

The Treasurers of both the Elvet and North Road original societies are to be congratulated on keeping detailed and accurate accounts and successfully merging the two records into a combined year-end set of results. The amount of careful work required to achieve the combination, and to keep the on-going accounts, is considerable. The accounts give an accurate picture of the finances of the Church, as required for Charitable bodies.

The congregation and those using the building have continued to give strong financial support, leaving the financial position stronger when compared with the previous year.

Looking ahead, two significant changes are noted.

(i) income from the way-leave from the Three Tuns Hotel will not be available from 2022/23 onward.

(ii) there is a new venture in the renting out of the modernised property No. 8 Old Elvet. The property has been brought up to appropriate standard at a cost forecast to total around £70,000. This work, now largely complete, has been paid for from the church accounts which have been supplemented over the past year by loans of £40,00 from the Circuit and £16,500 from church members. The Circuit loan is at a 1.5% interest rate and is to be paid off over 5 years; the other loans are interest free and are expected to be paid back once the Circuit loan is cleared, expected to be in years 6 to 8. The loans are planned to be paid back out of the letting income from the property. The building is now let at a rent of £260 per week, or £13,520 per annum. This is in excess of the sum needed to repay the loans over the planned time-scale, but clarification has not yet been seen for any ongoing costs in relation to the building, including any fees for letting agent if used, for insurance, on-going repairs and maintenance, and services (gas, electricity, communications, annual gas safety checks etc. Consideration also needs to be given to the possibility of loans being withdrawn early in unforeseen circumstances. As managing trustees, the Church Council needs to be fully aware of the situation, and to be clear as to how the development meets with the Charitable Purposes of the Church.

L. Clark

Circuit Independent Examiner for Durham City Methodists, 2021 – 22

DURHAM CITY METHODISTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126844

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT 2020 – 2021

Church Address: Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

Correspondence Address: Mr. Paul Harrison
28 Kira Drive
Rosemount
Durham
DH1 5GU
(Church Council Secretary)

Church Council (Managing Trustees) as at 1st September 2020

Mrs J. Ball	Mr P. Harrison	
Mrs P. Bissell	Mrs S. Harrison	Mr J. Scott
Mrs A. Bradbrook	Mrs C. Higham	Mrs D. Slater
Mrs J. Bygate	Mr M Higham	Mr K. Slater
Mr J Chamberlayne	Miss M. Hogg	Mr D. Ramsden
Ms M Conway	Mrs P. Johnson	Rev J. Squares
Mr T. Coburn	Deacon R. Lackenby	Mr B. Thompson
Mrs J. Dundee	Mrs D. Lawson	Mrs M. Thompson
Miss J. Fielding	Mrs S. Mein	Mrs K. Turner
Mr J. Gibson	Mrs H Phillips	Mrs L. Underwood
Mr C. Harder	Mr M. Phillips	Dr P. Watson
Dr M Harris	Mrs A. Scott	

Revd. C. Jackson, Revd N. Johnson, Revd A. Longe, Revd. L. Law, Deacon Esther Longe

Aims and Organisation

The aims of Elvet Methodist Church are to:

- Inform people about the love of God manifested in the giving of his Son, Jesus Christ
- Bear witness to that love by showing care to those in need
- To provide opportunities to worship God, through Jesus Christ
- To explore and demonstrate ways to follow Christ and promote God's love in contemporary society by the power of the Holy Spirit

The Church attempts to fulfil these aims by:

- Having well organised and meaningful services of worship each Sunday and on other special dates in the Christian calendar
- Providing services of baptism, marriage and funeral
- Helping those in need, by providing a Foodbank and fundraising for charitable purposes
- Maintaining an orderly and welcoming building which can be used by other organisations
- Giving young people the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith in a safe and supportive environment, through Junior Church, and by giving adults the chance to explore their faith through house groups and meetings on church premises e.g. midweek prayer group, café-style/ discussion/reflective worship.

Organisation

The managing trustees of the church are the members of the Church Council, who are responsible for the activities of the church and the up-keep of the premises. They appoint the following committees to ensure the efficient running of the Church:

- Finance Committee
- Property Committee
- Pastoral Committee
- Church Growth & Mission Group

Activities in 2020 – 2021

During the 2020 – 2021 year, Elvet Methodist Church has maintained its life of worship and of service in the community and beyond for the most part virtually. Most of its activities are of an on-going nature. In its remit of worship, these consist of

- Sunday morning worship services
- a celebration of Holy Communion
- Junior Church, meeting each Sunday during school term times
- Prayer groups mostly virtually until face to face could resume
- House groups mostly virtually until face to face could resume
- Baptism, wedding ceremonies and funerals as permitted during the pandemic.

All of these activities are open to the public but by booking during the pandemic.

Its service to the community is manifested in many ways as possible during the pandemic;

- The church is both a collection and distribution point for Foodbank
- Each year, a charity is chosen as a special project.

- It supports a number of charities (e.g. special collections in aid of Action for Children, Methodist Homes for the Aged and in response to world disasters and areas of developing humanitarian need). In addition, when possible offerings at communion services are donated to nominated charities each month.
- Marriage Preparation classes are run as appropriate
- Funerals are conducted in church, at the crematorium and cemeteries.
- It has a Thursday Club meeting which hopes to restart
- A creche is provided during Sunday morning services when possible
- The church has a Uniformed Organisation Group
- It has an associated Art and Crafts Group
- Open the Book – a team goes into St Oswald’s, local Church of England School
- Its members visit the sick and elderly. Birthday cards are sent to those over 80 years of age.
- Every Wednesday (except for the holiday periods) a lunch is prepared and provided, attended by people from the local community
- It is the focal church for the Durham University Methodist Society which is now incorporated in JAM (Joint Anglican Methodist Society) and also welcomes students from many countries.
- It incorporates a Traidcraft stall
- It is a popular venue for concerts and other public events

Of special note in the 2020 – 2021 year were the following:

Services, events and meetings were held in the building between the ‘lockdowns’ in 2020-21. Although we have been unable to meet in our building we have continued as a church without walls as best we could, virtually, by phone, by post etc.

- Despite not being able to hold fundraising events as in the past we raised over £5,000 for the church annual project – work with ‘North East Mission – the Durham Night Shelter’.
- Over the past year a number of charities have received donations from our communion and other special collections.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors and anyone working with or having contact with young people or vulnerable adults) have refreshed their safeguarding training with an updated module, in accordance with guidelines from The Methodist Church.
- The Chinese church under the pastoral charge of Revd. Lawrence Law, continues to meet and grow. This is a class of Elvet.
- We have a small prayer area to be available for private prayer in the church when the church is available to be open.
- We have reviewed Elvet’s action plan for future growth and events, under the heading of ‘every church growing’. We are looking to merge with another Methodist Church in the city centre to become one church on two sites.

Objectives for 2021 – 2022;

- The Elvet Trustees will be working with our sister church in North Road, Durham, to see how we can work together to grow God's kingdom as we all emerge from lockdown and face the challenges before us and become one church on two sites.
- We will continue our ongoing commitments, implement relevant aspects of the circuit plan and support areas of activity arising from *Growth & Mission* meetings both virtual and face to face when possible.
- We intend to make Elvet more visible in the community. We are considering installing artistic structures in the front garden to highlight church seasons e.g. Easter, Pentecost, a Nativity scene for Christmas etc.
- As the largest church building in our circuit we seek to offer alternatives for congregations of other churches, as well as students and visitors to the city.
- We continue to provide variety of worship, offering occasional café-style, Iona and Taizé style services, introducing new hymns and hosting joint services with other Methodists, Anglican and Chinese churches. We will explore expanding mid-week services and developing 'Messy Church' worship for young families.
- Our Methodist Students have amalgamated with students from the Church of England to form JAM (Joint Anglicans & Methodists) meeting regularly at both Elvet and St Oswald's C of E as well as virtually during the pandemic and are open to those with or without any faith to come and explore.
- We hope we can hold Open Church evenings for refreshment when the Lumiere returns to Durham in 2021.
- The Chinese Church congregation continue to meet on Sundays and during the week – worship being offered in Mandarin, Cantonese and English when appropriate.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

**Elvet Methodist Church
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2021**

Durham and Deerness Valley Circuit
Registered Charity - Registration number

Circuit no: **13/11**
1126844

Minister:

Rev John Squares

Church Stewards:

Penny Bissell

Jackie Fielding

Christine Higham

Lynda Underwood

Treasurer:

Hilary Phillips

SECTION A			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	Notes
	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	1
a1							
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		59,901	0	59,901	59,868	
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		210	3	213	359	
a4	Lettings, Wayleave & Other Property		41,630	0	41,630	9,176	
a5	Bequests, Donations & Other Receipts		242	1,025	1,267	54,066	
a6							
a7							
a8	TOTAL RECEIPTS		101,983	1,028	103,011 (a7)	123,469	

SECTION B							
	PAYMENTS						2
b1							
b2	Circuit Assessment		55,600	0	55,600	56,052	
b3	Donations		3,930	2,216	6,146	130	
b4	Repairs, Maintenance & Improvements		15,500	4,551	20,051	14,943	
b5	Utilities (Insces, water rates, heating & lighting)		10,341	0	10,341	14,283	
b6							
b7	Other items		13,377	125	13,502	12,211	
b8							
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		98,748	6,893	105,640 (b9)	97,619	

SECTION C							
	NET RECEIPTS/ PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a8-b9)					
c1			3,235	-5,865	-2,630	25,850	
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		72,205	16,505	88,710	62,860	(c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	75,440	10,640	86,080	88,710	(c6)
c4	Transfers and adjustments		-3,726	3,726	0	0	(c8)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	71,715	14,365	86,080 (c7)	88,710	(c6)

SECTION D								
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS								
d	(these amounts are not included in total receipts/payments figures above)							
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				1,496	1,496		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				7,291	15,282		
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				6,893	15,282		
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			1,894	1,496	3	

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and internal organisations reporting to the Church Council. Internal organisation funds are unrestricted funds with the exception of JMA.

	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Arts & Crafts	0	247	-247	0	247	0
e2 Flower Club	150	69	81	0	520	601
e3 JMA	0	136	-136	0	136	0
e4 Lunch Stop	3	1,000	-997	0	6,015	5,018
e5 Thursday Club	0	0	0	0	663	663
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	153	1,452	-1,299	0	7,581 (e11)	6,282 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	103,011 (a7)	105,640 (b9)	-2,630	0 (c8)	88,710 (c6)	86,080 (c7)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	103,164	107,093	-3,929	0	96,291 (x)	92,361 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD**

	OPENING BALANCES At 01/09/2020	CLOSING BALANCES At 31/08/2021
f1 Cash in hand	0	0
f2 Bank Current Account	39,066	11,114
f3 Bank Deposit Account	1,608	2,316
f4 Central Finance Board	23,915	48,528
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	24,121	24,121
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	88,710 (c6)	86,080 (c7)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	7,581 (e11)	6,282 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	96,291 (x)	92,361 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 01 September 2020	At 31 August 2021	Note
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	7,683	9,094	
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,244,630	9,938,745	4
g3 Other Assets	0	0	
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	0	0	
g5 Other Liabilities	0	0	

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments

Elvet Methodist Church

Loans

The church has no loans or similar liabilities.

Endowment Funds

Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	Current Capital Value	Income 2020/21	What the income was used for
Trust 15370: Mrs Margaret Hopper	868 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	4,863.40	67.56	Income to General Church Fund
Trust 8312: Surplus Funds	755 CFB Managed Mixed Fund Units	4,230.27	58.77	Income to General Church Fund
Totals		9,093.67	126.33	

Payment to Trustees

	This year £s	Last year £s
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council.	500.00	500.00
Number of trustees (i.e. members of the Church Council) who were paid expenses.	1	1
Nature of the expenses:		
Payment in lieu of expenses to Mrs P Bissell in her capacity as Church Secretary.	500.00	500.00
Totals	500.00	500.00

Paid employees

Caretaker costs paid during the year were:

	This year £s	Last year £s
Gross wages, salaries and other benefits	3,704.00	6,504.34
Employer's National Insurance costs	0.00	0.00
Pension costs	0.00	0.00
Total staff costs	3,704.00	6,504.34
Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	0.1	0.5

Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

	This year £s	Last year £s
At the financial year end capital commitments amounted to:	0.00	0.00
Contingent liabilities amounted to:	0.00	0.00

Notes Accompanying the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

With annual total receipts falling below the £250,000 accounting threshold, the accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with Charity Commission rules. There have been no changes in accounting conventions from the previous year.

2 Donations from Church Funds

The following donations were made from general funds:

To Methodist Funds	£s	To Other Recipients	£s
The World Mission Fund	2200.00	Durham Churches Together	30.00
The Mission in Britain Fund	1600.00		
The Leybourne Trust	100.00		
Total	<u>3900.00</u>	Total	<u>30.00</u>

3 Money Received on Behalf of External organisations

At 31/08/2021 the church was holding £1,894.35 collected on behalf of the Durham Winter Night Shelter in the course of the 2020/21 Church Project.

4 Value of Buildings & Assets at 31/08/2021

	£s
Church Building	8,967,289
Organ	730,029
Caretaker's House	241,427
	<u>9,938,745</u>

The church and other buildings are in excess of 100 years old and are listed at their insurance value together with that of the organ, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Methodist Connexion.

(Note, the 2020 figure is copied from the 2019-20 accounts where the valuation had not been updated from previous years.)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer Date
Name
Address

Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting
Name of the Chair of the meeting
Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 carried out under Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, or in Scotland Section 11 of the charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) or under Regulation 10 (1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act and section 44(1) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act and Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act and Section 44(1)9b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation (of the 2006 Regulations)

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name

Signature

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Address

Date

DURHAM CITY METHODISTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126844

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 – 2020

Church Address: Elvet Methodist Church
Old Elvet
Durham
DH1 3HL

Correspondence Address: Mr. Paul Harrison
28 Kira Drive
Rosemount
Durham
DH1 5GU
(Church Council Secretary)

Church Council (Managing Trustees) as at 1st September 2019

Mrs J. Ball	Mr P. Harrison	Mrs D. Slater
Mrs P. Bissell	Mrs S. Harrison	Mr K. Slater
Mrs A. Bradbrook	Mrs C. Higham	Mr D. Ramsden
Mrs J. Bygate	Mr M Higham	Rev J. Squares
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Mr C. Harder	Mrs A. Scott	
Dr M Harris	Mr J. Scott	

Revd. C. Jackson, Revd N. Johnson, Revd A. Longe, Revd. L. Law, Deacon Esther Longe

Aims and Organisation

The aims of Elvet Methodist Church are to:

- Inform people about the love of God manifested in the giving of his Son, Jesus Christ
- Bear witness to that love by showing care to those in need
- To provide opportunities to worship God, through Jesus Christ
- To explore and demonstrate ways to follow Christ and promote Gods rule in contemporary society by the power of the Holy Spirit

The Church attempts to fulfil these aims by:

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- Finance Committee
- Property Committee
- Pastoral Committee
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Activities in 2019– 2020

During the 2019 – 2020 year, Elvet Methodist Church has maintained its life of worship and of service in the community and beyond. Most of its activities are of an on-going nature. In its remit of worship, these consist of

- Sunday morning and evening worship services
- Regular celebration of Holy Communion
- Junior Church, meeting each Sunday during school term times
- Prayer groups
- House groups
- Baptism, wedding ceremonies and funerals.

All of these activities are open to the public.

Its service to the community is manifested in many ways before the pandemic prevented these activities;

- The church is both a collection and distribution point for Foodbank which could continue during the pandemic
- Each year, a charity (alternating between a UK-based and an overseas mission) is chosen as a special project.
- It supports a number of charities (e.g. special collections in aid of Action for Children, Methodist Homes for the Aged and in response to world disasters and areas of developing humanitarian need). In addition, offerings at communion services are donated to nominated charities each month.
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- It is a popular venue for concerts and other public events

Of special note in the 2019 – 2020 year were the following:

Services, events and meetings were held in the building until the UK went into ‘lockdown’; in March. Although we have been unable to meet in our building we have continued as a church without walls as best we could, virtually, by phone, by post etc.

- In excess of £15,000 was raised for the church annual project – work with ‘Mary’s Meals’. This fulfils the target for the year.
- Fundraising activities for the above project included A Film Evening, Autumn Fayre, Indian Meal, a Facebook/email raffle, Carols and Canapés, coordinated by the project committee
- In February we held a joint service and meal with the Chinese Church to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Using interpreters, this was delivered in English, Mandarin and Cantonese and very well attended. Also a Lunar Bazaar was organised that weekend by Rev Law to help with fundraising.
- A Christmas Tree Festival was organised for all of December and the community groups known to the church members were invited to take part
- Over the past year a number of charities have received donations from our communion and other special collections.
- The Chinese church under the pastoral charge of Revd. Lawrence Law, continues to meet and grow. This is now a class of Elvet.
- Several members holding identified relevant positions within the church (staff, preachers, stewards, worship leaders, pastoral visitors and anyone working with or having contact with

young people or vulnerable adults) have refreshed their safeguarding training with an updated module, in accordance with guidelines from The Methodist Church.

- We have updated Elvet's action plan for future growth and events, under the heading of 'every church growing'.
- We created a small prayer area available for private prayer in the church, when the church is open.
- We will investigate the idea that our Lunch Stop could also be an opportunity for the possibility of holding an open meeting with a speaker or having short informal reflective style worship before or after the meal, eg during Lent.

Objectives for 2020 – 2021;

- The Elvet Trustees will be working with our sister church in North Road, Durham, to see how we can work together to grow God's kingdom as we all emerge from lockdown and face the challenges before us and become one church on two sites.
- We will continue our ongoing commitments, implement relevant aspects of the circuit plan and support areas of activity arising from *Growth & Mission* meetings both virtual and face to face when possible.
- We intend to make Elvet more visible in the community. We are considering installing artistic structures in the front garden to highlight church seasons e.g. Easter, Pentecost, a Nativity scene for Christmas etc.
- As the largest church building in our circuit we seek to offer alternatives for congregations of other churches, as well as students and visitors to the city.
- We continue to provide variety of worship, offering occasional café-style, Iona and Taizé style services, introducing new hymns and hosting joint services with other Methodists, Anglican and Chinese churches. We will explore expanding mid-week services and developing 'Messy Church' worship for young families.
- Our Methodist Students have amalgamated with students from the Church of England to form JAM (Joint Anglicans & Methodists) meeting regularly at both Elvet and St Oswald's C of E as well as virtually and are open to those with or without any faith to come and explore.
- We hope we can hold Open Church evenings for refreshment when the Lumiere returns to Durham in 2021.
- The Chinese Church congregation continue to meet on Sundays and during the week – worship being offered in Mandarin, Cantonese and English when appropriate.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Elvet Methodist Church
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2020

Durham and Deerness Valley Circuit

Circuit no: 13/11

Registered Charity - Registration
number

1126844

Minister:

Rev John Squares

Church Stewards:

Penny Bissell

Jackie Fielding

Christine Higham

Val Harder

Clare Coburn

Trevor Coburn

Treasurer:

B J Thompson

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	Notes
a1	RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	1
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	59,375.04	508.66	59,883.70	58,428.87	
a3	Bank and CFB interest and investment income	359.10	0.00	359.10	514.82	
a4	Lettings, Wayleave & Other Property	9,395.50	0.00	9,395.50	10,615.00	
a5	Bequests, Donations & Other Receipts	20,896.54	7,983.48	28,880.02	29,422.34	2
a6	Traidcraft	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3
a7						
a8	TOTAL RECEIPTS	90,026.18	8,492.14	98,518.32 (a7)	98,981.03	

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	Notes
b1	PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	
b2	Circuit Assessment	56,052.00	0.00	56,052.00	58,516.00	
b3	Donations	130.00	0.00	130.00	12,450.43	4
b4	Repairs, Maintenance & Improvements	5,612.47	0.00	5,612.47	16,161.49	
b5	Utilities (Insces, water rates, heating & lighting)	23,202.41	0.00	23,202.41	21,961.45	
b6	Traidcraft	0.00	0.00	0.00	524.83	3
b7	Other items	12,211.17	882.72	13,093.89	4,937.13	
b8						
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	97,208.05	882.72	98,090.77 (b9)	114,551.33	

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	Notes
c1	NET RECEIPTS/ PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a8-b9) -7,181.87	7,609.42	427.55	-15,570.30	
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	64,265.73	20,658.78	84,924.51 (c6)	78,369.00	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2) 57,083.86	28,268.20	85,352.06	62,798.70	
c4	Transfers and adjustments			0.00 (c8)	0.00	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4) 57,083.86	28,268.20	85,352.06 (c7)	62,798.70 (c6)	

SECTION D		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	Notes
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS						
d (these amounts are not included in total receipts/payments figures above)						
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			0.00	13,599.53	
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			15,281.70	0.00	
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			15,281.70	13,599.53	
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		0.00	0.00	5

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council. Internal Organisation funds are Unrestricted funds with the exception of JMA.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Arts & Crafts	88.00	0.00	88.00	0.00	159.00	247.00
e2 Choir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
e3 Flower Club	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	519.85	519.85
e4 JMA	0.00		0.00	0.00	136.47	136.47
e5 Lunch Stop	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,014.64	6,014.64
e6 Thursday Club	362.14	205.00	157.14	0.00	505.84	662.98
e7 Women's Fellowship	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	450.14	205.00	245.14	0.00	7,335.80 (e11)	7,580.94 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	98,518.32 (a7)	98,090.77 (b9)	427.55	0.00 (c8)	86,555.93 (c6)	79,706.16 (c7)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	98,968.46	98,295.77	672.69	0.00	93,891.73 (x)	87,287.10 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
	At 01/09/2019	At 31/08/2020
f1 Cash in hand	0.00	0.00
f2 Bank Current Account	51,273.48	40,561.20
f3 Bank Deposit Account	2,746.58	1,607.58
f4 Central Finance Board	7,569.36	23,915.46
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	61,589.42 (c6)	66,084.24 (c7)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	7,335.80 (e11)	7,580.94 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	68,925.22 (x)	73,665.18 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2019	At 31 August 2020	Note
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	31,029.50	31,804.33	
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,244,630.00	4,244,630.00	6
g3 Other Assets	0.00	0.00	
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	0.00	0.00	
g5 Other Liabilities	0.00	0.00	

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
 f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
 g1 Include any other investments

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of
Treasurer



Date

25-11-2020

Name

B J Thompson

Address

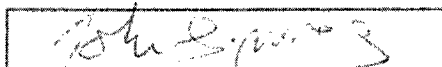
5 Ryedale, DURHAM DH1 2AL

Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on
and were approved.

15-03-2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

REV JOHN SCULLARS

Date

15-03-2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Elvet Methodist Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2017 2020 carried out under Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, or in Scotland Section 11 of the charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) or under Regulation 10 (1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act and section 44(1) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act and Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act and Section 44(1)9b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation (of the 2006 Regulations)

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name

ANDREW M TRIBE

Signature

Andrew M Tribe

Relevant Professional qualification or body

N/A

Address

37 BUCKLEY STREET BRATTON-ON-TYNE NE21 4DD

Date

13/12/2020