

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
	Note	£	£	£	£	
a1	RECEIPTS					1
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						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment	55,600	0	55,600	56,052	
b3	Donations	3,930	2,216	6,146	130	2
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	
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						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/ PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a8-b9)	3,235	-5,865	-2,630	25,850	
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	72,205	16,505	88,710 (c6)	62,860	
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	75,440	10,640	86,080	88,710 (c6)	
c4	Transfers and adjustments	-3,726	3,726	0 (c8)	0	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	71,715	14,365	86,080 (c7)	88,710 (c6)	

SECTION D						
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
	(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.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	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>

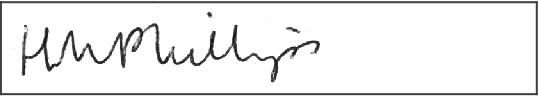
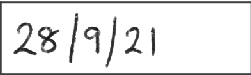
The church and other buildings are in excess of 100 years old and are listed at their insurance value together with that of the organ, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Methodist Connexion.


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


DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

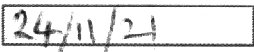
I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

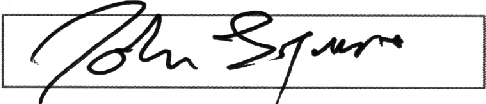
Signature of Treasurer  Date 

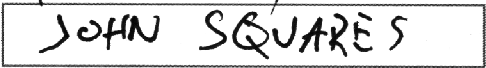
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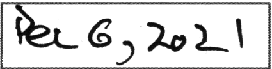
Address 

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

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

DR. LESLIE CLARK

Signature

L Clark

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Address

8 Pilgrims Way, Durham DH1 1HB

Date

12th October 2021