

STEWARDS & TRUSTEES REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2020 TO AUGUST 2021

This has been a strange time for all of us since Coronavirus invaded the world, and our church closed on 20th March 2020 due to the lockdown and District's decision to do so for all our circuit churches. The lockdown continued until Church Council trustees met in preparations for reopening the church and so we did, in September 2020. However, church services were suspended once again from 8th November 2020, reopened on 6th December 2020 and two weeks later, just before we were due to have our service on Christmas Day, we had to shut our doors again. We then reopened church from 27th June 2021 and "touch-wood", hopefully will continue to remain open.

There is not much to tell except that the pandemic has caused much anxiety and disruption to say the least, to a lot of church members and church goers. Financially, we were suffering too. Our church members were literally alienated and isolated, remained isolated in their homes and there was not much communication with each other. However, with church closed, people moved to online religious worship and so most of our church meetings took place on 'zoom'. I guess we had too much time on our hands if I dare to say it, and with nothing to do and nowhere to go, it was not like a holiday at all, perhaps for those who were working day in and out, this was but not in a good way. The key thing in this is patience and praying and trusting in our God, that this will be over soon so that everyone can resume their lives albeit with some changes.

For decades, we know that religious attendance in most parts of the world had been declining but the move to online services became a trend as it made it easier for people to participate globally for those who are religious and it was found that a number of people who consider themselves non-religious growing with this new trending type of service. Most of us would have been aware that the Romford Circuit had online church services on Saturday mornings at 9.30am and Sunday afternoons at 2.30pm hosted by Rev'd David Jebb and other ministers who took turns hosting the service online. This also happened to a few of our circuit churches who found this the better option than in-person worship. Because of the lockdown, people found new ways and develop new habits, new interests and finding new ways of coping spiritually and with this in mind, things have changed for many of us, and many would decide whether to return to church when our church resume services.

A few dedicated church members Yvonne and Stuart Weston, Kean Song, continued to maintain our church garden and kept plants flowering and watered which we were very appreciative, and the grass was cut, trimmed and mowed during the lockdown. We had one complaint received from the Public Protection Officer in our borough on 23rd February 2021 when a neighbour from the lot of houses same row to our church reported that there was infestation of rats in the area and the potential to create harbourage to rodents and foxes and put the blame on the overgrowth of vegetation close to the boundary fence between church and our immediate neighbour. This started a Church Working Group to tackle the overgrowth in cutting, trimming and removing away the dead plants, shrubbery and creeping vines which continued well into middle of April 2021. While the work was going on, there was no evidence of rodents or rats etc found and though we were annoyed at such an accusation, we were pleased that out of this, we had managed to clear this area which had been there for years and an eye-sore and so we are now going to keep this area free from overgrowth. The officer concerned made an inspection on 20th May 2021 and needless to say, all is good!

There were a few changes to the Trustees roles in May 2021. Sue Dawkes retired as Gift Aid Secretary, Church Council Secretary and Church Flowers Arranger. Leslie Banks kindly took over as Gift Aid Secretary and Tim Banks as Church Council Secretary which we were all very pleased to have found people willing to take on the roles, a blessing indeed. However, Sue Dawkes has kindly offered to help with arranging flowers for the church when she is requested to for special occasions

and other remembrance occasions meaningful to the person. We were going to have a Flower List put up but this has been delayed but it does not stop anyone who wishes to donate or have flowers in the church for an occasion can request this from Sue or let me know to pass on your request to her. Also, Jonathan Coles will be stepping down as Church Steward at next General Church Meeting this year, as he is concentrating on his studies and assignments as a Preacher-on-Trial.

When church resumed end of June 2021, we were certainly seeing fewer in numbers averaging 12-18 people on Sunday. The halting of in-person worship is one of the most sudden disruptions in the practice of religion to have taken place. Also, masks were worn, individual temperatures taken, sanitisation and social distancing guidelines were followed strictly, cleaning of church areas all had to be done before the Sunday service and also on Sunday before and after service. There was no singing, no books, no talking, service was 45 minutes long only, a Track & Trace list had to be complied with and to leave immediately after the service.

With church closures and work closures, the whole world came to a standstill, life became abnormal, dismal, depressive, restrictive, etc. It certainly has made people refocus, it had also weakened church connections among our church family and a few have disconnected with church and we pray and hope that this will not be permanent.

Prayer to guide us:

Fear is natural, faith is supernatural.

Remember what God's word says: Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:6)

By Evie Song, Church Steward

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS - SEPTEMBER 2020 TO AUGUST 2021

Receipts					Payments		
2019-20		General Accounts	2020-21		2019-20	General Accounts	2020-21
£			£		£		£
940.00		Gift Day	-		21,496.00	Circuit Contributions	19,346.40
7,911.73		Tax Refund/Gift Aided	1,900.89			Circuit Donations	
4,032.45	9,352.97	Sunday Offerings:		10,826.77	98.71	Office Expenses	112.80
2,319.72		- Envelopes	3,342.60		20.76	Office Equipment Hire	
3,000.80		- Cash	1,404.87		245.42	Sundries	77.64
		- Standing orders	6,079.30				
		Transfer from Preschool			49.98	Church Finance Suppliers	
426.76		Interest from CFB	67.32		238.05	Christian Copyright Licence	244.66
1.94		Interest from TMCP	0.91		35.00	Gifts for Housebound	
		Weddings & Funerals			80.00	Audit Fees	100.00
		Special Donations			19.87	Media System Donation	
340.00		Donations	25.00			Gift Donations	14.50
204.00		Harvest Supper				Preacher Expenses	
		Transfer from CFB to TSB a/c				Transfer to CFB from TSB a/c	
1,133.00		Circuit Reimbursement					
13.59		Miscellaneous					
20,323.99		Total:	12,820.89		22,283.79	Total:	19,896.00
B/forward			35,594.09				
			48,414.98			Balance in Account	28,518.98
		Property Accounts				Property Accounts	
1,020.00	12,600.00	External Organisations	720.00		1,930.06	Repairs & Maintenance	14,895.17
1,765.00		Parking Donations	2,401.00		497.18	New Equipment	6,653.70
1,815.00		Hire of Halls	20.00		5,258.59	Gas & Electricity	3,428.72
8,000.00		Preschool	11,400.00		461.93	Water – Castle Water	343.24
					285.05	Water - WAVE	266.90

2019-20		Property Accounts	2020-21		2019-20	Property Accounts	2020-21
£			£		£		£
	8,124.00	Donation from Church Groups:			750.89	Telephone	726.84
405.00		- Wesley Guild	200.00		374.07	Refuse Waste – PF Ahern	369.55
4,830.00		- Guildonian Players			1,710.00	Wages Cleaners plus PAYE	550.00
575.00		- Table Tennis Club			3,108.23	Church Insurance	3,231.95
500.00		- Tots & Co.			255.00	Organ Maintenance	-
1,114.00		- Tuesday Lunches	551.51		129.14	Cleaning Materials	125.95
700.00		- Women's Own	700.00		23.65	Sundries	42.45
					267.90	Sewerage – Castle Water	-
0.49		Utility Rebate	1,578.33			Everflow	643.56
		Fundraising Donations	92.80				
		Insurance from garages					
20,724.49		Total:	17,663.64		15,051.69	Total:	31,278.03
B/forward			46,293.80				
			63,957.44			Balance in Account	32,679.41
		Welcome Area Project				Welcome Area Project	
10,795.78	b/forward		0.00		10,795.78	Balance in Account	0.00
		Roof Appeal				Roof Appeal	
2,241.30	b/forward		0.00		2,241.30	Balance in Account	0.00
		Benevolence Fund				Benevolence Fund	
23.18		Communion Offerings	0.00				
234.02	b/forward						
257.20		Total:	257.20		257.20	Balance in Account	257.20

2019-20		Appeals Account	2020-21		2019-20	Appeals Account	2020-21
£			£		£		£
		Christian Aid				Christian Aid	
75.00		Water Aid			75.00	Water Aid	
		Methodist Homes for Aged				Methodist Homes for Aged	
101.00		World Mission	35.30		101.00	World Mission	
		Mission in Britain				Mission in Britain	
		Home Mission				Home Mission	
70.40		Action for Children	150.00		70.40	Action for Children	150.00
		Easter offerings				Easter offerings	
246.40		Total:	185.30		246.40	Total:	150.00
	b/forward				0.00	Balance in Account	35.30
		SUMMARY OF BALANCES IN HAND				SUMMARY OF BALANCES IN HAND	
35,594.09		General Accounts	28,518.98		50,052.86	Central Finance Board Account	32,674.67
46,293.80		Property Account	32,679.41		44,904.38	TSB Current Account	28,590.38
10,795.78		Welcome Area Project	0.00				
2,241.30		Roof Appeal	0.00		94,957.24	Total:	61,265.05
257.20		Benevolence Account	257.20				
0.00		Appeals Account	35.30		224.93	TMCP Account	225.84
95,182.17		Grand Total:	61,490.89		95,182.17	Grand Total:	61,490.89
91,459.58		Balance b/f – Accounts 2018-19	95,182.17				
3,722.59		Plus excess income over expenditure	-33,691.28				
95,182.17		Accounts 2020-21	61,490.89				

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Harold Wood Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Circuit	Circuit no	35/32
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1127228

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

The Reverend David Jebb and Reverend Karen Bell

Church Stewards:

Jonathan Coles

Evelyn Song

Treasurer:

Mrs Evelyn Song

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	12,728	25	12,753	18,773
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	67	1	68	429
a4	Lettings	11,420		11,420	20,724
a5	Other receipts	6,244	185	6,429	1,379
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	30,459	211	30,670 (a7)	41,305

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	19,346		19,346	21,496
b3	Donations	15		15	55
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	21,549		21,549	4,990
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	7,998		7,998	10,795
b6					
b7	Other payments	15,303	150	15,453	246
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	64,211	150	64,361 (b9)	37,582

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(33,752)	61	(33,691)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		94,934	248	95,182 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	61,182	309	61,491
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	61,182	309	61,491 (c8)
					95,182 (c6)

SECTION D			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures)	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	185	246
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	150	246
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	35	
	(d1+d2-d3)		

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/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	Table Tennis Club	2		2		110	112
e2	Tots & Co					132	132
e3	Guidonian Players	962	4,857	(3,895)		8,716	4,821
e4	Wesley Guild		275	(275)		533	258
e5	Women's Own		700	(700)		1,000	300
e6	Tuesday Lunches Club					950	950
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	964	5,832	(4,868)		11,441 (e11)	6,573 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	30,670 (a7)	64,361 (b9)	(33,691)	(c7)	95,182 (c6)	61,491 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	31,634	70,193	(38,559)		106,623 (x)	68,064 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1		
f2	44,904	32,675
f3		
f4	50,053	28,590
f5	225	226
f6		
f7	95,182 (c6)	61,491 (c8)
f8	11,441 (e11)	6,573 (e12)
f9	106,623 (x)	68,064 (y)

SECTION G
OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1		
g2	3,709,994	3,850,556
g3	474,263	492,231
g4		
g5		

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 (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

HAROLD WOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Number 1127228

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Harold Wood Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 4. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church .. HAROLD WOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer *Evelyn Song* Date..... *19/10/2021*

Name and address of treasurer EVELYN SONG

6 Athelstan Close

Harold Wood

Romford

RM3 0QJ

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were ~~will be~~* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on *19/10/2021*

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Rev Karen Bell*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *Rev Karen Bell* Date *19/10/21*

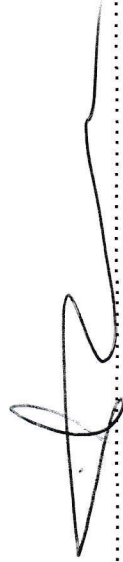
Name of Church HAROLD WOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Cathy Simmons

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate) Lam Simmons and Company Limited

Address 15 The Meadows, Ingrave, Essex CM13 3RL

Date 3/12/2021

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20